ARSEA Newsletter

November 2025 Volume 53, Issue 3

Message from the President

Dear ARSEA Members, Welcome to a beautiful fall in North Texas!

October Meeting Recap

Last month, we had an engaging meeting with Melissa Hagan. She shared numerous valuable ideas on how to maintain good health. Melissa expressed to my daughter that she had a wonderful experience meeting with our group.

Upcoming November Meeting

Please note a slight change in our November 18th meeting schedule. The formal meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m., so plan to arrive early to secure a good seat. We are delighted to welcome Dan Henry, the Chief Meteorologist at FOX 4 News, KDFW-TV in Dallas, Texas, as our guest speaker. Dan is the first meteorologist in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to earn the prestigious Certified Broadcast Meteorologist (CBM) designation from the American Meteorological Society, a distinction he achieved in 2007. He is also an Emmy award-winning meteorologist, with five Emmys to his name, including three for Best Television Weathercaster in Texas. At the meeting, Dan will discuss his book, Menacing Skies, and will have signed copies available for purchase.

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Ways to Keep in Touch with ARSEA:

- Email <u>arlingtonrsea@yahoo.com</u>
- Website <u>https://arlingtonrsea.wixsite.co</u> <u>m/arsea</u>
- Volunteer Reporting 2025
 https://docs.google.com/spreadshe
 ets/d/1yzuQmaN3T8cyxw3xchpgOm
 DzbzclwSRiX22W2i7xchY/edit?usp=s
 haring

Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 1:00 p.m.

Speaker: Dan Henry Chief Meteorologist at Fox 4 News

Location: PDC 1111 W. Arbrook Blvd. Arlington, TX 76015

Message from the President Continued

TRTA Foundation Month

November is recognized as TRTA Foundation month. The Foundation is committed to supporting both active and retired teachers through grants and scholarships. One of its programs, "A Helping Hand," provides financial assistance to retirees in times of need. Jeanne Paull-Turner will present more details about the Foundation at our meeting, and we will be collecting donations to support this important cause. Please consider contributing at least a dollar to help the Foundation continue its valuable work.

TRTA Benefits Presentation

Jeremy Brown from AMBA will be present to discuss the benefits available to us through TRTA and AMBA. If you have questions regarding your benefits or insurance, bring them to the meeting—Jeremy will be available to address them. He is also known for bringing treats to share with attendees.

December Holiday Scholarship Luncheon

This issue of the newsletter includes an invitation to our December 16th Holiday Scholarship Luncheon. The luncheon is a wonderful opportunity to support scholarships for seniors planning to major in education while also celebrating the holiday season together. We are pleased to announce that the Martin High School Show Choir will once again entertain us. You may make your reservation and payment for the luncheon at the November meeting or send your reservation to Leticia Graham. Further details can be found later in the newsletter.

We are Educators. We advocate. We inform. We vote.

Looking forward to seeing you at the November meeting.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Waller ARSEA President

Health and Safety Report

Two articles are included in the newsletter email. The topics this month are:

- Helping Prevent Scams is a Team Effort
- Navigating Fall Safety

Please open the link in the newsletter email to access this information.

Martine Thomas
Safety Chair
mthomas9230@gmail.com

Membership News

Dear Members,

Thank you for your continued support of ARSEA and TRTA! Our membership continues to grow, and we appreciate each of you for being part of our community.

Please note that our **November meeting will begin earlier than usual.** We'll be ready to welcome you at **1:00 p.m.**, and **Dan Henry, Chief Meteorologist,** will begin his presentation promptly at **1:05 p.m.** Mr. Henry will share valuable insights about our local weather—don't miss it!

We're also excited to announce our **Holiday Scholarship Luncheon** on **Tuesday, December 16, at 11:30 a.m.** You may RSVP and pay for your lunch at the
November meeting. To ensure your spot, please RSVP and submit payment **no later than December 5.** Reservations are required—**no walk-ins will be accepted**—so that we can provide Cracker Barrel with an accurate headcount.

To RSVP, email arlingtonrsea@yahoo.com or call/text 817-798-4910. Checks (made payable to ARSEA) should be mailed to:

ARSEA

7106 Royal Gate Dr. Arlington, TX 76016

We look forward to celebrating the season with you! The Martin Show Choir will provide entertainment. Please see the luncheon invitation included in the newsletter for additional details.

Sincerely,

Leticia Graham

1st VP Membership

ARSEA

School922@yahoo.com

817-798-4910



AISD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER 1111 W ARBROOK BLVD

Please RSVP and pay \$25 by Tuesday, December 5th.

No walk-ins Please!

You may make your RSVP and pay at the November meeting, otherwise email to arlingtonrsea@yahoo.com or call or text 817-798-4910 (voice mail) and then send your check (made out to ARSEA) to ARSEA, 7106 Royal Gate Dr. Arlington, TX 76016.

Lunch Catered by Cracker Barrel

Menu: Turkey & Dressing, Gravy, Cranberry Relish, Green Beans, Sweet Potato Casserole, Rolls, Drink, and Dessert.

Book Project News

850 Books, 1350 Books to Go

The Book Project, an outreach program of ARSEA, is already busy collecting children's books to give to kids at the next Back-to-School Backpack Event on August 1, 2026. We have 850 books in hand, but still need 1,350 books to match the 2,200 books we gave away last August to kids who may not have a print-rich environment.

Several very kind retired teachers have donated books. More books were purchased at the October Book Sale of the Friends and Foundation of the Arlington Public Library using money donated to the ARSEA Book Project Fund by ARSEA members when signing up to join.

You Can Help!

