

# RFSA MAGAZINE

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

## WHAT STARTS HERE CAMPAIGN

*pg. 22*

## A PATRON SAINT PALOOZA

*pg. 25*

**SPRING/SUMMER 2022**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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02	RFSA BOARD MEMBERS	23	RFSA CONSTITUTION
04	A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT	24	MY FAVORITE THINGS
05	SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS	25	A PATRON SAINT PALOOSA
07	SPRING LUNCHEON MEETING	28	OLLI: LIFELONG LEARNING AT UT
08	INTEREST GROUPS	29	MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
11	TRAVEL & FOODIES WINE TRIP	30	SCHOLARSHIPS
13	MEMBER SPOTLIGHT	34	IN MEMORIAM
14	LONGHORN FYI: WiSTEM		
16	LONGHORN FYI: UT OUTPOST		
18	SUMMER READING		
20	THE GREAT UT TRIVIA QUIZ, PART II		
22	WHAT STARTS HERE CAMPAIGN		

Front Cover photo: Photo by Professor Jason McLellan

Back Cover Photo: Photo by Jerry Hayes

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hasn't this been a year! We all went into fall of 2021 a little nervous, but hopeful that we could start resuming life as we knew it pre-pandemic. Many of RFSAC's activities have gradually started again this spring, but many are still on hiatus. We were able to hold our fall and spring luncheons and look forward to a return to normal activities this fall.

There have been some significant accomplishments for RFSAC this year, even if activities were still curtailed.

- ▶ The Exercise Interest Group had been on pandemic pause for 2020 and 2021, and when they were considering resuming classes last fall, learned that funding for their instructor had been cut. What we thought was a fatal blow instead turned out to be a speed bump. This spring the exercise class members agreed to a slight increase in their Rec Sports fees to cover the costs of the instructor. Problem was solved, and classes have resumed.
- ▶ RFSAC has not published a printed directory of members since 2019, mostly due to the pandemic, but it was also labor-intensive and expensive. We created an ad hoc committee to review the directory and make recommendations. They thoroughly reviewed every aspect including member usage, the pros and cons of an online directory, maintaining updated information, security, and cost. Their recommendation was to provide members with a PDF version of the directory. When the Ex-Students Association's new database is fully implemented, we will start offering that option to our members. Kudos on a job very well done to Bob Lawrence, who chaired the group, and committee members Miles Abernathy, Barbara and George Frock, and Peggy Mueller. Several Texas Exes staff also contributed their time to this project and provided invaluable input.
- ▶ There had been discussion for several years about updating our constitution, and a committee was created in the fall to do that. You can read about those updates in the article in this magazine. The committee also created a set of bylaws, a first for RFSAC, to provide more specific operational guidelines. Both documents were approved at our spring luncheon. Thank you so

much to the members of this hard-working group – Corky Hilliard served as chair, Eleanor Moore, Susan Kessler, Carol Barrett and I were committee members. Hopefully this set of documents will hold up for several years before revisions become necessary.

- ▶ An RFSAC Advisory Panel was created to provide feedback on all aspects of our Association. This group will discuss current activities and operations as well as suggest new ideas for our group to consider. Sharon Justice, Member-at-Large, will chair this group as they bring topics to meetings, discuss them, brainstorm, and perhaps make recommendations. Thank you in advance to Panel members Robin Fradenburgh, Karen Harrison, Liz Hastings, Karrol Kitt, John De La Garza and Bob Lawrence on agreeing to serve.
- ▶ UT RFSAC joined the national organization AROHE, the Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education. Several Board members have participated in their virtual conference and webinars and have been impressed with the tremendous resource it has been to RFSAC. And it has also been a source of pride that UT RFSAC does a lot of things really well and will have a lot to share with other institutions.

Most of you probably know that our RFSAC Board is phenomenal. Every member is hard-working, innovative, and truly dedicated to serving our organization. This team is essential to our success and has certainly been the reason that we have accomplished so much this year. And Carol Barrett, our advisor and administrative liaison, is the true backbone for our group. Her knowledge of UT and history of RFSAC are invaluable, and her upbeat and positive personality keeps us laughing and sometimes keeps us going. To each of you, thank you for all that you do.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as President this year, my second time to serve in that position (and my last time, unless our Constitution is revised again!) Many of you know that this year has been very difficult for me, personally. There were many times when I just felt totally overwhelmed. But what I didn't expect was the level of support, care and friendship I received from you. You helped without waiting for me to ask. You kept me focused on moving forward. You are an amazing group of people, and I am proud and honored and grateful to be part of RFSAC.

