

From the President's Pen

Lee Nitcholas



We're back! Summer is coming to an end and we are ready to gear up for all the upcoming activities and looking forward to beautiful, cool days ahead. While there have been no meetings since May we have been busy all the same.

In May, Della and I were invited to attend the C-FB ISD banquet honoring current retirees where we greeted people and invited them to join us as they arrived. The Executive Board met in June to review our accomplishments, study the survey you completed at our last meeting, and plan the upcoming year. In July we had a group attend the summer production of *Billy Elliott* at the Firehouse Theatre in Farmers Branch. And in August we reached out to pre-retirees in the district by manning an information table during staff development as well as greeting teachers and handing out water at the District Convocation the morning of August 15. We have had a busy and productive summer!

We have lots of interesting and fun things planned for 2016-2017 as you will see as you read this newsletter. We also have one very important challenge: **ALL our members must be involved in the effort to protect our DEFINED BENEFIT pension system and our HEALTH CARE INSURANCE benefit, which is in crises.** The legislature meets in the spring and we will need all our voices as we work for the best possible outcome. As part of this effort we are working to increase membership across the state, and you can help right now by inviting your friends to join us at our first meeting. We will keep you informed as things proceed and let you know when it is most important to contact your legislators but you can use any opportunity to make a contact. Remember, we want to make our representatives our friends and educate them so they make informed and wise decisions on our behalf.

Our first meeting of the year is Wednesday, September 21 at Webb Chapel Church of Christ. I look forward to seeing everyone there!!

September 21st Program

Webb Chapel Church of Christ, Farmers Branch
Pat Enlow, 2nd VP, Programs

Please note:

Lunch will cost \$10 at all meetings this year.

Our first guest speaker for 2016-2017 is ready to tickle your funny bone! A cancer survivor, **Dr. Betty Duke-Ruhd** has been sharing her survival story with the humor and wit she developed to overcome life's bumps in the road and as a tool to promote general wellness.



Betty is a retired Latin teacher and adjunct professor at University of Texas at Dallas. She has worked in the Dallas area for 39 years and is a member of Plano Retired Teachers Association.

Social hour begins at 11:00 and program/lunch begins at 11:30. Lunch \$10. RSVP by Wednesday, Sept. 14 to Della Swaim by text: 214-926-6981 or email: jldhswaim@gmail.com.

Meeting dates for 2016-2017

Sept 21– Webb Chapel Church of Christ, Farmers Branch
Oct 19 – CHRISTUS St. Joseph Village, Coppell
Dec 7 – CHRISTUS St. Joseph Village, Coppell
Feb 15 – Webb Chapel Church of Christ, Farmers Branch
April 19 – CHRISTUS St. Joseph Village, Coppell
May 17 – Webb Chapel Church of Christ, Farmers Branch

Please add to your calendar:

District 10 Fall Convention
Monday, October 10
Registration/Greet Legislators @ 9:00
Meeting @ 9:30
Lovers Lane United Methodist Church
9200 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75220

We will be responsible for coordinating the door prizes for this meeting.

DON'T FALL BEHIND IN PAYING YOUR DUES FOR 2016-2017

Judy Carey, Treasurer

Reminder!

I know I keep repeating myself year after year sending out reminders to members who have not paid their dues. Over the summer I have sent out emails to members who had not paid and everyone was grateful for the reminder. So, for those who are still waiting to pay, now is the time. You can make out one check to C-FB RSPA in the amount of \$45.00. If you are unable to attend our September meeting, you can always mail your dues to me at **975 Laguna Dr., Coppell, TX 75019**. If you have questions about your dues, either email or call me at 972-393-2956.

If you are one of those who pays the State-part of your dues out of your annuity or by bank draft, if you can, please also support C-FB RSPA by paying your Local dues of \$10.00. **Your Local dues stay with C-FB RSPA to help run our organization.** Your Local dues help pay for our meeting programs, donations to Texas Retired Teachers Foundation, the printing of recruitment brochures and contact cards, door prizes, donations to our Children's Book Project fund so we can purchase books to give to elementary school children in our district, to name just a few of our expenses. We do put your \$10.00 to good use.

If you are a recently retired member, please let me know. When you joined our organization and were still working, you were signed up as an Associate Member. Once you retire and start receiving your annuity from TRS, you are then changed to a Member.

If you are receiving this newsletter by regular mail, please let us know if you have an email address so we can send the newsletter via email instead. This will save C-FB RSPA a few dollars. You must pay your state and local dues to receive the newsletter by regular mail.

Our proposed budget for 2016-2017 is posted on our C-FB RSPA webpage at localunits.org/CFBRSPA/index.cfm/about-us/1/treasurers-reports/. Please take a look at this proposed budget. We will be voting on it at our September meeting. If you are interested in viewing the **Treasurer's Reports**, they are also posted there.

Look forward to seeing you at the September meeting!

Our **Sunshine** person is

Kathy McWhorter. Please notify her if you are aware of any of our members in need of some sunshine!



