



**HENDERSON COUNTY  
RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL  
ASSOCIATION**

**2018 – 2019 Yearbook**

**Celebrating our 44th Year**

**TRTA: The Voice for All Public Education Retirees**

# **HENDERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION**

## **2018 - 2019 Yearbook**

Organized September 25, 1974  
Celebrating our 44th Year

Meeting the Second Wednesday  
September through May

Eastern Hills Church of Christ  
1200 E. Corsicana Street  
Athens, Texas

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Henderson County Retired School Personnel Association:

- shall promote professional, intellectual, and physical well-being of its members;
- shall promote partnership with schools in addressing mentoring and providing stimulus and incentives in reading;
- shall encourage and provide support for those entering the field of teaching;
- shall encourage volunteer opportunities in the community; and
- shall provide advocacy for improved retirement benefits for all public and higher education retirees.

## **YEARBOOK DEDICATION**

Ann Davis  
Al Gusner  
Bruce Morris  
Alberta Reid  
Willie Wilson

# HISTORY OF HENDERSON COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

(Originally Compiled by the late Flarra Larkin for the 1992-93 yearbook; updated yearly)

On September 25, 1974, sixteen retired teachers met in the youth room of the United Methodist Church in Athens for the purpose of organizing a local chapter of the Texas Retired Teachers Association.

The sixteen (now deceased) charter members were:

|                |                  |                    |               |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Maurine Conner | Dessie Gartrell  | Florence McElhaney | Joe Owen      |
| Frankie Dunn   | Flarra Larkin    | Lucy Dee McElhaney | Lora B. Smith |
| Melvin Dunn    | H. G. Larkin     | Cornelia Martin    | Virgil Smith  |
| Annie B. Ellis | Clayton McElhany | Fay Owen           | Zora Stegall  |

By the time the yearbook was printed that first year, there were 27 members. Officers were Frankie Dunn, President; Flarra Larkin, Vice-President; Lora B. Smith, Recording Secretary; Lucy Dee McElhany, Corresponding Secretary and Historian; Maurine Conner, Treasurer; Fay Owen, Assistant Treasurer; Frankie Pickens, Parliamentarian; Cornelia Martin, Chaplain.

The charter was presented by Mrs. Thelma Hays, State Director of East Texas, in January 1975. That first year closed with a banquet at the Spanish Trace Inn with county retiring teachers as honored guests and an installation of officers for 1975-76. By this time, there were 55 members. Membership has grown from the 16 charter members in 1974 to 184 members in October 2017.

## PAST LOCAL PRESIDENTS

|                  |         |                      |         |
|------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Frankie Dunn     | 1974-75 | Dorothy Jones        | 1993-95 |
| Orval Pirtle     | 1975-76 | Jamie Taylor         | 1995-96 |
| Lillian Hardin   | 1976-77 | Evelyn Kindred       | 1996-99 |
| Mattie Martin    | 1977-78 | Marge Cochran        | 1999-01 |
| LaMoine Young    | 1978-80 | Betty Kittles Gore   | 2001-04 |
| Joe Owen         | 1980-81 | Surita Pirtle Hatton | 2004-06 |
| Harris Ballow    | 1981-83 | Dorothy Wasunyk      | 2006-08 |
| LaVerne Coker    | 1983-85 | Lynn Hoover          | 2008-10 |
| Margaret Cumming | 1985-87 | Eugene Buford        | 2010-11 |
| Emma Jane Dickie | 1987-89 | Betty Kittles Gore   | 2011-12 |
| Willard George   | 1989-91 | Patty Curtis         | 2012-14 |
| Janice Cole      | 1991-93 | Paula Burkett        | 2014-16 |

## 2018-19 LOCAL OFFICERS

|                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT                | Eugene Buford (903-675-1820) |
| FIRST VICE PRESIDENT     | Kirby Thomas (903-675-5522)  |
| SECOND VICE PRESIDENT    | Bill Green (903-489-1445)    |
| RECORDING SECRETARY      | Karen Ashlock (903-489-0184) |
| CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  | Pat Rogers (903-338-2420)    |
| TREASURER                | Patty Curtis (903-675-8251)  |
| IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT | Paula Burkett (903-677-2004) |

