

MARSP JANUARY 2024

NEWSLETTER



Dr. Rebecca Dodge, Geology Professor at Midwestern State, was the guest speaker at the January 4th meeting of MARSP. She spoke on earthquakes caused by humans, especially those in the Permian Basin area created by oil production. She also spoke on the recent earthquake in Japan caused by plate tectonics. Rebecca wanted the members to have her email as she will be happy to discuss her program and the website that provides teaching activities that she mentioned in her presentation. Her email is (rebeccadodge8615@gmail.com). The program for the February 1st MARSP's meeting will be provided by Troy Gray, Executive Director for the Bush Family Home State Historic Site.

BITS OF MARSP'S INFORMATION

- ◆ Current membership is 254.
- ◆ Donation to TRFT from MARSP was \$655.00 from change and other donations and Maridell Fryar matched a check of \$655.00 so the total amount donated was over \$1,310.00.
- ◆ Mike Landrum has designed a PowerPoint of Midland for the TRTA Convention that will be on the MARSP website.
- ◆ Time to send your 2023 volunteer hours to Helen Whitehead: February 1, 2024 is due date to report to Helen. Helen's email is hlwhite54@gmail.com.
- ◆ A donation of \$900.00 was made to MARSP for the Kathy Favor Scholarship fund.
- ◆ MARSP may be able to give two \$2500 scholarships this year for qualified applicants.
- ◆ Permian Basin Master Gardener's will have new training classes that start in January 2024.
- ◆ Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center is needing volunteers, great way to help and see performances.
- ◆ Danica at Talent Partner at Pearson VUE is looking for part time test administrators. See Pearson website for information.



MARSP Thinking Of You!

If any MARSP members are aware of members in need of sympathy or a “Thinking of You” card, please contact Patti Watson at pnw1000@gmail.com or 432-697-1170. This is a very important request that ensures our members know that they are being thought about during difficult times. A “Thinking of You” or Sympathy card was sent to the following:

- Dr. Stephanie Howard on the death of her father
- Cherry Whigham on the death of her mother-in-law
- Margaret Saunders on the death of her husband, Bud
- Eileen Corley on her surgery over the holidays.



2023 VOLUNTEER HOURS - 1/1/23 - 12/31/23

Let's have a record year of reporting volunteer hours for Midland Association of Retired Personnel! Your participation speaks volumes when reported to legislators making decisions about your retirement benefit. Please report maximum of 12 hours per day for time you volunteered in 2023. The volunteer hourly rate for 2023 reported by the Independent Sector is \$31.80. Please submit your cumulative hours by 1/31/2024 to:

Helen Whitehead
hlwhite54@gmail.com
Or text to 432/553-3924

Remember:

- Volunteer hours may be counted for any service that is provided without pay to an individual or group.
- Record hours spent in volunteer work from the time you leave home until the time you return. Also count the time you spend preparing to do the volunteer work, i.e., preparing a speech or baking cookies.
- Combine all volunteer hours regardless of type of service performed.
- Make a habit of recording the activities on a regular basis. A calendar is ideal for keeping track. A Community Volunteer Record form is also available on the MARSP webpage.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

As of our January 4th MARSP meeting, we now have 254 members. With the start of a new calendar year, why not make a resolution to invite a retiree to each meeting who doesn't usually attend or who isn't a member? The more, the merrier!

As members are added or updated to the MARSP roster, their information will be right here in the MARSP Membership Newsletter article. Please add or update the following members to your 2023-2024 yearbook.

- Tom Jones, tomwjones13@gmail.com. 553-5456, 4203 Russell Dr. Midland, TX 79707
- Paula O'Neill, just.paula.oneil@gmail.com, 978-9558, 3321 Bauman Ave, Midland, TX 79703, 1/31
- Nancy Stewart' address is 2004 N. "I" St. Midland, TX 79705
- Nelda Johnson's phone number is 352-2005



Remember to reach out to other retirees!

Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud—Maya Angelou

Thank you!

Paula Knight

MARSP 1st VP/Membership



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear MARSP members:

January is always a month of renewed aspirations for the coming year. I hope the COLA helps those of you who have waited so many years. I feel the next battle we need to address is the repeal of WEP. Please look for more information regarding this federal issue. Happy 2024 and all the best wishes for all of us.

Debbie Jordan

MARSP President

PLEASE JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 1ST AND BRING A FELLOW RETIREE!

