

The TRTF Ledger



Vol. II,
Issue 9

September 9, 2010

The latest news and updates from the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation!

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Greetings, Texas Retired Teachers Foundation Liaisons, Representatives and Friends!

Welcome to the September 2010 issue of *The Ledger*.

This issue features important information about the statewide launch of “A Helping Hand,” including training dates! **Please read it carefully for action items that may pertain to you as a District or Local Unit officer!**

Need updated “Talking Points” or a Foundation speaker for your local unit meeting? See page 4!



TRTF appreciates your feedback. Please let us know if the newsletter is helpful to you as a representative of the foundation. Send feedback to info@trtf.org

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The next meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation will be held on Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at the Drury Inn in Austin, Texas. The Drury Inn is located at 6711 IH 35 North. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at approximately 2:00 p.m.



“A Helping Hand” Statewide Training: RSVP Today!

Training for all districts and local units on “A Helping Hand” will occur in October 2010. TRTF is offering several free webinars throughout the month on varying days and times.

TRTF would like for all District and Local Unit Presidents, as well as District Foundation Liaisons and Local Unit Foundation

Representatives to participate in a training session. Sessions are expected to last for approximately one hour.

This method of training (via webinar) will REQUIRE that you have access to a computer, the internet, and a telephone. Packets containing the official “A Helping Hand” documents have been mailed. You should receive them no later than September 20. It’s important that you have those materials handy during the webinar.

You will need to **RSVP** to the session you want to attend. Please send an email to help@trtf.org to RSVP for one of the sessions or call Cindee at 1-800-880-1650 x106. Please indicate the date you will attend and provide your email address.

After you have RSVP’d, you will receive instructions via email on how to log in to the webinar. If there are no RSVPs for a specific date, that meeting will be cancelled. **PLEASE RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO YOUR PREFERRED DATE, no less than 3 days prior to the webinar.** *Those who do not RSVP in advance will NOT be able to participate on a specific date.*

Sessions are available on the following dates & times:

Friday, October 1, 2010	10:00 a.m.	(RSVP by September 28)
Monday, October 4, 2010	2:00 p.m.	(RSVP by September 30)
Tuesday, October 12, 2010	10:00 a.m.	(RSVP by October 7)
Wednesday, October 20, 2010	2:00 p.m.	(RSVP by October 18)
Thursday, October 28, 2010	10:00 a.m.	(RSVP by October 26)

Please note, if your District has several Local Units located in areas where there is limited internet access, TRTF may be able to arrange an on-site training for you. Although we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do this for everyone who requests it, we will do our best to make an opportunity for training available. Please contact Cindee Sharp immediately with your requests. You may reach her at 1-800-880-1650 x 106 or help@trtf.org. The deadline to request an on-site training is October 15, 2010.

DISTRICT 3

representatives will be meeting at the Region 3 Service Center on Wednesday, October 20 at 2:00 pm and will be viewing the webinar together. For more information,

please contact

Dr. Martha E. Jones

(marthaejones@suddenlink.net)

or Maxine Ross

(Maxine_ross@earthlink.net).

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Are You Ready For Foundation Month?

In November 2009, TRTF and TRTA promoted the first ever **Foundation Month**. Both organizations are once again designating **November** as a time to increase awareness of the Foundation among the members of TRTA.

We will be asking all local units to dedicate time during their fall meetings to discuss the Foundation's goals and accomplishments. If your local unit does not meet in November, please set aside time in your September, October, or December meeting. TRTA is encouraging units to ask its members for donations to the Foundation and to make information available to them about the organization.

Start marking your calendars and thinking about your programs now! Please contact Cindee Sharp at info@trtf.org for information about simple fundraising ideas and to request Foundation brochures or a speaker from our Board of Trustees. We also have **Talking Points** available, should your Local Unit Foundation Representative prefer to make the Foundation presentation. See page 4 for details!

TRTF will be sending out an association-wide appeal letter in the fall. We received a tremendous amount of support from the membership last year, and the increased awareness and donations have allowed us to start a new program, "A Helping Hand."

TRTF will launch "**A Helping Hand**" statewide in October, just in time for Foundation Month! Fall is just around the corner, and the Foundation is pleased to offer this program to all education retirees in the state. **Most recently, TRTF was able to purchase a wheelchair for a cancer patient in east Texas, which will greatly enhance her mobility and independence!**

We have important goals for 2010-2011, including continuing our Student Scholarship program, providing 10 \$500 scholarships to Texas graduating seniors and current college students majoring in education. Applicants must also be relatives of a member of TRTA. Applications will be available for the 2011 award year by December 2010.

TRTF will also continue its Classroom Assistance Grant program, offering 10 \$500 grants to Texas public school teachers who are creating unique projects and learning platforms for their students. New application forms will be available by December. Deadlines for submitting applications for both the Student Scholarship and Classroom Assistance Grant programs have not yet been determined.

Already made your plans or held your meeting? LET US KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING! We'd love to feature the innovative ideas of Local Units from across the state in *The Ledger!* Pictures are also welcome.



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A few FUN FACTS about September!

Autumn begins in the northern hemisphere this year on Thursday, September 23!

September is the ninth month of the year in the Gregorian Calendar and one of four Gregorian months with 30 days.

In Latin, *septi* means "seven" and *septem* means "seventh"; September was in fact the seventh month of the Roman calendar until 153 BC.

September begins on the same day of the week as December every year.

September's flower is the aster or morning glory.

September's birthstone is the sapphire.

On the first Sunday of September, the *regata storica* parade is staged in Venice, as prelude to the rowing contests known as regattas.

In Australia, Father's Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of September.

Requesting Foundation Speakers

Many local units request a speaker from the Board of Trustees of the Foundation for local unit meetings. Should your local unit have such a request, please contact Cindee Sharp at info@trtf.org or call 1-800-880-1650 x 106 and let her know the date, time, and location of the meeting. Please indicate how long the speaker will need to talk, as well as how many Foundation brochures you would like for the speaker to bring. Not all requests can be met. Please expect a response within 2 to 3 weeks from the date of your request.

Looking for Foundation Talking Points to share with your fellow TRTA members during local unit meetings?

Please send an email to Cindee Sharp at info@trtf.org or contact her at 1-800-880-1650 x 106 to request a copy.

NOTE: Talking points have been updated as of September 2010.

They are also available in the **Training Guide**. The most updated version of the Training Guide is now available online through www.trtf.org on the Resources page.



November 2010 is Foundation Month . . .

The Texas Retired Teachers Foundation and You . . .



Helping educators
of the

PAST

(through "A Helping Hand" emergency assistance grants)

PRESENT

(through Classroom Assistance grants for public teachers)

& FUTURE

(through Student Scholarships).

When we come together, we can help each other!

Designate your fall meeting for increasing awareness of the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation.

Contact us to learn more on how your local unit or district may participate.

1-800-880-1650 x106 • info@trff.org • www.trff.org