## Committee Chairmen

|                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Books for Children                | Suzanne Tower           |
| Community Volunteer Service *     | Anna Faye Wicker        |
| Community Volunteer Service-Bingo | Betty Gore & Pat Rogers |
| Donations                         | Jan Bennett             |
| Foundation *                      | Paula Burkett           |
| Health Care *                     | Stella Sikes            |
| Historian *                       | Kirby Thomas            |
| Hospitality                       | Sally Miller            |
| Informative/Protective Services * | Lynn Hoover             |
| Legislative *                     | Larry Burkett           |
| Member Benefits *                 | Linda Kenneaster        |
| Nominations                       | Paula Burkett           |
| Programs                          | Bill Green              |
| Retirement Education *            | Eugene Buford           |
| Scholarships                      | Deborah Deas            |
| Technology/Website/Facebook *     | Stella Sikes            |
| Yearbook                          | Betty Gore              |

## CALENDARS FOR STATE & DISTRICT VII

### **TRTA District VII Fall Conference: Tuesday, October 2, 2018**

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 503 North St., Nacogdoches, TX , 8:30 am - 12:00 Noon

### **TRTA 66<sup>th</sup> State Convention: Monday - Wednesday, April 1 -3, 2019 at Hilton Hotel, 500 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Austin, TX**

### **TRTA District VII Spring Leadership Training: Tuesday, May 7, 2019**

Holiday Inn, 5701 South Broadway, Tyler, TX; 8:30 am - 2:00 pm for Incoming Officers and Committee Chairs. Lunch provided; RSVP to Eugene.

## 2018 – 2019 HCRSPA CALENDAR

(Monthly meetings every second Wednesday September – May)

### SEPTEMBER

September 12 at 12:00 Noon

Covered Dish Luncheon – Bring your favorite dish to share!

Kicking off Henderson County's 44th year in TRTA w/music led by Dr. Jim Richardson

Memorial Service: LaNell Richardson

Program: Linda Metteauer, President of Dist. VII of TRTA

Hospitality Chair: Sally Miller

September 18 at 9:45 am (Every 3rd Tuesday Sept. – May), Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

### **CHANGE OF MEETING PLACE FOR 2018-19 TO EASTERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

### OCTOBER

October 2 from 8:30 to noon; District VII Fall Conference, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 503 North St., Nacogdoches; led by Dist. VII President Linda Metteauer

October 10 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: “Making Final Plans”, Attorney Mandy Rodriguez

Hospitality Chair: Anna Fay Wicker

October 16 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

### NOVEMBER

November 14 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: “In Honor of Our Veterans”

Hospitality Chair: Patty Curtis

November 20 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

### DECEMBER

December 12 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: “Everything Christmas,” Kern Railsback

Hospitality Chair: Karen Ashlock

December 18 at 9:45 am, Bingo, **Green Oaks Nursing Home Christmas Bingo Party**

### JANUARY

January 9 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: “TVCC on the Move” with Jerry

King, President

Hospitality Chair: Paula & Larry Burkett

January 15 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

### FEBRUARY

February 13 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: “Healthy Living”; Carolyn Tyler, Texas A & M Agrilife Extension

Hospitality Chair: Betty Gore

February 18 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

## **MARCH**

March 13 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: “A Not-So-Stylish Style Show” coordinated by Karen Ashlock & Inez Green

Hospitality Chair:

March 19 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

## **APRIL**

April 1 – 3, 66<sup>th</sup> Annual State TRTA Convention, Austin

April 10 at 1:30 pm Refreshments; 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting

Program: Bob Herndon, Stilwell Retirement Residence, Waco, TX

Hospitality Chair: Linda Kenneaster

April 16 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

## **MAY**

May 7, 8:30 am - 2:00 pm; District VII Spring Leadership Training, Holiday Inn South Broadway, Tyler, Texas, for Officers and Committee Chairmen (lunch provided)

May 8 at 12:00 Noon, Catered Luncheon followed by Monthly Meeting

Program: Scholarship Winners – Deborah Deas, Scholarship Chair

Installation of officers – Paula Burkett, Nominations Chair

Hospitality Chair: Sally Miller

May 21 at 9:45 am, Bingo, Green Oaks Nursing Home

## **SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN NINETEENTH YEAR**

In the 2017-18 school year, the HCRSPA awarded a total of five scholarships through the work of Scholarship Chair Debbie Deas and her committee.

Recipients for a \$500 HCRSPA scholarship were Hanna Hatton (Brownsboro ISD) who is now attending Dallas Baptist; and Edin White (Malakoff ISD), now attending Texas A & M.

The three Athens ISD graduates receiving a \$500 Cain Foundation Scholarship were Breonna Jackson who is attending East Texas Baptist University; Andrew Williams at Tarleton State Univ.; and Jordan Mayhall now attending Tyler Jr. College.

Recipients are selected based on four areas: high school scholastic achievement and participation in school and community activities; character; desire to be involved in the field of education; and writing skills as evidenced in an essay on “The Importance of Learning and My Role as a Teacher”.

