

The TRTF Ledger



Vol. III,
Issue 1

January 18, 2011

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

Page 1

Happy New Year
**Texas Retired Teachers Foundation
Liaisons, Representatives & Friends!**



Welcome to the January 2011 issue of *The Ledger*.

See our first report on the progress of
"A Helping Hand" for the year!

TRTF Student Scholarship and Classroom Assistance Grant applications are now ready for distribution!

We also have a special Convention feature on page 5!

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

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The next meeting of the TRTF Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, **January 31, 2011** at 10:00 a.m. at the Drury Inn, Austin, Texas. The Drury Inn is located at 6711 IH 35 North. The meeting will adjourn at approximately 2:00 p.m. Please note the date has changed. The meeting was originally scheduled for January 25.



Foundation Month and Helping Hand Update!

As we mentioned in the December issue of *The Ledger*, TRTA members have gone out of their way to ensure that the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation had a successful 2010 fundraising campaign to support its three charitable programs: the newly launched “A Helping Hand,” Classroom Assistance Grants, and Student Scholarships.

Since November 1st, \$53,000 in individual donations and \$12,000 in local unit and district donations have been made to the Foundation. Because of the support you have shown, both monetarily and by promoting “A Helping Hand” in your area, TRTF is doing what we have set out to do: help others!

TRTF is pleased that the “A Helping Hand” program continues to provide assistance to retirees in need this year. **Already in 2011, TRTF has awarded a grant totaling \$1000 to help a retiree pay for her costly medical bills.** TRTF has awarded six grants for a total of \$4,500 since “A Helping Hand” launched statewide in October 2010!



For some of us, it is hard to imagine going without heat in our home during the 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.

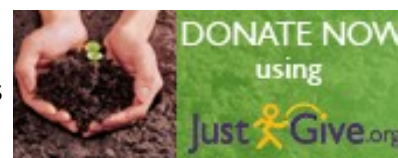
A big **Thank You** for being the voice of the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation and for making Foundation month so successful. The Foundation will provide updated information about donation totals in the February *Ledger*.

If you have questions about “A Helping Hand,” such as how to apply or assist a member with the application process, please send an email to help@trtf.org or call Cindee at 512-476-1622.

Donating to TRTF

If you or someone you know would like to make a donation to the Foundation, you may do so by mailing your gift to the **Texas Retired Teachers Foundation, 313 E. 12th Street, Ste. 200, Austin, TX 78701**. Donations may be designated for any of our three charitable programs: “A Helping Hand,” Classroom Assistance Grants, or Student Scholarships. Donations may also be made in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Donations may be made **online** using a service called JustGive.org. The link for donating to TRTF is: <https://www.justgive.org/basket?action=donate&ein=74-2958842>. Please bear in mind that 3% of all donations made through this service go towards JustGive.org. However, TRTF is not charged unless someone makes a donation to us. Other online services charge a fee even when the service is not used, and this service has proven to be the most cost-effective method for our non-profit.



2011-2012 TRTF Student Scholarships & Classroom Assistance Grants!

Applications are Ready!

The 2011-2012 TRTF Student Scholarship and Classroom Assistance Grant applications are ready! **Please note** that applications for both programs have undergone significant changes since the 2010-2011 award year, and it is advised that all applicants download the newest applications.

For the 2011-2012 school year, **TRTF will award 10 \$500 student scholarships and 10 \$500 classroom assistance grants!**

All completed applications are due to TRTF by Thursday, March 17, 2010 at 5:00 pm. The names of the 2011-2012 scholarship and grant recipients will be announced at the 2011 Convention of the Texas Retired Teachers Association during the Foundation luncheon. The convention will be held in San Antonio on April 12, 13, and 14. Winners do not need to be present and will be notified by telephone and/ or by 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 or masters 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 2011-2012 school year, and must have handwritten approval of the project by the school principal.

Additional information found on page 4



WOW! 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 of Foundation Month. 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 December 11, 2010 and January 18, 2011.

Rusk County donated \$25 in honor of Texas House Representative Chuck Hopson, which they designated for the Classroom Assistance Grant program. **Hill Country RSEA** raised \$25 to help retirees that need financial help. **Duncanville Area RSE** donated \$25 in memory of Mary Loughran. **Beaumont ART** donated \$100. **Arlington RSEA** donated \$100 in honor of all ARSEA members. **Franklin County RSEA** donated \$7. **San Patricio County RSP** donated \$30 in honor of Kathy Moos. **El Paso RTA** donated \$125 in memory of Rosa Lee Johnson. **Plano RTA** donated \$619 in cash and checks from their members. **Donley County RSP** donated \$75. **Baytown Area RSE** raised \$100 for "A Helping Hand." **Longview Gregg County RTA** donated \$185.50 from their members. **NHCARSP** donated \$25 for "A Helping Hand." **Burleson Area RSEA** donated \$30 in memory of Wanda Walker and R.D. Scott. **Lubbock/S. Plains RTA** raised \$337.81 for "A Helping Hand." **Canyon Lake RTASP** donated \$100. **Polk County RSP** raised \$100. **Plainview RTA** donated \$100 to honor the memories of Michael Chumrey, Maisie Jones, Geraldine Mote, Lillian Thompson, and Harrell Weatherred.



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 x106

(or ask for Cindee Sharp)!

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

2011 Convention Page!

The Foundation's 2011 TRTA Convention Plans

TRTF is looking forward to April 2011 when the 58th Annual Texas Retired Teachers Association Convention takes place in San Antonio. The **Foundation luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 12 pm. Tickets should be purchased in advance. To pre-register for the luncheon, see the Convention registration form in the December issue of *The VOICE!* We look forward to seeing you there!

This year, the Foundation once again will be hosting a **photo booth** in the exhibition hall. For a suggested donation of \$15, guests will receive a 5 x 7 photograph commemorating their experience in San Antonio. Individuals wishing to participate should stop by the Foundation's exhibitor booth during the convention and schedule a time to have his or her picture taken. Please spread the word about this exciting opportunity by telling your fellow TRTA members. Please note that TRTF will be accepting cash and check only as forms of payment for the photos. Fun, fiesta-themed attire will be available!

LEARN The Foundation will also be hosting 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 participate in 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 on how to make your role easier and what resources are available to assist you. The Foundation training will be held on **Wednesday, April 13 from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.** (during the third breakout session).

TRTF Luncheon Menu Wednesday, April 13, 2011 12-1:30 p.m.

- Mixed greens with cucumber, tomatoes, and carrots
- Rosemary grilled chicken breast with mushroom ragout
- Fingerling potatoes
- Grilled vegetables
- Chocolate layer cake with fruit coulis



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\$30
per person
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GRAND
HYATT
San Antonio
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TRTF Photo Booth!

For a suggested donation of \$15, you will receive a 5 x 7 commemorative photograph of your experience in San Antonio! All proceeds benefit "A Helping Hand."

The booth will feature fun, Fiesta-themed and San Antonio-inspired props.

Last year's photos made for memorable souvenirs for Convention attendees. Couples, friends, and groups from local units or districts posed together for a fun photo and a good cause!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TRTF is in need of volunteers to assist at both the Foundation exhibit booth and photo booth during this year's Convention. Volunteers should be comfortable handling money, providing literature to Convention guests, and using a digital camera (provided). If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact Cindee Sharp at cindee@trta.org or 1-800-880-1650 x 106.