—TANY NORWOOD, *President, 2021-22*

## SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

- ▶ Our sponsors have been solicited because of their excellent reputations in selling the best goods and providing the best service to customers.

Many of them are family businesses that have been in our community for a long time. These include the Covert family of auto dealerships, the Strand family of Stan's Heating and Cooling, the Ravel family of Karavel Shoes, Mann Eye Institute, and the Fish family of Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Homes. Our other sponsors, although not family owned, have a long-time reputation for giving wonderful service to the community. They are St. David's HealthCare, University

Federal Credit Union, the Westminster Retirement Community, Fast Park & Relax. Check our sponsors' ads for information about their services, coupons, and special discounts.

Through their sponsorships, these businesses help us keep our membership dues low and provide support to UT students through the RFSAC Scholarship Fund. When you need goods or services, please consider using them – it will be a win-win-win situation for you, for them and for RFSAC. And when you use them, please let them know that you belong to RFSAC and that we appreciate their support.



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## SPRING LUNCHEON



ABOVE:

Mr. Rox Covert, with brief remarks and presentation of \$10,000 donation to RSVP Scholarship Fund

The Ransom Notes, led by Arianna Hadjebian (far right)

McKetta Award winners. (left to right) Dorothy De La Garza, Alba Ortiz, Terry Martin, Mary Kay Hemenway, and Margaret Tiedeken

On April 27, President Tany Norwood welcomed attendees to the Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting. Volunteers were asked to remain after lunch and make bookmarks and remembrance ribbons for the UT Remembers Ceremony to be held on Friday, May 6th to honor and remember retirees, faculty, staff, and students who have died in the previous year.

Valeria Martin and Abida Shoukat, volunteers for UT Outpost, were in attendance at the luncheon. Please see brief article in this issue.

The President thanked the members of the Orange Jackets, Blazers and Silver Spurs for their help with the luncheon, and urged RFSAs members to thank them for their service to UT.

Rox Covert, of the Covert family of auto dealerships, and a long-time RFSAs sponsor, was introduced and thanked for many years of support provided to RFSAs. After brief remarks, Rox Covert presented a \$10,000 check as a donation to the RFSAs Scholarship Fund.

Next, the Ransom Notes, a UT student-led a cappella vocal ensemble, led by Arianna Hadjebian, performed four songs. The final song was by special request, a parody of My Favorite Things. The entertainment was greatly enjoyed and soundly applauded.

On behalf of the RFSAs, Tany thanked President Jay Hartzell and his staff for hosting the RFSAs luncheon, following a tradition begun in 1982 by then President Peter Flawn to recognize faculty and staff for past and continued service. President Hartzell who could not be present offered a video greeting.

Tany also expressed appreciation to the Texas Exes for their support that includes the use of their facilities for meetings, accounts maintenance, and the design and printing of our magazine.

Our business sponsors were thanked and credited for RFSAs financial stability and the scholarship fund. Members were encouraged to patronize their businesses and thank them for supporting RFSAs.

Several were in attendance: Rox Covert from the Covert family auto dealerships; Molly Sherman with St. David's HealthCare; Mary Hoyt with FastPark and Relax; Elizabeth Quintero Kingsley with Weed-Corley-Fish.

Bill Lasher, Treasurer, gave the financial report (a full report is available on the RFSAs website). In summary, \$3,800.00 in dues; \$3,200 in sponsorships; \$1,000 McKetta Foundation; and \$2,400 from Travel. Ten thousand dollars were transferred to the Scholarship Fund. Currently, the Scholarship fund has 1.5 million dollars.

At this point, the members of the ad hoc Constitutional and By-Laws Revision committee were introduced. The changes as written were approved and are effective immediately. Read the full story in a separate article in this issue.

The vote on new RFSAs Executive Officers for 2022-2023 was next. The nominees were Charles Roeckle, President-Elect; Mary Knight 1st Year Member-at-Large; and John De La Garza, Member-at-Large representing UT System. The motion to accept the slate of nominees was seconded and approved. The list of RFSAs Board Members for 2022-23 is found on page 2.

