



# MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER



## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**Linda Briggs**  
President

**Dana Wasser**  
First Vice President  
Immediate Past President  
Membership

**Gail Krohn**  
Second Vice President  
Legislation

**Sue Croom**  
Secretary

**Mary Beth McDuff**  
Treasurer

**Ted Loftin**  
Parliamentarian

**Becky Dungan**  
Yearbook Chairman

**Lynne James**  
Newsletter  
Technology Contact

**Olive Hall**  
Local Historian

**Sylvia Ramirez**  
Foundation Representative

**Jessie Howard**  
Community Volunteer Services

**Patsy Bartels**  
Member Benefits

**Helen Reynolds**  
Healthcare

**Linda Fong**  
Information & Protective Services

**Rose Reese**  
Retirement Education

**Patricia Allen**  
Children's Book Project

**Donna Lumpkin**  
Refreshment & Hospitality

**Wanda Borne**  
Audit



## November 13, 2012 Meeting

### Marc Shepherd of TxDOT discusses transportation issues facing Texas

- ◆ **December 11 Meeting: 1:30 PM @ Ritter Center, 914 Boston Avenue, Nederland.**
- ◆ **Program: Wynnelle Guidry will present *The Music of Christmas*.**
- ◆ **December Refreshment Committee: Rose Reese, Patsy Bartels, Becky Dungan, Linda Pinner, and Loretta Morman. ALL MEMBERS ATTENDING WILL PROVIDE CHRISTMAS EDIBLES. The refreshment committee will provide table decorations and beverages. Leftover goodies will be taken to MCT Credit Union on Nall Street and Hebert Library in appreciation for the use of their facilities to print and assemble newsletters.**

## A message from MJCRSP President Linda Briggs . . .

As part of my responsibilities as District V president, I have been visiting local units. I have observed one thing that all TRTA members have in common: a determination to inform Texas legislators of the dire situation faced by public school retirees, who have not had a raise in twelve years. We are already communicating with them even before the session begins in January, and we will continue monitoring their actions. TRTA is working hard for all retirees, but their influence is directly proportionate to TRTA's membership numbers. Please help out by joining and/or recruiting those who have not yet joined. Those of you who have already paid your 2012-2013 dues are doing your part. Thank you!



**VISIT OUR WEB SITE:** To keep up with meetings and activities of MJCRSP, check out the unit web site at [www.localunits.org/MidJefferson](http://www.localunits.org/MidJefferson). Find newsletters, pictures and summaries of meetings past and present.

SPECIAL THANKS to MCT Credit Union for the use of their facilities in preparing our monthly newsletters!



Above: Program chairman Gail Krohn introduces guest speaker at November 13 meeting. Refreshment committee prepares to serve members following the program. Members appreciate their efforts.

VP Dana Wasser presides in Linda Briggs' absence.

### Bylaws changed in November

At the November meeting members approved a change in the MJCRSP Bylaws. Article IV, Section 2-A previously read as follows: *Elective Officers shall be elected for one year. The term of office shall coincide with the Local Unit's fiscal year. They shall be eligible for an additional term.* The amendment added the following phrase to the last sentence: with the exception of the Secretary and the Treasurer, who may serve additional terms dependent upon their ability to serve the Unit. The amendment is based on the rationale that the Secretary and Treasurer are not involved in policy-making decisions and that experience in those positions will be advantageous to the unit.

Marc Shepherd explains lane change problems.



Children's Book Project Chairman Patricia Allen announced that more than 200 books will be presented to second and third graders at Taft Elementary on December 6. MJCRSP member donations and a grant from Philpott Ford provide financial assistance to the annual book project. Since 1998, TRTA members across the state have been heavily involved in the Children's Book Project. Since the project's inception, more than 500,000 books have been placed into the hands of children who otherwise might never have a book to call their own. In 2005, TRTA expanded the Children's Book Project to include donations from students to other students, which should increase this project's results significantly in years to come. This program is called the Student-to-Student Program.

In 2011, 132,259 books were distributed as part of the Children's Book Project and the Student-to-Student Book Program.

TRTA members interested in email updates on issues pertaining to pension, health insurance, Social Security, and other hot topics should sign up for *Inside Line*. This email update is written by Tim Lee, TRTA Executive Director, and offers fact and opinion on the issues facing current and future education retirees and legislative issues. Sign-up by filling in the appropriate information at <http://www.trta.org/InsideLineSignup.cfm>.

### TRTA Walks-a-Million and Volunteer Service Records due in January!

- ◆ Jessie Howard reminds all to keep a record of volunteer hours! Send hours to her at [jessiebh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jessiebh@sbcglobal.net).
- ◆ Helen Reynolds says to also keep track of your "steps." Contact her via email at [helen-reynolds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:helen-reynolds@sbcglobal.net).
- ◆ Linda Fong, Protective Services, Memorials, and Get Well Chairman, asks that you contact her (409.962.6523 or [lsfong@gt.rr.com](mailto:lsfong@gt.rr.com)) regarding illnesses or deaths of members and/or their families.