

MARSP

www.midlandretireded.org

Newsletter

AUGUST 2009

August 24, 2009

MARSP,
Box 4954, Midland, TX 79704



JOIN US FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

**DEBBIE HEDRICK FROM THE
MUSEUM OF THE SOUTHWEST**

FEATURED SPEAKER

- ▶ Thursday, September 3, 2009—First Baptist Church
- ▶ Fellowship Hall—11:30 a.m. Meet and Greet
- ▶ 12:00 noon—Lunch 12:30—Program and Business

Be sure to give an accurate and prompt reservation for you and your guests by email or telephone. A reservation for a meal is a commitment to make payment of \$5.00, even if you cannot attend.

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

Call Anita Patton at [432- 697-1602](tel:432-697-1602) or e-mail her at apatton123@sbcglobal.net by **Monday, August 31**, for reservations.

THE MARSP PROGRAMS FOR 2009-2010 ARE LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE, [HTTP://WWW.MIDLANDRETIRED.ORG](http://www.midlandretireded.org).

Scholarship

The MARSP Scholarship is given annually to a UTPB student acquiring a teaching certificate. Donation bags are available at each meeting. Please contribute \$5.00 at this September meeting for the entire first semester.

MARSP Scholarship
Fund Contributions

In memory of Vera Blanche Monroe,
beloved of Leonard and Sue Monroe
and
Ricardo Calderon, beloved of
Erminde Pena & family



BOOKS!

Donate new or gently used
BOOKS for the **MARSP BOOK
PROJECT.**

Thank-you notes were received from Casa de Amigos and Community Children's Clinic.

IN MEMORY

Sandra Jordan
Juanita Bradley
Olessi Moore
Fay Carolyn Allison
Francelle Russell Joiner
Imogene Cox Butler
Patricia Diane Morgan
R.L. Gilbert Jr.

Call Pat Adams at 697-3339 with news of health concerns.

Membership News

To date, your response to enrollment has reached a total of 325, but there are still several members who have not rejoined. **MARSP NEEDS ALL OF YOU!** If you have not, PLEASE send in your dues so that our MARSP year-book can be as complete as possible.

The Executive Committee sincerely appreciates your dedicated commitment to the association. However, there are still twice as many retired personnel in Midland County as in our membership. **Please contact the prospects whom you know and ask them to join, or call the Landrums, 697-7727**, with their

names (email to jmlandrum@earthlink.net).

Dues of \$40 should be mailed to MARSP, Box 4954, Midland, TX 79704. Thank you, in advance, for your continued work in promoting the **ONLY organization** dedicated to the welfare of retired education personnel.

Mike and Kathy Landrum

MARSP MEMORY BOOKS

View past Memory Books at Central Office in the room behind the Board Room. Ann Dixon is preparing a digital book for us this year.



MARSP Luncheon Meeting Minutes

May, 2009

The Midland Association of Retired School Personnel met on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church. President Ann Parish called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

President Parish called on Ann Andrews to lead the invocation. The pledges to the American and Texas flags were led by Leonard Boyd. Minda Parks was introduced as a new member. President Parish thanked Orin Wade for providing piano music during lunch. Diantha Dawkins was thanked for providing the tablecloths as were the board members for providing the center-pieces.

President Parish then presented numerous awards to the membership and to individual members. Loyce Phillips, incoming President of TRTA District XVIII, installed the new officers for 2009-2010. They are Ann Parish, President; Mike and Kathy Landrum, Co-First Vice-Presidents; Sharon Welch, Second Vice-President; Nancy Doss, Secretary; Natalie Eustace, Treasurer; Maridell Fryar, Parliamentarian.

There were no corrections to the minutes as printed in the newsletter, so they were approved for filing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Landrum announced 38 names of winners of Membership Incentive prizes.

President Parish announced that the first MARSP meeting would be our Fall Membership meeting on August 13 with Tim Lee as our speaker. Mike Landrum announced that we have 266 members presently and encouraged members who had not re-joined to do so. President Parish thanked the members for all their book donations.