The President recognized and thanked the members of this year's Nominating Committee chaired by Past President, Corky Hilliard, Sharon Justice, Susan Kessler, President-Elect; Donna Bellinghausen, and President, Tany Norwood.

Tany extended thanks to the Alumni Center Service Staff for their preparation of the room, food, and drink, and for all that made our time there fun and enjoyable.

Next was the John McKetta Attendance Awards of \$100. The awardees included Dorothy De La Garza; Mary Kay Hemenway; Alba Ortiz; Terry Martin; and Margaret Tiedeken.

President Tany Norwood thanked the RFSAs for the honor and privilege of serving as President. She acknowledged all the RFSAs past Presidents by asking them to stand to be recognized. She introduced the new President Susan Kessler.

President Susan Kessler gave brief remarks before inviting the audience to stand and face the Tower to sing the Eyes of Texas as an adjournment to the meeting. Additional photos from the lunch meeting are available at <https://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa/>

# INTEREST GROUPS

## ARTS AND CULTURE

► The Arts and Culture committee posts events of interest to connect with and allows us all to participate in the rich opportunities UT offers.

During the past few months and due to our Austin Phase 5 Omicron spikes we used a process of sending out many interesting events that members could do on their own.

Thanks to Carol Barret we were able to post timely notices for a variety of options including The Temptations at Bass Concert Hall, The Longhorn Jazz Band sponsored by the Butler School of Music, a Chamber music concert at Bates featuring renowned performer and professor Anton Nel and Blanton and HRC offerings to name a few.

With more venues opening on Campus, members will soon have even more Arts options.



**FIELD TRIPS:** Our group is working with well-known and beloved art historian, Karen Pope, (retired Baylor and UT) who has for many years delighted participants with her brilliantly organized field trips to Museums and locales (e.g., Galveston, Marfa) featuring Art, History and Architecture trips. Her group called “Art Insight” has agreed to allow us to present these trips as they come up. By collaborating with a proven, existing Arts group we can begin signing up for trips soon (possibly by late August 2022) with no cost to RFSA. I will keep you posted.

Her fliers and brochures and website include full details and prices for the luxury, educational, curated outings.

Finally, I hope, if you are interested, you will email me as I am still hoping to have an “in person” Interest group or “Friends of the Arts” group meet in person to steer this “ship” with me. Thanks to Charles Roeckle and the Board and Carol for warm support and encouragement and for always being ready to listen and help with ideas and decisions.

For more information, contact Laraine Kentridge Lasdon, Chair

at 512-784-3657 or larainelasdon@gmail.com

## BRIDGE

► The Bridge Group has started meeting again to play social bridge in person. We met after a long Covid break in December, February, March, and April. We plan to have games the first Monday of each month in the future. Those interested in joining the group should contact Mary Kay Hemenway at mkhemenway@utexas.edu.



## FOODIES

► Foodies Group Regrouping! The Foodies got together at a restaurant for the first time in almost exactly 2 years.

On March 22, we ate at Rosedale Kitchen and Bar.

## LEFT TO RIGHT:

Laraine and Dr. Stephen Ennis, Director of the Harry Ransom Center, at the James Joyce Exhibit in April

February Bridge group. Photo courtesy of Robert Luedtke.

## RIGHT PAGE:

Foodies Members at Rosedale Kitchen & Bar



This was the last place we visited before everything shut down for the pandemic in March of 2020. It was fitting that we start at the last place we met.

There were 10 people there, a good turnout for the first get together post-pandemic. The tagline for Rosedale states that they serve American comfort foods with a little worldly flare. This is an apt description. Much of the menu will seem familiar and will have their twist or take on the entrée. Everyone enjoyed their food and it was good seeing people eating together again.

Our next place on the menu (so to speak) is Old Thousand, a Chinese restaurant.

On April 19, we ate at Old Thousand II on Burnet Road. The Foodie group ate at the original Old Thousand on 11th street well before the pandemic started, this is the second location. The sign over the restaurant (seen from Burnet Rd.) says: DOPE CHINESE

We had 14 people get together for dinner that night. The food was good (a couple of dishes were a little spicier than expected), we passed around several dishes for others to try, such as the Brisket Fried Rice, green bean, brussels sprouts, and smoked chicken fire noodles. Everyone said they would come back again.

We will try to do monthly gatherings: dinners, lunches, brunches, etc. If you would like to join the Foodies group, email Robert Lawrence at rjlawrence1031@gmail.com

## HEALTH

► The Health Interest Group does not have any new activity to report. We hope to have a report in the next issue.

