



# ***RFSA MAGAZINE***

RETIRED FACULTY-STAFF ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

***SPRING 2015***

[HTTP://SITES.UTEXAS.EDU/RFSA](http://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa)



# ***RFSA MAGAZINE***

VOLUME XXIX, ISSUE 2

RFSA BOARD      2014-15      2015-16

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

PRESIDENT	Peggy Mueller	Nancy Payne
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Nancy Payne	Cecil Martinez
SECRETARY	Sharon Justice	Corky Hilliard
TREASURER EMERITUS	John J. McKetta	John J. McKetta
TREASURER	Cecil Martinez	Clemith Houston
HISTORIAN EMERITA	Martha Boyd	Martha Boyd
HISTORIAN	Barbara Frock	Barbara Frock
MEMBERS AT LARGE	Terry Martin	Terry Martin
	Ruth Rubio	Ruth Rubio
	Barbara White	Barbara White
PAST PRESIDENT	Barbara Myers	Peggy Mueller

## **OTHER OFFICERS**

ACTIVITY CALENDAR EDITORS	Barbara Frock	Barbara Frock
	George Frock	George Frock
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Tany Norwood	Tany Norwood
MEMBERSHIP	Peggy Kruger	Peggy Kruger
	Norman Minter	Peggy Mueller
PHOTOGRAPHER & IT	Miles Abernathy	Miles Abernathy
RAFFLE	Della Sprager	
SCHOLARSHIP FUND	Judy Amis	Eleanor Moore

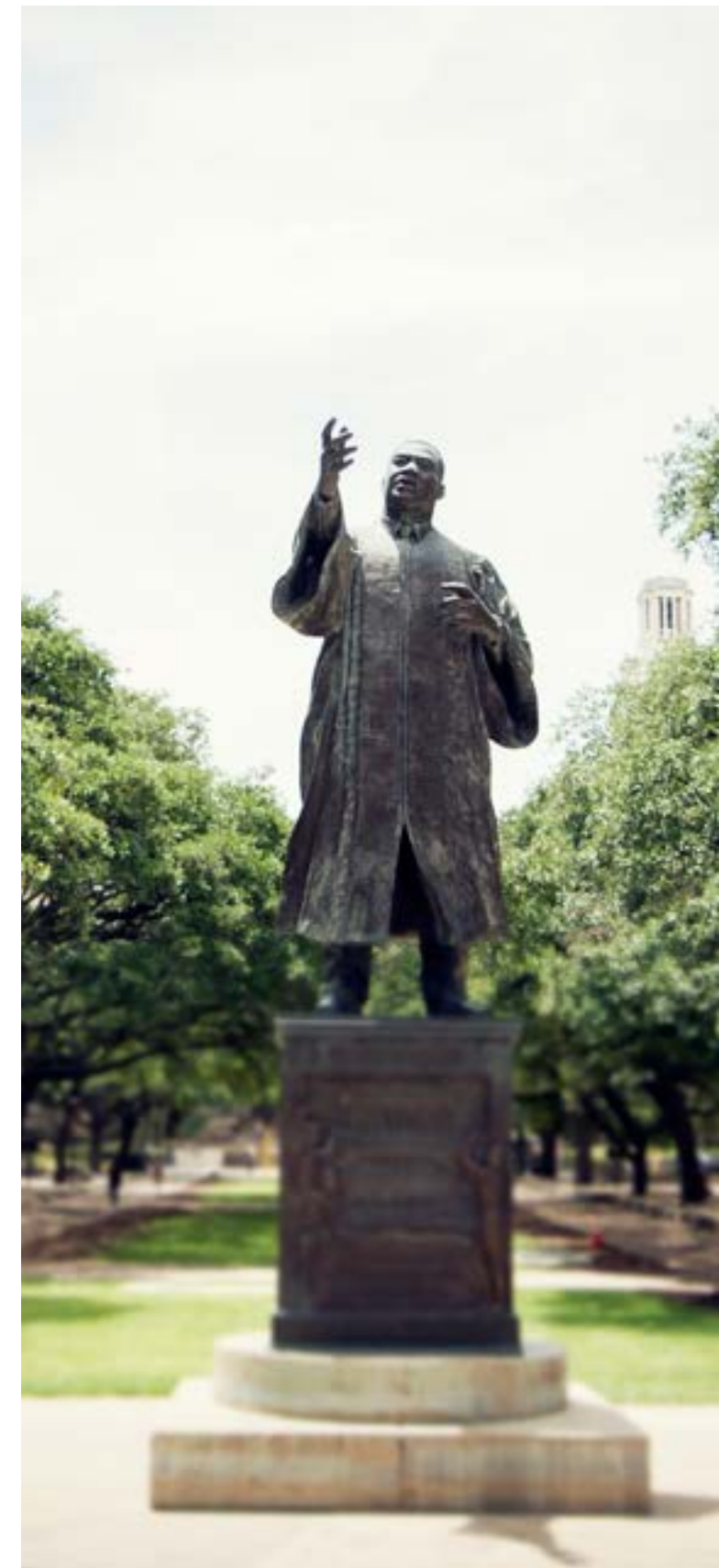
## **INTEREST GROUP CHAIRS**

BRIDGE	William B. Crook	William B. Crook
DISCUSSION	Don Davis	Don Davis
	Alice Reinarz	Alice Reinarz
EXERCISE	Carolyn Wylie	Carolyn Wylie
FINANCE/INVESTMENTS	Phil Kelton	Phil Kelton
		Pauline Lopez
FINE ARTS	Deena Mersky	Deena Mersky
FOODIES		Sharon Justice
HEALTH	Cecil Martinez	Carol Obianwu
	Carol Obianwu	Norm Minter
TRAVEL	Carol Kay Johnson	Carol Kay Johnson

TEXAS EXES SUPPORT & COORDINATION      Carol Barrett

# CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT	<b>4</b>
INTEREST GROUPS	<b>6</b>
SPRING LUNCHEON	<b>10</b>
BOARD UPDATES	<b>12</b>
THANK YOU DONORS	<b>13</b>
RFSA SCHOLARSHIP FUND	<b>14</b>
FROM OUR MEMBERS	<b>16</b>
Summer Reading	<b>16</b>
UT History Corner	<b>17</b>
Poetry	<b>19</b>
Letter to President Powers	<b>20</b>
IN MEMORIAM	<b>22</b>





## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Hello again, Longhorn Retired Nation.** It's been a very busy and fun year for RFSA. We have seen many changes to our organization and to UT System and UT Austin.

