

The TRTF Ledger



Vol. III,
Issue 12

December 20, 2011

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

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Greetings!

**Texas Retired Teachers
Foundation Liaisons,
Representatives & Friends!**

Happy Holidays! You have helped make 2011 a wonderful year for the Foundation!



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

Read about the success of Foundation Month on page 2!

**Scholarship and grant applications are now available!
Learn more on pages 3 and 4.**

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The next meeting of the TRTF Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, January 30, 2012 at 11:00 am at the Drury Inn, Austin, Texas. The Drury Inn is located at 6711 IH 35 North. The meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. and adjourn at approximately 2:00 p.m.



Foundation Month A Huge Success!

Our third annual Foundation Month has been a huge success so far! TRTA individual members, local units and districts have come together to donate \$60,000 to the Foundation since November 1st! In 2010, TRTF raised \$74,000 to fund our three charitable programs: student scholarships, classroom assistance grants, and "A Helping Hand." **We are only \$25,000 shy of reaching our 2011 fundraising goal of \$85,000!**

If just 1000 people donate \$25 each to the Foundation, we will meet our goal! The funds raised from this year's campaign will go towards providing 10 \$500 student scholarships and 10 \$500 classroom assistance grants.

Read more about both of these great programs on page 3!

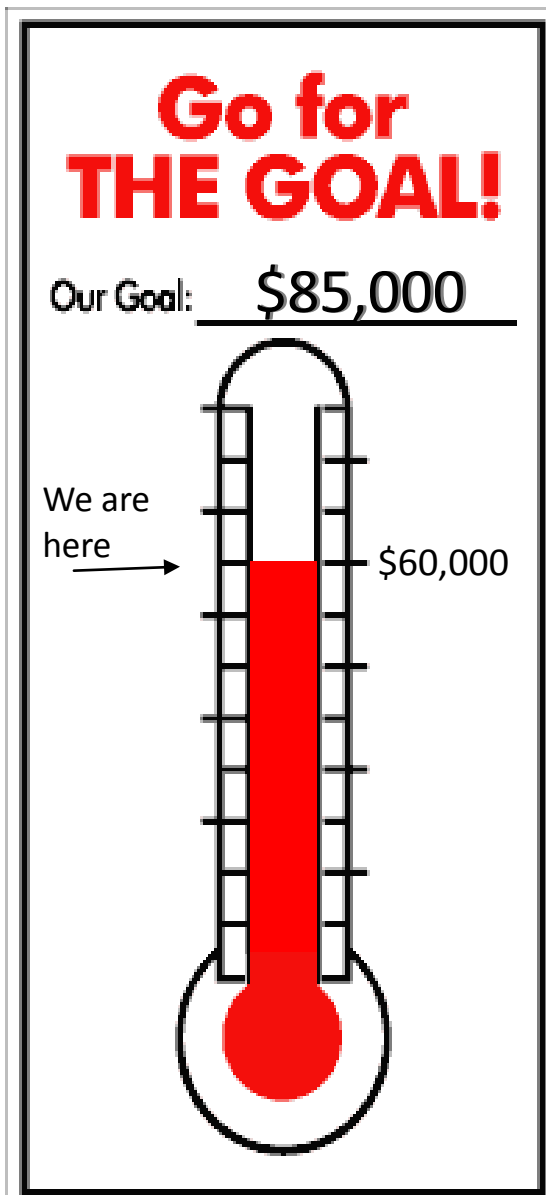
We will also give at least \$10,000 in grants from "A Helping Hand" in 2012! Because of the support you have shown, TRTF is helping others! **Since November 1, we have provided \$4,700 in grants to five individuals in need.** Their emergencies included car repair, housing assistance, dental care and new eyeglasses.

For some of us, it is hard to imagine going without heat in our home during the fall and winter months, or not being able to afford groceries. For others, this is an unfortunate reality. Please be on the lookout for individuals in your local unit who you believe could use a helping hand during this sometimes harsh season.

Thank you to all local units and districts who dedicated time during their fall meetings to discuss the Foundation's goals and accomplishments. We appreciate all of the work you have done to spread the word about our newest venture, the Legacy Campaign! Funds designated for this program will be used to create materials and a web site supporting the Teacher Retirement System of Texas defined benefit plan.

The Foundation will provide updated information about donation totals in the January *Ledger*.

Thank you for helping us reach our goals!



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2012-2013 TRTF Student Scholarships & Classroom Assistance Grants!

Applications are Ready!

The 2012-2013 TRTF Student Scholarship and Classroom Assistance Grant applications are ready! **Please note** that applications for both programs have undergone significant changes since the 2011-2012 award year, and it is advised that all applicants download the newest applications.

For the 2012-2013 school year, **TRTF will award 10 \$500 student scholarships and 10 \$500 classroom assistance grants!**

All completed applications are due to TRTF by Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 5:00 pm. The names of the 2012-2013 scholarship and grant recipients will be announced at the 2012 Convention of the Texas Retired Teachers Association during the Foundation luncheon. The convention will be held in Houston on March 25, 26, and 27. Winners do not need to be present and will be notified by telephone and/or e-mail after the convention.

