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Retirement Education

Wanda Borne
Audit

Beverly Minaldi
Hospitality

MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER



March Program:
Scott Hasty, Floral Designer
J Scott's Aflorist
with
Linda Harrison, Rosalie Reese
Linda Pinner, Linda Briggs

- **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, April 10, 2018, @1:30 PM, Ritter Senior Center, 914 Boston Avenue, Nederland, TX
- **Program:** Ann Abares, Master Gardner
- **Hostesses:** Linda Pinner (chair), Loretta Morman, Olive Hall, Wanda Borne
- **Agenda:** Membership, **District 5 Spring Leadership Development Conference** (Sign up at meeting)

Meet the challenge . . .

. . . a message from MJCRSP President Lynne James



Recently the TRTA state membership committee launched a challenge to all units across the state: complete your membership drive by the end of June.

There are valid reasons for this challenge. In August, TRTA sends reminders to all who have not renewed their membership, costing the state organization funds that could be better spent lobbying legislators, for example. Teachers are programmed get going in late August or early September, but the TRTA membership year is March 1 until the end of the next February. Those who join at the beginning of the membership year have access to unit communications through the newsletter as well as important issues facing retirees through TRTA publications. Communication with retirees will be very important as we gear up for the 2019 legislative session.

As I write this, our membership is currently at 105. Awesome!! We ended the 2017-2018 year with 352 members, including those who joined only the state organization. If we can average 105 members a month for April, May, and June, we can easily exceed last year's count. Our 2017-2018 membership drive was successful for two reasons: our membership committee was relentless in contacting retirees to join, and retirees who had never joined did so because they realized how powerful TRTA was in gaining assistance from the legislature to preserve our health care benefits. You may think that it could not have been worse, but believe me it could. Predictions were much worse than the eventual outcome. So, if you have not renewed your membership, or have never joined TRTA, fill out the membership form and invest in your future with a \$45 check to Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel. It will be the best investment you can make to ensure that your retirement benefits are protected!

If you are sixty-five or older, you will soon receive a new Medicare card. Your Medicare ID will no longer coincide with your Social Security number. TRS will be able to retrieve your new number, so you will not have to do anything. What you *must* do is be careful to avoid scams. Destroy your old card when the new one arrives, and don't give out your new ID to scammers who may contact you!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.mjcrsp.org AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: www.facebook.com/MJCRSP/

SPECIAL THANKS to MCT Credit Union and Hebert Library for the use of their facilities in preparing our monthly newsletters.

March meeting highlights



Row 1: Members begin each meeting with pledges to our flags; Ken Blanda extends an invitation to **Bonne Vie** grand opening; Program chair Linda Briggs introduces guest speaker, Scott Hasty. **Row 2:** Hasty explains the value of a good cutting knife as he begins an arrangement centered around tulips, then enhances arrangement with a rose of another color; Hasty begins another arrangement with hydrangeas, then adds color to the finished product. **Row 3:** A view from the top shows how a variety of colors can result in a beautiful spring bouquet; another arrangement begins with roses and orchids; a contemporary arrangement focuses on the bird of paradise; Rose Reese enjoys refreshments while admiring the arrangement she won; hostess chair Candice Zummo is ready to serve beverages. **Row 4:** Gail Krohn serves refreshments while Wanda Borne fills her plate; Patricia Allen and Linda Pinner review their call lists with membership chair Linda Harrison; Dana Wasser and Loretta Morman talk business.

SPRING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: MJCRSP hosts the annual District 5 Leadership Development Conference on May 5 at First Baptist Church in Nederland. Make an effort to attend this conference and learn more ideas to strengthen our unit, become acquainted with others in our district, and enjoy a good meal to boot!

HELEN'S HEALTH TIP: The Mediterranean diet that is so good for the heart can also help boost brain function and memory. Therefore, include in your weekly diet these four foods: dark green vegetables, dark berries and cherries, omega-3 fatty acids at least twice a week, and walnuts.