



C-FB RSPA

Carrollton-Farmers Branch Retired School Personnel Association

April 2018



Help us win \$500 from TRTA for our book fund! Invite a friend, and renew your membership in C-FB RSPA by 5/31 to be entered into a \$50 drawing locally!



From the President's Pen

Della Swaim

Our Candidate Forum in February was a whole new experience for C-FB RSPA!

It was on a terrible weather day, but our turnout was terrific! If you were not able to attend, you really missed a great time! There is nothing like listening to someone speak in person to help you understand their point of view. I hope we will hold one of these forums in each election year. Our elected officials need to know who we are as retired educators, and we need to know them and what they believe. I want to thank Pat Enlow and our Legislative committee, Nitchie Hoskins, Leta Nelson, and Lori Smith for a superb Forum! However, so many of you stepped up to help with this. Thank you!

It was WONDERFUL to have Nancy Watten back after a long illness!

Six of your officers are preparing to participate in the State TRTA Convention next week in San Antonio. They are Pat Enlow, Lee Nitcholas, Mary Eisenmann, Judy Carey, Nitchie Hoskins, and Della Swaim. This is a great opportunity for us to learn about our responsibilities from other TRTA members and officers across the state. Hopefully we can come home with ideas about how to make C-FB RSPA a better organization.

My goodness! Spring has SPRUNG! As I write this it is still misting rain after three full days of downpours. Flowers are blooming everywhere and you can almost see the grass grow! I LOVE spring! My calendar for April couldn't be more full of fun possibilities. Our C-FB RSPA April meeting is always a fun time to get together after a long cold winter. I am inviting my friends, SO, **you** invite your friends to join you at our meeting on April 18th. Come early at 11 o'clock to visit with everybody and help us greet our friends and visitors. **You are important to C-FB RSPA!**

Upcoming Meetings:

April 18, 2018

Program: *Beware: Common Drug Interactions.*
Speaker from Baylor Scott & White Health

May 16, 2018

Program: *The Golden Voices of the Silvertones.*
Woody Schober, Director

Meeting: Wednesday, April 18

Webb Chapel Church of Christ

13425 Webb Chapel Rd., Farmers Branch 75234

11:00 meet and greet; 11:30 program/lunch. Lunch \$10.

RSVP by Wed., April 11 to Judy Carey by email:

judy.carey@verizon.net or text: 214-498-9867



April Program

Pat Enlow, 2nd Vice President:
Programs, Children's Book Project, Publicity
Member TRTA District 10 Legislative Committee

Aren't the spring flowers beautiful this year? I am so enjoying the tulips, daffodils, and now the bluebonnets are making their appearance! Spring is a time of renewal and we want to renew and revitalize your health.

Our speaker for April is from **Baylor Scott & White Health** and will be giving us **tips on how best to take our meds**. Included will be tips on which combinations to avoid and what time of day is best for certain meds. Over-the-counter meds, vitamin supplements, and herbal supplements are often dismissed as 'meds', but can affect energy levels, appetite, etc. when taken in combination with prescriptions.

This is a topic suggested in our RSPA Member Survey last year, so I hope you find it to be valuable information. We will be asking for your input in our 2017-18 Member Survey in May. Please be thinking about program topics and speakers you would like so you can include them in the survey!



Our February Candidate Forum. See more photos here:
<http://www.localunits.org/CFBRSPA/assets/Image/2018%20Candidate%20Forum%20-CFBRSPA.jpg>



News from the Treasurer

Judy Carey, Treasurer

IT'S TIME TO HELP OUR LOCAL C-FB RSPA WIN ONE OF THE \$500 AWARDS TO BE HANDED OUT BY TRTA!!!!

We cannot win this award without you helping to make this happen!! It is simple, **all you must do is pay your state and local dues now**. The absolute deadline is June 10, 2018. If you have your state dues taken out of your annuity or you pay by a bank draft, all you need to pay is your local dues of \$10.00. Your state dues are automatically renewed and counts for this contest.

Make your check out to **C-FB RSPA** in the amount of **\$45.00** for state and local dues, and mail to me, **Judy Carey, 975 Laguna Drive, Coppell, TX 75019**. If you have questions, please email me at judy.carey@verizon.net or call me at 972-393-2956.

Remember if you have any changes in your information, please let me know. If you are retiring soon, if your email address changes, etc., I need to know.

We deeply appreciate your membership and hope you plan to renew NOW for 2018-2019.



Membership

Wanda Patterson, VP for Membership

Help us **win \$500** to use for our **A Book a Child** project by:

- (1.) paying your dues by early June, and
- (2.) encouraging non-members to become members!

Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) is offering a chance to win 1 of 8 possible \$500 prizes to the local unit who either signs up the most **NEW MEMBERS** and/or has the **MOST MEMBER RENEWALS** (by percentage) by June 30, 2018.

The money would **REALLY** help us with our **A Book a Child** project to give books to the students of C-FBISD.

