

The University of Texas at Austin
Retired Faculty-Staff Association Fall Meeting
October 24, 2017
12:00 – 2:00PM
The Alumni Center - Connally Banquet Hall

Minutes

NOON – Lunch

Announcements – Tany Norwood, RFSA President

- Representatives from UT Staff Toastmasters Club are here today. Their membership is open to UT staff and retired staff. Please see them at their recruitment table.
- Books written by today's speaker, Kevin Tuerff are available for sale. Kevin will sign books both before and after his talk.
- Be sure to have your garage ticket validated at nametag table before leaving today
- The slide show is from the RFSA trip to Ireland and also from our business sponsors.
- The meeting will begin at approximately 12:20 so enjoy your lunch!

12:20 Opening Remarks by Tany Norwood, RFSA President

President Norwood welcomed all to the fall meeting and thanked them for their support of the RFSA and in particular for their donations to the Scholarship Fund.

President Norwood expressed appreciation for the support of President Fenves's Office and their staff for their generous support.

Further she thanked the Texas Exes for the use of this beautiful facility for our luncheon events, but in particular for the administrative services provides by Carol Barrett, their director of Special Services. Over the years she has been of tremendous assistance to RFSA – and always with willingness to help and a smile. Her outstanding work assures the excellence of the organization.

President Norwood acknowledged the support of our business sponsors who greatly contribute to our financial stability and to the scholarship fund. She reminded the members to shop at their businesses and be sure to thank them for their support of RFSA.

Those business sponsors joining us today:

- Cheryl Dozier and Rhonda Summerbell from the University Federal Credit Union;
- Jenny Brown from Westminster;
- Laurens Fish III with Weed-Corley-Fish;
- Molly Sherman with St. David's Healthcare; and,
- Our newest business partner, Dr. Margaret Hutchison and Ron Herzfeld with Austin Hearing Service.

Other sponsors not able to attend today are Covert Family Auto Dealerships, Stan's Heating and Air Conditioning, Karavel Shoes, and Mr. Appliance.

12:40 – Luncheon Speaker – Kevin Tuerff

Today's speaker, Kevin Tuerff, was a student leader at UT who among other things started the student radio station. He also worked here at the Ex-Students Association, and then after graduation co-founded Enviromedia, the health and environmental marketing firm. The events of September 11, 2001, changed his life forever. His story has inspired countless others, and the current NYC hit Broadway musical "Come From Away" stars a character based on Kevin. He has written a book, Channel of Peace, the story of the citizens of Gander, Newfoundland, who took in the many stranded air travelers providing food and housing, but more importantly, telling the story of the impact of their kindness and friendship that changed many lives.

1:00 pm Business Meeting

The minutes from the Spring 2017 meeting were approved by the Board and have been posted on the website.

New Member Introductions

Recent retirees and new members were asked to stand and introduce themselves by name and retiring department. Eighteen recent retirees and new members introduced themselves.

Scholarship Recipients

Through the generosity of donations to the scholarship fund, the support of the business sponsors and the RFSA travel Committee, RFSA was able to grant 18 scholarships this year. Seven of the recipients were present: Jarrod Chatham (RTF), Parker Chatham (RTF/ Studio Art), Dante Garcia (Mechanical Engineering), Andres Han (International Relations/Global Studies), Areefa Rahman (Chemistry), Nina Sport (Grad School/Comparative Lit), and Mackenzie Thering (Architectural Engineering). A group photo was taken.

Treasurers Report and \$10,000 Matching Scholarship

Income for 2016 -2017	\$29,000.00
Expenses	\$16,300.00

In the past few years RFSA has worked hard to overcome dire financial straits. At that time the RFSA Board set two goals: Gaining financial stability and increasing scholarship funds. Thanks to a lot of hard work and the generosity of our business sponsors, we have achieved those goals. For the past two years we have been able to transfer some of our operating funds to the scholarship fund.

This year RFSA has set aside up to \$10,000.00 to be used as matching funds for donations to our scholarship fund...so donations will be doubled! Yellow donation forms are available today. Everyone was encouraged to donate.

McKetta Attendance Awards

To encourage attendance at our luncheons and business meetings, Dr. John McKetta donates five attendance awards of \$200 each through a random drawing. The winners were:

- Michelle Warech-Phillips (Athletics)
- Barbara Wagner (Civil Engineering Spouse)
- Deena Mersky (Social Work)
- Linda Peterson (Briscoe Center of American History)
- Sharon Hinkle (Payroll Services)

Other Business:

- Minutes from the Spring Luncheon and Meeting are posted on the RFSA website.
- The Hearts of Texas campaign is in its final days. Please return your form in the return mail envelope before the deadline of 10/31/17.
- Holiday Party, December 7, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, Sterling Events Center. Watch for an email invitation.
- The Travel Interest Group has two upcoming trips
 - Alaska Land and Sea Journey, June 10 -23, 2018
 - Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, September 3-9, 2018Contact travel agent. Karen Bluethman for more information; also, check out the RFSA website for sign up information. Flyers for both trips are available here at the event table.
- Today's luncheon doesn't conclude until 2:00 pm so stay, visit with your friends, and enjoy the day.
- Visit with the University Toastmasters
- Buy a book and have Kevin sign it.
- Remember to have your parking ticket validated at the welcome table in the foyer.

In conclusion, the meeting closed by singing THE EYES OF TEXAS – accompanied by Barbara Myers on the piano.

Respectfully submitted,
Corky Hilliard
Secretary