



## From the President's Pen

Lee Niticholas



The State Fair is in full swing which means it's time for corny dogs and the car show! We're still waiting for the leaves to start turning but we have those perfect, beautiful fall days to enjoy now. Life is good.

Your executive board plus a few other members are attending the District X Fall Convention in Frisco on the twelfth of the month. We will be visiting with area legislators, our state president and other dignitaries on your behalf. Our local unit will direct the memorial ceremony in which we honor all those members from the District that we lost over the past year. C-FB RSPA will be honoring five people: Mary Blake, Glenda Brooks-Tidwell, Lorene McCallum, Conan Reinken, and Paul Watten. Our hearts ache with their loss but the memory of our time with them will always make us smile. There will never be anyone like them, each and everyone.

Della, Lyn and Judy C. Have been working diligently on an electronic version of our directory and we think we have most of the kinks worked out and are ready for a trial run. In a few days you will receive an email with the directory attached. Please look at your information and let Lyn know if corrections need to be made. We will be adding new members and corrected information along with your pictures that Lyn is taking at our meetings. The finished directory will be ready soon! Hope you like it!!

## October Program

at *Christus St. Joseph Village, Coppell*  
Pat Enlow, 2nd VP, Programs



You can check this off your list! Our **October 21st** program will be an important one. It addresses issues that we often do not like to consider, but it is necessary to gather all the information available in order to make the best decisions possible concerning your estate and your heirs. Our program, **"Beyond the Will: What You Need to Protect the Ones You Love"** will be presented by **Shannon Willis of the Willis Law firm**. Social time begins at 11:00 a.m. and lunch/meeting begins at 11:30.

## TRS Health Care Town Hall Meeting — Live Feed

Where: **Your Computer** from TRS Headquarters in Austin  
When: **Thursday, October 22, 2015**  
Time: **TBA**  
Topic: **TRS Health Care**

Log on to [www.trta.org](http://www.trta.org) and click link under *Legislative Updates* to view a **live feed!**

The appropriation of \$768 million by our friends in the Texas Legislature to keep TRS-Care solvent was just one step the Legislature took in 2015. They also passed a bill to create an interim study group tasked to discuss TRS-Care and their next move. The hope is to find a funding method similar to our annuity system that would fund health care into the future.

TRTA sees this study group as a way to find real, long term solutions to prevent crises such as the one we faced last spring from occurring again in the future and ensure retirees that their health care coverage will still be there for them. We won one battle. The next step is to participate in finding solutions to the program's funding instability. You can participate in the process by logging on to the Town Hall Meeting on the twenty-second. The participants will know we are watching.

We will send more information as it comes available.

## Book Project

Pat Enlow, 2nd VP, Book Project



Our **2015-2016 Book Project** is underway! **Gail Schwamb and Carrie Jacobson** (our awesome book mavens) are once again working their magic. Over 2,000 children at Country Place, Kent, La Villita, Landry, and Riverchase will be receiving books from C-FB RSPA this year. High Five!!

## Thank a C-FB ISD Board Member

Thank a C-FB ISD Board of Trustees Member. They approved the 2015-2016 budget with the lowest tax rate since 1992. They were able to lower the tax rate because the assessed property values increased. Another High Five!!

## Vote November 3rd

November 3 is an important day. It is the day that you need to get everyone out to vote FOR the increase in Homestead Exemption (from \$15,000 to \$25,000) as a constitutional amendment. This will lower our property tax bills.



## Membership

Della Swaim, VP for Membership

Wow! What a luncheon turnout last month! Many of you invited your friends. Thank you! Keep it up! We are already planning how we can add tables to accommodate a larger crowd. Remember that we are meeting at Christus St. Joseph Village on October 21.

We are grateful that so many of you sent your RSVP. That is helpful because an accurate count helps us make sure we don't run out of food. (Wasn't it delicious last month?) However, several of you failed to show up after sending a RSVP. Our club has to cover the cost of your lunch even when you aren't there so please note the meeting date on your calendar when you RSVP. **Also, let us know if something comes up and you cannot attend C-FB RSPA.** Sometimes we can adjust our order if we know early enough.

This month, you can RSVP by responding to the newsletter email from Lyn Abercrombie or by contacting Judy Carey at [214-498-9867](tel:214-498-9867) (text or call) or [judy.carey@verizon.net](mailto:judy.carey@verizon.net)  
**DO NOT FORGET TO GIVE YOUR NAME WHEN YOU RSVP!**



## Volunteer Hours

Kay Edmondson

The State of Texas likes to know how many hours its retired teachers give back to the community. We like to show the Legislators how valuable we are in retirement! Consequently, please count your hours and periodically report them to our local unit Community Volunteer Service chair, Kay Edmondson at [mce60@verizon.net](mailto:mce60@verizon.net). Count obvious things such as volunteering as a school mentor as well as counting hours spent babysitting grandchildren and caretaking ill family members; even count the hours driving to and from such tasks. You can also count the time spent in attendance at our meetings.

We report our numbers annually, so look all the way back to January 1, 2015, and start counting!