UT System Chancellor Bill McRaven began in January 2015. McRaven follows Dr. Francisco Cigarroa who is now the Director of Pediatric

Transplantation at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. UT President Bill Powers returns to the Law School faculty in June. We are grateful to President Powers for his leadership and for his support of RFSA. New UT President Gregory Fenves (formerly UT Executive Vice President and Provost) also begins in June.

Judith Langlois, senior vice provost and dean of graduate studies, has agreed to serve as interim provost. We wish these individuals success in their new positions. (Because of the changes and construction at UT System, we were unable to schedule our reception at the Bauer House. We look forward to the reception in the fall.)

RFSA has a new website, redesigned by Miles Abernathy and University Communications. Our website has a new URL: [sites.utexas.edu/rfsa](http://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa). Miles is able to add content more easily in this new environment.

UT Athletics invited us to participate in two women's basketball games with special invitations to the Lone Star Room before and after both games and with discounted prices. One of our Membership Committee members makes a brief presentation to the "Retiring from UT Austin" class offered by UT Human Resources every month. We talk about RFSA purposes and activities. The Board also began a review of the RFSA Constitution.

At the spring membership meeting and luncheon, held on April 29, 2015, we heard Jim Nicars delightful presentation: "Out on the Roof: Faculty-Staff Misadventure in 1915." Jim's talk included excellent photos of old campus buildings, drawings, *Daily Texan* articles, typical student expenses and faculty and staff salary information in 1915. Check Jim's blog, [uthistorycorner.com](http://uthistorycorner.com), for articles and illustrations of

campus life from the past. Dean John McKetta, assisted by Judy Amis, graciously presided over the drawing for the five McKetta Attendance Awards. Dr. McKetta generously donates these \$200.00 awards at the fall and spring RFSA meetings. Sharon Gentry, Angie Gonzales, Clemith Houston, Marian Maxwell, and John Pace were the lucky recipients. Thank you to President Powers and President's Office staff members for their support of this meeting and luncheon. I also am grateful for Carol Barrett, our coordinator, and the staff and facilities of the Texas Exes for their outstanding help and support. We wouldn't be RFSA without Carol Barrett and the Texas Exes! Thank you. Wasn't it great to again meet Samuel Palka, one of our RFSA Scholarship students, and to hear him graciously thank RFSA donors for his scholarship and to hear some of his activities as a Pharmacy doctoral student? The UT ID Center's Christy Sanchez and specialist Alfredo made 39 UT ID "retiree" cards for our members and answered many questions.

I am always in awe of our Board members, Committee and Interest Group chairs who have so many, many talents and use their skills to provide ideas, organize events, plan for succession, donate and raise funds for RFSA, and support each other and me in my year as president. We thank our retiring, welcome our new and keep moving forward with our returning Board members, Committee and Interest Group Chairpersons. We have room for you—we need volunteers to serve. Contact us, please, if you are interested.

Your donations to the Hearts of Texas (State Employee Charitable Campaign) in October 2014 totaled \$11,614.00. Thank you for supporting these organizations and UT's campaign via your donations.

Your donations to the RFSA Scholarship Fund have allowed us to give \$37,000.00 to our students this year: \$1,250.00 for both fall and spring semesters to 14 students and \$1,000.00 to two students for summer. The Board will evaluate increasing the number or amount of scholarship funds in the next year because of YOUR support.

Thank you for the honor of serving as RFSA president for this past year. I know Nancy Payne, RFSA's new president, will be a great leader and wonderful president.

**Peggy Mueller**  
**RFSA President, 2014-15**



Plan. Retire. Relax.



## Let us help plan your retirement.

At UFCU the investment advisors, available through our broker/dealer CUSO Financial Services, L.P.\*, can discuss your different options and point out potential risks and opportunities.

- 401(k) Rollovers
- Long Term Care
- Annuities
- Traditional and Roth IRAs
- Mutual Funds
- Term Life Insurance

We'll provide you with knowledgeable and informative recommendations to help you generate the income you may need to meet your personal retirement goals. For more information or for a complimentary consultation, email [investments@ufcu.org](mailto:investments@ufcu.org) or call (512) 467-8080 x21081.

(512) 467-8080 | [ufcu.org](http://ufcu.org)

\*Non-deposit investment products and services are offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. ("CFS"), a registered broker-dealer (Member FINRA/SIPC) and SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Products offered through CFS: are not NCUA/NCUSIF or otherwise federally insured, are not guarantees or obligations of the credit union, and may involve investment risk including possible loss of principal. Investment Representatives are registered through CFS. UFCU has contracted with CFS to make non-deposit investment products and services available to credit union members.



## INTEREST GROUPS

### BRIDGE

If you are a bridge player, come join us! We usually play the first Monday of each month, at the Ex-Students Association. *Contact Bill Crook if you are interested: [wcrook@satx.rr.com](mailto:wcrook@satx.rr.com) or 210-251-3584.*

### DISCUSSION

All members of UT RFSA are cordially invited to attend and participate in the lively dialogue with interesting speakers on relevant topics at the monthly Discussion Interest Group meetings. You are encouraged to bring guests as well. Feel free to make suggestions for the presentations, too.

DG meetings are held on first Wednesdays of most months of fall and spring in the Howson Branch Library conference room at 2500 Exposition Blvd. Sessions begin at 1:30 PM.



This spring, our focus for presentations was to learn more

about the gems associated with UT Austin that provide significant community outreach. These facilities are crucial to the research and teaching of the University but also have a function to provide programming for the public.

In February, our guest was Stephen Enniss, Director of the Harry Ransom Center. He provided an informative overview of the Ransom Center's heritage in providing resources for the study of the humanities with insights about the impetus and guidance provided by Harry Ransom. He also described recent highly valued acquisitions and programs, notably the successful *Gone with the Wind* and *Alice in Wonderland* exhibits. For future directions, Enniss discussed his vision for development of the Ransom Center to serve both the research needs of scholars and interests of the local community.

We hosted John Irwin on March 4 to describe the history, facilities, and outreach of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Mr. Irwin, who has contributed over 2,500 volunteer hours in all capacities to the Wildflower Center, emphasized the dual focus on ecology research and service to gardeners and “lookers” who enjoy plants. Many RFSA members are generous volunteers and supporters of the Center, and Irwin encourages all to visit and appreciate the ever-expanding facilities. He pointed to the year-round availability of insights into the Central Texas wildflower world.