Kathy McWhorter: kathymcwhorter@verizon.net

Field Trips 2016-2017

Beth Sargent, Terri Grimes, Suzi Urban

The trips for 2016-2017 are below. You'll want to add them to your calendar! Our field trips are open to spouses, siblings and friends of our members.

Our first field trip will be to the **George W. Bush Presidential Library**. We will meet on **Tuesday, October 4**, at the Webb Chapel Church of Christ at 9:45 a.m. and travel by carpool to see the exhibit "Path to the Presidency." The Educational Specialist at the Bush Library will meet with us at 10:30 and take us to observe a Situation Room Simulation (if one is going on that morning). If there is no situation that day, she will give us an overview of the program. If possible, she will also give a tour of the Situation Room.

If we have 20 or more attending, our group rate is \$10 per ticket. After touring, we will have lunch at Café 43, there at the Library.

At our September 21 meeting, you'll have a chance to sign up. If you will not be there and would like to come, text Beth Sargent at 214-789-9612 or email her at bsarg1923@tx.rr.com to reserve your spot. We will collect your money when we get to the ticket office on October 4.

C-FB RSPA Field Trips for 2016-2017

October 4, 2016, Tuesday

Bush Library Exhibit: Path to the Presidency, and lunch

November 30, 2016, Wednesday

Grapevine Mills Christmas shopping and lunch

January 10, 2017, Tuesday

Dallas Museum of Art and Trinity Grove for lunch

March 29, 2017, Wednesday

Waco Magnolia Market and Amish Heritage Village for lunch

June 14, 2017, Friday

Texas Rangers' Game (if they are playing at home)



Children's Book Project News

Gail Schwamb

It's time to begin the Children's Book Project for another year. We are ordering our first books—taking advantage of prices and bonus points. In a few weeks we will gather the information about student enrollment for the schools selected to receive the donated books next spring. At our last meeting you filled out a survey, and some of you indicated that you wanted to help with the Book Project. I have misplaced the names of those who volunteered. Please email or call me if you wanted to help with this project. Thanks, Gail

schwambga@aol.com or 214-477-9424

Above is a picture from last year's Book Project, and even more photos are here: localunits.org/CFBRSPA/assets/File/2016-2017/2016bookproject.jpg.

Welcome to our recent new members of C-FB RSPA:

Dr. Bobby Burns	Ann Hays
Webber Baker	Anita LeClaire
JoCile Bayh	Jeanne "Dianne" Martin
Carolyn Chiever	

Community Volunteer Service

Kay Edmondson

- Volunteer hours are reported from January through December each year.
- Volunteer hours are reported for any service you provide without pay.
- MAXIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS THAT CAN BE REPORTED IS 12 HOURS PER DAY.
- Travel time is included in the hours reported--from the time you leave home until you return.
- **Email volunteer hours to: Kay Edmondson at mce60@verizon.net**

Volunteer hours reported in 2015: 48 members contributed 26,392 hours.

Numbers do count...in public relations with taxpayers!

Numbers do count...with Legislators when the value of education retirees' volunteerism is consider during legislative negotiations!

Membership

Della Swaim, VP for Membership

Please note:

Lunch will cost \$10 at all meetings this year.

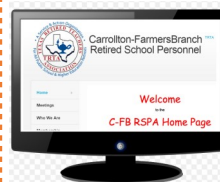
Happy fall! This is my favorite time of the year and I am looking forward to pumpkins and seeing all of you again! Your executive committee has had a busier than usual spring and summer. We have been working to develop a closer relationship with C-FB ISD, and I am very pleased with what we have done. I would like to thank Dr. Burns, Angela Shelley Brown, and C-FB ISD for their gracious generosity.

First, Angela Shelley Brown invited us to attend the school district retirement dinner in May. Dr. Burns introduced Lee and me first in the program, and encouraged all of the retirees to contact us and join our organization! They had a table set up for us in front of the door where we were able to gather their contact information so that we will be able to invite the retirees to our first meeting in September. We also provided our brochure and a treat to everyone in attendance.

Then, we were invited to man a table at the district professional development conference at Creekview High School in August. We met at my house, cut strips of paper with our C-FB RSPA contact information, and glued over 500 mints to them to hand out to the teachers. Our goal was to introduce our organization to the active school personnel. Thanks to Mary Eisenmann and a crew of 8 people who manned the table and another 5 people who helped with the preparation. That turned out great!

Last, we were asked to greet the school personnel and pass out hand fans and bottles of water to everyone who attended Convocation at Standridge Stadium VERY early in the morning on August 15th (in the RAIN). Despite the early hour and the rain, we had a cheerful, group of 7 dressed in red to greet the teachers. It was fun! We look forward to many more opportunities to interact with active school employees in the future.

If you know someone who has recently retired, please make personal contact with them, forward this newsletter to them, and then invite them to attend our September meeting by forwarding the RSVP email to them with a personal note. You are our best ambassadors! Thank you! You do a great job!



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

Please note: if you are typing that address into your browser, you must use capital letters for CFBRSPA.