An emphasis is placed on character and community involvement. Sometimes financial need is also considered. All seniors in Henderson County public schools are eligible if they will be majoring in education upon entering college in the fall. The Cain scholarship is also open to seniors in the Athens Christian Preparatory Academy.

**HENDERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION  
BYLAWS and STANDING RULES**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Henderson County Retired School Personnel Association, hereinafter referred to as HCRSPA.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- A. To cooperate with the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) and District VII TRTA in furthering the goals of retired school personnel in Texas.
- B. To further the cause of education and to help retired school personnel maintain identity with the profession.
- C. To help advance the interest and welfare of retired school personnel in the state and local community.
- D. To respond to community needs and to encourage retired school personnel to contribute their talents and experience to the decision-making processes in their local communities.
- E. To familiarize retired and active school personnel with the benefits of membership in the local and state associations.
- F. To gather and disseminate information of value to members.
- G. To raise funds within the meaning and provisions of Section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Service code to award a limited number of scholarships to area seniors and to provide books to area school children.

**ARTICLE III. GOVERNANCE**

The HCRSPA shall be governed by its own officially adopted bylaws. These bylaws shall in no way conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Texas Retired Teachers Association.

**ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Active membership shall be open to any retired school personnel or spouse who is an annuitant or who shall be eligible to receive annuity benefits from a teacher retirement system.
- B. Associate membership shall be open to any individual interested in the work of this association and approved for membership by the Board of Directors. An associate member shall have membership rights and privileges except the right to vote, hold office or represent the association.

**ARTICLE V. FINANCE**

- A. The fiscal year of the local unit shall correspond with that of TRTA and shall begin on July 1.
- B. The annual state dues for active and associate members shall be \$25 with an increase in 2014 to \$35 and local dues shall be \$10.

- C. Dues of new members received by the treasurer within three months of the end of the unit fiscal year shall be credited to the following fiscal year.
- D. The unit shall provide for such audit and control of its finances as are necessary for their complete accounting and safekeeping.

#### ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. The President with the approval of the Executive Board may appoint a Corresponding Secretary, Chaplain, and Historian.

#### ARTICLE VII. Board of Directors

- A. The Board of Directors shall include the officers, the immediate Past President and chairmen of the standing committees.
- B. The Board shall have the general power to administer its affairs between general business meetings and shall report its actions to the members.
- C. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the unit and none of its actions shall conflict with action taken by the membership.
- D. The board shall meet on request of the President.
- E. A majority shall constitute a quorum.
- F. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VIII. EXECUTIVE BOARD

- A. The Executive Board of the Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected officers and the immediate Past President.
- B. The Executive Board shall have emergency power to act for the Board of Directors between meetings of the Board of Directors.
- C. Meetings of the Executive Board shall be called at the request of the President.
- D. A majority of the membership of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS & TERM OF OFFICE

- A. Nominating Committee with the immediate Past President as Chairman shall be elected in November and shall prepare a slate of nominees to be presented at the December meeting. Nominations can be made from the floor provided prior consent of the nominee has been obtained.
- B. Election shall be at the January meeting and officers shall be installed at the May meeting.
- C. All officers shall take office on July 1 and are elected for a term of one year.
- D. All vacancies in office shall be filled for the unexpired term by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. If the vacancy to be filled is the Presidency, the Executive Board shall fill the position.



## ARTICLE X. COMMITTEES

Soon after election the President shall, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, organize and appoint chairmen for the permanent standing committees and any other committee the President shall find necessary and of a contributing value.

- A. Committee Chairman shall prepare committee activity reports for the President and membership and shall involve all committee members by motivating them to carry out their responsibilities.
- B. Standing committees are:
  - \*Bylaws
  - \*Community Volunteer Services
  - \*Finance
  - \*Health Care
  - \*Informative and Protective Services
  - \*Legislation
  - \*Membership
  - \*Public Relations
  - \*Retirement Education

## ARTICLE XI. MEETINGS

- A. The calendar year shall begin with the first meeting in September of each year and end with the regular meeting in May following, unless otherwise voted by majority of the members present.
- B. Regular meetings days shall be the second Wednesday in each month at 2 p.m. with the exception of the September and May meetings which shall be at noon unless otherwise changed by majority vote of the members present.
- C. Meeting shall be held at the First United Methodist Church of Athens or a place designated and made known to members.

## ARTICLE XII. RULES OF ORDER — PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern this unit in all cases in which they are applicable.

## ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at a regular or called meeting of the unit provided that the amendment(s) has been introduced to the membership at the previous unit meeting.