As a Foundation liaison or representative, your help informing TRTA members about the availability of the new scholarship and grant applications is needed! Please announce that the new applications are available at your next local unit meeting. Feel free to direct individuals to the TRTF website or to email/mail applications to interested parties.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS



Students who are relatives of a member of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA), and who are pursuing an

Undergraduate, masters or doctoral degree in education at a Texas university or college are eligible to apply for the TRTF Student Scholarship. Transcripts must be included with each application. Recipients must provide proof of enrollment before funds will be awarded.

CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Classroom Assistance Grants are awarded to public school teachers who on a daily basis demonstrate commitment to public education and Texas children through the



creation of programs, events, or other learning platforms. Teachers may apply as individuals or as a team, must be public school teachers in the state of Texas for the 2012-2013 school year, and must have handwritten approval of the project by the school principal.

Additional information found on page 4



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How Do I Get A Scholarship or Grant Application?

1. Download one from the website!

Go to:

<http://www.trtf.org/index.cfm/scholarships-grants/>

Only PDF versions of the applications are available

2. Send an email to info@trtf.org!

Use one of the following subject lines: Scholarship or Grant

3. Call 1-800-880-1650 x107

(or ask for Cindee Sharp)!

She will be happy to mail a hard copy of the application to you

Where can I find "Talking Points" to share about the Foundation at my local unit meetings?

Please send an email to Cindee Sharp at info@trtf.org or contact her at 1.800.880.1650 x107 to request a copy.

NOTE: Talking points have been updated as of

November 2011. 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.



The Foundation's 2012 TRTA Convention Plans!

TRTF is looking forward to March 2012 when the 59th Annual Texas Retired Teachers Association Convention takes place in Houston. The **Foundation luncheon** will be held on Monday, March 26 at 12:15 p.m. Tickets should be purchased in advance. To pre-register for the luncheon, see the upcoming issue of *The VOICE* arriving in your mailbox this month! We hope to see you there!

In the next issue of *The Ledger*, we will include a special donation card that individuals, local units and districts may use at the Foundation luncheon. Bring your donation and card forward on March 26 and your memorial or honorarium will be announced!

The Foundation once again will host a **training session** during this year's Convention. It is recommended that local unit Foundation Representatives and District Foundation Liaisons attending the convention make an effort to come to the session. The "A Helping Hand" program will be covered, as well as information about the role of representatives and liaisons. We will also discuss tips about how to make your role easier. Details about the date and time of the session will be available soon!

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Generous Donations Made by Districts and Local Units



Numerous districts and local units have offered generous donations to the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation in honor or in memory of fellow retirees, loved ones and community leaders. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of you for giving not just your monetary gifts but also the time as you have dedicated to sharing the Foundation's vision with others.

Thank you for donating to important causes that can positively impact public education retirees across the great state of Texas.

The following list includes donations made by local units and districts between November 23, 2011 and December 19, 2011:

Rusk County RTA donated \$25 in honor of Gayle Sones. **Victoria RTA and its members** donated \$130 by hosting a Bake-less Bake Sale. **Kaufman County RSP** donated \$50 for the Legacy Campaign. **Polk County RSP** donated \$100. **Mesquite ARSE and its members** donated \$250. **Coleman County RTA** donated \$25. **Grand Prairie RSP** donated \$50 in memory of Glenda Eitle. **Canyon Lake RTA** donated \$100. **Eastern Cass County SRA** donated \$150. **Williamson County RTA** donated \$6. **Burleson Area RSEA** donated \$15 in memory of Marjorie Hope. **Western Bowie County RTA** donated \$50. **Live Oak County RTA** donated \$100. **Duncanville Area RSE** donated \$100. **Kendall County RTA** donated \$172 in memory of Minnie Louise Mayfield. **Comanche County RTA** donated \$190 (\$55 for the Legacy Campaign). **Pasadena Area RSE** donated \$200 (\$100 for A Helping Hand and \$100 for the Legacy Campaign). **Clear Creek ART** donated \$25 in memory of Albert Kiecke. **North Montgomery County RTA** donated \$100. **Harlandale South Bexar County ERA** donated \$102.60, divided equally among all four TRTF programs. **Northwest Harris County RTA** donated \$183 for A Helping Hand. **Ennis RSP** donated \$200 in honor of Harlin Dauphin. **Richardson RSP** donated \$400 (\$200 of which was designated for A Helping Hand). **Frisco ARSP** donated \$200. **Garland RSP** donated \$226. **North Harris County ARSP** donated \$25 for A Helping Hand. **San Marcos ART** donated \$25 in honor of Konner Callender. **Lavaca County RTA** donated \$100 in memory of all LCRTA deceased members. **Birdville ARSP** donated \$200. **Fayette County RTA** donated \$226. **Alvin Area RSP** donated \$50. **Anderson County RTA** donated \$10. **Montgomery County ARSP** donated \$71 for A Helping Hand.



Ronnie Jung

TRTF received a special donation this month from **Pension Trustee Advisors** of Centennial, Colorado. President William B. Forna, FSA sent a check for **\$1000**, along with a letter expressing gratitude for the service of Ronnie Jung, former Executive Director of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). Per Mr. Forna, "Ronnie recently donated his insight, time and expertise to my firm on behalf of trustee education. He spoke highly of the Foundation and your mission to provide resources and programming that contribute to an enhanced quality of life for retired teachers and school personnel, and recommended you as a worthy recipient. Consequently, we are making this donation to TRTF in appreciation of Ronnie."



*Seasons
Greetings!*

*from the
Texas Retired Teachers
Foundation
to you*