



BULLETIN BOARD

"Serving our educational family members who did not work less; but only worked for less."

www.tredda.org

June 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Recent intrusions to our lifestyles by Covid-19 and the electric power grid failure have also disrupted our State of Texas budget. The Texas legislature just completed the 2021 session without allocating a COLA increase for TRS retirees. The Teacher Retirement System has not offered a cost of living increase since 1995. The Bureau of Labor Statistics tells us that today's prices are 1.71% higher than in 1995. This dire piece of information paints a grim picture for one of TREDDA's target groups: a single retiree whose only source of income is their TRS pension. TREDDA uses income guidelines from the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program. A TRS retiree reporting gross income of \$23,606.00 or less on their tax return is eligible for a TREDDA award.

The fiscally conservative TRS board is reluctant to approve pension increases without additional revenue streams enacted by the State of Texas. Unfortunately, this year's COLA bill did not even get a public hearing from the Texas Senate.

We do have good news from our endowment fund. Dividends are a steady source of income which supplement our dues and fundraisers. The TREDDA board has been communicating via e-mail and Zoom meetings (Thank you Dr. Charlotte Travis). This year we have approved two more awardees. We hope to be able to meet in person again at the Girl Scout headquarters. We have two board vacancies which we would like to fill. If you desire to become more active in TREDDA please contact Mary Fox at mafox2@aol.com.

Everyone have a safe and happy summer.

Eloy Arguello, Jr.
President

TREDDA'S 1ST NO-SHOW EVENT RESULTS

Due to COVID-19, we had our 2020 TREDDA fundraiser online. The name of each donor was placed in a hat and a drawing was held after Oct 10th 2020. All the winners were notified. Dora Garcia, Teresa Garcés and Karen Hoppes-Hawkins alternated drawing the names. Congratulations to all the winners!

\$150.00 gift card-Dr. Victor Rodríguez

\$100.00 gift card-Johnnie McBee

Sea World Tickets-Gloria Padilla

Electric WORX Leaf Blower-Karen W. Hampton

Golden Fall Wreath-Stella P. Carreón

Happy Holidays Christmas Wreath-Ana M. Martínez

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Mary Arnold Fox

We have 351 members in TREDDA.

Deceased Members:

✓ Jeffrey R. Blum ✓ Loyce Collenback ✓ Gloria Sparkman ✓ Theresa Zaldívar

New Life Members:

*Any member may become a life member of TREDDA. Life membership is \$500.00. Payments can be made in five equal installments of \$100.00 each year over the five consecutive years. Payments may be made in ten payments of \$50.00 each over ten consecutive years.
None

New Members:

Alberto Flores Linda Martin

Extra Contributions:

Ollie Burnett	Jody Harkrider	Kay Lynn Hill
Nancy Jeffrey	Doris J. Lowe	Mary Lysinger
Victor Rodríguez	Rogelio R. Selvera	Laura Thurman
Cynthia Warner		

TREASURER

Dr. Charlotte Travis

June 2021

Checking account: \$5,423.29

Assets: \$991,687.23

Awards: We now have 22 awardees whose monthly income is \$1,980.00 or less. This year TREDDA has sent \$13,969.00 to our 22 awardees. The next award will be sent August 1st.

TREDDA currently has 22 awardees who receive a check on April 1st, August 1st, and December 1st. In addition, they receive \$50.00 on their birthday and at Christmas. Assets include savings, CDs, money market, stocks, and bonds.

MEMORIALS

Margaret Garcia

Memorial for:

Pete Weyland
Alicia Wilson
Camille Gong
Gloria Sparkman
Kathy Tackett
Gloria Sparkman
Jeff Blum
Jeff Blum
Juanita López Ramírez
Ramiro López
Manuela López Acevedo

Memorial from:

Randy Myers Wayland
María Elena G. Rodríguez
María Melva Manzke
Nancy A. York
Pat Schmitz
Nora Winkler
Daniel J. McManus
Mary Lou & Don King
Wilbert McGeorge
Wilbert McGeorge
Wilbert McGeorge

Memorial for:

Glenn Porter
Gloria Tobin
Camille Gong
William (Bill) Burch
Camille Gong
Virginia de la Zerda
Opal & Truett Chance
Mabel Majek
Romeo Ramírez
Elle López

Memorial from:

Dr. Stella P. Carreón
María Elena G. Rodríguez
Hal E. Manzke
Sue M. Hall
Nora Winkler
Nora Winkler
Trudy Kinnison
Nancy Jeffrey
Wilbert McGeorge
Wilbert McGeorge

In Honor Of:

Dave Saylor and Restaurant Staff

Nora Winkler

For more information on donations or memorials, view our website at www.tredda.org or call Margaret Garcia at (210)-213-9962.

NOTES FROM OUR GRATEFUL RECIPIENTS

“Thank you for the beautiful card and check. I plan to use the money for things I need.”

“Dear friends at TREDDA, thank you all for your thoughtfulness and generosity for your gift that you sent me. I really put it to good use. Thank you for your kindness. I hope you all have been well and taking care of yourselves. Once again, thank you and stay well.”

REMEMBRANCE OF JEFFREY BLUM

On December 4, 2020, the TREDDA Board lost one of its long time members. Mr. Jeffrey Blum, age 74, passed away. He was born on Brooklyn N.Y. on March 2, 1946. Jeffrey worked in the San Antonio Independent School District for 50 years, first as a teacher, then as an elementary school counselor, and mostly as a high school counselor at Brackenridge High School and then at Travis Early College High School. He had a passion to help students graduate and get into college, and assisted students to acquire numerous scholarships over the years. Jeffrey also worked part time with the Upward Bound Program at St. Mary's University preparing high school students for college. He was a hardworking team member and had a great sense of humor. Jeffrey was a lifelong member of TREDDA and served on the board for many years. He is survived by his beloved wife of 48 years, Odilia Blum, two daughters and their families which include 5 grandchildren, and a brother and his wife. TREDDA will certainly miss Mr. Jeffrey Blum.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIREES

Texas Retired Educators Deferred Dividend Association, **TREDDA**, is an IRS section 501(c)(3) charity. We provide financial assistance to any Teacher Retirement System retirees who meet National School Lunch Program income criteria.

We invite all public school retirees who believe that they qualify to submit an application for help. If you know someone who may qualify, then ask them to call us for an application form.

Please contact Ann Sefcik at (210) 824-5058.

Visit our website, TREDDA.org, for more information about us.

MEMBERSHIP/ANNUAL DUES

The January TREDDA newsletter has traditionally included a reminder to pay dues of \$25.00. But, this year we missed the month. In this crazy time, your TREDDA Board members have experienced surgeries, family illness, inability of some board members to join Zoom meetings, and our reluctance to communicate with the general membership via e-mail. Before 2021 comes to a close, we will catch up with our communication to you, our supporters.

Next newsletter will be sent in August. In 2020, we had a very successful "No-Show Event" with a mini-affle. This event raised \$3,860.00. Plans are under way to hold our "2nd Annual No-Show Event" later this year.

Why does TREDDA continue to hold fund raisers you might ask? On the 990, IRS expects us to show community support for our mission. It means so much to our awardees that TREDDA continues and the TREDDA Board thanks you, our supporters, for your continuing support of our mission.

Enclosed is your membership envelope for 2021. The annual dues of \$25.00 for TREDDA is open to everyone, current or retired educators, and to friends of education. You may also use PayPal on our website, www.tredda.org.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of
TREDDA.