On Wednesday, April 1, our

final guest of spring was Rebecca McInroy, Senior Producer and Host at KUT. A delightfully interactive speaker, she shared many “behind the scenes” stories about KUT and NPR. Our attendees were fans of KUT and KUTX and appreciated learning about recent programming expansion. McInroy emphasized that the stations are always cognizant of local/state news stories. She described also the focus on UT talent with *Two Guys on your Head* and *Views & Brews*. A new program, *Texas Standard*, covers the state from the perspectives of local reporters. And many programs are available as podcasts too—how can we miss?

We hope these topics may whet your interest to attend a future Discussion Group meeting. *For additional information or to suggest a speaker, please contact Co-chairs Don Davis ([dgdavis@ischool.utexas.edu](mailto:dgdavis@ischool.utexas.edu)) or Alice Reinartz ([areinartz@tamu.edu](mailto:areinartz@tamu.edu)).*

We look forward to seeing you!

### EXERCISE

The RFSA exercise class meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 at the Recreational Sports Center, room 1.106, where experienced exercise instructors lead us in a variety of exercises designed for all ages and fitness levels. These include balance work, stretches, yoga, and low-impact pilates, using exercise balls, hand weights, and thera-bands.

To participate, you need to join

Rec Sports; there is a 50% discount for retirees. *For more information, contact chair Carolyn Wylie ([cateswylie@gmail.com](mailto:cateswylie@gmail.com) or 512-453-2556).*

### FINANCE/INVESTMENTS

We have had terrific speakers this semester, starting with Katie Stephens on January 12. Ms. Stephens is the Education Program Manager for the UT Center for Identity, and spoke on “Identity Challenges in the Retirement Years,” focusing on how identity theft and data breaches can harm Americans over 60. Then on February 9, Mr. Carl Stuart, independent financial advisor and host of a weekly radio show on personal finance, spoke on “Stocks and Bonds at All-Time Highs – What Do We Do Now?” On April 13, Mr. Elliott Weir, CFP and UT MBA grad, spoke on “Five Ways Retirees Could Spend More,” focusing on the five financial factors that could affect the commonly accepted “4% Rule” that most retirees, and many financial advisors, use. Finally, on May 11, we were delighted to have Mr. Scott Burns speak on “Personal



Finance and the Current Market.” Mr. Burns is a newspaper columnist and author who has covered personal finance and investments for nearly 40 years, and is one of the most widely read personal finance writers in the country. The Finance Interest Group meets on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m., usually in the Howson Library. *Contact co-chairs Phil Kelton ([pwkelton@gmail.com](mailto:pwkelton@gmail.com)) or Pauline Lopez ([psanlopez@yahoo.com](mailto:psanlopez@yahoo.com)) for more information or to become involved.*

### FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts Interest Group has four members who plan events:

**Carolyn Wylie**, who keeps RFSA members abreast of musical events in and around Austin, with emphasis on those that are free or low cost. ([cateswylie@gmail.com](mailto:cateswylie@gmail.com));

**Judy Amis** arranges the theater parties, usually including a happy hour or dinner. We’ve done this several times already—always fun for all, with easy access to the theater as well as a nearby restaurant. ([judy.amis@yahoo.com](mailto:judy.amis@yahoo.com));

**Laraine Lasdon**, art docent extraordinaire

**Deena Mersky**, Fine Arts Chair ([merskd@gmail.com](mailto:merskd@gmail.com) or 512-477-4152).



RFSA members are encouraged to contact any of us with ideas and suggestions for fine-arts related possibilities. We also want to keep an email list of interested arts enthusiasts. Please let me know if you wish to be on such a specialized list. Best of all, join our committee to participate in planning some informative and enriching events!

### HEALTH

We had some very interesting speakers this spring. On February 10, we heard Ms. Drew Hays, the clinical dietitian at St. David's Medical Center. Ms. Hays presented “Debunking the Myths and Eating Right.” She had some very interesting insights on foods to make you healthier. If you missed this one, we will have a nutritionist again soon. On March 16, we had Dr. April Fox, a board-certified colon and rectal surgeon, who spoke on “The Importance of Keeping Good Intestinal Health.” This talk was very informative on how to keep our digestive system healthy. Finally, on April 20, we had Dr. Renee Snyder, who spoke on “The Importance of Keeping Your Largest Body Organ,





Your Skin, Healthy and Vibrant.” This was also very informative regarding the treatment of various skin problems such as skin cancer, psoriasis, age spots and other skin issues. Stay healthy over the summer and come to our health meetings in the fall. *For information or to make suggestions, contact chair Carol Obianwu (cobianwu@utexas.edu) or Norm Minter (norm.w.minter@gmail.com).*

### TEN YEARS OF TRAVEL

Over the last decade, the RFSa Travel Group has had many adventures—some local, others statewide, and still others farther afield. Here is a look back at some of the travel destinations since Deena Mersky organized the group. We have gone behind the scenes at the UT medical schools in Galveston and San Antonio, seen the Chinese Terra Cotta Soldiers, visited an olive orchard in the Hill Country, walked the King William district in San Antonio, toured the Painted Churches, explored Independence, Washington-on-the-Brazos, Castroville, Lost Maples

and Homestead Heritage Village, attended concerts at Round Top several times, and toured the Circuit of the Americas complex. We have been to East Texas at dogwood time and down to the coast for the hummingbird festival and taken a cruise to see the whooping cranes. The group has boarded a bus on several occasions and headed to Dallas to see the Chihuly Glass on display at the Dallas Arboretum, attended a concert at the Meyerson Symphony Center directed by UT’s own Jerry Junkin, visited the George W. Bush Presidential Library and the Perot Museum of Nature and Science. Twice we have taken special tours of the McDonald Observatory. We explored Palo Duro Canyon several years ago, took the jeep tour down into the canyon, experienced the outdoor theater production, and on the way home stopped at the Hummer House in Christoval to see the hummingbirds. Last spring we toured the UT Marine Science Center in Port Aransas, had a cruise aboard the RV Katy research boat and then went on to explore the King Ranch.



We have been to Albuquerque for the Balloon Festival and gone east to explore Charleston and Savannah. We have stayed at the White Mountain Resort in North Conway and been surrounded by spectacular fall foliage in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. Recently we had a special spring getaway to Crystal Bridges, America’s newest museum, in Bentonville, Arkansas, which has a most spectacular setting and remarkable collection of American Art. On that trip there was a touch of local hospitality when Jim Stice’s niece hosted the group for dinner in the home where Jim grew up. The return trip included stops in Oklahoma City for the National Memorial and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

Few of the early travelers will ever forget the experience of taking the Copper Canyon railroad over a decade ago down south through Mexico to the Pacific Coast—a trip that is no longer offered. In Costa Rica we experienced La Pura Vida and escorted baby sea turtles to the water. In Guatemala we visited Mayan ruins at Tikal.

