

Big Band Sound Greet Retirees at Annual Luncheon

By Max Post

When the TI Retiree Luncheon doors opened to the banquet hall Nov. 9, attendees were greeted by a rousing march from the 65-member New Resources Band.

About 700 retirees, guests and volunteers working in the event enjoyed the exhibits, luncheon and program at the Mesquite Convention Center.

Art George, TI senior vice president, gave an update on TI's operations and highlighted growth in analog semiconductors, now the largest part of the company's business. Art is a 27-year TI veteran and is now responsible for Analog Engineering Operations.

TIAA President Betty Purkey began the program with a moment of silence in honor of retirees and former TIers who died since last year's luncheon. A slide presentation prepared by Ronnie Brandenburg gave information on 348 individuals.

The New Resources Band provided appropriate music during this segment of the program. Betty then asked veterans to stand and be recognized as the band played the march for their branch of service.

"Art & Technology" was the theme for the event. The TIAA decorating team provided centerpieces in keeping with the theme – incorporating small images of art prepared by active TIers and retirees for

the annual On My Own Time (OMOT) Art Competition. Several local art institutions and organizations had booths in the convention hall, including the Dallas Museum of Art, the Meadows Museum and the Texins Art Club. At the University of Texas at Dallas booth, retirees were shown architect's drawings of the new Arts & Technology building, which is under construction on the campus.

TIAA cookbooks, prepared as a fundraiser for the United Way, were available at the luncheon for a \$10

donation. About \$2,000 was raised at the event. Since then, another \$1,500 has been received through mail orders and donations from active TIers at Forest Lane, the SC Building and the Spring Creek site and the Texins Activity Center. In total, the TIAA cookbook has raised more than \$3,500 for the United Way. A limited supply of cookbooks is still available. Details on how to obtain copies are given elsewhere in this newsletter and on the TIAA website, www.tialumni.org.

About 80% of those registered

completed the luncheon survey forms and were eligible for the drawing for door prizes. Based on the survey results, the overall impression of the event was positive – 96% said they liked the event and 98% said they would return to Mesquite Convention Center next year.

Several commented that they would like more quiet time to visit at lunch. No date or location has been set for next year, but a team from the Activities Committee will be working in the early part of the year to work out the details for the 2012 luncheon. They will use written comments from the survey results to make it an even better program next year. There were also many suggestions in written comments for future travel events, educational seminars, and volunteer service, which will be helpful to TIAA committees.

In her comments, Betty Purkey, thanked all the volunteers who had worked to make the luncheon a success, including several active TIers and retirees. A special word of recognition was given to Jessica Stewart, TIAA administrator, for all her effort in registration and planning for the event. During the program, Betty also recognized the volunteer work of Linda Smittle and presented her with the TIAA Volunteer of the Year award. Details are given elsewhere in this newsletter.



The 2011 TI Retiree Luncheon was held at the Mesquite Convention Center.

How to Order United Way Cookbook

The TI Alumni Association cookbook may be ordered for a \$10 donation per book to the United Way.

The TIAA cookbook contains over 350 favorite recipes from retirees and a few from active TIers. Also included are some lost recipes from old issues of the Dallasite including "Kitchens Korner" and the famous TI Chili recipe.

In addition to helping the agencies that benefit from the United Way, the cookbooks make excellent gifts.

To obtain cookbooks, please mail your order to TIAA, Attn: Cookbook at P.O. Box 740181, Dallas, TX 75374. Include your name, mailing address, number of cookbooks ordered at \$10 each, and your check for the total made out to United Way. The cookbooks will be mailed to you with free shipping within seven days.

TIAA Members Support United Way

Active TIers, retirees and the Texas Instruments Foundation gave a combined \$4.9 million to benefit the United Way during the 2011 successful campaign. Of that amount TIAA members donated \$109,675 compared to \$90,068 collected last year – a 21% increase.

Andy Smith, TI director of corporate philanthropy, said employees and retirees not only provided financial support, but also their time and expertise to positively affect their communities.

"The effort TIers and retirees put forth this year is inspiring. Our communities will benefit because of these efforts and many lives will be permanently improved" Andy said.

As a fundraiser, TIAA members created a TIAA cookbook comprised of prized family recipes based on decades of cooking experience. Over 350 cookbooks had been distributed as of mid-December and 100% of these proceeds went to the United Way.



Dolores Runyon and Peg Ripple take United Way donations for TIAA cookbooks at the TI Retiree Luncheon.

