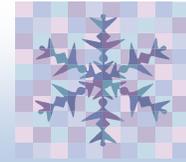


# FARSP MOUTHPIECE ~ January 2017



Tuesday, January 3, 2017 FARSP Meeting at Frisco ISD Admin. Bldg. 5515 Ohio St.



## President's Mouth

By Rhonda Jackson

FARSP sure knows how to throw a party...that's all I can say! Close to 70 members and guests enjoyed the fruits of many members' efforts in creating a Christmas party/meeting to remember. The Italian feast was delicious; the music from the Isbell Elementary Choir was sweet and beautiful; and the tables were absolutely gorgeous. Thank you, Tommie Steed, for arranging the food and music. Thank you, Tricia Phillips, for organizing the table decorations. Thank you, members, for decorating the tables. The atmosphere was fun, festive, and beautiful...a perfect way to begin the Christmas season.

Long, long after most members left the meeting, the silent Christmas tree auction organizers stayed to continue the Christmas tree auction. Many thanks to all of the members who decorated the oh-so-festive trees, and many thanks to Doris Owusu, Vickie Ryan, Donna Coley, and Donna Self for staying and monitoring the auction. And a VERY special thank you to Karol Kuykendall, Fund-Raising Chair, who went above and beyond organizing the auction, coming early and staying late, and basically doing everything imaginable to make this another fun and successful fund-raising event.

Another big thank you goes to Sandy Hansel and Sandy Carlisle, who spent untold hours compiling a beautiful, useful directory. Thank you, ladies! If you did not pick up your directory at the December meeting, please see Sandy Hansel at the January meeting to collect yours.

Two last things: In February we will present a slate of 2017-18 officers to members for consideration. Please contact Sandy Carlisle if you are willing to serve or know anyone who is. Also, the TRTA 64<sup>th</sup> State Convention and Rally Day is right around the corner. Please be considering whether or not you can attend the Convention and/or Rally Day in Austin. More to come on this topic! I look forward to seeing you January 3, 2017, at the Administration Building for our meeting!

## ★ THE LEGALEAGLE ★

--Brenda George

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you are rested and ready to "Hit the ground running".

Each member should have received an issue of *The VOICE* by the last week in December. FARSP members wrote wonderful letters in November to our Legislators expressing their concerns about the TRS-Care funding shortfall in 2018. However, if you would write your Legislators again, that would help keep the lines of communication open. We need to let our Legislators know that the people who serve the state as educators should not have unreasonable health care costs in their retirement. The Legislators need to increase the contribution from the state. On page 5 TRTA has provided the beginning of a letter for you and on page 6 is information which would be helpful to your Legislators.

At the January 3 meeting I will provide some copies if you would like to use it for your letters.

Think MARCH!!! The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual TRTA Convention will be held in Austin, March 27 & 28, then Day at the Capitol, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Those of you attending "Day at the Capitol" will wear **RED**, SO the Legislators will notice us in the gallery. I have not been told as of today, but I'm sure District 10 will order red shirts for us to wear. I will let you know the cost once I'm contacted.

While you're at the Capitol it is a perfect time for you to go visit your Legislator's Office. Your Contact Team should make an appointment to visit the Legislators Office from 8:00-9:00 am or 12:00-2:00 pm. The Representative or Senator may not be in their office, but you can visit with one of the office staff. Other activities on the 29<sup>th</sup>: 9:00-House Gallery; 10:30-Senate Gallery; 11:30-Rally on the Capitol Steps or East Lawn; 12-2:30-Ice Cream Social. It is **SO MUCH FUN!!!** Be sure and mark your calendars!!!

## \$\$\$Fund Raising Update!\$\$\$

By Karol Kuykendall

One down, one to go! Our Christmas trees are sold and we're gearing up for the crafts fair! March 25<sup>th</sup> is the day we will bring quality crafts to Frisco, and we will need everyone's help! We'll need hostesses to mingle, bakers to bake for the hospitality room, "setter-uppers" on Friday night, and "cleaner-uppers" on Saturday afternoon. There is a spot for everyone and we are going to have a blast! Applications for booths will be available at our January meeting if you know someone that wants a booth. Flyers will be available at the upcoming meetings for distribution and advertising. Please help FARSP's newest adventure be a success. Advertising is the key, and with as many people as we know in Frisco, we can really bring in the customers!

