November 2014

TI Alumni eNews

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Fourth Quarter 2014 Newsletter

The Fourth Quarter 2014 edition of the *TI Alumni News* has been printed and mailed to all current TIAA members who our records indicate have not opted out of postal delivery. If you have indicated that you want a mailed copy and do not receive one, please go to our website and verify that your preference is correctly indicated. To view, download or print out a copy of the newsletter, go to **www.tialumni.org/q-news**. This issue features the 2014 TI Retiree Dinner on November 13. Other articles cover the Golf Tournament on October 20 and Linda Smittle's comparison of her life as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ghana with her expectations.

TI Retiree Luncheon Set for November 13

Mark your calendar and plan to join your TI friends and colleagues at Mesquite Convention Center for the annual TI Retiree Luncheon. This year we will recognize the 60th anniversary of the silicon transistor. The doors will open at 9:30 am. Venu Menon will update us on TI's business trends followed by entertainment by Marty Ruiz and the Spectacular Senior Follies. Invitations were mailed to retirees in mid-October. If you are a TI retiree or TIAA member and did not receive your copy, please call the TIAA office at 214-567-8444 and request a copy. Buses will be available for those who prefer not to drive to Mesquite. Registration details for the free buses and departure times were included in the reservation packet. Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity to catch up on the news; enjoy visiting with friends and former associates; and eat a delicious, sit-down barbeque lunch. Click **here** for more information.

Health Benefits Seminar

Over 400 TIAA members and other retired TIers attended the annual seminar on Health Benefits at Plano Centre on October 16. Topics included Annual Enrollment Update, TI Health Benefits, Overview of Medicare and TI Retiree Plans and a Medical Update by Dr. Kevin Soden, TI Medical Director. Click **here** to view the seminar presentations.

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.

TI Days at the Dallas Arboretum Continue

Weekdays only through November 27. (Weekends are reserved for active TIers.) Once again, the Dallas Arboretum kicks off the autumn season with one of the most spectacular pumpkin and gourd displays in the world. The garden is transformed with thousands of blazing-colored florals as 50,000 pumpkins, gourds and squash come together to form the nationally acclaimed storybook Pumpkin Village. TI retirees and other TIAA members and up to five guests may gain free admission. Just show your TI retiree badge or a copy of this *eNews.* Free admissions do not cover the Children's Garden. Afternoons are more crowded than mornings.

Golf Tournament Benefited Two Charities

The 15th Annual TIAA Charity Golf Tournament raised more than $36,400 in donations and pledges for two worthwhile charities: the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and The Senior Source. TI and the Texans Credit Union were underwriters for the tournament, making it possible for 100 percent of the donations to go directly to the charities. Only one stroke separated the top three teams in the tournament. The team of active TIers: Pros from Dover shown in photo from left to right: Scott Eisenhart, Ken Cyr, Matt DiMarco and Bill Egr, won top prize in the tournament. Click **here** for further details.

TIAA Travel Events

October Travel Recap – Fourteen TIAA members and guests registered for the Fort Worth Stockyard Historic District trip on October 10. We had a beautiful day in the low 80s; watched 20 longhorns meander by (close enough to touch except for those horns); ate a delicious, Texas-sized hamburger at the H3 Ranch Grill; visited a couple of museums; shopped and watched

buyers bid on and buy livestock all over the country via the Internet. It was a roam-around-on-your-own, relaxing experience enjoyed by all.

November 7, *A Tuna Christmas* – Friday, 8:00 pm, Mesquite Arts Center. It's Christmas in the third smallest town in Texas. Radio station OKKK news personalities Thurston Wheelis and Arles Struvie report on various Yuletide activities including hot competition in the annual lawn display contest. In other news, voracious Joe Bob Lipsey's production of "A Christmas Carol" is jeopardized by unpaid electric bills. We'll see many colorful Tuna denizens join in the holiday fun. The show runs 2 hours. We'll meet in the lobby at 7:30 pm to pick up tickets. Prices are $11 for members and $13 for nonmembers and they are limited so please make your reservations ASAP. Click **here** to register.