The Canadian Rockies trip took us to Calgary, Glacier National Park, Banff, Lake Louise, and the Columbia Icefields. On Canada’s Atlantic coast, we started in



Halifax, Nova Scotia, went on to Prince Edward Island and entered the world of Anne of Green Gables, drove the Cabot Trail on Cape Breton Island to the Alexander Graham Bell Museum, went on a whale watching cruise, and explored Peggy’s Cove with its picturesque lighthouse. A favorite with many RFSa travelers was the cruise through the Panama Canal in a small passenger vessel where you could experience at eye level the opening and closing of the six foot thick steel gates of the Miraflores and Pedro Miguel locks. Add to that a stay at Playa Bonita on the Pacific coast, a visit to the Embera Indian village, the monkeys on Gatun Lake, and the wonderful architecture of Panama City and it is safe to say that a good time was had by all.

More recently the destination was Sedona, Arizona, for the Great Trains and Grand Canyon experience. Fortunately the government shutdown ended the day we left Austin so all went as planned and we visited the south rim of the

Grand Canyon, Jerome, Sunset Crater, Lowell Observatory, and Flagstaff.

Travelers on the Tanzania Migration Safari journeyed to the best of East Africa’s vast reserves, experiencing one of the greatest spectacles of the natural world. They explored Tanzania from Kilimanjaro to Tarangire National Park, Lake Manyara National Park, the Ngorongoro Crater, and Serengeti National Park. The group went on game drives, saw the animals, and spent time with the local people and cultures.

Most recently the RFSa travelers escaped Austin in August to travel to Portland for the Oregon Trails trip. From the famous Portland Rose Gardens to Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Hood, Tillamook Cheese Factory, Astoria, Multnomah Falls, the Columbia River Gorge cruise, and Oregon’s Pacific Coast.

So what comes next? “Islands of New England” in June 2015 takes the group to the east coast to stay on the beach at Cape Cod.

In September the group embarks on a “South Dakota Adventure.” Stay tuned for more RFSa travel adventures. There is always an open invitation for more travelers to join the group. Send us your suggestions for where you would like the next RFSa destination to be—whether it be local, statewide, nationwide, or worldwide.

Contact Travel Interest Group chair Carol Kay Johnson at [carolkayjohnson@earthlink.net](mailto:carolkayjohnson@earthlink.net).

### New Interest Group:

#### FOODIES

It seems like there are new restaurants opening in the Austin area every day, yet most of us stick with our long-time favorites. But we have a new interest group that will encourage us to explore new places with our RFSa friends. This group is called “Foodies” and is chaired by Sharon Justice. Foodies will provide opportunities for RFSa members and a guest to experience interesting restaurants in Austin and to socialize.

*If you are interested in participating, learning more or making suggestions please contact Sharon at [dsshj@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:dsshj@austin.utexas.edu) (with your name, email address, phone number and if you will bring a guest). These outings will start in the fall, so please let Sharon know before Friday, September 11 if you are interested.*



# SPRING LUNCHEON • APRIL 29, 2015

Over 200 members attended our spring luncheon and were treated to a delicious Mexican lunch buffet. Our guest speaker was the fabulous Jim Nicar, who regaled us with pictures and stories of the UT campus 100 years ago. Thank you to outgoing President Peggy Mueller for organizing this wonderful event!





## RFSA BOARD UPDATES

### ID CENTER THANKYOU

RFSA thanks the UT ID Center for creating a “satellite office” in the Alumni Center at our April 29 luncheon and making retiree IDs. 39 RFSA members took advantage of this service and got new IDs. We appreciate the ID Center’s support to make this task a little easier for our retirees!

### FROM OUR TREASURER

RFSA is in a very good position financially, thanks to our members and supportive local businesses. We can continue our financial stability if you will continue to support us in two important ways.

One, if you see a trip sponsored by the Travel Interest Group that looks interesting, sign up and go! A portion of those costs are returned to RFSA.

And, two, please continue to support the businesses that advertise in our magazine and directory. When you buy their products and services, let them know that you are an RFSA member and appreciate their sponsorships. These businesses are local and very reputable, and we want them to recognize the benefits of their support.