So, invite your non-member friends and past co-workers to attend, and encourage them to JOIN!

And, send in your 2018-2019 dues now! (See our Treasurer's article on this page.)

Help us win! and support our book fund! Thank you!

Welcome to our New Members!

**Thomas Bell * Jack Henderson * Tamara Johnson * Gay Nell Rippel * Bob Sargent
Mary Jane Teslow * Patricia Thorpe * Joy Zieren**



Field Trips

Beth Sargent, Linda Frith,
Lee Nitcholas, Sharla Lee

Our next field trip will be Wednesday, June 6 to **Chocolate Angel Café and Tea Room**.

Then, later in the summer please join us for dinner and a grand ole good time experiencing "**The Music Man**" at the Firehouse Theater on Thursday, August 9. Dinner will be at Two Guys from Italy at 5:30. The show begins at 7:15.

More details on both event in our May newsletter.



Our field trip to Texas Tulips in Pilot Point.



Upcoming Field Trips

June 6, 2018 (Wednesday)

Chocolate Angel Café and Tea Room

August 9, 2018 (Thursday)

"The Music Man" at Firehouse Theatre



School Board Elections

Pat Enlow, Member TRTA District 10
Legislative Committee

Local School Board Elections:

Early Voting: Mon., April 23 through Tues., May 1
Election Day: Sat., May 5

Please become informed and VOTE in this important election.

Use dallascountyvotes.org or 214.819.6300 and votedenton.com or 940.349.3200 to find information about voting and polling places.

We have been concentrating on State Primary Elections and looking forward to the General Election in November. However, one election often overlooked is our local **School Board Election**. These elections certainly affect the quality of education locally, but have the potential to filter up and affect active and retired school personnel as well as public education statewide. At our April meeting, I will be passing along information on candidates running for Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD and Coppell ISD School Boards. I'll list candidates here so that you can look up information in the meantime. Many of these candidates list Candidate Forums in which they will participate on their websites, so you can attend and hear them and their views. These positions are non-partisan.

C-FBISD uses Cumulative Voting. There are 2 seats up for election this year. So, each voter will have 2 votes. You can vote for one candidate twice or vote for two different candidates.

Candidate Forum: Monday, April 23, 2018
7:00 pm C-FB Board Room 1445 Perry Rd., Carrollton (Farmers Branch/Carrollton AAUW and CFB Council of PTAs)

-John Matthews – Incumbent, President. Retired from C-FBISD. No website given.

-Sally Derrick – Registered Nurse, community advocate and volunteer. Website: sallyderrickforcfb.com.

-John Black – Retired Band Director, Dan F. Long Middle School. Website: votejohnblack.com.

-Nic Rady – Physicist. Website: nicrady.com. Ran in May 6, 2017 election. Endorsed by Empower Texans, Friends of the Branch, Rep. Matt Rinaldi.

Coppell ISD has 3 places up for election and allows one vote for each place.

Candidate Forum: Tuesday, April 27, 2018
7:00pm – 9:30pm at Town Center, 255 Parkway Blvd., Coppell (Coppell Chamber of Commerce)

Place 2

-Manish Sethi – IT Consultant. Website: sethi4cisd.com. Endorsed by former State Rep. Bennett Ratliff plus 54 individuals as of 3/12.

-Balki Chamkura – IT Consultant. No website given.

Place 6

-Nichole Bentley – CEO of a travel agency. Website: bentley4cisd.com. Endorsed by Bennett Ratliff plus 100 individuals as of 3/12.

-Dan Koller – Communications Editor. Website: koller4coppell.com. Endorsed by 25 individuals as of 3/12.

-Lynne Ryan – Educator. No website given.

Place 7

-Tracy Fisher – Incumbent, President. Education advocate. Website: tracyfisher.org.

-Ron Hansen – Private business owner. Website: voteronhansen.com. Endorsed by Empower Texans.



Take Care

Linda Bambina
Information & Protective Services

Friends, there are SO MANY TELEPHONE SCAMS, it is UNREAL. I know you know to be careful about giving out information over the phone, especially to someone who has called YOU!

Big No-No. You are clever, you know that.

BUT the following info came to me via District X Chair for Information & Protective Services and I felt it was one worth sharing because I have noticed recently that MY area code and first 3 digits of MY phone are the number calling....”So weird,” I thought.

Please read on:

“Curiosity Cons: Scammers know that you are going to ignore unrecognized or private numbers, so they use software that allows them to display fake numbers that are hard to resist—like your own number. They also use numbers that have your area code and prefix numbers, so you automatically think it’s a local call. The fake numbers make it hard for the legal entities to trace. Using your own number helps scammers avoid your call-blocking. Scammers also enjoy the benefits of the “one-ring rip off.” After calling you several times and hanging up after only one ring, you’re ticked off and ready to give them a piece of your mind, so you call them. You are doomed if you call area codes such as 268, 664 and 876. These Caribbean countries have high per-minute phone charges. When you call these area codes, you may have to hold for several transfers that skyrocket your bill. Then a scammer answers the line and begins his pitch. But he’s already got your money with the phone charge!”