## ARTICLE XIV. AUTHORITY

Nothing in these bylaws shall be meant to abridge or nullify any rule or authority of the Texas Retired Teachers Association and shall be automatically amended to comply with any changes made in the TRTA bylaws.

## STANDING RULES

1. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be in written form and presented to the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board and unit membership.
2. Nominees for officers shall have been active members of the Association for at least one year before being nominated.
3. The President is responsible to preside at all unit meetings and board meetings, set schedules, selected committee chairmen, and see that all district and state timelines are met.
4. The President, First Vice-President, and Treasurer shall be signers for the general bank account. However, only two signatures are required on checks.
5. The Treasurer shall receive and deposit all Association funds in the First State Bank of Athens.
6. The Treasurer shall collect money for all reservations made by members. Notices for collection shall be sent by Treasurer.
7. The First Vice President shall be chairman of the Membership Committee.
8. The Second Vice President shall be chairman of the Program Committees. All programs must be approved by the Executive Board prior to final commitment.
9. The Corresponding Secretary shall send sympathy and get well cards from the membership.
10. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of proceedings of the meetings of HCRSPA and of the Board of Directors and Executive Board. The approved minutes are the official records of the unit.
11. The Membership Chairman and the Treasurer shall prepare the roll of members and shall transmit the roll to the Yearbook Chairman.
12. The annual budget shall show the breakdown of expenditures to be made.
13. The number of delegates to the TRTA state convention shall be determined by TRTA. Delegates to the state convention shall be the President for the coming year and others elected by the membership. If the President cannot attend, another member shall be elected as a delegate. HCRSPA will pay registration and room costs for the official delegates to the annual convention subject to the availability of funds. Remaining funds will be used to pay mileage for one (1) car to the convention.

Approved at the regular monthly meeting of the Henderson County Retired School Personnel Association,  
Wednesday, October 11, 2017.

## **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

**HCRSPA WEBSITE:** <http://www.localunits.org/HendersonCounty/>

**MEDICARE: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**

Call free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

### **TEXAS RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (TRTA)**

Tim Lee, Executive Director (tim@trta.org)

313 East 12th Street, Suite 200

Austin, TX 78701-1957

Phone: 1-800-880-1650

E-mail: info@trta.org

Website: www.trta.org

**TRTA Call Your Legislator Hotline 1-888-674-3788**

### **TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS (TRS)**

1000 Red River Street

Austin, TX 78701-2698

Phone: 1-800-223-8778

FAX: 512-542-6597

Website: www.trs.state.tx.us

### **TRS -CARE MEDICARE RX CUSTOMER CARE**

If you have questions about prescriptions, call 1-844-345-4577 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

### **SOCIAL SECURITY INFORMATION**

Call: 1-800-772-1213

Website: [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

### **DISTRICT 4 STATE REPRESENTATIVE LANCE GOODEN**

Capitol Office : EXT E 1.204

PO Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768

512-463-0458 (FAX: 512-463-0458)

E-mail: lance.gooden@house.texas.gov

### **THE HONORABLE ROBERT NICHOLS, SENATOR DISTRICT 3**

Capitol Address: PO Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711

512-463-0103 (toll free: 1-800-959-8633)

District Office: 329 Neches St., Jacksonville, TX 75766

903-589-3003 (FAX 903-589-0203)

Email: info@nicholsforsenate.com

**PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG of THE UNITED STATES of AMERICA**

**I pledge Allegiance to the flag of The  
United States of America and to the  
Republic for which it stands, one  
nation under God, indivisible, with  
Liberty and Justice for all.**

**PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG of THE LONE STAR STATE of TEXAS**

**Honor the Texas flag;  
I pledge allegiance to thee,  
Texas, one state  
under God, one  
and indivisible.**

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**Saluting the USA Flag**

To salute the flag, all persons come to attention.

All persons in uniform should give the military salute.

Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may also render the military salute.

All other persons should salute by placing their right hand over their hearts.

Men wearing a head covering (a hat, cap or other headwear) are to remove it.

Women do not have to remove their head covering.

Source: <http://www.americanflags.org/docs/etiquette.jsp?pageId=0690200091781119362391255>

**Saluting the Texas Flag**

Sec. 3100.104. RECITING PLEDGE.

If the pledge to the state flag is recited, each person who is present and:

- (1) not in uniform should:
  - (A) face the state flag and stand at attention with the person's right hand over the heart;
  - (B) if wearing a head covering that is easy to remove, remove that head covering with the right hand and hold it at the person's left shoulder, with the person's hand over the heart; and
  - (C) recite the pledge; or
- (2) in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and make the military salute.

Source: Texas Statutes, Government Code, Title 11, Subchapter C, Sections 3100.101-3100.104.