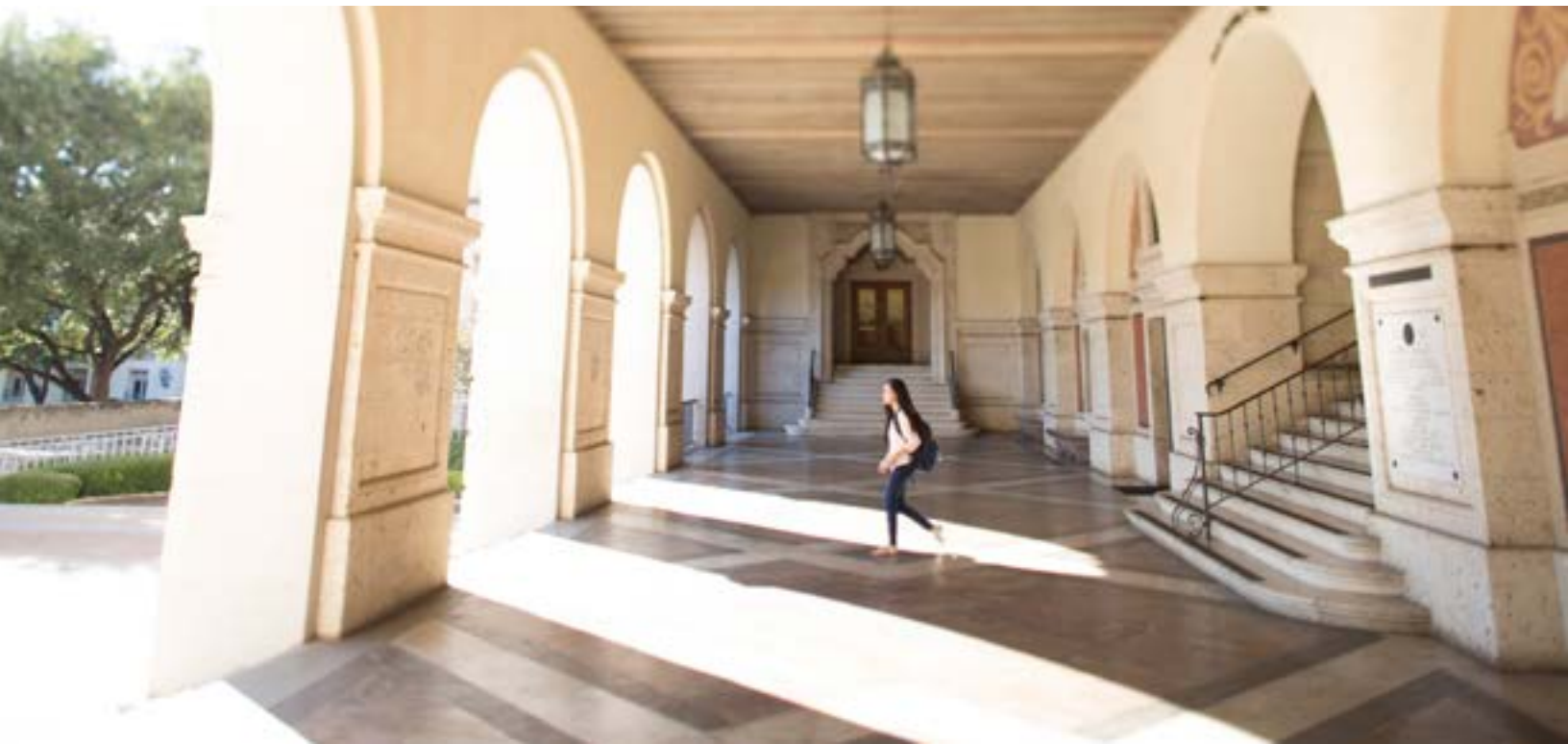
This creates a win-win situation for everyone involved, and will allow us to continue our self-sufficiency and increase our student scholarships. Thank you!

### HEARTS OF TEXAS

Thank you, RFSA members! You donated \$11,614 to the Hearts of Texas State Employee Charitable Campaign this year!

### RFSA HAS A NEW WEBSITE

The University has moved a number of different websites to a new location, and RFSA is one that has a new home. Please change your RFSA bookmark to the new site: <http://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa>. Miles Abernathy, our IT guru, says the site is easier to maintain and update, so you can expect our site to have more current information than ever before. For a while, logging on to the old site will forward you to the new one, but this is a reminder to update your links now!



## THANK YOU RFSA DONORS

Judy Amis	Jean Hogue	Yvonne Munn
Ahmet Aydemir	JoAnn Jentz	Barbara Myers
Roger and Billie Bengston	Carol Kay Johnson	Nancy Payne <i>In memory of Henrietta Jacobsen</i>
Marla Boye	Roland Massey	Ruth Rubio <i>In honor of Deena Mersky</i>
Charles Cook <i>In memory of E.V. “Vic” Niemeyer</i>	John McKetta <i>In memory of William G. Lesso</i>	Audrey Slate
Pat Delk	Colleen Mehner	John Tongate
Louis DeMoll	Deena Mersky	Barbara White
Larry Faulkner	Norm and Sytha Minter	Carolyn Wylie
Dick and Helen Furlong	Alexander Mourelatos	RFSA Board Members
Mr. and Mrs. David Garlock	Thomas and Judith Morris	

“I LIKE TO BE WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING.  
WESTMINSTER PUTS ME RIGHT THERE.”

DR. MARTHA FREDE, RETIRED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST  
FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SAGE PROGRAM  
SEMINARS FOR ADULT GROWTH AND ENRICHMENT

*Resident since February 4, 2012*

Initiative, imagination, individuality and independence are part of the fabric of our city. It’s what makes our people so interesting and the Austin experience so irresistible. Westminster puts you in prime position to continue living this lifestyle. We’re the only retirement community at the center of everything you love about Austin.

We invite you to call **512.454.4643** or visit us online to explore the rewards of life at Westminster.



Managed by Life Care Services™



**WESTMINSTER**

AN AUSTIN ORIGINAL

4100 Jackson Avenue | Austin, TX 78731  
[WestminsterAustinTX.org](http://WestminsterAustinTX.org)



## RFSA SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The Retired Faculty-Staff Association created a scholarship fund in 1983 and awarded the first scholarship five years later in 1988. Members and friends donate to that endowment, which had a market value of over \$667,000 in 2014. Available income from that fund varies, depending on prevailing interest rates and market conditions. For 2014-2015, we were able to award scholarships to 16 students, 14 for the Fall and Spring semesters (at \$1,250 per session) and 2 for the Summer session (at \$1,000 each), totaling \$37,000.

Scholarship recipients are chosen by Student Financial Services based on several criteria. Among the scholarships awarded are those named in honor of the following: Dr. Stanley Arbingast, Dr. William T. "Bill" Belt, Dr. Peter and Priscilla Flawn, Drs. Benjamin and Dorothy Fruchter, Dr. Robert E. Greenwood, Dr. Margaret Colyer Kirkner, and Dr. John and Helen McKetta.

In addition to undesignated donations, the scholarship endowment benefits from gifts made in memory or honor of family, friends and colleagues; in celebration of particular events; and estate donations. Please consider making a contribution to the scholarship fund—it will make a difference in a student's life!

## GIFTS TO THE RFSA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Please consider making a contribution to the RFSA Scholarship Fund—it will make a difference in a student's life!

**SEND A CHECK\* TO:** Carol Barrett, RFSA Coordinator  
Texas Exes | P.O. Box 7278 | Austin, Texas 78713  
*\*Made payable to 'The University of Texas at Austin'*

**OR, DONATE ONLINE:** <http://giving.utexas.edu/RFSA2012>

*Simply complete the information requested. If you are donating in honor or memory of a person or event, write that information in the "notes" section.*

No matter where you shop...  
No matter what you've been offered...  
**WE'LL BEAT IT!**

**COVERT AUTO GROUP**

Five generations serving Texas for over 105 years

Your Road  
to over  
1000 units  
available at  
all times



FIND NEW ROADS

COVERT CHEVROLET, BUICK, GMC

Hwy. 71 in Bastrop 800-937-7076 [www.covertbastrop.com](http://www.covertbastrop.com)

COVERT BUICK,  
CADILLAC, GMC

11750 Research Blvd  
(corner of Duval & 183)  
Austin, Texas 512-583-3000

COVERT CHRYSLER,  
DODGE, JEEP

8107 Research Blvd  
Austin, Texas 512-583-3300

The Covert Team



COVERT  
CHEVROLET

Hwy. 79  
Hutto, Texas 888-268-3785

COVERT  
FORD LINCOLN

11514 Research Blvd.  
Austin, Texas 512-345-4343

[www.CovertAuto.com](http://www.CovertAuto.com)



## Summer Reading List

Once again, our members recommend books for our summer reading list.

