## September 2015



# TI Alumni eNews

# Changes to Medicare-Eligible TI Retiree Health Care Coverage

On January 1, TI will transition retiree health care coverage for age 65 or older retirees from the TI group retiree health plan to OneExchange, the largest private independent health care exchange in the U.S. This change will affect all current age 65 or older retirees and their eligible dependents. It will also affect future retirees who are eligible for the TI retiree health benefit when they become Medicare-eligible at age 65. To provide more details on this exchange, TI will be hosting a number of meetings in multiple locations across the U.S. from Sept. 14-30. The schedule for the meetings can be found <u>here</u>. TI strongly encourages all retirees 65 and older to attend one of



these sessions. The enrollment period for affected retirees will be October 12 to December 31, 2015. Letters were mailed August 25 to the homes of retirees who need to take action. See our <u>Web Article</u> for more information.

## **Changes in Health Benefit Seminars**

Since TI will be hosting many sessions on the transition to One Exchange in late September, the annual TI Health Benefit Seminar at the Plano Centre will not be held for Medicare-eligible retirees this year. Instead, retirees are being invited to attend one of a number of meetings as described in the <u>Web Article</u> referenced above. For those retirees who are pre-65 and not eligible for Medicare, there will be an information meeting from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on October 8 at the Plano Centre in Collingwood I.

## 2015 TI Retiree Luncheon

The Annual TI Retiree Luncheon will be held at the Mesquite Convention Center on Thursday, October 1 from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Doors will open at 9:30 am, with a barbeque lunch served at



11:30 am. The speaker this year will be Steve Lyle, who serves as director of engineering workforce development and university marketing for Texas Instruments. He oversees worldwide university collaboration involving recruiting, research and marketing activities for the company, as well as penetrating university curriculum with TI technology across the globe. The theme of this year's event is, "Celebrating TI Innovation". In his comments, Lyle will review TI's strategy in Research and Development and highlight some of the exciting work being done in universities across the world, including the focus on UT Dallas.

# Flu Shots

Flu shots will be available for retired Tlers and their families at the Retiree Luncheon from 8:30 to 11:30 am. If you are unable to get your shots at the luncheon, they will also be available in CR4 at the Dallas Texins Activity Center on Tuesday, September 29, from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm and on Thursday, October 1, from noon to 7:00 pm. If you are covered by Medicare and/or TI BCBS PPO, there will be no charge for the flu shot, but you will need to bring your Medicare card or your BCBS card to the event. If you are not covered by either of these plans, you will need to pay \$24 for the shot (cash or check) at the event and file for reimbursement with your provider.

# 2015 OMOT Winners Announced

At the On My Own Time art exhibition at the Texins Activity Center, a total of 26 artists – active Tlers, Tl retirees, Tl contractors, and their spouses – entered 46 art objects in 9 categories. The art objects were on display from August 2 through 14 and were judged by Tracee Robertson, Director of the University of North Texas Art Galleries. Jim Balaze's rolled edge bowl, shown here, won Best of Show. Online voting and paper ballots at Texins were combined to determine the People's Choice Award. Go to <u>First Place and</u>



<u>Honorable Mention</u> to view the winners. The First Place winners will advance to the region-wide exhibition at NorthPark in late September.

# **TI/TIAA Golf Tournament**

TIAA is teaming up again with active Tlers on Monday, October 19, for the 16th Annual TIAA Charity Golf Tournament. The event is at the Woodbridge Golf Club in Wylie, TX. It will benefit two worthwhile charities – the United Way and The Senior Source. Texas Instruments and the Texans Credit Union are underwriters for the tournament, making it possible for 100% of donations to go directly to the charities. More than 100 golfers are expected



to participate. Golfers will check in beginning at 10:00 am, with a shot-gun start at 12:30 pm. Lunch will be served beginning at 11:00 am, with awards following the tournament. Retirees and former Tlers are encouraged to help support this year's tourney, whether golfers or not. Sponsorships are available for golf holes and carts. There are also opportunities for volunteers to help in contacting corporate sponsors or helping with the tournament logistics. Please contact the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 for information on volunteer opportunities. A golfer registration

form as well as a donation form are available online or by contacting the TIAA office at 214-567-8444.

# **TIAA Travel Events**

**August Travel Recap** – On August 19, 26 members, spouses and guests boarded a luxury coach to the National Weather Service Forecasting Office in Fort Worth for a tour of this vital function. This office is one of 120 in the United States and it covers 46 counties in Texas and three airports. We learned their staff operates 24/7 to collect data and issue weather bulletins in order to alert us of impending problems. We saw and heard that each of the 120 offices send up huge, helium-filled weather balloons twice a day (after receiving permission from D/FW each time). This costs \$500 each and only 10% are returned even though the transmitter is clearly marked what it is and to please return it. These beige balloons reach the size of a garage when they arrive at their maximum altitude and burst. The transmitter floats down under a bright orange parachute (and lands somewhere depending on the prevailing winds). We saw how they monitor drought conditions and how they monitor runoffs and lake levels. It was a hot day so we enjoyed cooling off while eating lunch at Flips (and sitting on bar stools!) before returning to TI. The <u>slideshow</u> of this trip is available online. Please consider joining us on one of the Travel events described below.

