

C-FB RSPA Newsletter

November, December 2012

Letter from the president, Linda Tole

Well the elections have come and gone; thank goodness!

Here are the results of our local state elections:

District 8: Senate Ken Paxton

House:

Dist. 65 Ron Simmons

Dist. 66 Van Taylor

Dist. 103 Rafael Anchia

Dist. 115 Bennett Ratliff

Dist. 102 Stefani Carter

Dist. 106 Pat Fallon

Now the real work begins!

We need “mentors” for each of these public officials. Mentors are people who are willing to call, write or stop by the offices for each of the officials listed above. The coming year is going to be another real challenge for TRTA and we are going to need “warriors” to win the battle for keeping our health care coverage and our annuity as it currently exists.

If you are willing to be a “warrior” call or email Linda Tole, Pat Enlow, or Gayle Vrana and they will tell you what your duties will be. This is a time when EVERYONE needs to be involved in order to keep our benefits.

As Tim Lee and others have said numerous times our annuity is NOT in crisis but that is NOT going to keep many from trying to change it.

On another note, if you want to opt out of Medicare Advantage NOW is the time to do it. You only have the month of NOVEMBER to do this.

I did it the first day and got right in and did not have to wait at all. If you WANT the Medicare Advantage program, you don't have to do anything you are automatically enrolled by TRS. If you have TRS 2 or TRS 3 your benefits will not change if you choose to keep that coverage. The prescription coverage, etc. should be the same as they are currently.

We had a wonderful time at the Dallas Arboretum a couple of weeks ago. Wish all of you had been there. The exhibit was just stunning!

Hope to see all of you at our meeting in Coppell on December 5th.

Happy Holidays to each of you. Don't eat too much turkey!

From Lee Nitcholas

We are delighted to announce that the select choir from Creekview High School will be performing Winter and Christmas songs for us at our December meeting. This award winning group has been recognized by TMEA as one of the best of its kind in the state of Texas. Come and enjoy the talented youth from CFBISD; you may see one of your former students!

Membership and More

Linda #2 Bambina-Membership VP

Wow! I thought our FIRST meeting of the year went well...but our SECOND meeting was over the top! Not only was the room full to over-flowing for our special guest from Austin, Tim Lee, but my Lunch Bunch team (especially Donna Wright, Linda Anderson and Celeste Craig) really got creative and had a hot lunch completely ready to go (in the adjoining gym!) as soon as the Program/ Meeting was finished. Super slick!

We had a record 4 NEW members join our growing membership at the meeting. WELCOME to Ada Jordon; Nilde Mollica, Natalie McKeever and Judy Panneck. Special thanks for **Bringing One** go out to Kay Justus, Lee Nitcholas, Barbara Shell and Me!

I was thrilled to have so many "returning" members as well: Hello, Kathy Compton, Marty Blakey and Helen Marsee. It's good to see old friends again.

Speaking of old friends, Kathy Norman our past treasurer for about a decade or so suddenly lost her amazing husband, Joe last month. I know everyone sends special, special prayers and hugs to Kathy and her tightly knit family.

A few people forgot their directories at our October meeting, but hopefully you'll pick up another one when you join us at our Holiday December 5th luncheon and Creekview Choir performance at a wonderful place (1201 E Sandy Lake Rd) in Coppell. CHRISTUS St. Joseph Village is hosting us and the menu is outstanding for our same \$7. They have multiple Dining Rooms, and one will be just

for us, so there will be plenty of space for everyone! Our Hostess is Bethany Candelaria. (972-304-0300) She will have a registration table set up for us in the Living Room as you walk in the front door. The outside gate will be set to open automatically when your car pulls up, but I do recommend carpooling if possible as the parking lots are spread out quite a bit. Consider inviting a friend, even if they didn't retire from education! If they ***support*** education, we'd love to have them as associate members!

There is a map showing the location of this meeting on the web page. Go to Meeting Times and Places in the left column and you will see where it is located in Coppell.

Help us continue to strengthen and grow: **Each One, Bring One!**
(And please remember to RSVP every time!)

A TIME FOR GIVING

From Judy Thurman

At the meeting on December 5, we will collect non-perishable food for the Metrocrest food pantry. Please bring what you can to help those less fortunate. A box will be located at the sign-in table.

RSPA FIELD TRIP

Mark your calendar for Thursday, January 17. It's our next FIELD TRIP! We'll be going to the Museum of Biblical Arts with lunch at Bistro N (Nordstrom's at Northpark). Entry to the Museum is \$12. We'll have a sign-up sheet at the December 5th RSPA meeting or contact me at patenlow@verizon.net or 972.393.8662. Hope you will join us on the field trip Thursday, January 17, 2013

Volunteer Hours

From Celeste Craig

Report Your Volunteer Hours

It's time to report your volunteer hours! Remember: you can report your volunteer hours at the sign-in table at the December meeting, you can e-mail them to:

celrob2@sbcglobal.net, or you can call or text them to Celeste at 972-672-5281.

Remember:

- Volunteer hours may be counted for any service that is provided without pay to an individual or group.
- Record hours spent in volunteer work from the time you leave home until the time you return. Also count the time you spend preparing to do the volunteer work, such as preparing a speech, copying handouts, or baking cookies.
- Make a habit of recording the activities as they are performed.

Combine all hours regardless of the type of service performed. You do not need

to record the specific activity —just the hours. The deadline for submitting volunteer hours to Celeste for 2012 is Monday, January 7, 2013.

Children's Book Project

One of our on-going projects is the Children's Book Project which is supported by your donations of money and time. Last year was very successful and we hope that will continue in 2012-2013.

At our December meeting (or any other meeting) you will have the opportunity to continue our tradition of donating a dollar for each year you were employed in education. This was our BIG money maker for the Children's Book Project last year.

Also you will be able to make a donation in honor of someone as a Christmas gift! Cards will be available to send to recipients of these "gifts."

We are still looking for someone to be a chairperson for this very important project. The project really has three parts: buying books, labeling books, and delivering books. The job of the chairperson is to coordinate these parts.....

If you are interested and willing to do this, please let Linda Tole know. If you would like to co-chair that is a possibility, too.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF C-FB RSPA!!!!!!

DON'T FALL BEHIND ON PAYING YOUR DUES!!!!!!

Time is running out to pay your dues for 2012-2013. Would you please check to see if you have paid your dues for this year? Dues that are paid after March 1 are the current year dues. If you are not sure if you have paid, please call or email me and I can check for you. There are some of you that pay your state dues directly to TRTA.

Please support your local C-FB RSPA by paying \$10.00 for local dues!!!!

The more paid members we have the more delegates we can send to the TRTA State Convention next spring. Please fill out the form below and mail your dues to Judy Carey, 975 Laguna Dr., Coppell, TX 75019. Dues are \$35.00 (\$25.00 for state dues and \$10.00 for local dues). Make your check out to C-FB RSPA. You can also pay your dues at our December meeting.

Fill out the form below, cut out and return with your dues

Name_____

Address_____

City, State, Zip_____

Phone Number_____

Email Address_____