Linda Millstone (lmwiseone@gmail.com) & Karrol Kitt (kkitt@austin.utexas.edu)

Co-Chairs of Health Interest Group

## RFSA SPEAKER SERIES

► The RFSA Speaker Series, including the Finance/Investment,

# INTEREST GROUPS

Interdisciplinary Topics, and Discussion sub-groups continued on hold during the pandemic because the Howson Library meeting room remained closed.

Recently, as of late April 2022, the Howson Library has reopened the meeting room so we will resume a regular schedule of meetings in fall 2022. The library, however, has changed their room reservation system so we can no longer reserve the same day of the month and time for an entire year at a time. In the future we can only request room reservations 30 days in advance so we will do our best to work with the new system and schedule meetings on a consistent and repeatable basis as we have in the past. We will continue to announce meetings via email and interested RFSA members should note carefully meeting dates and times.

Co-Chairs Alice Reinartz (areinartz@tamu.edu) and Phil Kelton (pwkelton@gmail.com) will continue to lead this effort.

Don Davis (dgdavis@ischool.utexas.edu) organizes the Discussion group topics.

## EXERCISE

► Good news from the exercise group!

Last fall we were told by Rec Sports that the RFSA exercise group had been permanently canceled, but, thanks to the efforts of Tany Norwood and Carol Barrett, it has now been revived. We are meeting every Monday morning from 8:30 to 9:30 A.M. at the Gregory Gym North Studio for a variety of fitness exercises led by our experienced instructor, Sandy Erickson. Membership is available for recurring fees of \$14/month for Rec Sports plus an additional \$10/month class pass. We are a small group, but very friendly and would love to have new members.

For more information, contact Carolyn Wylie, cateswylie@gmail.com, 512-453-2556.

## TRAVEL

► The Travel Group has resumed activities and we are ready to enjoy some exciting new adventures! Our trips are organized by our RFSA Travel Agent, Lori Threatt at Relaxed Escapes Travel Consultants.

On April 7th, 2022 the Travel Group and Foodies completed a day trip to Fredericksburg for a Wine Country Tour. See details of this trip in Robert Lawrence’s article.

On May 14-22, 2022 we will enjoy a trip to Southwest Texas and New Mexico. Highlights include visits to Las Cruces, White Sands National Park, Inn of the Mountain Gods Resorts in Ruidoso, the UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, Carlsbad Caverns, Ft. Davis mountains and the McDonald Observatory (including a Star party!), a stay at Prude Ranch, Alpine, two nights in Big Bend National Park, then on to Marfa and El Paso. This custom trip is hosted by Sun Tours. Trip leaders are Sybil and Keith Momii.

August 10-18, 2022 we will visit Great Canadian Cities on a tour hosted by Premier World Discovery. This trip is a great way to escape the blistering August heat! We start in Montreal City (including Notre Dame Cathedral), a rail train ride to Quebec City, then to Montmorency Falls, Ottawa City, a 1000 Islands Cruise, Toronto City, and a two night stay at

## INTEREST GROUPS

the Marriott on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. The trip leaders are Sybil and Keith Momii.

On October 23, 2022 we head out on a Mississippi River Cruise, sailing for 8 days/7 nights aboard the beautiful new American Jazz (American Cruise Lines). Ports of call include New Orleans, LA; Oak Alley, LA, Baton Rouge, LA; St. Francisville, LA; Natchez, MS; Vicksburg, MS; and Memphis, TN. We will visit antebellum homes, plantations and delve deep into the history of the Civil War. The trip leader is Robin Fradenburgh, coordinating with Lori Threatt at Relaxed Escapes Travel Consultants.

On March 15-21, 2023 we will enjoy a trip to Iceland for the Land of Fire and Ice tour, hosted by Mayflower Cruises and Tours. Highlights include a stay in Hveragerdi; day trips to the south shore, Reykjanes Peninsula/ Blue Lagoon, Reykjavik (where we hope to see the Northern Lights), and the Golden Circle. Trip leaders are Sybil and Keith Momii. This trip is sold out

but we hope to add a second week, so please let Lori Threatt know if you are interested.

