December 2014

TIAA TI Alumni eNews
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More Than 500 Attend TI Retiree Luncheon

Despite the chilly day, more than 500 retirees, guests, volunteers and exhibitors attended this year's TI Retiree Luncheon on November 13. Marty Ruiz and the Spectacular Senior Follies provided the entertainment. Click **here** to read the details. A **slideshow** of photos taken at the luncheon is also available online.

Online Shopping Reminder

Many of us will be doing at least some of our holiday shopping online this year. If you will be purchasing books or other items from Amazon.com, please access the Amazon.com website via our TI Alumni website. Amazon is the world's largest online retailer with a multitude of items for sale. TIAA has an agreement with Amazon whereby TIAA can earn an associate's fee when items are purchased through the following link on the TIAA website. The associate's fee helps TIAA offset operating expenses. All you have to do is to use this easy-to-remember address **www.tialumni.org/amazon** for your online shopping at Amazon.

TIAA Travel Events

November Travel Recap – On November 7, ten TIAA members and guests attended The *Tuna Christmas* at the Mesquite Arts Center. Christmas in the third smallest town in Texas with all of their unique denizens made for a side-splitting evening. On November 19, TIAA members and guests filled a bus on the way to see *Mythbusters: The Explosive Exhibition*. No, we didn't blow anything up; but we did test some of their other experiments before capping everything off with a live demo involving one of our TI retirees. We ended an interesting and educational day (Did you know the brain reacts faster to sound than light?) by going to the Stockyards for lunch.

December 6, Candlelight Home Tour – Saturday, 4:00 - 10:00 pm, Waxahachie. Sorry but this event has been cancelled.

January 8, Samurai Museum, Dallas – Tuesday, 11:00 am (above St. Ann Restaurant on Harwood Street). Samurai warriors fought in style with fancy helmets and ornate armor, shot engraved arrows and brandished fancy swords. The fighters were revered for their loyalty, courage and integrity, and they shaped Japan's history for centuries. And Dallas now has a place that showcases samurai culture from the 10th to the mid-19th centuries in The Ann and Gabriel Barbier-Mueller Museum, one of the world's only museums dedicated to samurai art, so let's go see it. We will leave Texins at 11:00 am, eat lunch (at our own expense) at the Mercat Bistro, walk upstairs to attend the gallery talk at 1:00 pm, tour the museum and return at 3:00 pm. Admission is free but transportation cost will be $11 for members and $13 for nonmembers. Click **here** to register.

January 29, Jack Evans Police Headquarters Tour – Thursday, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm, Dallas. TIAA members and guests will be able to visit the Dallas Police Headquarters about a mile from downtown Dallas to learn about "Law and Order". The Jack Evans Police Headquarters building was completed in 2003, houses many departments and is handicapped-accessible. Our tour will visit investigation areas (including homicide), the crime scene fingerprint area and the high technology fusion center (criminal intelligence related to terrorism). Plan on a lot of walking as this building is larger than a football field so wear comfortable shoes! We will have time for a Q&A session with Sr. Cpl. Schuster during the tour. We will leave at 9:30 am, tour from 10:00 – noon, eat lunch at Norma's Cafe (at our own expense), and return around 2:00 pm. Transportation cost is $15 for members and $17 for nonmembers. Click **here** to register.

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 **Travel Calendar**.

Community Involvement Events

November Community Involvement Recap – On November 9, we were a host volunteer organization for the annual Veterans Resource Center "Stand Down" event to honor homeless Veterans. Several hundred Veterans showed up early in the morning to receive clothes, employment sources and health services. Our ten TIAA volunteers helped to organize the day's events and handed out clothes to each participant. The day was a perfect setting and all of our volunteers ended the session feeling that they made a difference in the lives of the Veterans. As one Veteran homeless lady said with tears in her eyes, "I now have a coat for the winter!"

On November 11, five TIAA volunteers boarded a TI bus filled with over 40 active TIers which headed to Garland for a Veteran's Day work event. TI and TIAA partnered with the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas to celebrate their 90th anniversary by sponsoring the "Nine for 90" program. Two new Habitat for Humanity houses in Garland were completed and supplied to new families on this Veteran's Day. An additional house was refurbished during two weeks prior to the event for a homeless Veteran with four children. Our TIAA volunteers were assigned tasks making the three homes ready for move-in including planting flowers and shrubs around the houses, outfitting the kitchen and bathrooms with supplies and moving furniture into proper locations within the homes. The highlight of the event was watching the Veteran and his family move into their refurbished home. They were overjoyed with the complete restoration and overcome with emotion from the experience. Our TIAA volunteers certainly made a difference in the lives of three families!

December 9, VNA - Meals on Wheels – Tuesday, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm. TIAA volunteers will be wrapping Christmas gifts consisting of socks, soap, hand lotion, toothpaste & toothbrushes, and shampoo for distribution during the Meals on Wheels Christmas Day meals and gift distribution event. Please join us at the Texins Activity Center to board a bus at 8:30 am to volunteer for service at the Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Center. Lunch will be provided by the VNA, and we will arrive back to the Texins Activity Center about 1:30 pm. Click **here** to register.

January, White Rock Center of Hope – Thursday, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, 10021 Garland Road, Dallas.

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 timed events requiring only a few volunteers and we add new notices as soon as they are received, so check our **Other Volunteer Opportunities** webpage frequently.

New and Renewing Members

We now list both members joining TIAA for the first time as well as members who have renewed their membership in our association. Recently Charles Burton, Shelley Burton, Larry Chasteen, Lawrence Cooper, Warren Crosby, Robert Grandys, William D. Harper, Greg Lewis, David Reid, John Strohm and John Vezey became TIAA members. Renewing their memberships were Lela Allison, Charles Balazsin, Oma Bean, Thelma Bean, Gene Bennett, Janis Bennett, Fred Chapman, Gail Chapman, Birdy Crane, William Crane, Elaine Daniel, Paula Duff, Roy Duff, Elmer Elkins, Thelma Elkins, Jean Gendron, Marie Gendron, Linda Gerber, Paul Gerber, Jim Golden, Teresa Golden, Joan Halliburton, Malcolm Halliburton, Harry Hurd, Linda Hurd, Bobbie Inkman, Tom Inkman, Josephine King, Randy King, Charles Lake, Joyce Lake, Charlotte McLaughlin, Robert McLaughlin, Richard Merritt, Cindy Oliphant, Jim Oliphant, Michael Paradise, Sandra Paradise, Gwen Phillips, Walt Phillips, Noel Pittman, Pat Pittman, Al Riccomi, Carolyn Riccomi, Janelle Richards, Alan Rittman, Victoria Rittman, Carol Smythe, Robert

Smythe, Raymond Sousa, Nancy Strobo, Wayne Strobo, Douglas Tillett, Marilyn Tillett and Wesley Vann. Darwin Payne was made an honorary member at the TI Retiree Luncheon.

TIAA Breakfast Meeting

December 19, 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 and their back room is available for us 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 Event: January 16, Friday, 9:30 am.

Slideshow Archive

Slideshows created by Ronnie Brandenburg are posted on our website using pictures mainly taken by Jerry Brandenburg, Larry James, Jessica Stewart and Linda Stopani. To view any of the slideshows, click **here** and then on the desired event.

In Memoriam

We add new names and obituaries of former TIers to our new website several times a week and currently have over 9,200 names**.** To view the names, members can click **here** to access the **In Memoriam** menu 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). Or, you can click **here** to read the most recent obituaries in date sequence.

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