Linda Smittle: TIAA Volunteer of Year

Linda Smittle is the TI Alumni Association 2011 volunteer of the year.

TIAA President Betty Purkey presented the award at the Nov. 9 TI Retiree Luncheon at the Mesquite Convention Center.

"Thanks to the team that selected me for this incredible honor," Linda said.

Betty told how Linda made a difference as a volunteer, especially with the TIAA Community Involvement Team (CIT).

A high point: Linda jumped in the 50 Over 50 Sky Dive on Oct. 1 to commemorate The Senior Source's 50th anniversary of service to seniors in the greater Dallas area.

In January, Linda went to Ghana on a two-year Peace Corps assignment.

TIAA Community Involvement

Linda joined TIAA in 2008 after retiring from TI where she had a 23-year career. When TIAA formed the

Community Involvement Team, Linda assumed the CIT communications responsibility.

CIT projects for which Linda volunteered include sorting food at the Network Ministries food bank; installing CFL light bulbs with the Boomer Green Team; working with The Senior Source to identify a process to help non-profits become green; the Shoes for Orphan Souls program; and meeting and greeting troops arriving at DFW Airport from duty in the Middle East.

Other Community Service

Linda regularly participates in local races that raise money for specific causes, including the Komen Race for the Cure and White Rock Marathon.

She is a volunteer usher at the Eisemann Center in Richardson, welcoming patrons and helping them find their seats. She volunteered over 200 hours in the 2010-2011 season.

Linda is Outbound Coordinator for



TIAA President Betty Purkey (left) presented the 2011 Volunteer of the Year Award to Linda Smittle at the 2011 TI Retiree Luncheon.

Texas Global Education and Cultural Exchange, a non-profit organization that creates cultural exchanges for Texas teens and their families. Texas teens go to Japan and live with a family for a month. Teens from Japan and Greece stay with Texas families for one month. She recruited and prepared Texas teens for the homestay and was the chaperone to Japan in 2009.

Peace Corps Assignment

Linda sent an email message Jan. 9 that she had arrived in Ghana for her Peace Corps assignment. She is to get pre-service training in Kukurantumi from Feb. 8-April 26. Her dates of service are April 25, 2012 – April 25, 2014. She will provide health, sanitation, and water education in rural Ghana.

"I probably will ride a bike between small villages to help individuals learn to improve their lives," Linda said.

Linda has begun a blog about her life and work in Africa. To view Linda's blog, go to <http://pcghana.wordpress.com>.

Linda said, "I will spend the first three months learning the language, culture and technical skills. I'll live with a family in Kukurantumi, which has about 5,000 people. Ghana is about the physical size of Oregon, with a population of 24 million – about the same as Texas.

"I'll go to school every day with about 25 other Peace Corps trainees. When we finish our comprehensive training, we must pass a language proficiency test and demonstrate adaptability, motivation, commitment, cultural sensitivity, technical competence and seriousness of purpose before being allowed to make the final commitment to serve two years in Ghana. After being sworn in as volunteers, we'll move to rural areas throughout Ghana. I will probably live in a small hut and may not have electricity or running water. I may meet with Ghanaians under a tree instead of in an office. I may only have access to the Internet when I go by bicycle or bus to a larger town."

Linda will probably have a secondary project based on the community's needs (e.g., youth club, literacy

classes). All Peace Corps volunteers in Africa provide HIV/AIDS awareness education.

Linda's Education and TI Career

Born in Salina, Kansas, the heartland of America, Linda grew up with visions of Toto and Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz.

She started at the University of Kansas but transferred to Wichita State University, where she completed bachelor and masters degrees in Education. TI paid for her masters in Organizational Development from the University of Texas at Dallas, where she participated in an executive education program with about 15 other TIers.

Linda taught school (Head Start and Kindergarten) for 10 years before joining TI in 1984. She taught computer classes for TI as a contractor during summer breaks and on weekends.

Her first job at TI was teaching TI Personal Computer (TIPC) classes. She still has TIers occasionally comment, "You taught me TI foils!" PC training was part of Corporate at the time and later moved to Information Systems and Services.

Linda progressed from teaching computer classes to creating computer classes to managing the group that developed and taught computer classes. "I enjoy helping others learn something new," she said.

After receiving her Organizational Development degree, Linda provided OD support for the Software Business for a short time before the group was sold to Sterling Software. Then she was leader of the IS&S Education team as it transitioned to Semiconductor's Training and Organization Development group where she coordinated the Personal Development curriculum.

