

MARSP Newsletter,

December 2019 and January 2020

www.midlandretireded.org

December 5, 2019
MARSP
Box 4954, Midland, TX 79704



CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

Please join us for the MARSP Luncheon on December 5th.

Christmas music will be provided by Orin Wade and everyone will have the opportunity to join in and sing along.

We will also be collecting toys to be donated to the Newswest 9 Toy Drive. The toy can be for a boy or girl (1-14 years) and should not be wrapped.

The cost is \$6 and your reservation is your commitment to pay.

Meet and greet begins at 11:30 followed by lunch at 12:00.

Call Anita Patton at 432-349-6822 or e-mail her at apatton123@sbcglobal.net by Monday, December 2, 2019



HERE COMES THE JUDGE



While you are marking your calendar, break out your 2020 calendar and mark January 9 for the first luncheon of the new year. The program will be County Judge Terry Johnson, who will address the State of Affairs in Midland County.

Call Anita Patton at 432-349-6822 or e-mail her at apatton123@sbcglobal.net by Monday January 6.

Our book drive will begin anew in January, so over the Christmas holidays continue to look for those new and gently used books.

CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT FOR 2019 VERY SUCCESSFUL



The Children's Book Project for 2019 is complete. More than 2000 books have been delivered to area children. Books and money to buy books are being collected by Barbara Stooksberry and Joyce Watts for 2020.

Thank you for participating in this worthwhile project.
Bayta Cullen, Book Project Chairman

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

1. What is the most popular secular Christmas song of all times?
2. What is the most popular Christmas song?
3. What is the oldest Christmas song? (not Silent Night)
4. What made Frosty come to life?
5. What Christmas edible lasts forever?
6. What was Scrooge's first name?
7. How many reindeer does Santa have? Name them.
8. What beverage does Santa drink since 1931?



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

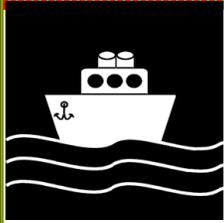


Holiday greetings to you all at this festive time of the year. May you and yours be blessed as you gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanza. Enjoy the special decorations, traditions, foods, activities, friends, and family.

Please include our next luncheon meeting Thursday, December 5, in your schedule. We will have an old fashioned Christmas Caroling Party. In addition, everyone please bring a new toy of any kind or cost to donate to Toys for Tots. We will focus on just visiting and enjoying each other. We don't often get the opportunity to do that. Bring a friend and we will let them enjoy our wonderful hospitality.

Our TRTA State Convention will be Monday through Wednesday, April 6-8, 2020. If you would be interested in acting as a delegate, please contact me. Our organization has funds that should cover most, if not all, of your expenses. We would love to have you join us for this fun and informative time .

Deanna Dunn, MARSP President



AMBA HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY



Enterprise Rent-A-Car 1-800 736-8227 * www.enterprise.com * 10 percent off from an airport location and 5 percent off from non-airports location. Use code "65TRTA" online and enter code "TEX" on second page.

Orlando Employee Discounts * 1-877 413-3557 * www.orlandoemployeediscounts.com * Save on your Orlando vacation with exclusive pricing on hotels and vacation homes in or nearby Disney World and Universal Studios, with discounts on tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios Orlando, Sea World, and All Orlando area theme parks and attractions. Use discount code AMBA.

Cruise and Vacation Benefits * 1-855 577-9497 * www.cruiseandvacationbenefits.com/amba * Provides lowest pricing on all top cruise brands worldwide, escorted tour companies and more than 600 resorts. 4% vacation reward on base fare of your trip and special monthly bonus offers.

Lyn Fishman, Benefits

 **MEMBERSHIP**



As the year begins to wind down, please check to see if you have renewed your TRTA dues. We will be publishing our yearly directory, and your name will be included if your dues are current. If you need to pay your dues, please go to Midland Association of Retired School Personnel.org to get a membership form. Mail your dues to MARSP, P O Box 4954, Midland, Texas 79704. If you have questions, contact Debbie Jordan at debraejordae@hotmail.com.

Volunteer Hours for DECEMBER

Name: _____

Number of Hours: _____

EXERCISE for DECEMBER

Name: _____

YES I EXERCISED _____



NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

November has been designated Foundation Month by TRTA for a number of years. The generosity of its members has given TRTF the opportunity to increase gifts to the three core projects. Hopefully you have read about them in the third quarter edition of *The Voice*. TRTF will be awarding 20 Beginning Teacher Scholarship of \$750 each, 30 Classroom Assistance Grants of \$500 each, as well as funding the Helping Hands program for those requesting and meeting the criteria for assistance from that fund. The deadline for applying for Beginning Teacher Scholarships and Classroom Assistance Grants is February 27th, 2020. If you know someone that might be interested, encourage them to apply. Check the website at www.trtf.org for further information.

