

# The TRTF Ledger



Vol. IV,  
Issue 1

January 27, 2012

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

Page 1

## Greetings!

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

Happy New Year! The Foundation has much to look forward to in 2012!

**Get an update on fundraising totals from our Legacy Campaign on page 2!**

**Scholarship and grant applications are now available! The deadline is approaching! More on pages 3 and 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](mailto:info@trtf.org)

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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 in 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.



## Legacy Campaign Donations Continue to Rise!

Donations from Our third annual Foundation Month and annual appeal letter campaign continue to arrive at the Foundation office daily. TRTA individual members, local units and districts have come together to donate \$72,000 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 just \$13,000 shy of reaching our 2011-2012 fundraising goal of \$85,000!**

This means that if just 520 people donate \$25 each to the Foundation, we will meet our goal! The funds raised from the campaign will go towards providing 10 \$500 student scholarships and 10 \$500 classroom assistance grants.

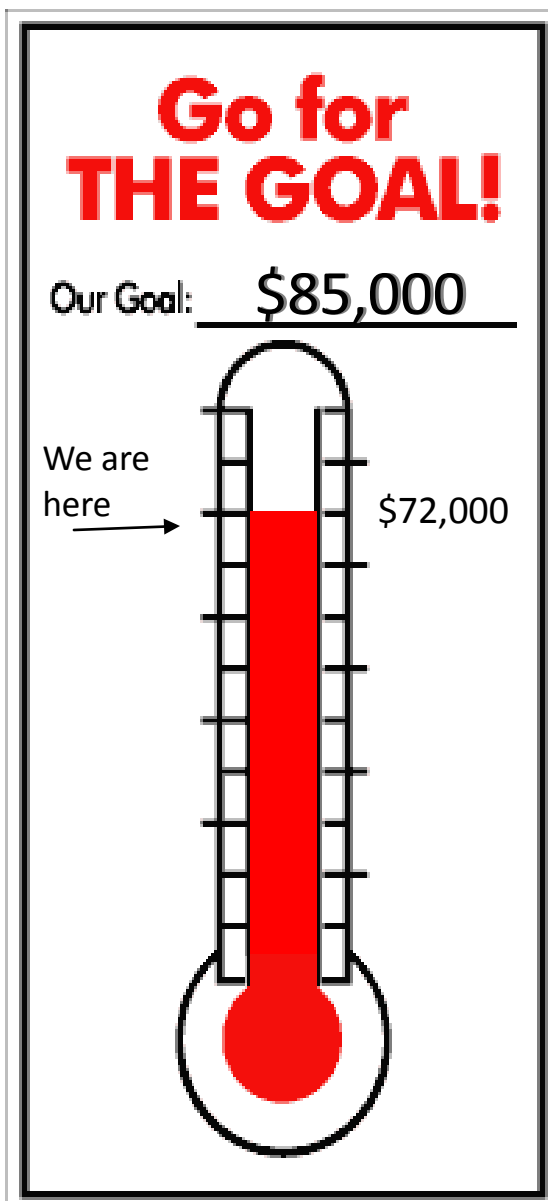
Read more about both of these great programs on page 3. The deadline to submit applications is less than one month away!

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!

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. Look for an extensive update in the next issue of *The VOICE*.

**Thank you for helping us reach our goals!**



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## 2012-2013 TRTF Student Scholarships & Classroom Assistance Grants!

*Applications are Ready!*

**Deadline less than 1 month away!**

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 p.m.** 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.trtf.org) on the Resources page.



## The Foundation's 2012 TRTA Convention Plans!

TRTF is looking forward to March 2012 when the 59<sup>th</sup> 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 this issue of *The Ledger*, we have included a special donation card that individuals, local units and districts may use at the Foundation luncheon (see page 6). 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. The training will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 26, during the third hour of breakout sessions.

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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 December 20, 2011 and January 26, 2012:

**White Settlement RSEA** donated \$7. **Gillespie County RTA** donated \$101. **Brazoria County RTA** donated \$175 in memory of Claudia Wilson, Clell Sechrest, Opal Johnson, Linda Joyce Lincecum, Judith Martin, Katherine Mays, and Darlene O'Brien. **Corpus Christi Area RTA** donated \$233.

**Ysleta RSEA** donated \$401. **Andrews RSEA** donated \$25 in memory of John Tausch.

**San Marcos ART** donated \$25 in honor of Art Kauffmann. **Live Oak County RTA** donated \$25 in memory of Margaret Esse. **Mid-Jefferson County RSP** donated \$25. **Camp County RTA** donated \$25 in memory of Melody Weaver. **Longview Gregg County RTA** donated \$60.

**Karnes County RTA** donated \$61 for "A Helping Hand." **Donley County RSP** donated \$75.

**Rockwall Area RTA** donated \$100. **Red River County RSE** donated \$100.

**Waco-McLennan RTA** donated \$500.

## January Trivia You Might Not Know

January is known as National Soup Month ▪ The first football Super Bowl game was held at the L.A. Coliseum in January ▪ Originally the Georgian Calendar had 10 months, but was expanded to include January and February sometime around 700BC by the Roman ruler Pompilius, who gave it 30 days. It is said Julius Caesar gave it 31 days ▪ January 4th is designated as National Short People Day and National Spaghetti Day in America ▪ January 8th is National Bubble Bath Day ▪ In 1935 on January 8th Elvis Presley ("THE KING of ROCK N ROLL") was born in Tupelo, Mississippi ▪ The Latin root word that January comes from is "ianua" – which means door ▪ In January of 1964, the 1st Country Music Album became #1 on the Billboard Pop Music Chart: the Johnny Cash record "Ring of Fire" ▪ The Czech's call the month "leden," which means ice month

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](mailto:help@trtf.org) or call Cindee at 512.476.1622.

## SPECIAL FOUNDATION LUNCHEON DONATION CARD . . .

It is common for individuals, districts, and local units to present gifts to the Foundation at the end of the luncheon, resulting in a rousing display of generosity. This year, TRTF will ensure that your donation is publicly recognized. If you are attending the luncheon and making a donation, you may complete the form below and include a personal message. Many attendees take this opportunity to honor a current member of TRTA or to memorialize a retiree, family member, or friend who was dear to them. Bring your form and donation to the podium on March 26, and your message will be announced for all luncheon attendees to hear.

# Texas Retired Teachers Foundation

## Annual Luncheon

March 26, 2012



This donation of  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(dollar amount)

is being given by

---

(Name of Individual, Local Unit, or District)

This gift is designated for (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ "A Helping Hand"

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Scholarships

\_\_\_\_\_ Classroom Assistance Grants

\_\_\_\_\_ Legacy Campaign

and is being made in **HONOR** or **MEMORY** (circle one) of

---

(name of honoree)

For **HIS**, **HER**, or **THEIR** (circle one)

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(example: dedication to education)