Recognizing Natural Gas Hazards

Thalia F. Matherson, Ed.D.

TRTA Informative & Protective Services Committee



This article is being offered because of the recent gas related incidents and a death in the Dallas area. Natural gas is supplied to most homes and businesses; and if not, the underground pipes may have an effect on you if there is an undetected gas leak in your neighborhood. Therefore, this article is printed in order to make us all aware of possible dangers, and what we can do to avoid a catastrophic situation.

“Natural gas incidents are uncommon. Because natural gas is lighter than air, gas leaking outside usually vents into the atmosphere and dissipates rapidly. Nevertheless, uncontrolled leaking natural gas can pose potential hazards:

- Escaping natural gas is highly flammable; it can easily ignite and burn.
- Natural gas can migrate into voids underground and openings such as sewer lines.
- Natural gas that has amassed in an area can explode if a spark or other source of ignition occurs.
- Leaking natural gas can also cause an explosion.
- Natural gas may displace oxygen in a confined space and can cause asphyxiation.
- Natural gas in many large transmission pipelines is not odorized and has no smell or color.”

Natural gas in its original form has no smell or color. That’s why the gas company adds a “rotten egg” odor to make you aware if gas is leaking. So you can detect a gas leak by:

- Its distinctive odor that you smell
- Its hissing sound that you will hear
- The sight of bubbling water, blowing dust or dead vegetation near a gas line that you see

“If you ever smell natural gas, leave the area immediately and tell others to leave, too.” Call 911 once you are safely away.

From: *Gus the Gopher & Rosie the Skunk of Atmos Energy Safety Guide 2017*

Sunshine

Kathy McWhorter



Please notify me if you know of a member who is ill or needs a note of encouragement!

kathymcwhorter@verizon.net

Photos!

Click below to see photos of our:

- Field trips
- Meetings

<http://www.localunits.org/CFBRSPA/index.cfm/photos/2017-2018-sights/>

View us on the Web!



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

The address is localunits.org/CFBRSPA

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



Volunteer Hours for 2018

Kay Edmondson

This is a reminder for you to count your Volunteer Hours and email me, Kay Edmondson, with your count. mce60@verizon.net

The State of Texas likes to know how many hours retired school personnel give back to the community.

Count obvious things such as volunteering as a school mentor as well as counting hours spent babysitting grandchildren and care-taking ill family members; even count the hours driving to and from such tasks.

Hours are counted from January 1 - December 31, 2018.

Keep track of your volunteer hours and report them monthly or in a lump sum at the end of the year.

Thank you!



TRTA MEMBER BENEFITS

Mary Eisenmann
Member Benefits

APRIL 2018

Super Deals and Discounts

TRAVEL

Avis Rent-A-Car

Receive up to 25% off the rental. To reserve online at www.avis.com/AvisWeb/html/bridge/go.ex?D404600 or call 1.800.331.1212.

Budget Rent-A-Car

Receive up to 25% off the rental. To reserve online at www.budgetcarrental.com/budget/assoc/index.html?X885500 or call 1.800.527.0700.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

Receive a 10% discount to members when car is rented from an airport location and 5% discount when car is rented from non-airport location. Call Enterprise by phone at 800.736.8227 for reservations. Make sure you mention the discount code by phone. Or visit www.enterprise.com and use the discount code.

HOTEL

Drury Inn & Suites • 1.800.378.7946 • www.druryhotels.com

TRTA members receive 5% discount off Drury's corporate rates at the more than 100 Drury Inn & Suites in nineteen states (discounts are not available when hotels are on "peak status"). Amenities include a hot breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits & gravy, Belgian waffles & more, one hour of free long distance per room per night, evening beverages and snacks from 5:30-7 p.m. and high-speed internet access in every room & wireless lobby.

La Quinta Inns & Suites • 1.800.753.3757 • www.LQ.com/TRTA

TRTA members receive up to a 10 percent discount off La Quinta Inn and Suites best available rates nationwide. You may call 1.800.753.3757 to reserve over the phone and mention code the code.

FOR FUN

Dallas Zoo

You are now able to buy discounted tickets for the Dallas Zoo with the added convenience of printing your admission tickets from your computer and presenting them at the entrance turnstiles bypassing ticket booth lines. You may purchase tickets by visiting our exclusive Discount Tickets Store <https://zootickets.dallaszoo.com> and enter store name.

To access the member benefits online, you must log in to your member profile. Go to www.trta.org, and click on Member Login at the top right of your computer screen. Your username is your member ID number and the default password is trta123 (all lowercase, no spaces). Always check details of discount rates and follow the guidelines for receiving these discounts or rates.

For more information on Member Benefits, please visit <https://trta.org/membership/member-benefits/>.