

# MARSP

## Newsletter

### OCTOBER, 2017

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

October 5, 2017  
MARSP  
Box 4954, Midland, TX



### PLEASE COME TO THE OCTOBER MEETING



Don't forget to put Thursday, October 5, on your calendar. This is the date for the next luncheon meeting of MARSP. Meet and greet begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. The cost of the luncheon is \$6, and your reservation is your commitment to pay. The Speaker will be Ronnie Jung, Chief Financial Officer & Retired Executive Director for the Teacher Retirement System of Texas. His presentation will focus on the goals, accomplishments, and needs of the Endowment Fund/Foundation. There will also be brief remarks from honored guest Orlando Riddick, Superintendent of Midland Independent School District.

Call Anita Patton at 432-349-6822 or e-mail her at [apatton123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apatton123@sbcglobal.net) by Monday October 2, 2017

**Please remember to bring your volunteer hours.**



### PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY AND YOUR WALLET



- ◆ Always shred sensitive documents that include personal financial information such as your bank account number, credit card numbers, and Social Security number.
- ◆ Monitor your financial accounts regularly to detect suspicious activity.
- ◆ Be especially careful when disclosing personal information over the internet.
- ◆ Don't overshare, and never send information through emails or text messages (think of them as postcards—open to be read by lots of people!)

Ann Parish

Informative and Protective Services



### VOLUNTEERING IS IMPORTANT

Did you know that babysitting your grandchildren is volunteering? How about counting money from your church? If you volunteer for anything, the following is what your time is worth.

One hour per week = \$25.11  
Four hours per month = \$100.44  
Four hours per month x  
12 Months = \$1,205.28

Think how impressive these amounts would be to the State and Legislators when we ask for support for our health care, benefits, etc. These amounts can become extremely large when all members submit their hours to me. Remember, it is in "giving (volunteering) that we receive more of a blessing by our actions."

Nancy Young,  
Volunteer Chairperson



### DISTRICT 18 FALL CONFERENCE

The Fall Conference is scheduled for September 29 at Region 18. Everyone who is a member of MARSP is invited to attend. Lunch will be served for a cost of \$4. Sign-in will begin at 8:30 with the conference beginning at 9. It will be over around 2:00. If you are interested in going, you need to be counted, so would you please call Maridell Fryar at 553-2158. There will be a memorial service for members who have passed away, as well as the latest information on our insurance and changes because of recent legislative actions.

**WHAT'S THE TEXAS RETIRED TEACHERS FOUNDATION ALL ABOUT?**

**RONNIE JUNG, SPEAKER**

Ronnie Jung, TRTF Trustee, brings his expertise and first-hand knowledge about the gratifying work being done by the Foundation and the vision for the Lehr-Pritchard Endowment Fund to MARSP at this October meeting.

Ronnie serves as a Legislative Consultant for TRTA in Austin and retired as Executive Director of the Teacher Retirement System (TRS). He brings knowledge of Foundation work and the vision for the Endowment Fund's "Helping Hands" program for all TRS annuitants. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about how MARSP's contributions to this worthy organization have been used and the challenges ahead for helping all public school personnel.

TRTA has named November as Foundation Month so be prepared to make your contribution at the MARSP November meeting or direct mailing to TRTF.

Martha Kallus, Foundation Liaison for TRTA



**Venison Carne Quesada**

*serves 8-10*

- 2 1/2 to 3 pound venison roast or stew meat. Can be replaced with beef chuck roast or stew meat
- 2 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tsp ground pepper
- 3 Tbsp. flour
- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
- 1 large yellow onion
- 6 garlic cloves
- 1 red bell pepper, organic
- 1 green bell pepper, organic
- 4 large carrots
- 1 jalapeno—not traditional but very tasty
- 2 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1 Tbsp. ground cumin
- 1/2 Tbsp. ground oregano
- 1 3/4 cup chicken broth, low sodium
- 1 can crushed tomatoes, organic
- 2 bay leaves
- salt and pepper to taste
- juice from half of a lime, about 1 Tbsp
- flour or corn tortillas, cilantro, caramelized onions for serving

Karron Pearson, Healthcare



**Scholarship Winner**

I am truly grateful for receiving your generous annual scholarship. Amazing teachers like you in Albany guided and inspired me during public school. I was fortunate to begin my college career at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor with several awards and scholarships, but even those weren't enough help after freshman year. I transferred to Tarleton State University and found a job allowing advancement and "flex" hours for school. I selected biology with 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade life science certification as my field of study because of dedicated mentors. Many peers have asked why I chose teaching – not medicine or far more lucrative biological professions – because of the rigorous courses I have taken. Getting through "tough times" has always been sleepless nights rewarded by dreams of setting up my own classroom and an inventory of exciting methods to help students learn difficult material. THANK YOU for your commitment and financial help.