We received two recommendations for *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr. Weeks and weeks on the best seller lists at Book People and the *NY Times*. “Gripping, intense and beautifully written parallel stories of two young adolescents, a girl in France and a boy in Germany, before, during and after World War II.” “A timeless story of love, family, intelligence, fear, endurance, bravery, growing awareness and healing set in France and Germany during the time of WWII and woven around two teens—a very smart blind French girl and an orphan German boy drawn unwittingly into the Hitler Youth by his love of science and brilliance with radios—with a bond, unknown to each, that ties them together.” A long book, but you’ll hate to see it end.



A wonderful book is *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism* by Doris Kearns Goodwin, published in 2013. “I didn’t know anything about William Howard Taft, and learned a lot about Theodore Roosevelt I didn’t know. This book intrigued me, and although it is long, it is well worth the read. Goodwin writes so well, you never feel bogged down. I recommend it for a summer project! So much detail about their time! For those who haven’t read it, I don’t want to give anything else away.”

Another recommendation is *American Tabloid* by James Ellroy. This book received the Times Best Fiction award for 1995. “The chronicle of three rogue American law enforcement officers from November 22, 1958 through November 22, 1963, the FBI, CIA, Mafia, Bay of Pigs, Hoffa, Kennedy, Hoover, Castro, Monroe, Oswald and Ruby. Told so well that fiction becomes fact by the end of the read. Gripping. Best novel of intrigue I’ve ever read.”

Based on the Charles Whitman mass shooting in 1966, *Monday, Monday* by Elizabeth Crook will bring back very real memories to many of us. This novel is about a tragedy that changes the course of three lives, following three students caught up in the massacre. Reunited decades after the tragedy, they must confront the event that forever changed their lives and ruled the lives of their children. A

thrilling novel that, at its core, is the story of a woman determined to make peace with herself.

Finally, a unique book from the UT System Academy of Distinguished Teachers. *The Little Orange Book: Short Lessons in Excellent Teaching*, published this spring by UT Press, captures reflections and tips on teaching and learning from members of the Academy. It is a perfect text for new college instructors, but also valuable to longtime faculty and other teachers. Contributors include our colleagues James Vick, John Daly, Brent Iverson, Michael Starbird, Robert Prentice, and others.

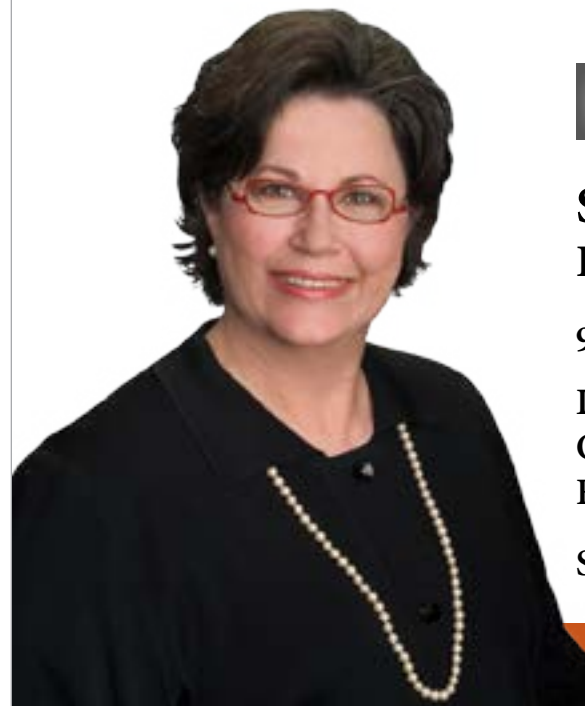
## UT History Corner

Jim Nicar was the keynote speaker at the RFSA Spring Luncheon. Jim regaled us with stories of the UT campus 100 years ago, and shared some of his photos here. Many of us know Jim through his Moonlight Prowl nighttime walking history tours of the UT campus. On May 1, Jim hosted his 600th Prowl, and estimates about 38,000 people have attended his unique tours! If you are interested in learning more about UT’s history or attending a Moonlight Prowl, go to Jim’s website: [uthistorycorner.com](http://uthistorycorner.com)



TRUSTED ADVISOR SKILLED NEGOTIATOR EXPERT FACILITATOR

Sytha



**SYTHA GUSTAFSON MINTER**  
REALTOR®

9606 N. Mopac, Ste. 150, Austin, TX 78759

Direct 512.573.1345

Office 512.342.1800

Fax 512.275.0600

[Sytha@HorizonRealtyAustin.com](mailto:Sytha@HorizonRealtyAustin.com)



[www.SythaMinter.com](http://www.SythaMinter.com)





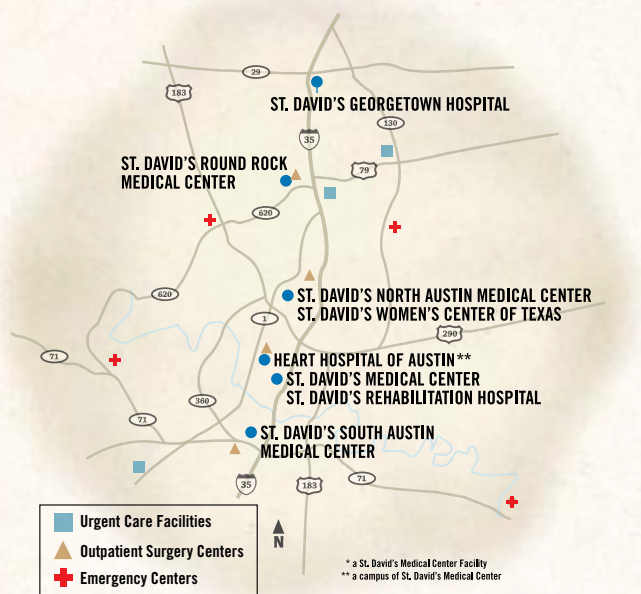
# See You In A Few Minutes.

