Letter from the President

September 2015

Dear Fellow UTD Retirees,

I want to welcome all of you back to the UTD Retiree Association (UTDRA) and to send a special welcome to new members. We are very excited about the 2015-2016 year. UT Dallas keeps growing and changing. A good way to keep up with all the happenings at UT Dallas is to subscribe to InterCom – a publication of the University. It comes to your email about twice a month. The link to see the latest issue is: http://www.utdallas.edu/intercom/. If you want to subscribe, please contact Sandee Goertzen at goertzen@utdallas.edu.

The Retiree Association also has some exciting plans for the year. The social committee under the direction of Judy Clothier has planned first Monday lunches for September and October. (The September lunch is on a Tuesday because of Labor Day). Our program chair, Judy Feld, has an exciting program planned for October. If you have an interest in genealogy, you will not want to miss it. If you are not into genealogy, come to the meeting and find out how to get started. It can be addictive! Details for all the events are in this newsletter. We hope that you will bring a fellow retiree and join us!

A sub-committee is reviewing the UTDRA By-Laws and Operating Guidelines. We are also looking at setting up a UTDRA Facebook group. If you have an interest in either project, we would love to hear from you.

Mary Chaffin, President

Our Next Meeting

Please save the date for the October membership meeting and presentation: Wednesday, October 7th at 1:00 p.m. in room 1.502 SOM (original SOM building).

More details will follow.

1:00 Meet and Mingle
1:15- 2:15 Genealogy Presentation and Q&A by Kay Winzenried
2:15- 3:00 Membership Meeting
3:00 Meeting Adjourned

Presenter: Kay Winzenried

Kay is Owner and Chief Creative Officer of Vineyard Sojourns, a digital platform about wine travel. She was a long time writer and contributor to the Fodor's travel guides and Zagat Restaurant Survey. Kay spent a good part of the past five years researching her family history and publishing two books about her ancestors.

Topic: Your Family History: Locating your ancestors and what to do once you find them:

AND Kay will provide a rich set of tools and resources you can access.

RSVP to Judy Feld, Program Chair at judy@coachnet.com by Thursday, October 1st.

Thank you; hope to see you there!

Judy Feld
Activities for Fall 2015:
FML (First Monday’s Lunch)

Sept. 8, FML at Eddy’s Pizza Restaurant
2108 W. 15th St., Plano, TX 75075
RSVP by Sept. 5 to Judy Colthier
judyclothier@gmail.com

Sept. 17, North Texas Giving Day

Oct. 5, FML at Coffee House Cafe
6150 Frankford Rd., Dallas, TX 75252
RSVP by Oct. 2 to Judy Colthier
judyclothier@gmail.com

Oct. 7 October Membership Meeting & Program
1:00 p.m. in room 1.502 SOM

UTD-RA BULLETIN BOARD

Message from Anna LeBlanc in Office of Development & Alumni Relations

North Texas Giving Day Drives Support for University Centers

North Texas Giving Day is set for Sept. 17, from 6 a.m. to midnight. The online event sponsored by Communities Foundation of Texas encourages North Texans to raise funds for nonprofits in the Dallas-Fort Worth region, with options including UT Dallas, the Callier Center for Communication Disorders and the Center for Brain Health. Contributions of at least $25 are eligible for bonus funds through the organization. Visit northtexasgivingday.org to participate.
Membership

So far for the 2015-2016 membership year, we are behind in the numbers of retirees who have renewed. There are some great events planned this year, and we want to see all our friends at First Monday Lunches and other events. So, if you have not sent your renewal in yet, please be sure to do so soon. Don't miss the fun.

As of August 27, 2015, UT Dallas Retiree Association membership for the 2015-2016 year is as follows:
- Retirees: 92
- Spouses: 24
- Total membership: 116
Of this number, 28 are lifetime members, and six are new this year.

For the year just ending, we had:
- Retirees: 125
- Spouses: 33
- Total membership: 158
Again, we had 28 lifetime members.

Jean Stuart
Membership Chair
jeanstrt@aol.com  214-532-9984

New Members introduced at the President’s Retirement Reception in April

Karen Dunlap        Rebecca Johnston        Susie Kutchi
Billy Raulston      Jacoba VanBeveren Fagin  Erica Yeung  JudySnellings
Social Committee

Come and join us at 11:00 a.m. for the First Monday lunches:

Tuesday, September 8th at **Eddy’s Pizza Restaurant**
2108 W. 15th St., Plano, TX 75075
Since the first Monday of September is Labor Day, we will meet for Lunch on Tuesday. The restaurant is located at the southwest corner of 15th and Custer, adjacent to McDonalds. RSVP to Judy Clothier at judyclothier@gmail.com, by Saturday, September 5th.

Monday, October 5th at **Coffee House Café**
6150 Frankford Rd., Dallas, TX 75252
The restaurant is located at the southwest corner of Frankford Rd. and Preston Rd.
RSVP to Judy Clothier at judyclothier@gmail.com, by Saturday, October 5th.