Elizabeth Moore

Niece of Kathy and Mike Landrum



*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**



**Members Receive Cards**

We have been a healthy group this month with only one card going out to our members. Patti Alexander received a thinking of you card. If you know of anyone in need of a thinking of you or sympathy, please contact Patti Watson. She can be reached at [pnw1000@gmail.com](mailto:pnw1000@gmail.com).

Patti Watson, Friendship

**November is Foundation Month. You will hear about it at the October meeting. Please be prepared to make as generous a donation as you are able. One day, you may be a recipient of Helping Hands.**

**Volunteer Hours - October 2017**

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

**Exercise for October- 2017**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**YES I EXERCISED** \_\_\_\_\_



**MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

September 7, 2017

MARSP meeting for September 7, 2017 was held at First Baptist Church. The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. by President Maridell Fryar. After a welcome from President Fryar, Nancy Doss led the invocation and pledge.

MARSP scholarship winner for 2017, Elizabeth Moore, was introduced by Mike and Kathy Landrum, her aunt and uncle. Ms. Moore was not in attendance, but we heard a recorded message from her thanking MARSP for the scholarship.

**PROGRAM**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Bayta Cullen, introduced the guest speaker, J. Ross Lacy, Midland City Council. The program was *Affairs in Midland and Information on the November 7 Bond Election*. Mr. Ross was presented a certificate of appreciation and a donation will be given to the scholarship fund in his name.

**STRETCH BREAK**

Karron Pearson led the group in a brief stretch break.

The drawing for volunteer hours was won by Margie Norton.

Libby McCrone, new agent for Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA), presented information on insurance member benefits that AMBA provides. She talked briefly about Home Health Insurance, First Diagnosis of Cancer, Dental Insurance, and the MASA Prepaid Plan. Libby distributed her contact information and encouraged MARSP members to contact her with questions and/or applications as needed.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

a. Proposed Budget and Financial Report - Treasurer, Mary Smith, distributed the proposed budget for 2017-2018 and the treasurer's report. Lois Hillary moved that the proposed budget and the financial report be accepted as printed. The motion carried and the reports will be filed for audit.

b. Membership Report - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Michele Harmon Cobb reported our membership is 291 toward our goal of 350. New member in attendance today was Jane Rose. Jane was recognized by Michele, and she also welcomed back Ricardo and Brune Torres.

c. Proposed State Bylaw Amendment – President Fryar introduced Article XV: Amendment of Bylaws and explained the assignment of our local unit to recommend approval, disapproval, or continued study of the proposed amendment. Mary Smith moved that we recommend approval of the proposed amendment. The motion carried. The amendment will be sent to the OAC.

d. May 4, 2017 minutes were approved as printed and will be filed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. October 5 Meeting – Martha Kallus and Ronnie Jung will report on the TRTA Foundation.

Cindy Truitt and Maridell spoke briefly on the importance of contributing to the Book Fund Project, either with a monetary donation to purchase books or by donating books at general meetings. Maridell expressed thanks to Martha and Cindy for their work on these projects.

b. District 18 Fall Conference – The date is September 29, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Region 18, ESC. President Fryar made a plea for MARSP members to make every effort to attend the Conference. Local units will provide door prizes.

c. MARSP Board Meeting is Monday, September 11, Centennial Library, at 1:30 p.m.

d. Appreciation and farewell wishes were extended to Valarie Watkins upon her retirement from the food ministry at First Baptist. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Lois Hillary, Secretary

**A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**



Michelle Harmon-Cobb and I had a very informative and positive visit with MISD's new Superintendent, Orlando Riddick, last month. He demonstrated a high level of interest in and empathy for issues which relate to retirees. He assured us that the district would continue to support MARSP and to publish our yearbook.

Mr. Riddick will be at our October meeting and address us briefly about the future he sees for MISD. I hope you will make plans to attend and to meet and welcome him to Midland.

Maridell Fryar  
President MARSP

**MARSP YEARBOOK AND**



**MEMBERSHIP**

The MARSP Yearbook will be coming out the end of October. It will include names, addresses, e-mails and phone numbers for all current members of MARSP. If you want your name and information to appear in the upcoming edition, you must pay your dues, both state and local. Our current membership is 291. If you know of a retired teacher who has not joined, please encourage them to do so. Numbers speak louder than words in Austin, and issues that affect all of us are coming up in the near future.

Mike Landrum  
Yearbook

Michelle Cobb  
Membership