

MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



OFFICERS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Charles Jehlen
President

Lynne James
Immediate Past President
Newsletter /Yearbook
Retirement Education
Technology Contact

Becky Dungan
First Vice President
Membership

Linda Briggs
Second Vice President
Book Project
Programs

Donna Lumpkin
Secretary

Wanda Borne
Treasurer

Dixie Tucker
Parliamentarian

Richard Briggs
Legislation

Gail Krohn
Publicity & Scholarship

Beulah Thompson
Community Volunteer
Services

Helen Reynolds
Healthy Living

Mary Sue Carter
Informative & Protective
Services

Shelley Dettman
Member Benefits

Clara Graham
Foundation Representative

Linda Fong
Memorials, Get-Well

Olive Hall & Jolene Lemaire
Historians

Rosalie Reese
Hospitality

Patricia Allen
Social Media

MAY 2021 PROGRAM

INSTALLATION OF 2021-202 OFFICERS
President, Charles R. Jehlen
First Vice President, Becky Dungan
Second Vice President, Linda Briggs
Treasurer, Wanda Borne
Secretary, Donna Lumpkin



Congratulations



2021-22 Officers

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 14, 11:30 am

What: Annual Retiree Luncheon Honoring 2020 & 2021 Retirees

Where: Bonne Vie Continuing Care Center (See travel instructions attached)

Program: TRTA Executive Director Tim Lee
Luncheon Hosted by the Staff at Bonne Vie



“Should I stay or should I go?”

... A message from MJCRSP President Charles Jehlen

The 1982 song by *The Clash* reminded me of our hesitancy about going back to pre-COVID norms. TRTA urged us this summer to resume personal meetings, while taking appropriate precautions. Our local leaders have planned our annual Retirement Luncheon with many factors in mind. The magnificent Bonne Vie facility will again host our meeting, but is also the home for many at-risk citizens. Accordingly, all MJCRSP members and guests attending must have completed the vaccine protocols. We hope that no additional outbreak will occur which would cancel the event.



TRTA's Executive Director Tim Lee will be our honored guest at the Luncheon. Every time I hear Tim speak, I am impressed by his knowledge and sincerity. The TRTA staff have diligently pressed the state legislators and officials to protect our benefits. It has not been easy, and the effort to protect our defined benefits continues when the legislature is not in session. I encourage you to visit the TRTA website and view the videos of Tim and the staff explaining our legislative goals and priorities. They deserve our gratitude for not backing down. I am optimistic that Tim will bring TRS pensioners some good news when he speaks at our September luncheon.

This legislative session reminded me how fragile our retiree support system is. Our health insurance has to be reauthorized by the legislature every two years. Every one of our friends who will retire under TRS needs to join TRTA. We are the only group advocating for their pension and benefits. Encourage them to join before retirement, to ensure that the promises made to public education employees are kept. After all, we are here to stay.



MJCRSP officers and committee chairs meet to plan retiree luncheon

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.mjcrsp.org — SEE OUR VIDEO SCRAPBOOK
VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: www.facebook.com/MJCRSP/

May Highlights



ROW ONE: Charlie Jehlen calls the meeting to order, and then leads members in prayer and pledges to the USA and Texas flags; Lynne James prepares to install officers; Beulah Thompson reminds us to keep track of volunteer hours during the summer; Donna Lumpkin is happy to read correspondence alongside her friend Kathleen Woods. **ROW TWO:** Linda Fong reports on member status, memorials, and get-well communications; Wanda Borne gives the treasurer's report; Helen Reynolds tells members about alternatives to red meat in our diets; Candye Martin is all smiles! **ROW THREE:** Richard Briggs delivers the latest news on the legislative session while Linda Briggs asks for program suggestions for next fall; Mary Sue Carter tells us about phishing scams, TRS-Care vs other Medicare programs, and new rules that will affect summer school hiring; Dana Wasser and Becky Dungan enjoy the meeting.

ANNUAL FALL LUNCHEON HONORING NEW RETIREES: On September 14 all members who are fully vaccinated are encouraged to attend the annual Fall Luncheon in honor of the 2020 and 2021 retirees from Nederland ISD and Port Neches-Groves ISD. This special event allows us to welcome into retirement educators and support personnel who have served both communities through their contributions to the education of our children. It gives *all* of us the opportunity to reunite with colleagues and former colleagues as well as other friends of education in the area. A catered luncheon will be provided by the Bonne Vie Continuing Care Center. Since parking at the facility has been a problem, please plan to park at Central Mall in the JCPenney parking lot, which faces the frontage road to HWY 69 that intersects with HWY 365 (see attached map). Buses will take you to the luncheon and return you to your vehicle at the conclusion of the luncheon. Please be ready to load the bus by 10:30am. Registration will begin at 11 AM with the luncheon beginning at 11:30. Tim Lee's address will follow the luncheon, and a question and answer session will follow. MJCRSP members will have a short business meeting afterward. Those not attending the business meeting will be bussed to their vehicles prior to the meeting. We hope you will be able to join us for this annual event. The COVID situation may cause us to reschedule the event or cancel it altogether. We will notify you if plans change after the September 4 registration deadline.

You must RSVP by September 4. You may register by email (lynnej@gt.rr.com) or calling Lynne James, **409.718.8808**. If sending an email or leaving a voicemail or text message, include your name (**indicate that you have been vaccinated**) and you will receive added to the guest list. If you do not have an email address, please leave your name and phone number so that you may be contacted if the meeting is cancelled or delayed.

A MEMBERSHIP FORM IS ATTACHED FOR THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE RECRUITED OR WILL RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER OR A FORMER MEMBER WHOSE DUES HAVE LAPSED. THE FORM HAS A PLACE FOR YOU TO WRITE YOUR NAME INDICATING YOU ARE THE RECRUITER. THERE WILL BE A DRAWING FOR GIFT CERTIFICATES AT THE OCTOBER MEETING. YOU WILL BE ENTERED IN THE DRAWING FOR EACH MEMBER YOU RECRUIT. AN UPDATED LIST OF NON-RENEWALS WILL BE SENT TO PAID MEMBERS IN A SEPARATE EMAIL. ALL DOCUMENTATION MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF WANDA BORNE BY SEPTEMBER 30. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY RECRUITED A MEMBER, PLEASE NOTIFY WANDA BORNE (wborne@gt.rr.com; 409.749.0208) OR LYNNE JAMES (lynnej@gt.rr.com; 409.718.8808) BY SEPTEMBER 30. OTHERWISE, MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MEMBERSHIP FORM SUBMITTED WITH DUES TO WANDA.

DISTRICT 5 FALL CONFERENCE: Members of all local units in District 5 are invited to the annual fall conference scheduled for October 7 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 680 Calder in Beaumont. Hosting the conference are members of Beaumont Association of retired Teachers with Peggy Cole Lee as president. The guest speaker will be Marcy Cann, TRTA First Vice President. The lunch fee of \$12 must reach District 5 Treasurer Wanda Borne (6975 Olympic, Port Arthur 77642) by September 17. Registration begins at 9:30am and the program will begin at 10am. Speakers will feature, among others, Debbie Potter of Trident Benefits and Consulting, the new benefits advisors for TRTA. The business meeting will follow lunch. Members are encouraged to attend.



HELEN'S HEALTH TIP: Because red meat is known to be unhealthy in large quantities, plant-based meat has been developed but is not always a good replacement. Some plant-based meats are highly processed and contain genetically modified ingredients. A better alternative is to eat small servings of real red meat (no more than 16 ounces per week) so that your body must process the meat and you will feel full for a longer period of time.