September 22-29, 2023 we travel to New York City and the Hudson River Valley, hosted by Premier World Discovery. We plan to see the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the 911 Memorial and Museum, the World Trade Center, Rockefeller Center, Times Square, Central Park, West Point, New Paltz and historic Huguenot Street, Hyde Park, FDR historic site, attend Broadway show and sail on a Hudson River cruise. Lori Threatt is coordinating this exciting trip.

For more details about any of these activities, contact Travel Group Co-chairs Sybil and Keith Momii at sybil.momii@gmail.com and keith.momii@gmail.com. Lori Threatt's email address is lori@relaxedescapes.com and her phone number is 737-228-3680.

## TRAVEL & FOODIES WINE TOUR



ABOVE:

Tasting some delicious wines at Arrowhead Creek Vineyards

RIGHT:

Departing Austin: The RFSA Travel and Foodies Groups headed to Fredericksburg for a joint Wine tasting tour!

BY ROBERT LAWRENCE

PHOTOS BY SYBIL AND KEVIN MOMII

On April 7, the Travel Group and the Foodies Group came together for a Texas Wine Country Trip. It was a great day for the trip, it was sunny, breezy and not hot. Fourteen Travel/Foodies/RFSA members met at Barton Creek Mall and were picked up by a van run by Majesty Tours out of Fredericksburg.

Majesty Tours had visits to 3 wineries/tasting rooms and lunch in Fredericksburg planned for the day.

In short, everyone had a wonderful time.

So. Much. Wine.

Our first stop was at the Texas Wine Collective, representing three Texas wineries: Brennan Vineyards, Lost Oak Winery and McPherson Cellars. They had three different flights of wines arranged for us to taste. Our host was very personable and knowledgeable about wines in the US and Europe. Originally from Napa Valley, he gave some history regarding wine including a story about how and why many European wineries use American root stock for their vines.

After that, we headed into Fredericksburg for lunch at the Western Edge on Main St. The staff there was quick, efficient and also pleasant. We had two more wineries to go to, so we did not tarry at the restaurant (there was a lot of wine to be tasted).

Our next stop was at a seemingly newer place called The Edge. They served English Newsome wines. On the property they were putting up small houses to be used as BnB's, there was a pool and a putting green. The view on the property overlooking the Pedernales River was gorgeous. They had a simple selection of 5 wines on their flight list.

The final stop was at Arrowhead Creek Vineyard. One of the owners made a point to meet us when we arrived. Arrowhead Creek is the name of the property although there is no creek named Arrowhead. The property is on old Comanche land and sits at a junction between Three Mile Creek and the Pedernales River. They served the flight of wine in the more traditional way of serving lighter wines first and building to heavier, bolder wines. There is a small market on the property as well.

It was a full day, starting in the van at 10 am and back to our cars at 6 pm. Everyone enjoyed it and voiced that they would definitely do it again.

Someone suggested we need a name for this group. The Texas Tipplers was recommended.

COMMENTS BY A FEW PEOPLE:

"We need to do this again"

"It was such a fun day and a wonderful chance to get to know each other better."



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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### Lanie Tankard

#### ► WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, I grew up on Lake Erie the first half of my childhood, followed by the Gulf of Mexico for the second. Thus, I'm a product of opposites: big industrial city + small farm town, North + South, bitter cold winters + hot humid summers. I spout a Rust Belt dialect with a Deep South accent.

#### TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

My father's English/Irish ancestors settled in Cleveland during the 1800s, while my mother's Swabian/German parents arrived from Schwäbisch Hall in the early 1900s and helped establish the town of Elberta, Alabama. That mixed cultural heritage left me with a taste for roast beef and Yorkshire pudding as well as bratwurst and Spätzle. My sister started college the same year I began kindergarten. I married a Virginia boy I met at the University of Texas: James William Tankard, Jr. We had a wonderful 32-year marriage. When he died in 2005 as a UT professor emeritus of journalism, we had just joined RFSA. Our three daughters (in Colorado, Oregon, and Austin) remain my best friends—and I'm blessed with three wonderful sons-in-law, plus three marvelous grandchildren.

