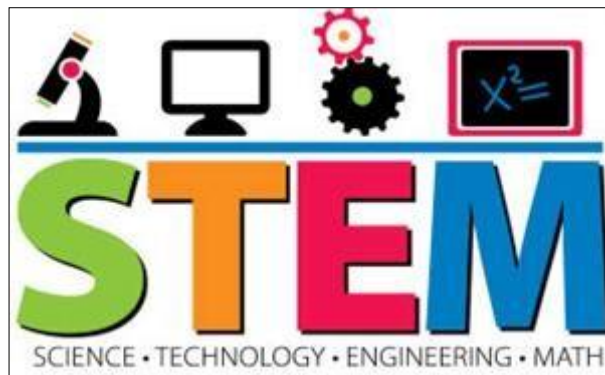


# TIAA TIA Alumni News

[www.tialumni.org](http://www.tialumni.org)

## Bringing STEM to Students

WalkSTEM is a new program being launched this spring in the Dallas Arts District and in NorthPark Center planned by talkStem. They are looking for energetic, open-minded, and creative people with an interest in promoting STEM among youth in engaging ways by making connections to the world around us. The walks are inspired by the National Museum of Mathematics in New York. The Museum's Founder and Director, Glen Whitney, has designed a series of site-specific math walks across the country. Dr Whitney, will be training a group of docents on February 23 at NorthPark at 4:30 pm for an hour by leading them on a math walk in NorthPark highlighting the math that is embedded in the significant art collection in the mall. If you are interested in learning more about this program and would like to apply to be a walkSTEM@Northpark docent, please call 817-366-6194.



## TIAA Travel Events

January Travel Recap: Seventeen TIAA members/guests registered for the Hatco Factory Tour on January 17 and it was as fabulous as their hats! We were welcomed by one of Hatco's VPs and learned that all of



of the Stetson and Resistol hats are made in the USA – in Texas, with one factory in Longview and one in Garland – and then shipped to distributors all over the world. We passed around a top-of-the-line (containing chinchilla fur), custom-made hat that was so soft. Hats like that are worn by rodeo and screen stars and cost \$5,000+ (depending on how much bling they want on the hat band!) Hats are not commonly worn these days but Hatco still produces

between 500,000 and 1,000,000 hats each year to please their customers and have 3,200 models and colors available – in felt or straw. They employ approximately 225 workers – some workers, like at TI, are multi-generational and some have been there over 40 years. As usual, we maintained the TIAA custom of eating-our-way-across-Texas and Dos Banderos in Garland was the winner this time as we joined one of our members in celebrating his 92nd birthday!

**February 10, Witherspoon Distillery, Lewisville** – 1:30 to 6:30 pm, Friday. Distilling is a labor of love and during the tour you will learn the history of distilling, their history as a distillery and the processes they use to produce spirits. This business is ranked #1 on the list of 29 things to do in Lewisville and the education on distilling is worth the time! We will board a bus at 1:30 pm, have lunch at



On The Border (at own expense) and take the 4:00 pm guided tour which lasts approximately 60 minutes, followed immediately by a full tasting of their products (rum and whiskey). Please bring valid, government-issued ID as all attendees must be at least 21. At the end of the tasting, guests may purchase products and merchandise at the distillery (rum cake, anyone?). We will return to TI about 6:30 pm. Cost is \$18 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. This event is currently sold out, but you can call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 to register for the wait list and you will be notified if there is a cancellation.

**March 14, Cherry Blossom Festival** – 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, Tuesday, Dallas Arboretum. While the displays in North Texas are not as grand in scale as the 3,000 Yoshino cherry trees on Washington, D.C.'s National Mall, they are a lot closer! Each North Texas spring they foam with awe-inspiring pink



and white blooms at the Dallas Arboretum which is ranked one of the top ten best botanical gardens in the United States by *USA Today*. Cherry trees are one of the most beautiful flowering trees covered with puffs of pinkish cotton candy, but their blossoms only last about 10 days. (That's assuming we do not get a torrential, hail storm, a sudden freeze or a heat wave.) There are over 150 cherry trees here, reaching up to 30 feet tall, and they bloom profusely. We can walk the garden trails (or catch one of their shuttle carts) to enjoy other stunning landscapes. We'll leave at 9:30

am, tour the beautiful grounds, eat at Chili's Restaurant (on our own) and return about 2:00 pm. Prices are \$15 for members and \$17 for nonmembers. Please call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 to register for this event.

**March 18, "9-to-5," The Musical** – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Saturday, Granbury. This musical is based on the 1980 movie of the same name which was derived from a book by Patricia Resnick. It has received multiple awards and follows a hilarious turn of events as Violet, Judy and Doralee live out their wildest dream – giving their boss the boot! While he remains "otherwise engaged," the women give their workplace a makeover, taking control of the company that had always kept them down. We will leave on a bus at 10:00 am, eat lunch in Granbury (on our own) in one of the restaurants on the square, shop a little and then attend the matinee at 2:00 pm. We should be back about 5:30 pm. The



cost is \$25 for members and \$28 for nonmembers. Please call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 to register for this event.