Linda's next role was Training and Development manager for KFAB where she started a monthly newsletter to keep employees informed. She transitioned to communication manager for SC manufacturing. Her final years at TI were spent guiding a worldwide team of talented communicators to help "spread the word" about TI's goals and how they could positively impact TI results.

Calendar

TIAA Seminars

Defensive Driving Course – 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Thursday, March 8, Texins Activity Center CR1/2. At the end of this 4-hour course taught by Tler Pat Currin, you will receive a certificate that can be submitted to your insurance carrier to lower your auto insurance cost – some carriers provide up to 15% savings. Pack a lunch and join us for this informative and practical seminar. Lunch can also be purchased at the snack bar in the Texins Activity Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be no charge for this course for TIAA members, nonmembers may attend for \$10. Pat has taught Defensive Driving for many years and we are fortunate to have him lead us. This course is for defensive driving only and not for traffic tickets.

Estate Plans and Wealth Management

– 1 - 3:30 p.m., Thursday, April 12 at Plano Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy., Plano, Collinwood Room 2&3 – Do you have a current will? Is your financial plan safe in this volatile market environment? Join us as an estate planning attorney and financial expert offer ideas to help you structure your assets.

So that we can plan for refreshments, please register at least seven days before each seminar by contacting the TIAA office at admin@tialumni.org or 214-567-8444 and leaving a message with your name, telephone number and names of any guests attending with you.

Community Involvement Events

Meet & Greet the Troops at DFW

– Tuesday, Feb. 14 – With the Iraq war over and troops coming home, Meet & Greet the Troops is winding down. Please join us for what will be one of our last opportunities to greet our active troops returning to the United States via DFW airport. We will depart Texins Activity Center at 3:15 p.m. for a 4 p.m. arrival and return about 6:30 p.m. This is truly a heartwarming event and one you don't want to miss!

World Vision Dallas Storehouse – 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 14 – The Storehouse provides

free school supplies to teachers in schools that serve low-income families. Teachers can obtain teaching aids and books, binders, backpacks, pencils, art supplies, and posters. Thanks to The Storehouse, teachers in participating schools don't have to dig into their own wallets or watch their students go without educational supplies. Schools in which 70 percent or more students qualify for subsidized meals are able to use the center. In Dallas, nearly 33 percent of all schools fall into that category. TIAA members will sort materials and help fill orders.

The Network in Richardson

– 9 a.m. - noon, Wednesday, April 11 – Join other former TIers to sort materials at the food pantry for The Network of Community Ministries – a non-profit organization providing health and emergency services to children, low-income families, and senior citizens in need within RISD since 1965.

For more information on community involvement events, go to www.tialumni.org/CIT/. To register, contact the TIAA office at admin@tialumni.org or 214-567-8444.

Tech Smart Big Heart Event

TI Weekend at Fair Park – March 8 - 11 – TI retirees and up to five guests can enjoy free admission to the African American Museum, Children's Aquarium, Museum of Nature and Science, and Texas Discovery Gardens by presenting their TI retiree badge.

Tech Smart Big Heart events are open to retired TIers. Contact Andy Smith at wasmith@ti.com or 214-567-4412 to confirm date and details.

The Senior Source Activities

Senior Connection (Support group for job seekers) – 10 - 11:30 a.m., first and third Thursdays at The Senior Source, 3910 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas. RSVP (required) to 214-823-5700 or rperry@theseniorsource.org.

For more information on the programs and services of The Senior Source, visit www.theseniorsource.org.

TI Brazil Alumni Celebrate

By LeRoy Foster

Former Texas Instrumentos Electronico Brasil (TI- Brazil) employees celebrated with a reunion Nov. 20, 2011, near Campinas after a 20-year separation from the company.

About two decades ago, the Semiconductor portion of the Campinas plant was closed, and later the Sensors & Control portion was sold, which effectively ended the TI manufacturing operation in Brazil.

However, a lot of employee emotion remains, due to the effect TI had on the lives of TI employees. A few former TIers began communicating with other former TIers to hold a reunion. What resulted was an ex-Tier celebration attended by approximately 95 ex-TIers and their families.

Angela Gino, the former Engineering secretary, started the ball rolling to create the celebration. She said,

"I decided to make the party because I was missing the people of Texas. I created a Facebook page and started calling the ex-TIers and the list just kept growing."

The celebration took place on a small farm outside Campinas, "Chacara Recanto Feliz" (Farm on the Happy Corner). The entertainment was primarily socializing of former friends and colleagues who also enjoyed a Brazilian style barbecue. Most attendees were from the Campinas area; there were a few from other states and two former TIers from the USA.