“Helping Hands” has provided over \$143,000 in assistance to those in need. This need has grown due to assistance needed with medical bills and the cost of living increases. The Disaster Relief Fund has also helped many with natural and man-made disasters. MARSP sent an Endowment Appeal letter to friends of education in Midland. From that appeal over \$5,500 was given by persons in the Midland community. The donations from the November meeting have exceeded \$600. Congratulations for this generous amount from those giving at the November meeting. What a wonderful attitude of giving from this group. Thank you so very much.

TRTA has become the largest retired educator group in the nation. Other states look to TRTA and TRTF as models. MARSP has been doing its part in contributing financial benefits as well as with leadership. Proud of be a member of TRTA and MARSP. Thank you.

Martha Kallus, Foundation Liaison



YUMMY BLUEBERRIES

Blueberries are rich in anthocyanins, the compounds that give them their deep color and have antioxidant, vasodilatory, anti-inflammatory, and other potential health-promoting properties.

Trivia Answers in random order. Joy to the World, a hat, fruit cake, Coca Cola, White Christmas, 8 and they are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen. No Rudolph. Good King Wenceslas, Ebenezer.

Wellness Letter, University of California, Berkeley, November 2019

TEN TIPS FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS

1. Seek support from others; you are not alone. 2. Take care of your own health so that you can be strong enough to take care of your loved one. 3. Accept offers of help and suggest specific things people can do to help you. 4. Learn how to communicate effectively with doctors.

<https://www.caregiveraction.org/resources/how-talk-your-doctor> Caregiving 5. Caregiving is hard work so take respite breaks. 6. Watch out for signs of depression, and don't delay getting professional help when you need it. 7. Be open to new technologies that can help you care for your loved one. <https://nfca.typepad.com/pluggedincaregiving/> 8. Organize medical information so it is up to date and easy to find. 9. Make sure legal documents are in order. 10. Give yourself credit for doing the best you can in one of the toughest jobs there is!

Source: Caregiver Action Network-<https://www.caregiveraction.org/>

Ann Parish, Informative and Protective Services



Midland Association of Retired School Personnel
November 7, 2019

The regular meeting of Midland Association of Retired Personnel was held November 7, 2019, at First Baptist Church. The meeting was called to order 12:10 PM by President Deanna Dunn. President Dunn welcomed the members and thanked Orin Wade for the music and the cafeteria staff for the food. Anita Patton led the invocation and pledge.

Introduction of Program

Cindy Truitt introduced Becky Brandenburg, Genealogy Clerk from the Centennial Library- "Understanding Your Family Tree...Key to Genealogy." The program that she presented was about preserving your family history by converting photos and home videos to digital formats. (Reclamation Station) There was a question and answer session. Becky Brandenburg was presented a certificate informing her of a donation to be given to the scholarship fund in her name

Business Meeting

Foundation Liaison- Martha Kallus gave a brief history of the Foundation and urged members to make a check to the Foundation.

First Vice President's Report- Debbie Jordan reported current membership is 276.

Second Vice President's Report-Cindy thanked everyone for donating books for this year (Book Project Completed). She also reminded the members to continue to bring books for next year's contribution.

The December Program will be a Caroling Party. Orin Wade will provide the piano music, and the members will sing carols. She reminded the members to bring a toy. Toys will be distributed by Toys for Tots.

Secretary- Nancy Ashley distributed minutes, and they will be filed as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer- Mary Smith's treasurer report for October was distributed and will be filed for audit.

Informative & Protective Services- Ann Parish shared a brief update about Maridell Fryar's health.

Retirement Education- Virginia Conner reminded the members of the date of the Retirement Seminar, which is February 8, 2020.

Healthy Living Chair- Nancy Young led the group in simple standing exercises and announced Cindy Truitt as the winner for a free meal.

Community Volunteer Service- The drawing for a free meal was won by Cindy Truitt. An updated report for volunteers' hours was 4,837 1/2.

Reminder of Executive Board Meeting-

Tuesday, November 12, 2019, Room 117 at 1:30PM at the Centennial Library. (This is a different day and room.)

Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 PM



Nancy Ashley, MARSP Secretary



By Tim Lee

Keep up with the happenings in Austin for Retired Educators.

Go to <http://www.trta.org> and click the *Inside Line* icon like the one above. Then follow the directions.

The TRTA Call Your Legislator Hotline:

1-888-674-3788

TRTA Legislative Hotline:

1-877-880-1651



CARDS TO MEMBERS

Cards going out from MARSP since the last newsletter include thinking of you to Orin Wade, Maridell Fryar, and Dorothy Thompson. We hope you feel better soon. Cards of sympathy were sent to Linda Leps on the death of her husband and to the families of Helen Estes and Vondell Brinson upon their deaths.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate a card, you may contact Patti Watson at pnw1000@gmail.com or call her at 432-697-1170