November 19, Mythbusters: The Explosive Exhibition – Wednesday, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm, Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Can you huff, puff and blow a house in? Does toast always tend to land butter-side down? Does running in the rain get you less wet than walking through it? Can you really make a canoe out of duct tape? Spend a day as a myth buster at MythBusters: The Explosive Exhibition to uncover the truth behind the myths for yourself. And while you're at it, watch live demonstrations and peruse props and gadgets from Discovery Channel's Emmy-nominated show MythBusters that specializes in testing wild hypotheses in wildly entertaining experiments. The exhibition features real remnants from experiments on the show along with many interactive opportunities for guests to engage in a little hands-on fun. If that should involve air cannons, blast shields, duct tape or crash dummies in speeding cars… so much the better. Cost is $29 for members and $32 for nonmembers. We will eat at the Star Cafe in the Stockyards at our own expense. We will leave Texins Expressway site promptly at 9:30 am and return about 3:00 pm. Click **here** to register.

Travel Events Preview:

December 6, Candlelight Home Tour – Saturday, 4:00 - 10:00 pm, Waxahachie.

January 8, Samurai Museum – Tuesday, 11:00 am, Dallas...

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 7, Veterans Resource Center – Friday, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm. This year TIAA will volunteer to provide support to the VRC's annual "Stand Down" event. This event welcomes several hundred homeless military veterans receiving shoes, clothes, and support from numerous agencies on-site who will interview and counsel each individual. TIAA will aid in the logistics of parking, setting up tables and chairs, providing drinks to the veterans standing in line, and any other assistance VRC requests. This year, the event has been extended longer than the traditional one-day event and will be the only volunteer group to provide services on this Friday, so a big turn out by TIAA will be most welcome. Please join us at the Texins Activity Center to board a bus at 8:30 am to volunteer for service at the Veterans Resource Center. Lunch will be provided by the VRC and we will arrive back to the Texins Activity Center about 3:00 pm. Click **here** to register.

November 11, TI/TIAA United Way Event – Tuesday, 8:15 am - 3:30 pm, TI is partnering with the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas to celebrate their 90th anniversary by sponsoring the Nine for 90 program. Because we're the presenting sponsor, TIers and TIAA will have the opportunity to get together with Rich Templeton, Cowboy Legend Roger Staubach, and various elected officials to help transform two houses for deserving veterans and their families into homes. TIers will be putting on finishing touches on the homes including furnishing rooms, stocking bathrooms, bedrooms and kitchens with supplies and food, and landscaping the exterior. Activities will include a ceremony to hand over the keys to two veterans and their families. Please wear casual comfortable clothing and closed-toe shoes. United Way Nine for 90 T-shirts and TI visors will be provided at onsite registration. Lunch and drinks will be provided for volunteers at no cost. Parking will be limited, so you are encouraged to ride a TI shuttle that will depart the Texins Activity Center promptly at 8:15 a.m. Click **here** to register.

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 Francisco Cervantes, Richard McCarty, Ashwin Shah, Frank Vogler and David Wiedenfeld became TIAA members. Renewing their memberships were Charles Balazsin, Eltas Baxter, Betty Duncan, Fred Duncan, Michael Henson, Richard Merritt, Janelle Richards, Mary Vernon, Ray Vest and David Ziemer. Welcome everyone.

TIAA Breakfast Meeting

November 21, 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: December 19, 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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Published monthly by the TI Alumni Association to help inform the TI alumni community about news and activities of interest toTIAA alumni. Editorial Staff: Jon Campbell, Editor; Marilyn Adams, Dot Adler, Greg Boydston, Jerry Brandenburg, Ronnie Brandenburg, John Byers, Larry James, Max Post, Jessica Stewart and Linda Stopani, Contributors. Alumni with comments about this publication are invited to contact Jon Campbell at **jonscampbell@gmail.com**.