#### TALK ABOUT YOUR CAREER

I'm a wordsmith. Books were my childhood retreat. When it came time

to declare a major at the University of Florida, journalism loomed large as a way to work with words (especially since women were still being "shuffled" out of the law library there). I minored in art to cover both sides of my brain. Following graduation, with the Vietnam War raging, I flew westward almost 14,500 miles to wage peace. I taught English as a Foreign Language during Peace Corps training in the village of Ngaremlengui, Palau. Micronesia had just opened up, after being shuttered for twenty-five years in a United Nations protectorate administered by the United States after World War II. I lived with a family on the island of Babelthuap seven degrees above the equator, learning far more than I taught. That summer totally shaped my worldview. I'm still in touch with two of my Palauan sisters, who now live in the USA.

Next came work at The Florida Times-Union in Jacksonville, where I broke the gender barrier as the first woman on a four-person editorial-page team. I wrote editorials (interviewing Gatorade inventor Robert Cade for one), handled layout for the Op-Ed page, got proofs pulled for our team, carried corrections to the linotype operator, and approved pages for lockup. I also reviewed books for the Sunday Times-Journal Magazine, and wrote a cover story about my Palau experience.

Then I found myself back in Alabama as a copywriter for a Mobile advertising agency, creating ads for newspaper, radio, and TV, and developing newsletters. Next I headed to the University of Texas to work on a master's degree in journalism. I was a teaching assistant in editing, minoring in linguistics, and also reviewed books for the Austin American-Statesman.

After graduation, my first job was on the Forty Acres. I worked for the American Psychological Association (APA) in Mezes Hall for five years as production editor of Contemporary Psychology, an APA monthly journal of book reviews with Janet Spence as editor and Don Foss as associate editor. I gained insight into psychology from the hundreds of books arriving each month from publishers for review, as well as from conversations with researchers and clinicians in the department and on our Board of Advisors. My interactions with psychologists elsewhere were fascinating (such as E.O. Wilson at Harvard and Anna Freud in London).

When APA moved journal operations to Washington, DC, I began teaching introductory newswriting at Texas State University in San Marcos until the birth of our first daughter. Then I started freelance editorial work on academic manuscripts for scholars at UT and around the world, specializing in nonnative English speakers. I also edited fiction and memoir. After two more daughters arrived, I carried work along as I waited for school to let out, kickball games to begin, or ballet class to end.

After my husband died and our daughters began moving out into the world, I continued freelance editorial work, adding proxy research at the Harry Ransom Center—where I assisted John Lahr for three years on his

biography of Tennessee Williams, *Mad Pilgrimage of the Flesh*.

#### NOW THAT YOU ARE RETIRED, HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR TIME?

Um, retired? I've cut editing to make time for writing of my own. I'm a freelance book critic and a voting member of the National Book Critics Circle. As Indie Book Review Editor for The Woven Tale Press, I have a page called "Eye on the Indies" highlighting independent/nonprofit presses and marginalized writers. My reviews also appear in *World Literature Today* and Ron Slate's *On the Seawall*.

I put up a Little Free Library in my front yard, have been in various book discussion and writing groups as well as a Shakespeare reading group, and am active on social media. I begin my days with a quick crossword puzzle. I enjoy photography. Until COVID-19 hit, I loved travel, especially with my family.

What else do I do? Well, I worry a lot. I worry about the future of humanity, about the effect of climate change on the planet, about the results of colonialism, about war, about the constant either/or dichotomy, and about our tendency toward othering. Yet I also find hope in the joy on a grandchild's face, the persistence of spunky women, the resilience of turtles, and the creativity of those who think outside the box to push the edge and develop new forms.

My mother told me early on: "Use your words." And I still do. They've served me well my whole life.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

#### WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A MEMBER OF RFSA?

Because RFSA brings together folks from all university disciplines instead of only one department, there's a confluence of ideas—and that's vitally important to me in cultivating new ways of thinking. I've been to Cuba and Panama with the Travel Group, pumped iron with the Exercise Group, broken bread with the Foodies at local restaurants, and stretched my mind occasionally with the Discussion Group. RFSA is a campus treasure.



#### LEFT PAGE:

Lanie at The Last Bookstore in LA (2018)

#### RIGHT PAGE:

Lanie with her daughters and grandchildren at Mayfield Park (2018)



ABOVE:  
Girl Day at UT

## Longhorn FYI: New WiSTEM Program Aims to Empower the Next Generation of Women STEM Leaders

► BY JESSICA SINN

The Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (DDCE) is a non-academic unit that serves as a beacon for the university's diversity, equity and inclusion work. Home to dozens of centers, offices and initiatives, the DDCE serves the students, the campus community, and communities across Texas in alignment with the university's mission to transform lives for the benefit of society. Featured below is a story spotlighting one of the DDCE's innovative K-12 programs that is empowering students to take their education by the horns and reach their full potential.

