SUMMER NEWSLETTER    
July, 2008

Yes, we’re sort of standing down for the summer. We’ll keep our hand in with the movie, field trip and luncheon dates described elsewhere in this Newsletter, but, by and large, it’s summer, and the livin’ is easy, especially for the retired. Or rather it should be, by rights, but if your retirement is anything like mine, it isn’t.

When I retired, all of the nonprofit groups with whom I’d ever been associated came to me and had conversations that started with “now that you’re not doing anything…” so I’ve ended up donating time and talent to a wide variety of causes, from Rotary to the RFSA. And I don’t regret any of it. Wife, Pat, says that I have to learn to say “no” occasionally, but even she is pleased to see that I’m busy. And so I am entitled to advocate for your volunteerism from a position of strength.

Yeah, I’d like to see more of you become active in RFSA, or we will become a sad organization of hereditary leadership, and no one wants that. Democracy rules! Moreover, a clique has a very limited creativity, and, although I don’t want to denigrate our accomplishments thus far, we need new blood to take us in new, profitable directions. So, come to a meeting with your ideas; your time and talent could be spent in less productive pursuits than getting RFSA to help you and fellow retirees.

But beyond RFSA, organizations would die for your talents, honed, as they were, in a higher education environment. You folks are special, and you should be offering that to the world of voluntary organizations while your kind of special remains relevant. Dark hint: you become slightly less relevant each day. You began from such a high peak of talent and training that the steady march of the World may not have caught up let alone surpassed you, but, of course, you can see that on the horizon. And so your value to your community ought to be taken advantage of sooner rather than later. Your leadership skills remain high, but they won’t forever.

The neat thing about leadership skills is that they feed upon exercise. Sure, like everything else, they’ll decline, but much more slowly if you utilize them! So, find a cause (or causes) near and dear to your heart, and volunteer for their promotion. You’ll be doing well not only for others but also for yourself. The busy, interested mind remains active longer if put to use!

Chris Parr President

MEET FOR LUNCH  
ZANDER HOUSE RESTAURANT  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH AT  
11:30 a.m.

Meet some of your fellow retirees for lunch and fellowship. The address of the restaurant is 2300 Central Expressway, Plano and the phone number is 972/943-9199. It is on the east side of the access road going north from 15th Street.

FALL MEETING  
September 2, 2008

The Fall meeting of the Retired Faculty Staff Association will be held Tuesday, September 9, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in HH2.502. HH is Hoblitzelle Hall, the building north of the Conference Center and there is parking to the west of that building. Please mark your calendars and join your former (and present) colleagues for our fall meeting and fellowship.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Our new year begins September 1, 2008 and that brings membership renewal time. A form to use to renew your membership is included in this mailing. Dues are $5.00 per year, $10.00 per year for a couple, and $100 for lifetime membership. You can return the form and payment as noted on the form, or renew at the September 2nd meeting.

http://www.utdallas.edu/utdgeneral/business/hr/Retiree_Association/UTDRA.htm
RFSA PARKING PERMITS

September is also when our Silver Hang Tag parking permits expire. All active members of the RFSA, who are not employed on campus, are eligible to receive this parking permit at no charge, but we must each apply. If you need a parking permit, please complete the form included with this newsletter and return it WITH your membership renewal form.

The University of Texas at Dallas
Retired Faculty/Staff Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 17, 2008
McDermott Suite

1. President Chris Parr called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m. The agenda was approved (motion: Sandee Goertzen; second: Marilyn Dammant) with the following amendments: General Membership [meeting]; Thursday; add 8) Membership Report; add 9) Staff Council Report.

2. The minutes of the Feb. 13, 2008, meeting were approved (motion: Sandee Goertzen; second: Marilyn Dammant) with the following amendment: [Upcoming Events; C. …..May 1 – Bureau of Engraving [and Printing]…

3. Retiree Reception, April 17, 2008:
   a. President Chris Parr reported the planned event takes place immediately following this meeting.

4. Treasurer’s Report (Cynthia Fawcett) as of 3/31/2008:
   Checking account $1,705.83
   State account 1,054

Chris Parr mentioned he had asked the Budget Office what the budget of the RFSA is; he has not yet received an answer. Jo Ellen Roach, past president, in answer to another question, said the Association does not have to file a federal tax form. However, Cynthia said the Association now has to file a short e-form 4 months after the end of our fiscal year (which is Aug. 31).

5. President’s Report (Chris Parr):
   a. He has updated the contacts page and the membership form on the UTD RFSA website.

6. Upcoming Events
   a. Chris Parr announced that Dr. Betty Pace, director of the Sickle Cell Anemia Center, will give a presentation at noon, April 22, in FO 3.616.
   b. Diane Reed discussed an upcoming daytrip on May 1 to the Fort Worth Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Civil War Museum.
   c. In answer to Chris Parr’s question as to whether the RFSA should host summer events, the resulting discussion showed the group wished to have seminar speakers again beginning in the fall, saving the summer season for strictly social activities.

7. Committee Member’s Reports: discussion about which committees actually exist and should there be more. Events and Social Committees now exist; the Nominating Committee is ad hoc.

8. Membership Report (Myrna Tureff): there are 119 paid members: 67 renewals, 42 new members, 8 lifetime members (6 are new members), 13 non-renewals. Dues remain at $5 per year or $100 for a lifetime membership.

9. Staff Council Report (Sandeep Goertzen): A program, “Meet the Doolittle Raiders,” will take place April 19 in the Conference Center. Several UTD groups will participate here on campus in National Cancer Survivor Day on June 1; volunteers are needed. Claire Occhipinti of Human Resources gave the Council a talk on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Blue Connection (includes condition management, 24/7 nurseline, online access to Explanation of Benefits). Claire announced to the Council that there will be no changes in next year’s UTD health insurance.

