



# MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**Gail Krohn**  
President

**Linda Briggs**  
Immediate Past President

**Clara Graham**  
First Vice President  
Membership

**Dianne Trevey**  
Second Vice President  
Programs and Publicity

**Donna Lumpkin**  
Secretary

**Mary Beth McDuff**  
Treasurer

**Richard Briggs**  
Legislation

**Ted Loftin**  
Parliamentarian

**Becky Dungan**  
Yearbook

**Lynne James**  
Newsletter  
Technology Contact

**Olive Hall**  
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

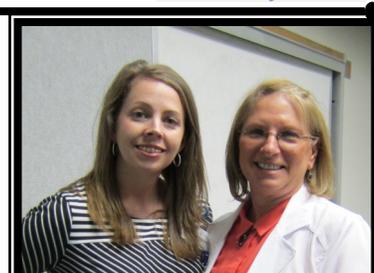
**Patricia Allen**  
Children's Book Project

**Wanda Borne**  
Audit

**Beverly Minaldi**  
Hospitality

## November 11, 2014

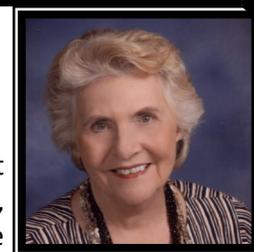
Program by  
**Bren Rodriguez and Cindy Allen**  
*Harbor Hospice*



- ◆ **Next meeting:** 1:30 PM, December 9, at Groves Public Library , 5600 West Washington, Groves. *Directions below.* (Ritter Center is still being repaired).
- ◆ **Program:** *The Music of Christmas*
- ◆ **Refreshments:** All members bring a Christmas “goodie” in a non-returnable container so that leftovers can be delivered to MCT and Hebert Library for the use of their facilities in preparing our monthly newsletter.
- ◆ **Hostesses** include Rose Reese (chairman), Nellie Sue McCoy, Dana Wasser, Patsy Bartels, and Becky Dungan.

## Let's do our part . . .

a message from MJCRSP President Gail Krohn



If you were at our November meeting, you heard District V President R.A. Hidalgo give facts and figures about the Health Care System. Also, Richard Briggs noted that we are without legislative friends due to the recent elections. As we look toward the legislative session that begins in January, it is difficult to know how to begin telling our story. When you consider the number of schools between the two mid-county districts and the number of personnel between PNG and Nederland, you realize we actually have an army at our disposal. Surely this army can deploy and begin telling the story. We have ample documents to glean facts and figures. We also have Richard Briggs, R.A. Hidalgo, and Bob Nicks to provide additional information as needed. So . . . let's mobilize and march!! Pick a school to form a liaison. Pick a legislator to begin a relationship. Don't hesitate. Navigate!!

### Did you know?

The state of Texas provides less than any other state for retirement benefits.

**Groves Public Library is located on West Washington, directly across the street from the Groves Senior Center. Take Gulf Street off 39th Street or Hogaboom Road. West Washington intersects with Gulf between 39th Street and the PNGISD Board Room, where we held our September meeting. Extra parking is available at the Senior Center across the street.**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:** 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). **The 2014-15 yearbook is now available on the website under *About Us*.** To access the yearbook, use the password **MJCRSP**. If you are receiving this newsletter by postal mail but have an email address, please help us to save the cost of a stamp and agree to receive it by email. Contact Lynne James at [lynnej@gt.rr.com](mailto:lynnej@gt.rr.com) or call her at 409.735.6171 and ask to be placed on the emailing list!

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

## November highlights



**Row 1:** Hostesses/Host Ted Loftin, Mary Loftin, Loretta Morman, Dixie Tucker, Susan Jones, Helen Reynolds, and Linda Fong provided November refreshments; Cindy Allen and Bren Rodriguez gave members valuable information about palliative care; District V President R. A. Hidalgo of the Twin County Unit encouraged members to volunteer, recruit and make contact with legislators. **Row 2:** Candye Martin gave the treasurer's report in the absence of Mary Beth McDuff; Regular attendees and some "new faces" were present at the November meeting; MJCRSP committee chairmen posed for the camera: Rose Reese (Retirement Education), Lynne James (Technology/Newsletter), Linda Briggs (Nominations), Dianne Trevey (Programs), Jessie Howard (Community Volunteer Service), Richard Briggs (Legislative), Clara Graham (Membership), Patricia Allen (Children's Book Project), Linda Fong (Protective Services/Memorials & Get Well), Helen Reynolds (Health Care), Wanda Borne (Audit), and Becky Dungan (Yearbook). Not pictured: Beverly Minaldi (Hospitality/Refreshments) and Ted Loftin (Parliamentarian).

### Report Volunteer Service

Each year **volunteer service hours** are reported to the TRTA office. In Texas, each hour of volunteer service is computed at **\$22.89 per hour** (if done by a salaried individual). This year, please keep track of your hours and make a note of the **kinds of volunteer service** you provide. Legislators will be made aware of how much retirees contribute to the welfare of their communities and to the economy of Texas when the report is delivered in January. If you have not received your yearbook, please log on to the unit website to view a list of services that qualify as volunteer service. A list is attached if you receive your newsletter by email. Volunteer service state-wide will be important when we approach legislators for support of our health insurance.

**Send your volunteer hours to Jessie Howard at [jessiebh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jessiebh@sbcglobal.net) or call her to report your hours at 409.722.2891.**

**TRTA 2015 State Convention** will be an abbreviated version lasting from opening ceremonies on Monday evening **April 6** through Wednesday **April 8** with the annual Rally Day at the state capitol. Festivities will be held at the brand new J. S. Marriott at 110 East 2nd St. in Austin. Breakout sessions and district caucuses will occur on Tuesday. On Wednesday TRTA members, adorned in their traditional red shirts, will flood the House and Senate chambers to tout the contributions retirees make to Texas' communities and to stand strong in defense of our health care program. Call 515-474-4777 to make your reservation or visit the TRTA website to register online.

**Rally Day 2015**

**HELEN'S HEALTH TIP:** For a happy and healthy holiday meal, remember portion control. Fill half your plate with non-starchy vegetables and the other half with moderate portions of the other items on your menu.