



MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL SEPTEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

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Children's Book Project

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Beverly Minaldi
Hospitality

GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNING!



WHAT: Annual Fall Luncheon Honoring New Retirees

When: Tuesday, September 9, 2014; 11:30 AM

Registration begins at 11:00

**Where: Board Room, West Groves Education Center
5840 West Jefferson, Groves**

**Hostesses: Beverly Minaldi, Dixie Tucker, Rose Reese,
Candice Zummo, and Candye Martin**

Special guests will include recent retirees of Nederland and Port Neches-Groves school districts. Except for new retirees and guests, everyone is asked to bring a covered dish item to share with others. The luncheon will be held in the board room of the Education Center. Parking is available in the lot on Gulf Avenue, which is off 39th Street next to Bruce's Market Basket. Entrance to the board room is also on the Gulf Avenue side of the building. Once inside, turn right; board room entrance is at the end of the hall.

Welcome New Retirees!

Guest Speaker:
Retiring State Representative
Allan Ritter

- ◆ **District 5 Fall Conference:** Thursday, October 2, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 680 Calder in Beaumont, 9:30-2:00. Reservations deadline September 18 to Gail Krohn.
- ◆ **Next meeting:** October 14, 2014, place TBA, 1:30 PM.
 - ◆ **Program:** Peggy Harrison, representing the Texas Lions, will speak of the summer camps the Lions sponsor for Texas youth.
 - ◆ **Refreshments:** Dixie Tucker (Chairman), Helen Reynolds, Loretta Morman, Susan Jones, and Rhonda Richey

Welcome to the 2014-2015 year for MJCRSP . . .

a message from MJCRSP President Gail Krohn



As of this writing we do not know for sure where our October meeting will be. I met with Chris Duque, Nederland City Manager, regarding the status of the Booty Ritter Center. He reported that a lot of work must still be done and he expects repairs to be complete the first or second week of October. At our September meeting we must decide on an alternate meeting place in case the Ritter center is unavailable. The most important endeavor for all retirees this year to stay informed, be involved, and be proactive. As the legislature begins their session in January, we must maintain contact with those who support retired teachers and will work to guard our benefits and pensions. Remain alert!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: To keep up with meetings and activities of MJCRSP, check out the unit web site at www.localunits.org/MidJefferson. The 2014-15 yearbook will be available on the website by October to all paid members. When it is posted, you will be issued a password. 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 or call 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.

May highlights



(Top) Refreshment committee of Donna Lumpkin, Susan Jones, , Linda Fong, and Dixie Tucker prepare to serve ice cream sundaes; Mary Beth loves the idea of being the treasurer again; Everyone agrees to serve except Gail; Linda presents certificate to Becky. Lynne also gets a certificate. (Middle) Beverly, Candice, and Patricia are ready to eat; Patsy, Cookie, and Rose share stories; Dana, Linda and Rose help themselves; Members pledge allegiance to the flags. (Bottom) New officers are installed: President, Gail Krohn; First Vice President, Clara Graham; Secretary, Donna Lumpkin; Treasurer, Mary Beth McDuff. (Not pictured: Second Vice President, Dianne Trevey.)

FYI—On September 4 there will be a candidate forum at First United Methodist Church in Nederland from 6-8 PM.

District V President **R.A. Hidalgo** and the **Beaumont Retired Teachers Association** extend an invitation to all members of District V to BART's September 10 meeting at St. Mark's Episcopal Church located at 630 Calder. **TRTA Executive Director Tim Lee** will be the guest speaker. This is a great opportunity to meet the talented individual who represents our organization in Austin! The meeting begins at 11:30. **Reservations** for the luncheon meeting are **\$8** (which can be paid at the door) and are **due by September 4** to Toni Mabe (mabehoney@aol.com or 409.835.4860).

Jessie Howard, Community Volunteer Services chairman, reminds all retirees to keep track of your volunteer hours. Reporting volunteer hours is valuable to the entire organization and its members. The actual value of those volunteer hours from members across the state is figured each year and used when TRTA approaches the Texas Legislature to show the value of retired educators to this state and its people. **NUMBERS DO COUNT!** It's an important item for Tim Lee and the legislative committee to tout when they speak with legislators asking for their support regarding legislative issues, especially our health care insurance this coming session. In 2013, TRTA members contributed **5,221,080** volunteer hours. The Independent Sector estimated the value of a volunteer hour to be \$23.40. This could be considered a gift of **\$122,173,272** given to Texas!

What counts as volunteer hours? Any services performed without monetary compensation for which someone would otherwise have to be paid to do. These services may be rendered to family or community. Examples: tutoring, school volunteer; hospital volunteer; library programs/volunteer; civic volunteer; organizations/committee work; church work; caring for children/elderly; working with senior citizens. A form to record your hours is at the back of the yearbook.

HELEN'S HEALTH TIP: For a delicious, healthy, and festive meal, try a meatless stuffed red pepper. Make the stuffing from brown rice, black beans, chopped tomatoes, grated cheese, fresh or frozen corn, chopped jalapenos (if desired), and your favorite spices.