

# MARSP Newsletter

MAY, 2019

[www.midlandretireded.org](http://www.midlandretireded.org)



May 2, 2019  
MARSP Box 4954  
Midland, TX 79704

## PLEASE COME TO THE MAY MEETING

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, May 2, 2019. This is the last regular meeting before MARSP takes a break for the summer. The program will be a very interesting one from which we can all benefit. Presented by Heather Massey with the Better Business Bureau, it is entitled TOP TEN SCAMS and she will share insights on how to protect yourself again scams.

Call Anita Patton at [432-349-6822](tel:432-349-6822) or e-mail her at [apatton123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apatton123@sbcglobal.net) by Monday, April 29.

Since this is the last regular meeting until September, please remember to bring your contributions for the MARSP Scholarship which will be awarded in June. Also remember to bring books for the book drive.

## MARSP SCHOLARSHIP NEWS



The deadline for the MARSP \$1500 Scholarship is Friday, June 2. If you have a relative, or if you are mentoring a young person who is planning to be a teacher, please encourage that person to apply for this scholarship.

The application can be found on our website: [midlandretireded.org](http://midlandretireded.org)

Click on Newsletters, Event Dates, & Forms. Then click on Scholarship. The first page gives the information concerning the guidelines for the scholarship: The applicant must be currently enrolled in a university or college in Texas, must be sponsored by a MARSP member, and must be pursuing an undergraduate or masters degree in education or educational certification. The second page is the scholarship application.

Scholarship applications, along with both sections of "Personal Motivation," a recommendation from the relative/mentor, and current university/college transcripts, can be mailed to Kathy Favor, 2512 Castleford Rd., Midland, Texas 79705. Please call 432-682-1949 if you have any questions. Applications must be postmarked by June 2, 2019.

Kathy Favor, Scholarship Chair

## TRTA MEMBER BENEFITS--SUPER DEALS AND GREAT DISCOUNTS



\* Road Scholar [www.myambabenifits.info/trta](http://www.myambabenifits.info/trta)

For first-time travelers with Road Scholar, a \$200 discount for international and foreign travel, and a \$75 discount for domestic and state travel.

\*Orlando Employee Discounts 1.877.413.3557

Save up to 35% on Your Orlando Vacation! Exclusive Pricing on Hotels & Vacation Homes in or nearby Disney World & Universal Studios Orlando as well as discounts on tickets for Disney World, Universal Studios Orlando, Sea World, and ALL Orlando Area Theme Parks and Attractions!

\*Cruise and Vacation Benefits. 855.577.9497

Provides the lowest available pricing on all of today's top cruise brands, worldwide escorted tour companies and more than 600 resort properties. You will receive a 4% vacation reward on the base fare of your trip and will also have access to special bonus offers on a monthly basis.

Lyn Fishman, Benefits



**FROM YOUR PRESIDENT**

**THERE IS GOOD NEWS TO REPORT!!!!**

Five of our MARSP members (Maridell Fryar, Ann Parish, Martha Kallus, Deanna Dunn and Helen Whitehead) attended our State TRTA Convention and Rally Day in Austin April 1-3. We were greatly encouraged by the measures that the Legislature has proposed for our pension fund and health care. The most encouraging factor is that money has been earmarked to make our pension fund actuarially sound. That would pave the way for cost of living raises for us (SB 12 by Senator Joan Huffman). Additionally, the bill would give us a "thirteenth check." HB 9 addresses many of these same issues. Both have passed. The next step is for the two houses to hash out a compromise to be voted into law. Tim Lee, our great advocate at the state house, posts progress reports on the TRTA FB page. I add his posts to the MARSP FB page. Check there for updates.

We met with Tom Craddick, who assured us that this is a good year to be asking for money because the Legislature has money this session. He complimented us on contacting him and other legislators, explaining that they continually need to hear from us because they use this informative in writing and voting for bills. Keep up contacts with Craddick and Kel Seliger as changes to these bills continue in the process of ironing out differences between Senate and House versions. Our representatives particularly want to hear how lack of raises has impacted each of us. **Tell them your story!**

Next month's program is from the Better Business Bureau! This should be interesting and informative in our day of prolific scams!

This is our last newsletter until August! Blessings to you as we launch into summer.

Deanna Dunn, MARSP PRESIDENT

**Come Join US  
and  
See What We Mean**

**MARSP MEMBERSHIP**

Dear Retired Educators,

MARSP is in the first few months of our 2019-2020 membership drive. Our goal is 300 members. Today we have 191 members for the upcoming year. Being a member of MARSP for \$50 provides you with membership to our local chapter and our state TRTA.

TRTA is working tirelessly to get us a 13<sup>th</sup> check that is significant and not a token amount of money. They are also working to prevent any further increases in our health care costs.

Join us as there is STRENGTH and POWER in numbers.

Michelle Harmon, Membership

**Volunteer Hours for APRIL**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE for APRIL**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES I EXERCISED** \_\_\_\_\_



## MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONNEL MINUTES

April 4, 2019

The regular meeting of the Midland Association of Retired School Personnel was held April 4, 2019 at 12:00am at First Baptist Church.