Looking back on our Christmas tree auction, I have to say that everyone outdid themselves on their trees! They were awesome and so festive. A huge thanks goes to everyone that created a tree and for the elves that helped Doris and I set it up and monitor it – Donna Coley, Vickie Ryan, Donna Self and Sandy Carlisle. You guys rock!



**CHEERS to  
Programs and Trips for the  
New Year!!!**

*By Tommie Steed*

**>January 3- Interactive  
Fitness Program**

**(Wear workout attire)**

**>February 7- Mary Lou  
Kadlec**

*(Orphan Train Movement)*

**>February Field Trip to Sci-  
Tech Discovery Center**

*(Date TBD)*

**>March 7- Collin County  
Master Gardeners**

*(Ornamental Trees,  
Flowering Shrubs)*

**>March 7- Discovering Fort  
Worth Tour**

**\*(Money due to Tommie  
Steed)**

**>March 30 Field Trip-**

*Discovering Fort Worth with  
Rose-Mary Rumbley*

*\*(Cost- \$49, not including  
lunch; \$61, including  
lunch.)*

*Thirty people needed for  
tour to make!*

*(Invite retirees from area,  
church friends, family,  
etc.)*

**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

*By Mary Ann Ashby*

The time has arrived! FARSP volunteer hours are due at the District X office by Feb. 1, 2017. So please, PLEASE bring your total hours to our January meeting and pick up your new 2017 volunteer sheet. If you have lost your sheet, just write your "guesstimated" total hours on any kind of paper. I just need to know the total hours for 2016, not the monthly breakdown. FARSP members serve our community in so many ways, and our unit wants to continue being a shining star for TRTA. Bring your hours to our January meeting, call me at my home number 972-382-2904 and leave a message if I do not answer, or email me your hours at

[ma.ashby61@gmail.com](mailto:ma.ashby61@gmail.com)



**I'M COUNTING ON YOU!!!!**



**NEW YEAR**

**RESOLUTION!!!**

**If you are willing to serve as  
a 2017/18 officer or  
committee chair, please  
contact Sandy Carlisle,  
Thank you!**



*By Janice Scott*

Glaucoma is a group of diseases that can damage the eye's optic nerve and result in loss of vision and blindness. People over sixty have a greater risk of getting this disease than younger people.

There are several different types of glaucoma, and most of these involve the drainage system within the eye. Glaucoma often comes because of too much fluid pressure inside the eye, and it must be treated. Glaucoma causes the fluid to drain too slowly out of the eye; when fluid builds up, pressure inside the eye rises. When this pressure is not controlled, it may cause damage to the optic nerve and other parts of the eye resulting in loss of vision.

A person with glaucoma often does not have early symptoms or pain. Glaucoma has no cure, and lost vision from the disease cannot be restored. Regular dilated eye exams are extremely important, and this disease can be treated with prescription eye drops, lasers, or surgery. Treatments may save the remaining vision.

\*National Institute of Health

**\$\$\$RAFFLE\$\$\$**

*By Joyce Crook*

Thank you to Margarita Nixon and Mary Smith for signing up to donate items for the raffle at the FARSP January 3, 2017, meeting. Tickets will be sold for \$1 each or 7 tickets for \$5.

**~~~Décor Galore~~~**

*By Tricia Philips*

Thanks to the following ladies, our Christmas luncheon tables were beautifully decorated: Janet Calvert, Julie Vest, Nolita Johnson, Brenda George, Debra Purefoy, Judy Stamper, Susan Burkett, Francis Justus, Bill Vanderverter, and Tricia Phillips. The lovely red poinsettias on the podiums were provided by: Brenda Calhoun, Sandy Hansel, and Tricia Phillips. Thanks again to all of you for a job very well done! January's decorators will be: Judy Stamper and Karol Kuykendall.