

the BCRSP NEWSLETTER

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 4



- 02 - Lindy Russell
- 03 - Maryvonne Cooper
- 04 - Helen James
- 05 - Elsie Dressen, Carolyn Parsons, Effie Perry
- 11 - Mollie Guin
- 12 - Cathy Conger
- 14 - Brett Henry, Shirley Watts
- 15 - Meredith Armagost, Diane Hartman
- 16 - Arthur Kaspar, Carolyn Lampo
- 17 - Barbara Henry, David Ogden
- 20 - Deborah Queen, Pat Salvato
- 22 - Betty Rosenbaum, Anne Sanders, Imogene Veters
- 24 - Jami Bevans
- 26 - Donna Pohl

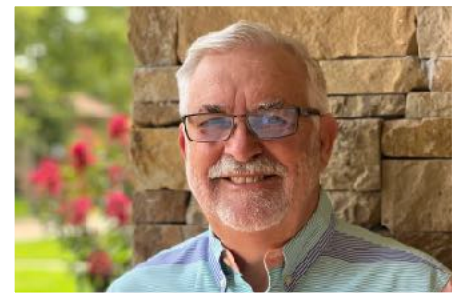
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Friends,

Wasn't it wonderful looking at your bank statement and seeing that we did indeed receive the COLA? You certainly deserved it! Coupled with our one-time payment in the fall, retirees have finally been able to pay off a bill or two, or perhaps begin to plan on the vacation you dreamed about for years.

TRTA is dedicated to protecting and improving the retirement security for all TRS retirees. That work did not end with the passage of Prop 9. It is truly only the beginning. There are still challenges ahead, including the repeal of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), helping those retirees who were not eligible for the COLA, and fighting for a regular COLA similar to the COLA that Security recipients receive each year.

As one of our members stated when he wrote Tim Lee and Brock Gregg, "Our foot is in the door ... let's keep it there and not let them forget TRS is good, but it's all we've got!" Annual COLA's are the only way that TRS can stay up with inflation.



Congratulations. This year has been a true testament that we are truly.....

Better Together!

Danny

Brazos County Retired School Personnel
February 28, 2024
11:30 a.m. First Baptist Church

“Better Together”

AGENDA

- Welcome!
Danny Stribling
- Invocation and Pledges
Betty Munion

•••••Lunch•••••

Program:

The Brazos Valley African American Museum
Mildred Davis, BVAAM Board Chair

- New Business/Committee Reports
- Door Prizes and Birthdays - Lynn Blinka
- Happy Dollars/Joke of the Day

Join Us for Next Month’s Program

*Unlimited Potential
“Helping Texas Youth Look UP”
Jacque Flagg, Board of Directors*



Membership Report



Our local unit has closed its 2023-24 current TRTA/BCRSP membership recruitment year. On February 26, 2024, our state TRTA ends their posting in order to finalize local chapters’ membership numbers. I am thrilled to report that BCRSP reached a grand total of 349 members in December. Unfortunately, we have had to say “farewell” to several members recently. The death of our longtime current member, Marguerite Logan French is the most recent. She died on Jan. 21, 2024, at the age of 98 in an Austin Senior living facility. Personally, I knew Miss Marguerite and she was an extraordinary, unique individual. March will be the start of TRTA’s early membership drive. So, be ready to renew your TRTA/BCRSP 2024-2025 dues.

Frances Maloney, 1st VP for Membership



BCRSP General Meeting Minutes

BCRSP January Meeting January 24, 2024

President Danny Stribling called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Chaplain Betty Munion offered the benediction and led members in the United States and Texas pledges.

Program- Pat Seifer, with George H.W. Bush Combat Development Complex at the RELLIS campus, presented a very interesting and informative program regarding national security technology. Hypersonic technology, robotics research and development, and laser development are just a few of the areas of research and development in our own backyard.

Legislative- Dr. James Warner reported TRS would be mailing out to members that qualified for a COLA, the amount that would be received on the January 31 stipend. He reminded members of the Texas primary on March 5th. He and Linda Warner will be traveling to Austin and will report back by Election Day the best candidates for retired teacher interests that will replace Representatives Raney and Kacal.