Every spring, thousands of young girls from schools across Texas come to the Forty Acres to build robots, experiment with helium balloons, and

watch spectacular displays of chemical reactions demonstrated by chemists. This annual event—Girl Day at UT—is just one of many offerings provided by Women in STEM (WiSTEM), which aims to bring more girls and women into STEM fields.

Led by two proud Longhorns Tricia Berry (B.S. Chemical Engineering '93) and Student Programs Director Ana Dison (B.S., Kinesiology '92), WiSTEM recently joined the DDCE in 2021 with the goal of expanding its K-12 STEM outreach and undergraduate mentoring efforts across the university and the community.

"It's exciting to be at this level where we can connect with disciplines across the university," says Berry, who has served as director of the Cockrell School of Engineering's Women in Engineering Program (WEP) for more than two decades. "Working within the DDCE, I believe our program will help prepare students for the workforce in a field that aligns with their interests and career goals. I'm excited about the impact we'll have down the road."

With a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), WiSTEM aligns with the DDCE's efforts to unlock student potential and prepare the next generation of leaders.

RIGHT PAGE:  
WiSTEM Launch Party  
Girl Day at UT

## LONGHORN FYI: WiSTEM



"We are very excited to welcome WiSTEM to the DDCE," says Dr. LaToya Smith, vice president for diversity and community engagement. "Through fun, interactive campus events and educational activities, this initiative will inspire more girls and young women—our next generation of world changers—to pursue STEM degrees and careers that can lead to groundbreaking discoveries and innovations."

In collaboration with the Cockrell School of Engineering, the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Natural Sciences and other campus partners, WiSTEM offers High School Summer Camps, undergraduate mentoring and networking programs and many other student enrichment programs designed to motivate girls and women to pursue a STEM education.



Looking toward the future, Berry strives to position The University of Texas at Austin as a national model for women in STEM programming, thus helping her alma mater fulfill its mission statement: What Starts Here Changes the World.

"Our focus is to help the university become a national model for STEM gender equity programming," Berry says. "In order to do that, it's critical to take Women in STEM to the university level. Here in the DDCE, we're surrounded by professionals who focus on diversity and believe in what we're trying to accomplish."

## IMPORTANT EMAIL CHANGE

► Did you opt to receive an "@utexas.edu" Gmail address when you retired? Google has changed licensing for those accounts, and it will most likely affect you.

You have gotten several emails from UT's Information Technology Services (ITS) department notifying you of the upcoming changes. Although enforcement will not begin until November 1, you will need the time until then to either reduce your email storage to less than 1GB or set up another personal email account. Also, if you have any files in Google Drive, you will need to download and/or move those files to a personal account because your @utexas.edu account will be email only.

The staff in ITS are working on a step-by-step instructional guide on how to use your @utexas.edu Gmail account in conjunction with a personal Gmail account to better manage the limited amount of storage. This guide will be made available from their online information page that also includes links to the latest information:

[https://it.utexas.edu/projects/utmail\\_storage\\_reduction/overview](https://it.utexas.edu/projects/utmail_storage_reduction/overview)





ABOVE:  
Valeria Martin, Student Emergency Services Coordinator for UT Outpost, collects food pantry & career closet donations at the RFSA Spring Luncheon.

## Longhorn FYI: UT Outpost Comes to Luncheon

► BY TANY NORWOOD,  
RFSA PRESIDENT 2021-2022

UT Outpost joined RFSA members at our luncheon on April 27. Outpost is a food pantry and career closet for all currently enrolled students at UT Austin. It is part of Student Emergency Services in the Office of the Dean of Students, and was created to address food uncertainty experienced by many students during their time at UT. We know that the need for assistance is growing as costs continue to rise in most of the other areas of students' lives.

Since Outpost was created after many of us retired, we invited them to collect food donations at our luncheon and speak to members about the services they provide. Valeria Martin, the Coordinator for Outpost, and Abida Shoukat, graduate assistant, collected items for the food pantry and joined us for lunch. RFSA members were extremely generous and brought enough food donations to fill several rolling bins, as well as HEB gift cards and cash.

Please keep UT Outpost in mind as you make future donations to UT. It is hard to focus on classwork when you are hungry, and your contribution could make a difference in a student's life.

