

The TRTF Ledger



Vol. III,
Issue 2

February 17, 2011

The latest news and updates from the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation!

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Greetings!

Texas Retired Teachers Foundation Liaisons, Representatives & Friends!

Welcome to the February 2011 issue of *The Ledger*.

Scholarship and grant applications are due March 17th! There is one month left to submit applications!

We also have a special Convention feature on page 5, and a unique donation card to be used during the annual Foundation Luncheon on page 6.



TRTF appreciates your feedback. Please let us know if the newsletter is helpful to you as a representative of the foundation. Send feedback to info@trtf.org

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The next meeting of the TRTF Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, **April 12, 2011** at 3:30 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, Texas. The Grand Hyatt is located at 600 E. Market Street. The meeting will adjourn at approximately 5:00 p.m. This is TRTF's official annual meeting, which includes the election of officers for the year.



Donations and Helping Hand Update!

Since November 1st, **\$54,800** in individual donations and **\$14,400** in local unit and district donations (a total of nearly **\$70,000!**) have been made to the Foundation. Because of the support you have shown, both monetarily and by promoting “A Helping Hand” in your area, TRTF is doing what we have set out to do: help others!

TRTA members always go out of their way to ensure that the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation is successful by supporting its three charitable programs: the newly launched “A Helping Hand,” Classroom Assistance Grants, and Student Scholarships. Our student scholarships and grants for classroom teachers will be awarded in April (learn more about who is eligible to apply and how on page 3).

“A Helping Hand” continues to provide assistance to retirees in need. **Since January 1st, TRTF has awarded grants totaling \$2,260 to retirees, paying for medical bills, roof repairs, and eyeglasses.** TRTF has awarded a total of \$5,800 in grants since “A Helping Hand” launched statewide in October 2010. Thank you for continuing to make donations to this valuable program. Your gifts ensure the program’s continuance and the Foundation’s ability to assist more retirees experiencing critical emergencies.



If you have questions about “A Helping Hand,” such as how to apply or assist a member with the application process, please send an email to help@trtf.org or call Cindee at 512-476-1622.

Donating to TRTF

If you or someone you know would like to make a donation to the Foundation, you may do so by mailing your gift to the **Texas Retired Teachers Foundation, 313 E. 12th Street, Ste. 200, Austin, TX 78701.** Donations may be designated for any of our three charitable programs: “A Helping Hand,” Classroom Assistance Grants, or Student Scholarships. Donations may also be made in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Donations may be made **online** using a service called JustGive.org. The link for donating to TRTF is: <https://www.justgive.org/basket?acton=donate&ein=74-2958842>. Please bear in mind that 3% of all donations made through this service go towards JustGive.org. However, TRTF is not charged unless someone makes a donation to us. Other online services charge a fee even when the service is not used, and this service has proven to be the most cost-effective method for our non-profit.



**ONE MONTH
LEFT to submit
applications!**

Student Scholarships & Classroom Assistance Grants!

The 2011-2012 TRTF Student Scholarship and Classroom Assistance Grant applications are ready! **Please note** that applications for both programs have undergone significant changes since the 2010-2011 award year, and it is advised that all applicants download the newest applications.

For the 2011-2012 school year, **TRTF will award 10 \$500 student scholarships and 10 \$500 classroom assistance grants!**

All completed applications are due to TRTF by Thursday, March 17, 2010 at 5:00 pm. The names of the 2011-2012 scholarship and grant recipients will be announced at the 2011 Convention of the Texas Retired Teachers Association during the Foundation luncheon. The convention will be held in San Antonio on April 12, 13, and 14. Winners do not need to be present and will be notified by telephone and/ or by e-mail after the convention.

As a Foundation liaison or representative, your help informing TRTA members about the availability of the new scholarship and grant applications is needed! Please announce that the new applications are available at your next local unit meeting. Feel free to direct individuals to the TRTF website or to email/mail applications to interested parties.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS



Students who are relatives of a member of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA), and who are pursuing an

undergraduate or masters degree in education at a Texas university or college are eligible to apply for the TRTF Student Scholarship. Transcripts must be included with each application. Recipients must provide proof of enrollment before funds will be awarded.

CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Classroom Assistance Grants are awarded to public school teachers who on a daily basis demonstrate commitment to public education and Texas children through the



creation of programs, events, or other learning platforms. Teachers may apply as individuals or as a team, must be public school teachers in the state of Texas for the 2011-2012 school year, and must have handwritten approval of the project by the school principal.

Additional information found on page 4





February 17, 2011

The latest news and updates from the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation!