We would greatly appreciate your donation of your gently used children's books, hard cover and/or paperback, that you or your grandkids are no longer using. Book Project Chair Polly Walton will gladly pick up your donated books. Contact Polly at pwalton88@yahoo.com

OR

If you know a teacher who is retiring this year and has personal classroom books he/she will no longer be needing, suggest he/she donate these spare books to the Book Project. Contact Polly, who will come get these books.

OR

You can give money to Treasurer Cindy Calaluga for the ARSEA Book Project Fund, and we will purchase books with your donation.

Thank you so much for helping and supporting the ARSEA Book Project!

Polly Walton 2nd VP Book Project <u>pwalton88@yahoo.com</u>

Sunshine News

A card was sent to Dora Gonzales on the passing of her mother. A card was sent to Beverly Ladusky who had surgery due to a head injury.

As the Sunshine Chair, please keep me informed of any needs for words of encouragement, get-well, or sympathy cards for our members and/or families.

Carole Lemonds
Courtesy Committee Chair
cilemonds44@gmail.com
817-991-7076



2025 Memoriam Held for Retirees Who Passed Recently

A video Memoriam for Retirees who passed recently was presented at the October 14th ARSEA meeting. Fifteen past members were honored. Their names were read, a bell was rung for each one, and the poem, "The Dash," was read at the conclusion.

Members honored were Sheryl Hair, Brenda Gordon, Lucille Abbott, Donald Lockwood, Barbara Hughes, Rebecca Menti, Martha J. Brown, Barbara Burkins, Patricia Burdette, Betty L. Melton, Carla Owens, Weldon Wright, Nelda V. Shipley, Eddie Mayhugh, and Ruth Currie. These retirees will be missed.

In recognition of their years of service to our schools and students, ARSEA has donated \$25.00 for each member recognized. These donations will go to the ARSEA Scholarship Fund.

Polly Walton
Communications Chair
pwalton88@yahoo.com

Foundation News

Happy Foundation Month:

The Texas Retired Teachers Foundation is such a wonderful organization providing support and help for our members in need! We support active and retired teachers with funds for classrooms and disaster help, such as with the recent floods at Camp Mystic.

Please donate at your chapter meetings so Texas Retired Teachers Foundation may continue helping educators. Our TRTF Board members work very hard to do the right thing for all dedicated teachers who have loved and spent their careers teaching all children.

Thank you in advance!

Best Regards,

Jeanne Paull-Turner Innovative Outreach Specialist TRTA Foundation Chair ARSEA 214-783-2914 iptprincipal@yahoo.com

Healthy Living News

In the newsletter email you will find a link to the article "Prepare for a Healthy Fall and Winter." Please open the link in the newsletter email to access this information.

Franya Wilhelm
Healthy Living Chair
fwilhelm49@gmail.com

Legislative News

Greetings ARSEA Members:

I can't believe it is November. Nice weather and a time to count our blessings. I am so grateful for each of you in my life!

I seriously hope everyone voted on the constitutional amendments. For the first time in a while, I felt the amendments were easier to understand and I realized what the Legislature was working to achieve. Tim's "Inside Line" gave needed information, so I hope everyone read Tim's words carefully.

Please remember to stay informed, read everything TRTA sends out, and working together we will accomplish needed changes!

Best Regards,

Jeanne Paull-Turner Innovative Outreach Specialist TRTA Legislative Chair ARSEA 214-783-2914 jptprincipal@yahoo.com

Member Benefits News

DID YOU KNOW......?

Did you know that the Texas Retired Teachers Association and its partner, AMBA, work together to provide you with exclusive insurance plans that are effective and affordable? AMBA works with over 60 associations in 35 states to provide competitive benefits and services to association members. Call 866-619-6463 or go to myAMBAbenefits.info/TRTA for more specific information and a free benefits review.

One of the insurance options that you can select is the Dental and Vision Plan which provides broad coverage and discounts with a wide range of providers. For example, under the Dental Plan, you can choose your own dentist or save up to 50% with a dentist in network. A wide range of procedures are covered up to 100% with a low deductible, and you will have the ability to carry over some unused maximum to the next year. You can choose from a Gold or Platinum Plan and choose whether your plan will cover the member only, member +1, member + family and choice of a deductible. Routine cleanings and oral exams are covered 100% under both Gold and Platinum plans. Under the Vision Plan, benefits and \$15 co-pays are provided for a well-vision exam every 12 months, and contact lens exams are covered every 12 months. There is also a 20% savings on additional glasses and sunglasses. Flexibility and freedom are the words best described for both dental and vision plans. If you would like to speak to an agent, call 1-888-698-0972.

See you at our next meeting,

Paula Morone Member Benefits Chair moronepaula@yahoo.com

Grant Recipients Fulfillments



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE GRAND OPENING

OF THE

MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL ARTS COURTYARD

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025 6:00PM TO 8:00PM

> MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL 4501 W PLEASANT RIDGE ROAD

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Martin High School

Invitation from Jaylee Holland to see how our grant money has been used. We hope you can attend.

Starrett Elementary

Received from Beverly Nielson at Starrett Elementary with pictures. "We were able to purchase a lot of gator skinned balls, soccer and volleyballs, as well as some other equipment. We are so grateful for your kindness and generosity!"







Grant Recipients

Jaylee Holland Martin HS 11th-12th Environmental Science

Gardening Tools and a Rain barrel to make a courtyard useable as a study or classroom area



Ivan Ocasio-Rodriguez Anderson Elem. 3rd Reading, Bilingual

Headsets with Microphones so the students can hear themselves speaking English