Other locations:
If you have any ideas of places to have our lunches, please send them to Judy Clothier at judyclothier@gmail.com.

**News from Teacher Retirement Service (TRS)**
**From TRS publication**
House Bill 2168 moves the payment date for annuities from the first working day of the month to the last working day of the previous month. For example, under the old law the annuity payable for September is paid on the first working day of October. The new law requires that the annuity for September must be paid on Sept. 30 which is the last working day of the month. As a result of the change in payment dates, your August annuity will be paid on the first working day of September, and you will receive your September annuity on the last working day of September. Then, in every following month, you will be paid on the last working day of the month. This shift in payment dates will result in you receiving 13 annuity payments during calendar year 2015 and may affect the amount of federal income tax that you owe for this calendar year. Please contact your tax advisor if you have questions regarding the taxes you may owe for the current calendar year.

**Pictures from the membership**
The Executive Board working during the summer
The meeting was called to order by Mary Chaffin, President. She explained that Rickie Brown has resigned from his position, and since she was President-Elect/Vice President, she would be filling out Rickie’s position.

2. NEW RETIREES

The President introduced the new retirees, welcomed them to retiree status and called them one by one to the podium. She asked several questions of each one, such as, when they retired, from what department; how long did they work at UTD; and what they planned to do now that they’re retired. After each one was honored, she presented a gift of a portfolio to them from the Retiree Association and invited them to join the organization.

The new retirees that were present were:
Karen Dunlap, Rebecca Johnston, Susie Kutchi, Darrelene Rachavong, Billy Raulston, Judy Snellings, Jacoba VanBeveren Fagin

3. MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 11, 2015. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Jean reported that she has the new directory and as people leave today, stop by to see her to receive their copy. She reported that we have 127
retirees, 34 spouses with a total of 161 members. Of this number, 28 are lifetime members and six new members joined this year.

B. NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Ekkehard asked people to submit any news that they wanted to report to him for the next newsletter.

C. SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Barbara Geiger asked the membership to submit ideas to her for social events this year.

D. TREASURER’S REPORT: Gwen Bowen reported that there is $6,568.62 in the checking account

E. ACADEMIC SENATE: Chris Parr was unavailable to attend the meeting but sent along a report. He reported that the Legislature passed the campus carry bill but each campus can opt out if it wishes.

F. STAFF COUNCIL:
   1. An MBA student is doing a capstone program on the U.T. Southwestern Clinic across from campus. They want about 10 faculty, staff and retirees that have used the clinic to participate in a brief meeting, including lunch, on Thursday, April 30th.

   2. There will be a Staff Appreciation Day on May 20th from 1:30 – 3:00. It will include food and give aways and Dr. Jamison will be there as guest speaker to bring the staff up to date on what’s happening on campus. The theme of the event is “Come Grow With Us”.

   3. There is going to be a ground breaking of “Northside” on Thursday, April 16th from 3-4. It will be at the corner of Synergy Park Blvd. and Rutford Avenue. There will be food, music and give aways. This space was originally going to be called Comet Town, but they are changing it to “Northside”. It is going to have restaurants, and shopping, eventually, and will be built in conjunction with the City of Richardson.

   4. Students are working on updating the Benefits section on the internet, adding new restaurants and establishments where we can get a discount. They will let everyone know when it has been officially updated so we can have access to it. Perhaps we’ll find some new restaurants where we can have lunch at a discount.

5. OLD BUSINESS

   1. JOINT MEETING WITH TI:

      There will be a joint meeting with the TI retirees on May 21st in the TI Auditorium, Engineering South Building. The speaker will be Dr. Robert Rennaker, the Director of the Texas Biomedical Device Center, Behavioral and Brain Sciences at UTD.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. BENEFITS FAIR   The Benefits Fair will be held on July 13th from 9 – 4. Members were asked to volunteer to sit at the Retirees table for a shift to talk to current staff and faculty about retiring and joining our Association.

B. SLATE OF CANDIDATES – Judy Guyer presented the slate of candidates for the election for the 2015-2016 officers and the list is below: President, Mary Chaffin; VP/President-Elect, David Routzahn; Treasurer, Gwen Bowen; Secretary, Sandee Goertzen; Newsletter Editor, Ekkehard Kuner; Membership, Jean Stuart; Social Committee Co-Chairs, Vickie Bullock and Judy Clothier; Program Chair, Judith Feld; Webmaster, Chris Parr and David Routzahn; Members-at-large, Lin Maute, Doug Shedd, Camille Williams
C. ELECTION – There being no further nominations, a vote was called for. The Slate of Candidates passed.
D. REMEMBRANCE FLYER – Jean Stuart, Membership Committee, and others worked together on a flyer that listed all the former employees who have passed away this year. This process will continue in the future.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Sandee Goertzen, Secretary