I worked at the TI Brazil manufacturing facility in Campinas from 1984-87 when the country was initially under military control until democratic elections. I still have many good friend and former colleagues with whom I have maintained communication.



Ex-TIers at TI-Brazil hold 20-year reunion celebration.

Meet Marilyn Adams, TIAA Secretary

Marilyn Adams, as TI Alumni Association secretary, brings to TIAA her experience from many community service activities plus her 20 years as an active Tier. Elected in May 2010, Marilyn fulfills the TIAA Nominating Committee goal of involving more recent retirees as officers.

At TI, Marilyn was an executive administrator and projects coordinator. For several years, she worked with Del Whitaker in TI's analog semiconductor business, and later she served in Corporate Human Relations and other areas.

For much of Marilyn's life, she has been active in organizations such as International Job's Daughters and the Jaycees. She assisted at the schools her sons attended, tutored students in math and reading, taught Sunday School, was assistant to the pastor of her church, and was a member of the council. She has been treasurer, secretary and communications director in the different organization as well as chairperson for various committees.

Marilyn said, "As I reminisce, it seems I've always been involved in an administrator or communications-type role whether in Jaycees, Toastmasters, bowling, at church or work."

She was born in Milwaukee and moved when her father was transferred to Park Ridge, IL, where she graduated from high school.

After marriage, she lived in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, where she gave birth to her first son, Bill. Later, she returned to Milwaukee, where she gave birth to her second son, Tony. Prior to moving to Richardson in 1980, she lived in Sun Prairie and Greenville, WI and Lake St. Louis, Mo.

Marilyn started her TI career in the Process Automation Center (PAC), working with Mark Klug, Tony Adams and Glenn Culhane. Then she joined the analog business with Del Whitaker as administrative assistant. She finished her TI career in 2001 as project coordinator with

Keh Shew Lu.

Marilyn is Past Honored Queen of the International Order of Job's Daughters. She kept busy with her sons' activities as they were growing up. She has always been active in the church she attended and is now on the finance committee at Buckingham United Methodist Church.

In 2000, Marilyn earned an associates degree in Applied Sciences Management at Richland College.

"Now I try to spend as much time as I can with my sons and their families," Marilyn said. "Bill is in Florida and Tony is in Austin. I have five grandchildren — CJ, Daniel, Alexa, Ashley and Kendall, whom I adore."

Marilyn is again mentoring a third grader through the TI program and volunteers with a group called the Garland Gadabouts with The Senior Source.

She plays Mah Jongg, bridge and Bunko; does counted cross stitch, crochets and attends live theater. She is active in her church, participates in a senior group through another church as well as participating in TIAA activities. She also enjoys traveling whenever she gets the opportunity.

"I've been a member of TIAA for several years and have enjoyed my role as secretary," Marilyn said



Marilyn Adams

Alumni Groups

The following groups usually meet as shown below. Call or email contact person to confirm schedule.

Antenna Lab – 1:15 p.m., second Tuesday, lunch at Denny's, 1830 N. Central Expy, Plano. Contact Ralph Bovee, ralphbovee2@aol.com or 972-422-5458.

Apparatus Retirees – 8:30 a.m., third Wednesday, breakfast at IHOP Pancake House, LBJ Frwy. at Centerville Rd., Garland. Contact Newton Beam, ncb1932@sbcglobal.net or 214-348-5425.

Attleboro Retiree Club – 1 p.m., second Tuesday (except July & August) at Norton VFW Post 8049, Summer St., Norton, MA. Contact David Rushia, peperenum1@yahoo.com.

Austin Alumni Lunch – Annual reunion on first Monday in December at Rudy's BBQ on 183. Contact Marian Justiss, marian@justiss.net.

Austin Retiree Club – Membership in TI-ARC is open to all former TIers in the Austin area. Dinner meetings are held on the third Thursday (except December). Mailing list at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TI-ARC>. Contact Dave Neighbors, Lusefuse@aol.com or Bill Crane, wcrane@austin.rr.com.

Dallas-Area GSlers – 11:30 a.m., third Tuesday, lunch at Tony's Café, NW corner of Alma & Spring Creek Pkwy., Plano. Contact Dick Matthews, rich12mat@yahoo.com or 214-432-0138.

Dallas TI Reunion Club – 10 a.m., second Saturday, meeting and lunch at Denny's Restaurant on Motor St., Dallas. Annual luncheon on second Saturday in November at Holiday Inn Select, LBJ Frwy. & Josey Ln., Dallas. Social hour at 11 a.m. and luncheon at noon. Call Gladys Jones, 214-376-9725, or Willie Demus, 214-331-2111.