## St. David's Emergency Network

With cardiac or stroke emergencies, there's no time to lose. Chest discomfort, numbness, shortness of breath, dizziness or confusion could be your body sending you a message. You can count on us when every minute matters. Our conveniently located emergency centers are fully staffed by board-certified physicians and medical teams prepared to handle your emergency. St. David's HealthCare is dedicated to helping you and your family maintain good health and quality of life while providing compassionate care.

Visit [StDavids.com/protect](http://StDavids.com/protect) to check your risk for heart attack and stroke.

**StDavid's** HEALTHCARE



## FROM OUR MEMBERS

*Zorena Bolton is a regular contributor to our magazine, and gifts us with these treasures.*

### San Francisco 2011

Small houses clinging to the hillsides  
Each house charming in its own way  
Hugging the earth just as I hug life  
Living each day and treasuring its  
Gifts not greedy but thrilled  
Hanging on for dear life  
And oh yes something  
Might happen but  
Oh how joyful  
These days

Two  
Easy  
Warm  
Young  
Strong  
Likeable  
Comfortable  
Korean men  
Their conversation overheard  
Brown nose he said you get everything  
How lucky to be able to listen in on life

### Death and Dying Revisited

Hello  
Yes, it's me  
You know the one who gave lectures on death and dying  
You know like love and marriage  
They go together like a horse and carriage  
I'm here to tell you brother  
You can't have one without the other  
Well that was okay when it was far away from the future  
You know someday  
But now as they say...not so much  
Yes, I heard them  
Yes I took comfort in death with dignity  
That was before I got old  
For no matter how dignified  
It is final after all  
And personally I'd rather go on living  
But I wouldn't be willing to make the trade  
If I had to watch the young ones go down for the count  
Death is inevitable like taxes I suppose  
And I've never minded putting them off



**Mr Appliance**  
EXPERT APPLIANCE REPAIR  
512-454-8045  
[MrAppliance.com](http://MrAppliance.com)  
Locally owned and operated franchise.



## Letter to President Powers

Dear President Powers:

The executive officers of the Retired Faculty-Staff Association at the University of Texas at Austin, on behalf of its members, are honored to salute you on your accomplishments as President of the University and to say how thankful we are for all your efforts. Although it is impossible to catalog completely all you have done for the University, we are particularly grateful for your leadership in:

- Maintaining UT as a public, Tier I research institution, a university of the first rank in teaching and scholarship, and a center of innovation and scientific advancement;
- Successfully completing a \$3.1 billion campaign;
- Effectively representing Texas in higher education circles, including serving as chair of the Association of American Universities, the 62 leading private and public research universities in the US and Canada;
- Vigorously defending the First Amendment by supporting diversity in free expression of religious

and other ideas that sometimes run counter to the mainstream;

- Being a forceful advocate for undergraduate and graduate education;
- Balancing affordability and accessibility for students attending the University of Texas at Austin by raising money for student scholarships; focusing energy and dollars on retention of students, especially freshmen; and increasing undergraduate graduation rates, especially the four-year graduation rate; and
- Successfully promoting a medical school for the University of Texas at Austin, the first major research university to open a medical school in 35 years.

We are also extremely grateful for the support you and your staff have given to the Retired Faculty-Staff Association.

Sincerely,  
**U.T. Retired Faculty-Staff Association Executive Officers, 2014-15**



STAN'S HAS BEEN SERVING AUSTIN FOR 60 YEARS,  
 AND WE'VE GOT THE GRAY HAIR TO PROVE IT.



### \$25 OFF TUNE-UP

Stan's 30-point Precision Tune-Up far exceeds industry standards and insures your air conditioning system is in top working condition. Not valid with other offers or annual contracts.

### \$20 OFF REPAIRS

Stan's repairs all makes and models. 100% satisfaction guaranteed. Factory trained technicians.

### FREE ENERGY AUDIT

If your home is 10 years old or older, call Stan's for a free energy audit to make your home more energy efficient.



That's where you'll find my brothers and me. [www.stansac.com](http://www.stansac.com) 512-929-9393

Most major credit cards accepted. TACLB 23827E

Visit Karavel Shoes & New Balance Austin for the finest men's and women's comfort footwear.



**MEPHISTO**  
 WORLD'S FINEST FOOTWEAR

EUROPEAN FOOTWEAR  
 SPECIALISTS



AUSTIN'S  
 BEST COMFORT  
 SHOE STORE FOR  
 MEN AND WOMEN

**ECCO**  
 FEEL BETTER.  
 LOOK BETTER.  
 TODAY.



HERE'S A REALLY GOOD DEAL ON SHOES

**\$20 OFF** YOUR NEXT  
 PURCHASE OF  
**\$100 OR MORE**

\*Regular or Clearance priced shoes. Temp sales excluded. Not valid with other coupons or discounts. Limit one \$20 discount per customer. Expires 08/31/2015. 14RFS1

NEW BALANCE AUSTIN & KARAVEL SHOES



5525 BURNET ROAD  
 (Near Koenig Ln) (512) 459-7603



SOUTHPARK MEADOWS  
 (Near Sam's Club) (512) 615-4600



201 UNIVERSITY OAKS BLVD.  
 (Suite 790) (512) 610-3990



**Edward Arnold Abbott, 89**  
Heating and Cooling Facilities Services  
February 13, 2015

**Betty Hairston Barber, 78**  
Widow of Lewie M. Barber, Special Research Associate, Applied Research Laboratories  
January 16, 2015

**Betty (Dusek) Bare, 72**  
Library Assistant, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center  
October 6, 2014

**Natalie Carter Barraga, 99**  
Professor Emeritus, Special Education  
December 29, 2014

**Dorothy Douglas Blank, 94**  
Widow of George Harrison Blank, Office of the Dean of Engineering  
October 21, 2014

**Viola Kupias Brainard, 89**  
Widow of Carroll O. Brainard, Radio/Television/Film Department  
January 29, 2015

**Virgus Ray Cardozier, 91**  
Professor Emeritus, Education Administration  
November 2, 2014

**L. Ray Carry**  
Professor Emeritus, Curriculum and Instruction  
February 6, 2015

**Alberta M. Castaneda, 92**  
Associate Professor, Education  
October 11, 2014

**Charles T. Clark, 97**  
Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Information, Risk & Operations Management, McCombs School of Business  
November 25, 2014

