

MARSP FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Renee Page, Director of the Active Older Adult Program at the YMCA, presented the program at the February 6, meeting of MARSP. Renee talked about the different programs the Y has for older adults including the Silver Sneakers Program sponsored by Medicare and United Insurance



MARSP Health Tip

We should eat our good fruits, vegetables and our protein; but there is also a Magic Pill! According to a recent article in Reader's Digest, in a 3 year study, a daily multi-vitamin not only benefits heart disease but also improves memory and slows down cognitive aging.

Reminder: Mark your calendar for March 6th as the next MARSP's meeting, PLEASE HAVE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR LUNCH FOR EACH MEETING TO BAYTA CULLEN By THE MONDAY BEFORE THE MEETING. The lunch count is turned in on Monday to 1st Baptist. THANK YOU!



MARSP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

MARSP Membership has been holding at 250 members. TRTA is set to reach an incredible 96,200 members! Although the MARSP/TRTA membership year is July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025, the membership drive for the next year always begins on March 1st, so . . . you will be receiving a membership renewal form in the mail shortly after our March 6th meeting. TRTA dues are \$35; MARSP dues are \$15. Most members send a \$50 check to MARSP which covers both payments; however, there are members who pay TRTA and MARSP separately. The mailed form will indicate how you paid last year. Please send the indicated amount and the top half of the form to the MARSP address using the enclosed envelope.

We always LOVE to meet new people (and potential members) at our meetings, so please continue to invite others! Reach out to other retirees!

Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.--Maya Angelou
Thank you!

Paula Knight
MARSP 1st VP/Membership
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PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear MARSP Members:

Well I think it's safe to say 2025 has come in like a wrecking ball, forgive me Miley! SB 2 has finally made it to the Texas House, and I promise it will have many changes before it goes for a vote. The \$10,000 voucher could be amended to \$6190 the same as the state's public school allotment. Private schools may have to follow state curriculum guidelines because they may also have to give a state proficiency test. There many variations that can be added to SB 2, including teacher raises, and monetary relief for school districts. It is vital that you call your representative and give them your concerns.

Social Security Fairness Act is still in the works and as we are given more information, we will pass it on to you. Make sure the information you read is reliable and trustworthy. You need to keep informed and advocate for yourself.

Happy Valentine's Day

Deborah Jordan
President

TRTA Retirement Seminar

On Saturday, February 8, 2025, TRTA District 18 held its annual Retirement Seminar at Odessa College. There were speakers from TRS (Teacher Retirement System of Texas), TRTA (Texas Retired Teachers Association), and AMBA (Association Members Benefits Advisors). Judy Crawford, TRTA District 18 President, opened the meeting; Rick Chandler, Odessa RTA 1st VP/Membership, informed attendees about the benefits of TRTA Membership. The 23 attendees at the Retirement Seminar were from 11 cities within District 18, including Midland. Some people come to the seminar several years before retiring, gaining a wealth of information to assist their retirement decision making process. When they do decide to retire, we hope they will become members of TRTA and one of the local chapters in District 18. Terrill Littlejohn and Linda Hancock represented Midland.

Volunteer Hours Report

Midland Association of Retired School Personnel reported 19,034 volunteer hours for the 2024 fiscal year. There were 45 members reporting. The Independent Sector hourly rate for 2024 was \$33.49. The accumulated value of volunteer hours reported for the year was \$637,448.66. THANK YOU members of MARSP for giving your time back to the community.

MARSP members have already started reporting hours for 2025. Please keep track of your hours so we can have another great year of giving back. For your convenience, there is a form to use to keep track of your hours and there will also be reporting slips at the monthly meetings. You may use any method you like to report your hours via of text, email, or paper to Helen Whitehead - hlwhite54@gmail.com 432 553-3924