Equipment Group Retirees – 11 a.m., lunch on 15th of each month (or the nearest weekday if the 15th falls on a weekend) at Red Lobster, LBJ Frwy. & Greenville Ave., Dallas. No formal organization – just meeting, eating and staying in touch. Contact Neil Sunderland, neilsund@gmail.com or 972-272-2869.

Ex-GSlers – 11:30 a.m., second Wednesday, lunch at Tino's Too, 2201 Ave. K, Plano. Contact Martha Hamilton, FourFromTexas@verizon.net or 972-424-0297.

Ex-TI Network – 5:30 p.m., last Friday, meeting at BJ's Brewhouse, 1101 N. Central Expy., Plano. Comprised of professionals who have found "life after TI," this group helps former TIers stay connected professionally and socially. Mailing list at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ExTI>. Contact Joan Nichols, j.nichols4@yahoo.com or 214-543-2546 or Charlie Gonsalves, Charlie_gonsalves@yahoo.com or 469-525-6171.

First Monday Bunch – 1-3 p.m., first Monday, meeting at Richardson Senior Center, 820 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson. Contact Ralph Dean, deanandcomp@sbcglobal.net or 972-235-2589.

Houston Retiree Club – 11 a.m. lunch on third Wednesday (except for the second Wednesday in December) at American Buffet, 12815 Southwest Frwy., Stafford, TX. See details on www.tiretirees.org. Contact Lucy Salas, lucy_m_salas@yahoo.com or 832-551-8025.

HR Alumni – "Life after TI" profiles. Submit inputs to Danny O'Steen, Osteen@wi-five.net.

IS&S Alumni – "Life after TI" profiles. Occasional lunch meetings in Dallas. Submit inputs to Danny O'Steen, Osteen@wi-five.net.

LinkedIn – Sponsored by TIAA for use as an open forum by former TIers who want to stay connected with the TI family. List owner Larry James, <http://linkd.in/tialumni>.

North Texas Retiree Luncheon – 11:30 a.m., second Friday of the second month of each quarter at Nacho's Mama Restaurant, 114 S. Main St., Van Alstyne. Contact Cliff Gibbs, tri-o@waymark.net or 972-742-1113.

Old Bunch Lunch Group – 11 a.m., second Thursday, Spring Creek Barbeque, 207 North Central Expy., Richardson. Mostly SC QA 1990s retirees. Contact Bob Wacker, bob.wacker@att.net.

TIAA Breakfast Club – 9:30 a.m., third Friday, breakfast at the Southern Recipe Café at 1381 W. Campbell Rd. in Richardson. Contact Jim Foster, hminer09@yahoo.com or 972-414-1492.

TIAA Retiree Bunch (formerly Dallas Texins Retiree Club) – 10 a.m., third Tuesday of each month (except July & August). Contact Tom Gregory, tomgregory3@gmail.com or 972-412-9332, or Lucy Salas, 469-878-1514.

TI Bible Study Group – 7-8 a.m., every other Thursday, Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church, TI Blvd. & Forest Ln., Dallas. SC retirees meeting for over 20 years. David Robertson, teacher. Contact Ron McCormick, ronmccormick@aol.com.

TI Design Automation (TIDA) – Personnel, retired or otherwise, from DAD and all other electrical, mechanical and software DA departments worldwide – 11:15 a.m. luncheon on first Wednesday of each quarter at Spring Creek Barbeque, 207 North Central Expy., Richardson. Meet at the entrance. Contact Bob Penick, bob@penick.net.

Contacts

Health & Financial Benefit Plans

TI HR Connect

1-888-660-1411, Option 1
netbenefits.fidelity.com

This phone number consolidates all benefit phone numbers into a 24-hr voice-recognition system. TI Benefits Center representatives are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Central Time. First-time users of the web address need to register in order to log on.

Raytheon Benefits Center

1-800-358-1231

TDD 1-800-562-2307

raytheon.benefitcenter.com

TI-Raytheon Systems retirees should have Social Security and personal identification numbers available when calling. Check with the Raytheon Benefits Center for latest benefit contact information.

For those who would like to contact service providers directly, a downloadable and printable list of web addresses and phone numbers is available at tialumni.org/benefits or by calling TIAA at 214-567-8444

TI Alumni News

This newsletter is published quarterly by the TI Alumni Association to help inform the TI alumni community about TIAA activities.