Children's Book Project- Sandy Petty reported February will be the last official month for the book project.

Membership- 1st VP Frances Maloney reported a total of 349 members. Two members have recently passed away; Buddy McGown and Cindy Still. She thanked everyone for their hard work on recruiting new members.

Volunteer Hours- Patsy Bolch asked that all volunteer hours be reported to her by February 1.

Door Prizes- Lynn Blinka drew tickets for the cute snowmen chocolate chip cookie kits.

President Danny Stribling adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Submitted by,
Betty Rabe
Secretary

.....
**Thank you, Betty Rabe for
making cupcakes for our
luncheon!!**
.....



Our monthly Treasurer's report will be attached to the newsletter email that is sent to you each month from BCRSP.



Legislative Update - February 2024

Early voting has begun in the Texas Primary Election and will run through Friday, March 1st. The election is Tuesday, March 5th.

Candidate profiles may be found at Teach The Vote (operated by ATPE) or the League of Women Voters. Quick links are provided in the February 5th edition of The Inside Line on the TRTA website.

Remember.....we will need legislator votes beginning next January. They need our votes now.

JBW





Meeting Reservations Information

Meal Price: \$15.00 (tip not included)

For Reservations:

Email Suzanne Phelps: snp helps1946@gmail.com

no later than 3:00 on the Friday before the monthly meeting.

Please bring the correct change or a check made out to BCRSP if at all possible. Tips are not included in the meal price so please plan to leave a gratuity on your table. Thanks so much



VOLUNTEER HOURS

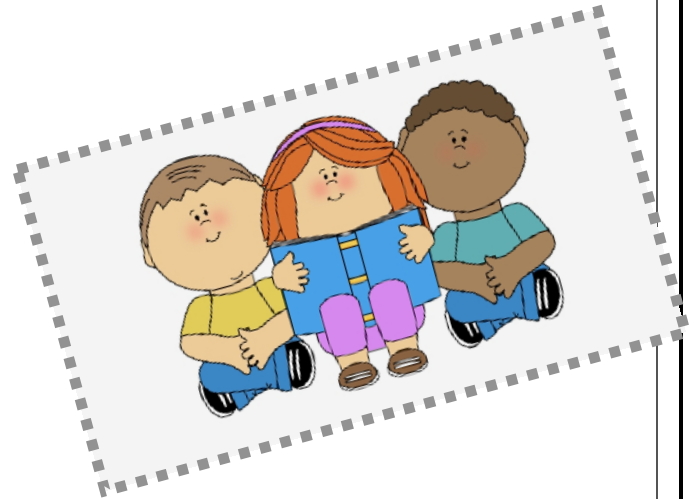
I am proud to announce that we had
34,529 volunteer hours
for 2023. Thank you for all that you
do for your families and our
community!

Patsy Bolch
Volunteer Coordinator



Children's Book Project

The Children's Book Project is a service activity initiated by local chapters of TRTA. The purpose is to put books into the hands of children who otherwise would not have books of their own. The Children's Book Project involves using membership donations, money from fundraising efforts, or contributions from local businesses to purchase books.






Please help us by remembering that we are collecting books and money for our local school aged students at our FEBRUARY monthly meeting. All donors need to please put their names on an envelope with the money or on a sheet of paper tucked in the book(s). Jars will be on the tables for donations as well. Thank you!



TRTA Member Benefits

<https://trta.org/membership/member-benefits/>

Looking to get away? Check out the deals that our AMBA Passports website offers us as part of our TRTA member benefits.

	Holiday Inn Club Vacations® Piney Shores Resort Conroe, TX · Online savings Save 25% off the Best Available Rate.	Visit Website ▾
	Holiday Inn Club Vacations® Hill Country Resort Canyon Lake, TX · Online savings Save 25% off the Best Available Rate.	Visit Website ▾
	Holiday Inn Club Vacations® Galveston Seaside Resort Galveston, TX · Online savings Save 25% off the Best Available Rate.	Visit Website ▾



You can find these and many more travel deals at <https://passportcorporate.com/travel>. You will need to create an account, but it's worth it to find the great deals that are offered to us as members of TRTA.

January Meeting 2024

Look for your friends who attend our meetings. Come join the fun each month!!