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WOW! Generous Donations Made by Districts and Local Units

Numerous districts and local units have offered generous donations to the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation in honor of Foundation Month. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of you for giving not just your monetary gifts but also the time as you have dedicated to sharing the Foundation's vision with others. **Thank you for donating to important causes that can positively impact public education retirees across the great state of Texas.**

The following list includes donations made by local units and districts between January 20, 2011 and February 17, 2011:

San Marcos Association of Retired Teachers donated \$25 in honor of Daniel Guerrero, Mayor of the City of San Marcos. **Mansfield RSE** donated \$25. **Abilene RTA** donated \$500. **TRTA District XIV** donated \$500 to help meet the needs of retired teachers. **San Patricio County RSP** donated \$5 in honor of Vernon Kramer. **Burleson Area RSEA** donated \$30 in memory of Lois Patterson and Henrietta Clower. **The TRTA Board of Directors** donated \$100 in memory of Joe Allen Vardeman, brother of Don Vardeman. **South Montgomery Area RTA** donated \$100 to support public education in the state of Texas through service to retired teachers and school personnel.



SPECIAL DONATION:

Texas State Representative Byron Cook of Corsicana

donated \$103.42 (one of his monthly stipends for serving the state of Texas) to TRTF.



How Do I Get A Scholarship or Grant Application?



1. Download one from the website!

Go to: <http://www.trtf.org/index.cfm/scholarships-grants/>
Only PDF versions of the applications are available

2. Send an email to info@trtf.org!

Use one of the following subject lines: Scholarship or Grant

3. Call 1-800-880-1650 x106

(or ask for Cindee Sharp)!

She will be happy to mail a hard copy of the application to you



2011 Convention Page!

The Foundation's 2011 TRTA Convention Plans

TRTF is looking forward to April 2011 when the 58th Annual Texas Retired Teachers Association Convention takes place in San Antonio. The **Foundation luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 12 pm. Tickets should be purchased in advance. To pre-register for the luncheon, see the Convention registration form in the December issue of *The VOICE!* We look forward to seeing you there!

This year, the Foundation once again will be hosting a **photo booth** in the exhibition hall. For a suggested donation of \$15, guests will receive a 5 x 7 photograph commemorating their experience in San Antonio. Individuals wishing to participate should stop by the Foundation's exhibitor booth during the convention and schedule a time to have his or her picture taken. Please spread the word about this exciting opportunity by telling your fellow TRTA members. Please note that TRTF will be accepting cash and check only as forms of payment for the photos. Fun, fiesta-themed attire will be available!

LEARN The Foundation will also be hosting a **training session** during this year's Convention. It is recommended that local unit Foundation Representatives and District Foundation Liaisons attending the convention make an effort to participate in the session. The "A Helping Hand" program will be covered, as well as information about the role of representatives and liaisons. We will also discuss tips on how to make your role easier and what resources are available to assist you. The Foundation training will be held on **Wednesday, April 13 from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.** (during the third breakout session).

TRTF Luncheon Menu Wednesday, April 13, 2011 12-1:30 p.m.

- Mixed greens with cucumber, tomatoes, and carrots
- Rosemary grilled chicken breast with mushroom ragout
- Fingerling potatoes
- Grilled vegetables
- Chocolate layer cake with fruit coulis



.....
\$30
per person
.....

.....
GRAND
HYATT
San Antonio
.....

TRTF Photo Booth!

For a suggested donation of \$15, you will receive a 5 x 7 commemorative photograph of your experience in San Antonio! All proceeds benefit "A Helping Hand."

The booth will feature fun, Fiesta-themed and San Antonio-inspired props.

Last year's photos made for memorable souvenirs for Convention attendees. Couples, friends, and groups from local units or districts posed together for a fun photo and a good cause!



LUNCHEON SPEAKER MEGAN HOOKEY

Megan Hookey is the Vice President of NRTA, AARP's Educator Community. She manages NRTA's national headquarters in Washington, DC and works closely with NRTA's network of affiliated state retired educators' associations. Megan leads the management and operations of the NRTA national office and worked with the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives to develop the multi-media Staying Sharp program on brain health. She is closely involved in refining NRTA's member benefits and building a comprehensive strategy to raise awareness for NRTA among educators and others interested in learning.

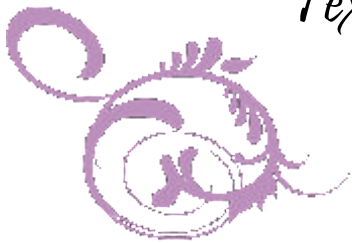
SPECIAL FOUNDATION LUNCHEON DONATION CARD . . .

It is common for individuals, districts, and local units to present gifts to the Foundation at the end of the luncheon, resulting in a rousing display of generosity. This year, TRTF will ensure that your donation is publicly recognized. If you are attending the luncheon and making a donation, you may complete the form below and include a personal message. Many attendees take this opportunity to honor a current member of TRTA or to memorialize a retiree or family member who was dear to them. Bring your form and donation forward to the podium on April 13, and your message will be announced for all luncheon attendees to hear.

Texas Retired Teachers Foundation

Annual Luncheon

April 13, 2011



This donation of
\$ _____
(dollar amount)

is being given by

(Individual, Local Unit, or District name)

This gift is designated for (check one)

_____ "A Helping Hand"

_____ Student Scholarships

_____ Classroom Assistance Grants

and is being made in **HONOR** or **MEMORY** (circle one) of

(name of honoree)

For HIS, HER, or THEIR (circle one)

(example: dedication to education)