Editorial Staff: Dot Adler, Editor; Ronnie Brandenburg, Jon Campbell, Ed Millis, Max Post, Linda Smittle, Jessica Stewart and Gary Vawter, Contributors; and Jerry Brandenburg and Linda Stopani, Photographers.

Production Staff: Jon Campbell, Manager; Peggie Mathews, Production Artist; and Ronda McCauley, Layout.

Alumni interested in contributing to the publication should contact Dot Adler at editor@tialumni.org or 214-567-8444.

TI Alumni Association

The mission of TIAA is to provide a link between TI and TI alumni that fosters communications, programs, services and activities about and of interest to TI and TI alumni.

Elected Officers: Betty Purkey, President; Larry James, Executive VP; Marilyn Adams, Secretary; and Gary Stopani, Treasurer.

Appointed Officers: Max Post, Activities Chair; Jon Campbell, Communications Chair; George Consolver, Community Involvement Chair; Lisa Calloway, Education Chair, Mauricio Oporto, Membership Chair; Ronnie Brandenburg, Travel Chair; John Byers, CIO; Andy Smith, TI Liaison; and Jessica Stewart, Administrator.

To contact any TIAA officer, email admin@tialumni.org or call 214-567-8444.

Travel

Sea Life Aquarium at Grapevine Mills – Wednesday, Feb. 22 – The 45,000-square-foot Sea Life Aquarium includes 30 display tanks, a touch-tank section where guests can hold smaller animals and a glass hallway that completely surrounds guests with oceanic life. We will leave at 10:30 a.m. from Texins, tour the aquarium at 11, eat lunch at the Rainforest Café at our own expense and still have time to look around the mall before heading home about 3 p.m. \$21 for members and \$24 for nonmembers (includes aquarium admission).

Glassblowing Demo at UT Arlington – Friday, March 2 – Something about glassblowing creates a “moth to a flame” fascination as an expert takes a crucible of molten glass and produces a footed picture, a paperweight, or perhaps a bowl using a constant ballet-like motion and rotation of the blowpipe. We will hop on the TI bus at 9 a.m. and travel to the University of Texas at Arlington to see and learn how glass blowers create these works of art via a live demo at 10 a.m. Afterward we will eat lunch at the University Club on the UTA campus at our own expense and return to TI about 2 p.m. \$10 for members and \$11 for nonmembers.

Clark Gardens Spring Festival – Weatherford, Saturday, March 31 – This festival features Texas wines, cheeses and art plus educational stations, gardening demonstrations and classic car and motorcycle shows. Clark Gardens is a 35-acre facility of large gardens that have been featured in numerous magazines. Three G-scale model trains on 700 feet of track meander through a landscape of natural vegetation, trestles and small streams. “Clark Station” houses incredible towns of scaled-down buildings made of plant materials. Over 100 trees lining the trails surrounding Emerald Lake are the offspring of historical trees. We will depart Texins at 10

a.m., tour the gardens, taste the wine and cheeses, eat at the food booths and return about 4:30 p.m. \$22 per member and \$25 per nonmember (includes gardens admittance).

Bluebonnet Festival in Ennis – Saturday, April 21 – Ennis is the “Official Bluebonnet City of Texas.” so let’s view this wonderful wildflower show in a self-guided tour along 40 miles of Bluebonnet Trails – the oldest such trails known in the state. Each year, the bluebonnets appear as these are natural to the area and normally peak around the third week of April. We will leave Texins at 9 a.m. to first drive the trails. Then we will visit the festival area featuring arts, crafts and souvenir booths, food booths, and live entertainment where we will eat lunch on our own and return about 4 p.m. \$14 for members and \$16 for nonmembers

Texas Rangers vs. NY Yankees – Arlington, Tuesday, April 24 – This game is against our arch nemesis, the New York Yankees. Seats are in the protected upper reserved section looking right down the third base line and offer a great view of this beautiful stadium. We will leave Texins at 5 p.m., grab a hot dog and drink at our own expense at the ball park, enjoy the 7:05 p.m. game and return about 11:30 p.m. \$31 for members and \$35 for nonmembers (includes game admission).

See www.tialumni.org/travel/ for more detailed and updated information. Each TIAA member may bring one guest at the member price. Others may join us at the non-member price. Please register at least seven days prior to the event by contacting the TIAA office at admin@tialumni.org or 214-567-8444. Payment (by check only) is due seven days prior to event to reserve your place on the bus. Mail check to TIAA, PO Box 740181, Dallas, TX 75374.