Free lunch certificates were awarded to Sharon Welch for volunteer hours and Nancy and Roland Moreland for steps. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPOKE TO MARSP AND DISTRICT 18 AT THE AUGUST LUNCHEON

Tim Lee, Executive Director of TRTA, brought his usual passion and enthusiasm as the speaker for the August 13th District 18 Membership Luncheon hosted by the MARSP. His recap of the Texas Legislative session and of the work done by TRTA gave those in attendance a clear picture of the issues at hand. He described the work of getting a supplemental check included in the budget and the difficulty of working with the Senate. Even after a provision for a \$500 payment was finally passed, members of the Senate questioned the legality of making a payment to retirees out of general revenue, and the matter is now awaiting a decision by the Texas Attorney General. TRTA has secured the services of a law firm which has filed a lengthy brief defending the payment's constitutionality. At stake, Mr. Lee emphasized, is more than a one-time payment; the possibility of any future payments to retirees until the TRS fund fully recovers from recent losses is the real issue. The good news is a recent \$18 billion gain by the TRS fund, but only increases in state and active contributions can make the fund actuarially sound at this time. Lee spoke emphatically of his disappointment in Governor Perry's veto of the bill passed unanimously by both houses of the Texas Legislature to give retirees another representative on the TRS Board of Trustees. Looking ahead to the work of TRTA during the interim, Lee described efforts being made at the federal level to correct the discriminatory WEP and GPO and revealed that we have a new ally in this battle from military personnel pursuing careers in teaching. Tim Lee encouraged teachers to continue talking with legislators and building understanding on their part as we prepare for the next legislative session.

Health Update: Germ Hot Spots

1. Kitchen Faucet, 2. Garbage Disposal, 3. Welcome Mat, 4. Vacuum Cleaner, 5. Dish Towel, 6. Car's Dashboard, 7. Soap Dispensers, 8. Restaurant Ketchup Bottle, 9. Cell Phone

Benefit of the Month

First Diagnosis Cancer (AMBA at 800-258-7041)
This plan pays cash directly to you in one lump sum payment upon first diagnosis of internal cancer or malignant melanoma. The policy pays in addition to Medicare or other existing insurance.

Community Volunteer Service

Set a goal this year to volunteer for at least one community endeavor. The community needs you, and you will feel much better for having served. Many of you already volunteer in a variety of areas, so why not add one more? Keep count of your volunteer hours and turn them in to Nancy Young.

Volunteer Hours ▪ May - Aug. '09

Name: _____

Number of Hours: _____

Walking Steps ▪ May - Aug. '09

Name: _____

Number of Steps: _____

REVISIONS TO BYLAWS 2009-2010

By the Bylaw Committee

RECOMMENDED BYLAW CHANGES

Midland Association of Retired School Personnel, September 3, 2009

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERS

Section 1 – Active Member

Any retired school personnel or spouse who is an annuitant or who is or who shall be eligible to receive annuity benefits from a teacher retirement system may become a member of MARSP and of TRTA upon payment of dues, either through the Local Unit or directly to TRTA. After July 1, 2004, any new member of MARSP shall also belong to the state organization.

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

Any retired school personnel or beneficiary who is an annuitant from a teacher retirement system may become a member of the TRTA and MARSP upon payment of dues, either through a Local Unit or directly to TRTA.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND TERMS

Section 1 – Officers

The officers elected by the association shall be President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. A Parliamentarian and a Chaplain shall be appointed by the President.

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

Section 1 – Officers

The officers elected by the association shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President shall appoint a Parliamentarian, a Chaplain, and an Historian.

ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Presently, there is no Section 9 of Article VII.

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

Section 9

The Historian shall serve as Chairman of the Heritage Committee and shall be responsible for the collection and preservation of the organization's records.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Types

2. The Standing Committees shall be Bylaws, Community Volunteer Service, Finance, Friendship, Health Care, Heritage, Hospitality, Informative and Protective Services, Legislative, Membership, Member Benefits, Retirement Education, Program, Public Relations, Newsletter, Scholarship, Telephone, Yearbook. The Special Committees shall be Audit, Nominating, and Ad Hoc Committees as needed.

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

Section 1 – Types

2. The Standing Committees shall be Bylaws, Community Volunteer Service, Finance, Friendship, **Foundation**, Health Care, Heritage, Hospitality, Informative and Protective Services, Legislative, Membership, Member Benefits, Newsletter, Program, Public Relations, **Reservations**, Retirement Education, Scholarship, and Yearbook. The Special Committees shall be Audit, Nominating, and Ad Hoc Committees as needed.

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

Section 2 – Duties of Executive Committee

17. The Telephone Committee will call MARSP members regarding meetings and special events, record reservations, and coordinate arrangements for each meeting.

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

17. The **Reservations** Committee will contact MARSP members regarding meetings and special events, record reservations, and coordinate arrangements for each meeting.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws of MARSP may be amended at any general meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to the membership in advance.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES:

Change the above statement to **Section 1.**

Section 2. These Bylaws shall be amended automatically to comply with the TRTA Bylaws.