**September 9, Nebraska Furniture Mart Tour –** Wednesday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, The Colony. This two-story, brand-new store is huge and carries over 500,000 items which gives them the unofficial motto "If we ain't got it, you probably don't need it." We'll leave on a large Echo bus at 9:00 am, spend two hours looking around and shopping (so wear comfortable shoes) and then have lunch. There are several restaurants being built now on their parking lot so we'll pick one since a small Subway offers the only



food available inside the store. Cost is \$20 for members and \$22 for nonmembers. Please <u>register</u> online or at 214-567-8444.

**September 24, 2015, Museum of the American Railroad** – Thursday, - 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, Frisco. North Texas owes its growth and prosperity to the coming of the railroads. Let's visit the museum



and find out the history as well as the science and technology of the industry and the vital role the railroad still plays. We will leave at 9:30 am, take a docent-led tour at 10:00 am to learn the story of the American Railroad and get an inside look at six cars, eat lunch at Babes Chicken (bring lunch money), and return at 2:00 pm. Cost, including museum admission and transportation, is \$15 for members and \$17 for nonmembers. (Remember, these tours are outdoors, may be cancelled in case of bad weather, and **require a lot of walking and some**  **climbing** – so wear closed-toed, comfortable shoes.) Please <u>register</u> online or at 214-567-8444 as early as the tour is limited to 30 people.

**Next Travel Events:** 

October 8, Treasures from the House of Alba – Thursday, 4:30 to 8:00 pm.

October 23, Ghost of Denton Tour – Friday, 5:00 pm.

All trips depart from and return to the Dallas Texins Activity Center unless otherwise noted. Each TIAA member may bring one guest at the member price. Others may join us at the nonmember price. If you choose, you may mail your check to TIAA, PO Box 740181, Dallas, TX 75374 instead of paying online. Payment is due seven days prior to the event to reserve your place on the bus. Please check out other upcoming events on our <u>Travel Calendar</u>.

**Other Travel Opportunities:** In addition to TIAA's monthly travels, we sometimes learn about other interesting Dallas-area locations that you might want to visit, so check our <u>Other Travel</u> <u>Opportunities</u> webpage frequently.

# **Community Involvement Events**

**September 21**, **Metrocrest Services** – Monday, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Metrocrest Services provides programs that foster and lead to self-sufficiency independence for individuals, families and seniors living in Carrollton, Farmers Branch, Addison, Coppell and a portion of the City of Dallas in Denton County. Their dedicated network of donors, sponsors and volunteers make our community better! Our volunteer event will include food pantry work restocking shelves, assisting clients in food distribution and providing inventory assistance for the organization. We will board a Senior Source van at the Texins Activity Center at 8:30 am and be transported to Metrocrest Services. Afterwards, we will have lunch at a local restaurant at our own expense and arrive back to the Texins Activity Center about 1:30 pm. Please <u>register</u> online or at 214-567-8444

#### Next Community Involvement Event:

#### October 8, White Rock Center of Hope – Thursday, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm.

**Other Volunteer Opportunities:** In addition to TIAA's monthly Community Involvement Team activities, we frequently learn about other Dallas-area volunteer organizations that need help. These are events requiring only a few volunteers and we add new notices as soon as they are received, so check our <u>Other Volunteer Opportunities</u> webpage frequently.

# **Slideshow Archive**

Slideshows created by Ronnie Brandenburg about various TIAA activities are posted on our website using pictures taken by Jerry Brandenburg, Larry James, Jessica Stewart, Linda Stopani and others. To view any of them, go to the <u>Slideshow Menu</u> and then click on the desired event.

## **New and Renewing Members**

Recently Gordon Gravley, Rebecca Holdford and Frank Miville became TIAA Members and Janet Riley became a Lifetime Member. Gary Bivins, Madonna Bivins, Dale Howard, Howard Lee, Bob Johnston, Bobbie Reed, Dianne Tetreault and William Wilson renewed their memberships. Welcome to you all!

# **TIAA Breakfast Meeting**

**September 18,** Friday, 9:30 am – All TI retirees, TIAA members and their spouses are invited to this informal get-together at the Southern Recipe Cafe. This quiet and peaceful restaurant is located at 1381 W. Campbell Rd. (just east of Coit) in Richardson. We meet in their back room to enjoy a cozy breakfast with old friends. You will find fresh food, great service, reasonable prices, and good conversation. Registration is not required as we can always pull up another table or two, so just show up and bring a friend if you like.



#### Next TIAA Breakfast - Friday, October 16, 9:30 am.

#### **In Memoriam**

We add new names and obituaries of former Tlers to our new website several times a week and currently have over 10,000 entries. To view the names, members can go to <u>In Memoriam</u> and then click on **Date** so the most recent deaths will be displayed first. (You can also sort the list by **City** or **State** or use the **Find** function to locate a particular person). Also, members can go to <u>Recent Obituaries</u> to read them in date sequence.

## TI Alumni eNews

Published monthly by the TI Alumni Association to help inform the TI alumni community about news and activities of interest to TIAA alumni. Editorial Staff: Jon Campbell, Editor; Marilyn Adams, Asst. Editor; Jerry Brandenburg, Ronnie Brandenburg, Larry James, Max Post, Jessica Stewart and Linda Stopani, Contributors. Alumni with comments about this publication are invited to contact Jon Campbell at <u>jonscampbell@gmail.com</u> or 214-507-1500. Those with general inquiries about TIAA

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