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS TO KAY EDMONDSON at [mce60@verizon.net](mailto:mce60@verizon.net)

## Have I or Have I Not Paid My Dues to C-FB RSPA and TRTA????

Judy Carey, Treasurer



Time is running out for you to pay your dues for 2015-2016. If you have not paid by the end of February 2016 you will be delinquent in paying your dues. If you wait until January or February to pay 2015-2016 dues, then in March 2016 your dues for 2016-2017 are due again. You must pay your dues in order to continue your dental and vision insurance, long term care insurance and any other insurance offered through AMBA. You can now pay your state dues by credit card through TRTA but **not your local dues**. So please, if you do pay your state dues by credit card, send me a check for your local dues. It is only \$10.00 for the year. We need it to run our organization!!!!

If you do not plan to attend our October meeting, please mail me a check for your dues made out to C-FB RSPA. TRTA state dues are \$35.00 and local dues are \$10.00. Mail your check to me, Judy Carey, 975 Laguna Drive, Coppell, TX 75019.

You can view the Treasurer's Report on our website. It is posted on the C-FB RSPA webpage at [localunits.org/CFBRSPA/](http://localunits.org/CFBRSPA/)  
The proposed budget for 2015-2016 is also posted there.

## The Metrocrest Food Pantry

Florida Jossell

Great job!! Your donations last month were highly appreciated by The Metrocrest Food Pantry. While the number of bags were less than in May, it was a good representation, and of course, may have been more valuable than the donations in May.

It has been suggested by our leadership that a report of the number of items donated be given each month. The easiest way to do that **may be that each person will list the total number of your individual items on a small piece of paper and drop it in the glass bowl that will be on the table where the names badges are.**

The lady driver was alone last month. **Some help in loading the van will be highly appreciated.** We are trying to target 11:20-11:25 for loading each month (I got in traffic and was delayed last month. I need a back-up—let me know if you would like to be my back-up).



*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*

## Geo-Deck at Reunion Tower

Beth Sargent, Suzi Urban and Terri Grimes



You will not want to miss our first **field trip** of the year! Mark your calendar for **Wednesday, November 11** to see the Geo-Deck at Reunion Tower. After this great experience we will have lunch at the Cloud Nine Café enjoying the culinary creations of celebrated chef Wolfgang Puck.

Tickets for the Geo-Deck are \$16. We will carpool from the Webb Chapel Church of Christ location. You can sign up at our October 21 meeting. If you will not be able to attend the meeting you can email me, Beth Sargent, at [bsarg1923@tx.rr.com](mailto:bsarg1923@tx.rr.com).

## A “Poppin” Fun Idea

from Linda Bambina



If you're a fan of Disney or “Mary Poppins, the musical” or just going out to lunch and then seeing a show: *please keep reading!*

As an active Board Member for The Farmers Branch Community Theatre...aka: **The Firehouse Theatre**, I would love to get a group together to see this “super-duper-docious” musical at the half-price **2:30 Saturday Matinee on November 21<sup>st</sup>**.

Personally, I have commitments to the other two Saturday matinees, but there are lots of other great choices of performance dates/times for those of you who can't make to the Group Date I've proposed.

The tickets to Mary Poppins, our final show for the season, have been selling since “Oklahoma!” in July. If we want to have great seats, we need to plan ahead. The tickets are only \$9 for Seniors & \$8 for your grandchildren!

Interested? Contact Linda Bambina: [lindabambina42@gmail.com](mailto:lindabambina42@gmail.com) We'll plan from there.

If you can't join us for This Poppin' Good Time, I hope you can find another time to see this wonderful production. Call the Box Office 972-620-3747 and talk to Linda Lowrimore, another busy volunteer and Board Member! The shows are Nov. 5-22. Thanks for listening!

### Meeting dates for 2015-2016

- October 21** – Christus St. Joseph Village, Coppell
- December 9** – Christus St. Joseph Village, Coppell
- February 17** – Webb Chapel Church of Christ, Farmers Branch
- April 20** – Christus St. Joseph Village, Coppell
- May 18** – Webb Chapel Church of Christ, Farmers Branch

## TRTA Member Benefits

### Super Deals and Great Discounts

#### Medical Air Services Association (MASA)

Over the past 30 years, Medical Air Services (MASA) has become an international company dedicated to protecting members against catastrophic financial loss when emergencies arise.



The Platinum Membership offered through AMBA offers the following services:

Emergency Air Transportation, Helicopter Transportation, Ground Ambulance Transportation, Organ Retrieval, Organ Recipient Transportation, Recuperation/Repatriation, Return Transportation, Escort Transportation, Non-Injury Transportation, Minor children/Grandchildren Return, Mortal Remains, Vehicle Return, and World Wide Coverage. Contact AMBA at 1-800-258-7041 for information.

Please visit [www.myambabenefits.info/trta](http://www.myambabenefits.info/trta) to learn more about all the AMBA benefits.

#### VSP (Vision Service Plan) Members

Get an additional \$40 off frames (Bebe, Calvin Klein, Flex, Nike brands) with coupon! Expires 12-31-15.



Go to <https://vsp.com/optical-discounts.html> for more information and to download the coupon.

#### Liability Insurance

Liability insurance is available through the John A. Barclay Agency, Inc. for qualified TRTA administrators or educators returning to work in capacities other than the classroom. Call 1-800-880-1650.

Visit [www.trta.org](http://www.trta.org) for other TRTA Member-Only Benefits.



#### View us on the Web!

Our C-FB Retired School Personal Association has a website with helpful information and photos!

The address is [localunits.org/CFBRSPA](http://localunits.org/CFBRSPA)  
Please note: if you are typing that address into your browser, you must use capital letters for CFBRSPA.