10. Adjournment: 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Eckelkamp, Secretary
UNAPPROVED MINUTES

The University of Texas at Dallas
Retired Faculty/Staff Association
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, June 24, 2008
Student Union Phoenix Room 2.508

1. President Chris Parr called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.
2. The minutes of the April 17, 2008, meeting were approved as written (motion: Sandee Goertzen, second: Mike Leaf).
3. Upcoming events:
   a. July 15, movie at the Angelika, Plano, time TBA.
   b. August, date TBA, lunch at Zander House, Plano
4. Treasurer’s report (Cynthia Fawcett) as of 6/20/2008:
   Checking account $1,734.83
   UTD designated account 1,053.00
   The April reception expenses have not yet been submitted for payment.
5. Discussion on purchasing an RFSA banner: This purchase, approved by vote several years ago, has never been made; therefore, the cost (estimated then at $250) has probably risen. An amendment to the original motion to approve the purchase up to an amount of $300 was made by Diane Reed, seconded by Sandee Goertzen, and passed by those present.
6. Discussion on how to obtain new hangtags at the end of the fiscal year resulted in no resolution. Sandee Goertzen volunteered to contact Tina Sharpling of HR to determine how we get our hangtags and to establish a procedure for doing so.
7. Items for a summer newsletter should be submitted to Jean Stuart by July 7.
8. Sandee Goertzen requested discussion of the idea of forming a communications committee to put together and send information on a monthly basis to those members who do not use email. Jean Stuart volunteered to send such information via a monthly postcard. Chris Parr volunteered to be Jean’s backup.
9. A discussion was begun on establishing standing rules for issues not covered by the association’s bylaws.

Adjournment 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Eckelkamp, Secretary

RFSA HAPPENINGS

RFSA Discussion Series
On April 22, 2008, a small group of RFSA members attended a presentation by Dr. Betty Pace, Director of the Sickle Cell Anemia Center at UTD. After the very interesting talk, Dr. Pace conducted a tour of her laboratories.

Dr. Pace addresses the group

RFSA Fort Worth Day Trip
On May 1, 20 members and guests traveled by carpool to Fort Worth for the day. We quickly were processed through Security at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. This is one of two locations where our paper money is printed, so security precautions were evident. This is a very well-organized government printing plant. We began with an excellent film about the BEP. Then our delightful guide led us from gallery window to gallery window to watch the actual process of printing our money. There were also informative and fascinating displays in the corridors, as well as a gift shop. (No, you didn’t get free samples.)

We enjoyed our Italian lunch at a nearby cafe--Moni’s Italian Table Bar & Grill. Then we traveled to our afternoon tour of the Texas Civil War Museum, which has an extensive collection of flags, weapons, uniforms, and other artifacts from both the North and the South. Especially interesting was the collection of elegant women’s
clothing, complete with fancy bird-decorated hats and huge bustles. A film on the museum and a gift shop completed the visit.

RECEPTION FOR NEW RETIREES
April 17, 2008

Members gather in the McDermott Suite

President Daniel addresses our Association

Good food and fellowship
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
RETRED FACULTY/STAFF ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM
FIRST MAILING

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE ADDRESS AT THE BOTTOM:

Last name of retiree____________________________ First Name____________________________ Spouse’s Name____________________________

Street address____________________________ City/State____________________________ Zip Code____________________________ Telephone____________________________

Faculty/Staff (circle)____________________________ Department or School from which retired____________________________ Year Retired____________________________

LIST MY INFORMATION IN THE RFSA DIRECTORY: Yes___ No ___
If YES, print name EXACTLY as you wish it to appear in the RFSA Directory. If you have a couple’s membership, your spouse’s name may be included in the directory.

Retiree____________________________ Department or School____________________________ Year____________________________

Spouse____________________________

ADD MY INFORMATION TO THE RFSA MAILING LIST: Yes___ No ___

SEND ME RFSA ANNOUNCEMENTS and/or QUERIES BY E-MAIL: Yes___ No ___
If YES, include e-mail address (please print clearly!):

(evenly differentiate between 'one' and the letter L, and zero and the letter O)

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2008-2009: SEPTEMBER 1, 2008 TO AUGUST 31, 2009

Please select a membership level and make check payable to: UTD RFSA.

_____ MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL      _____ NEW MEMBERSHIP

_____ $ 5.00 Single Membership

_____ $ 10.00 Couple’s Membership (It is not necessary for your spouse to be a UTD retiree to participate).

_____ $100.00 Lifetime Membership

Return the completed form along with your check to: Cynthia Fawcett, PO Box 835096, Richardson, TX 75083

Tina Sharpling is the UTD liaison with the RFSA. Her mailing address is AD 10, UTD Retired Faculty/Staff Association, The University of Texas at Dallas, P.O. Box 830688, Richardson, Texas 75083-0688. Tina’s email is csharp@utdallas.edu.

THE UTD RETIRED FACULTY/STAFF ASSOCIATION’S WEBSITE IS:
http://www.utdallas.edu/rfsa

RFSA USE ONLY

Check #________ Amount $________ Date Processed__________ Initials ______
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
RETIRED FACULTY/STAFF ASSOCIATION
HANG TAG FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

Retiree’s Name: ______________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Driver’s License No. ________________________________________________
Car License No. _________________________________________________

Return the completed form, along with your membership application and dues, to:
Cynthia Fawcett, PO Box 835096, Richardson, TX 75083