## Community Involvement Events

**Community Involvement Recap:** *White Rock Center of Hope opened in 1988. Over the years, what began as a food pantry has evolved to include a clothes closet, a place for financial assistance and a resale store that helps fund the organization. The center is not affiliated with any religious organizations, though they do have church groups that volunteer. White Rock Center of Hope relies heavily on volunteers. On average, about 255 regular volunteers will spend more than 40,000 hours stocking shelves in the food pantry, helping in the resale store or working the clothes closet. On January 12, several TIAA members joined the food distribution director in packaging canned vegetables, meat, and pastas into sacks ready to be handed out to supplement client's weekly grocery needs. The rest of our members participated in the clothing distribution area helping the regular volunteers sort sacks of clothing onto racks ready for clients to select gently used clothes for their families. After a fun-filled morning of work and time to socialize with each other and the many people that came through the facility, we went next door to Sali's restaurant for a great Italian lunch.*



**February 13, Crossroads Community Services, – 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, Monday.** Crossroads has two primary goals: 1) To help ensure that all people in Dallas County have ready access to nourishing



foods; 2) To provide life-skills education that can help reduce obesity in impoverished areas. They do this work because no one, especially children, should have to experience the physical and emotional impact of missing multiple meals. Please join us at the Texins Activity Center to board a Senior Source bus at 8:30 am. Volunteers will assist Crossroads neighbors in selecting grocery items and/or helping in the clothing

distribution area. Afterwards, we will have lunch at a local restaurant (at our own expense) and arrive back to the Texins Activity Center around 1:30 pm. Please call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 to register for this event.

**February 28, Crystal Creek at Preston Hollow Nursing Home – 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Tuesday.** We will not have a bus for this event since the center is located very close to the main TI site. Please arrive at the assisted living center by no later than 10:00 am (between Forest and Royal on the south-bound frontage road). If their parking lot is full, drive past the four-story red-brick Crystal Creek building and park in the parking lot for Minuteman Press/Park Central Dental. Enter the Crystal Creek facility by the front door which faces Central. Volunteers will assist the home's Volunteer Coordinator



in participating with a party, games, Bingo, visiting with residents or any other assigned duty. We will conclude our day at the center by 11:30 am. If volunteers are interested in joining for lunch (at our own expense), we may meet at Cindi's located just a short distance south of the center on the Central Expressway service road. Please call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 to register for this event.

## Education Seminar

**February 17, 2017, Brain Health Seminar** – 12:30 pm, Friday. Informative seminar held jointly with the UT Dallas Retirees at UTD with Dr. Denise Parks, Director of the Center for Vital Longevity as guest speaker. Her topic is "The Aging Mind in Transition". Dr. Parks has made contributions to the understanding of how brain function changes as we get older, how cultural experiences shape brain activity and how the aging brain might protect itself from structural degradation. The meeting will be held in the McDermott Suite of the library and will begin at 1:00 pm with a reception and refreshments. A bus will leave from the Texins Activity Center at 12:30 pm for those who do not wish to drive. For those who plan to drive, a parking pass will be issued in advance. Please call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 to register for this event. Please indicate if you plan to ride the bus and how many seats you need. If you are driving, please request a parking pass, which will be sent to you near the date of the seminar.

## TIAA Breakfast Meeting

**February 17, Friday, 9:30 am.** All TI retirees, TIAA members and their spouses are invited to this informal get-together for breakfast at the Southern Recipes Grill, 621 W. Plano Pkwy. We meet to enjoy a cozy breakfast with old and new 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, so just show up and bring a friend if you like. From North Central Expy, turn west on Plano Pkwy, cross the bridge and turn north into The Village at Collin Creek. The restaurant will be to your left. If you have any questions, contact Jon Campbell at 214-507-1500.

## New and Renewing Members

Recently Linda Tressa LeClaire and Charles, L'Herisson became members and Wiley Christal, Joe Crawford, Jimmy Culver, Ken Dobbs, Sharon Dobbs, Mark Foster, Ken Geiger, Albert Goats, Mike Grizzaffi, Rhonda Grizzaffi, Christine Hancock, John Hancock, Robert Hettler, Sheila Hettler, Doug Kostlan, William Lloyd, Virgil Maners, Noel Pittman, Pat Pittman, Joe Pullen, Patsy Pullen, Phillip Raign, Stephanie Raign, Fred Randall and Ann Reeder renewed their memberships. Welcome all.

## TI Alumni News

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: Marilyn Adams, Editor, Jon Campbell, Managing Editor; Jerry Brandenburg, Ronnie Brandenburg, Larry James, Max Post, Jessica Stewart and Linda Stopani, Contributors. Alumni with general inquiries about TIAA should contact the TIAA Office by; mailing to TIAA, PO Box 740181, Dallas, TX 75374; or by calling 214-567-8444.