President Deanna Dunn presided and Nancy Ashley, Secretary was present.

Anita Patton gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the Texas Flag.

### Program

Cindy Truitt introduced the guest speaker Bob Herndon who gave a presentation on "Stillwell Retirement Home." Deanna Dunn presented him with a certificate showing a donation to our scholarship fund in his name.

### Business Meeting

The officers and committee chairs presented their reports:

**President Report:** President Deanna Dunn reported on the State TRTA Convention and Rally Day at the Capitol.

**Membership:** Debbie Jordan said that membership current count is 191 for 2019-2020.

**Book Report:** Cindy Truitt encouraged the members to continue bringing books. She reported that May's Program will be presented by the Better Business Bureau.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

**Treasurer Report:** Mary Smith's treasurer's report was distributed and was accepted to be filed for audit.

**Friendship Chair:** Patti Watson sent 4 sympathy and 1 thinking of you cards for the month of March. Patti is sending out a call for sympathy cards.

**Scholarship:** Kathy Favor is accepting scholarship applications. The forms can be printed from the MARSP website.

**Healthy Living:** Nancy Young announced the winner in the drawing for a free-meal is Dorothy Blair.

**Community Volunteer Chair:** Mike Landrum the winner of the drawing for a free meal.

**Announcements:** Executive Board Meeting Monday, April 8, 2019, at Centennial Library, Room 113 at 1:30pm.

All members are invited to Region 18 planning session, April 8, at 10:30am at Centennial Library, Room 113.

Adjournment: Without objection meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm

Nancy Ashley, Secretary

@foodinsight

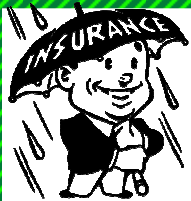


### **DON'T TOSS THAT YET!!!!**

Try these tricks for rejuvenating or just using fading food: Brown Bananas – Make banana bread or pudding or peel and pop into a re-sealable bag to freeze for smoothies. Stale Bread – Tear into 1 inch pieces and toss with olive oil and a pinch of salt; toast in the oven until golden brown. Wilted Lettuce - Plunge into an ice bath and watch it get revived. Leftover Wine – Substitute it for vinegar in dressings and stews. Cheese too hard? Use it in stock to add flavor.

*Prevention Magazine – September 2018*

Nancy Young, Health Chairman



**NEED INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HUMANA INSURANCE???????**

There will be an informational meeting to help you make the most of your benefits. Humana representatives will be there to answer your questions and offer giveaways.

**Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.**  
**Region 18 Education Service Center**  
**2511 La Force Blvd**  
**Midland, TX 79708**

They will share information about programs included in your plan:

- Finding In-network providers**
- Enrollment in Silver Sneakers Fitness Programs**
- Wellness initiatives**
- Disease management programs**
- Customer Care department**

Seating is limited, and a reservation is required to attend. Please call at **1-800-850-1992 (TTY:711)** to reserve your spot. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 8 p. m., Central time.

**CHANGES TO TRTA BYLAWS**

At our annual TRTA Convention in Austin on April 2, 2019, delegates voted that the TRTA Convention shall meet for the purpose of electing officers only in even-numbered years. The rationale of having the convention every other year is the growing costs of an annual convention and the difficulty of finding venues which can accommodate the size and needs of TRTA conventions. Planning for the convention is also intense and time-consuming for the TRTA staff.

In odd-numbered years, the Board of Directors shall determine the time and place of the TRTA Day at the Capitol (Rally Day) providing TRTA members and members of the community who support us to have an opportunity to meet with their legislators and be recognized by the Senate and House. This would provide a greater examination of legislation affecting TRTA members when the Texas Legislature is in session and, hopefully, will result in greater attendance on Rally Day.

A change in the cost of the membership dues for associate members was voted down.

Deanna Dunn, President



**THANKS FROM MARTHA KALLUS**

MARSP has faithfully given to the Foundation since its inception. This year at the Foundation Breakfast at the convention the donation from our unit was made in honor of Dan Kallus. Thank you for this remembrance of Dan and your generosity. A grand total of \$17, 340 was given from all individuals and units at the breakfast. The Foundation continues to work to help TRS annuitants with Helping Hands as requests for grants are approved, awarding 21 Beginning Teacher Scholarships and 30 Classroom Assistant Grants from 172 applicants. The Lehr-Pritchard Endowment Fund is growing to become a permanent fund for the Helping Hands program. Your donations to this fund are very much appreciated. The more that is given, the more there is to be given. The Board of Trustees works hard to see that your donations are used wisely. Thank you!!!

Martha Kallus, TRTF Trustee



*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 Kathy Landrum and Pat Helm. A Get Well card went to Kathy Anderson.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate a card, you may contact Patti Watson at [pnw1000@gmail.com](mailto:pnw1000@gmail.com) or call her at 432-697-1170. If you have any sympathy cards or get well cards that you are not going to use, you may give them to Patti for her to use.

Patti Watson, Friendship Chairperson