**Dorothy Colvin, 97**  
Widow of James Colvin, Senior Vice President Emeritus  
March 4, 2015

**Virginia A. Craig, 97**  
Widow of Neal Craig, English Department  
February 1, 2015

**Harry Alexander Deans, 82**  
Senior Research Fellow, Center for Petroleum/Geosystems Engineering  
December 22, 2014

**Dorothy Weygint DeLong, 92**  
Department of Oriental Languages and Literature  
December 17, 2014

**Margaret O. Dougal, 85**  
Widow of Arwin Dougal, Professor Emeritus, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
February 27, 2015

**Wilbur “Bud” Dublin, 78**  
Lecturer, Mechanical Engineering  
November 25, 2014

**Fred Pittman Ellison, 92**  
Professor Emeritus, Spanish and Portuguese  
October 4, 2014

**Ray Farabee, 81**  
Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, UT System  
November 20, 2014

**Richard Finnell, 69**  
Advisor, Daily Texan  
February 21, 2015

**Walter Firey, 98**  
Professor Emeritus, Sociology  
December 21, 2014

**Mary Maud Brown Greenwood, 95**  
Widow of Robert Greenwood, Professor of Mathematics  
January 14, 2015

**Omar Carl Happel, 92**  
Manager, Architectural Services  
February 12, 2015

**Boyd A. Hardesty, 82**  
Professor Emeritus, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
January 22, 2015

**Theresa Virginia Harper, 91**  
Division of Housing and Food Services  
February 2, 2015

**Judith Elaine (Stones) Hatten, 70**  
Development Office, School of Business and Law School  
November 11, 2014

**Thelma Heather, 90**  
Texas Student Publications and Daily Texan  
March 22, 2015

**Sue Heatly, 77**  
Lecturer, Department of Art and Art History  
March 28, 2015

**Homer Paul Helms, Jr., 68**  
Physical Plant  
November 5, 2014

**William Richard “Bill” Herold, 88**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction  
January 14, 2015

**Ann Chapel Osgood Howland, 90**  
Instructor, School of Nursing  
December 22, 2014

**Loraine (McNeil) Jackson, 89**  
Ex-Students Association staff and widow of Rex Jackson, Admissions  
February 7, 2015

**Joe Henery Nelson Justice, 84**  
Supervisor, Custodial Services  
January 26, 2015

THIS COLUMN honors the memory of retired University of Texas faculty and staff who have died. Every attempt has been made to identify the university affiliation of each individual. Some named below may not have been members of RFSA, but they are included because of their contribution to the university community. Also included, when known, are spouses of retired faculty and staff members. Any additions or corrections to the list should be addressed to Barbara Frock, Historian, at [bfrock@austin.rr.com](mailto:bfrock@austin.rr.com).

**Gloria Kinneavy, 76**  
Widow of James Louis Kinneavy, Blumberg Centennial Professor Emeritus in English  
November 1, 2014

**William George Lesso, Sr., 83**  
Professor Emeritus, Mechanical Engineering  
March 19, 2015

**Ann Monica McGlinchey Neville Long, 73**  
Undergraduate Library  
November 16, 2014

**Thomas A. Loomis, 89**  
Assistant Dean, Graduate School of Business, Director of Development  
December 19, 2014

**Joseph Fetler Malof, 80**  
Professor of English Literature  
January 7, 2015

**Carla Darlene (Killingsworth) Mitchell, 62**  
Office of the Dean of Students  
February 9, 2015

**Margaret O. Morgan, 96**  
College of Liberal Arts  
February 24, 2015

**Alex Mosqueda, 71**  
UT Police  
October 21, 2014

**Elon Carl Nash, 95**  
Military Property Custodian  
January 8, 2015

**E.V. “Vic” Niemeyer, 95**  
International Office  
March 1, 2015

**Thomas David Oakland, 75**  
Professor, Educational Psychology  
March 4, 2015

**Walter David Palmquist, 84**  
Data Processing Division  
December 5, 2014

**Robert M. Palter, 90**  
Professor, Philosophy and History  
October 1, 2014

**Deanna “Dee” Pommerenk, 73**  
Physical Education  
February 17, 2015

**Jo Ann Cope Powell, 72**  
Learning Skills Center  
January 29, 2015

**Charlotte Ann Rayburn, 81**  
Intercollegiate Athletics for Women  
January 20, 2015

**Lester J. Reed, 90**  
Ashbel Smith Professor Emeritus, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
January 14, 2015

**Eugene Arman Ripperger, 100**  
Professor Emeritus, Aerospace Engineering  
October 5, 2014

**Robert Samuel (Bob) Schechter, 85**  
Professor Emeritus and Chair, Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering and Chemical Engineering  
October 8, 2014

**Elizabeth G. Scott, 89**  
Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs  
March 25, 2015

**Billie Jean Shelton, 83**  
Mechanical Engineering  
December 15, 2014

**Sidney Paschal Shelton, 85**  
Utilities  
December 15, 2014

**Dale Stahlhut, 86**  
Director, Plant Services, J.J. Pickle Research Center  
January 11, 2015

**Eric John Swanson, 58**  
Adjunct Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
October 14, 2014

**Lorraine Jean Turner, 94**  
UT Health Center  
November 17, 2014

**David E. Vassberg, 78**  
Professor and Visiting Scholar, History  
November 24, 2014

**Ina Genelle Voelker, 79**  
Offices of the Chancellor and President  
December 3, 2014

**Dalton Wayne Wall, 73**  
Supervisor, Physical Plant, Maintenance  
October 28, 2014

**Suzanne Gonzales Williams, 68**  
Math Department  
October 29, 2014

**Martha F. Wingren, 94**  
Office of the Registrar  
January 8, 2015



## **RFSA**

The University of Texas at Austin  
c/o Texas Exes | P.O. Box 7278  
Austin, TX 78713

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
AUSTIN, TEXAS  
PERMIT NO. 1595



### ***THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RETIRED FACULTY-STAFF ASSOCIATION***

The RFSA provides a wide range of activities designed to enrich the retirement experiences of its members. In addition, it serves as a mechanism for advising UT officials about the suitability of current retirement benefits. A complete statement of the purposes of the association can be found in the constitution. *Submissions may be emailed to: [tanyorwood@utexas.edu](mailto:tanyorwood@utexas.edu) or mailed to Carol Barrett, RFSA Coordinator, Texas Exes | P.O. Box 7278 | Austin, TX 78713*

Spring 2015 • © 2015 Retired Faculty-Staff Association • <http://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa>

*Produced by Texas Exes | RFSA photographs by Miles Abernathy / Campus photographs by Anna Donlan*