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you gave us yours.

Thank You.



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*Doug, Outpatient Surgery Supervisor*

# TEN BOOKS FOR SUMMER READING

## From Jo Anne Huber



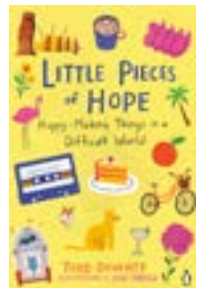
**THE FRENCH GIFT**  
*Kristi Manning*

In a French prison in 1940 Margot Bisset finds herself in a cell with writer and French Resistance fighter, Joséphine Murant. Together, they are transferred to a work camp in Germany for four years, where the secrets they share will bind them for generations to come.

Bringing together the past and the present in Paris, Evie Black lives in Paris with her teenage

son and discovers the legacy of her husband's great-aunt, Joséphine Murant. Together, they travel to Joséphine's house, now theirs, on the Côte d'Azur. Here, she unravels the official story of this famous novelist, and the truth of a murder a lifetime ago. Along the way, she will discover the little-known true story of the women who were enslaved by German forces in WWII.

## From Sharon Justice

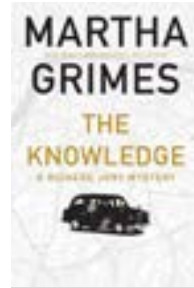


**LITTLE PIECES OF HOPE: HAPPY-MAKING THINGS IN A DIFFICULT WORLD**  
*Todd Doughty*

This is NOT a self-help book. On the day a global pandemic was announced, the author began making lists of all the good things that surround us. No, this is not a book of lists, but rather a hodgepodge selection of things that bring joy and as he says that is everything from short

naps to a small piece of chocolate cake that leaves you wanting more to an extremely green grasshopper. He also includes Things You Might Consider Doing Today. What I especially liked is that each writing is generally only one page, you can skip pages...just "surf" the book. Some of my favorites include: His essays on Summer Reading, Thanksgiving, Red Velvet Cake (which I love, love, love) and Taking the Leap Party, vintage pin ball machines, watching the parade of hats at the Kentucky Derby and on so many more. I have chosen to read about a page a day generally sitting in my big comfortable leather chair in the morning with a cup of coffee nearby.

## From Margaret Bienemann



**THE KNOWLEDGE**  
*Martha Grimes*

A Richard Jury mystery. Fast paced with just enough twists and turns to hold one's interest. I couldn't put it down as I had to keep reading to see what happened next.

## From Pamela Stephenson



**THE PERSONAL LIBRARIAN**  
*Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray*

Excellent read about the librarian (Belle Acosta Greene) for J. P. Morgan during early 20th century. She was an African American who identified as White, as encouraged by her mother during a time when African Americans were limited to participating in upper class jobs and activities. Very smart woman who was a shrewd negotiator to acquire an extensive collection of rare books and materials for Morgan.



**THE EXILES**  
*Christina Baker Kline*

Excellent book based on true incidents of women wrongly accused and imprisoned in Britain and then transported by slave ship to an island off Australia, now Tasmania, in the early 1800s. These women endured unbelievable obstacles and treatment. Well written.

## From Phil Kelton

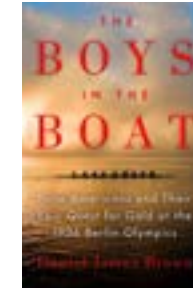


**THE END OF NIGHT**  
*Paul Bogard*

Rapidly increasing man-made light pollution over many decades not only threatens our ability to see the night skies but also has many other negative effects on society and on wildlife in the natural world. In this book, author Paul Bogard takes readers on a journey from the brightest of places (e.g., Las Vegas) to the darkest (e.g., some of our national parks) as he reviews these effects and

their importance. This is a highly reviewed and enlightening book about one of the great modern threats to our natural world.

## From Pat Boone



**THE BOYS IN THE BOAT**  
*Daniel James Brown*

About the team who tried for the Olympics & won!



**GOING THERE**  
*Katie Couric*

True account of her life experiences.



**LESSONS FROM THE EDGE, A MEMOIR**  
*Marie Yovanovitch*

True account of working with the State Department as an ambassador

## From Donna Bellinghausen



**THE DIAMOND EYE**  
*Kate Quinn*

Another wonderful book from Kate Quinn. In the snowbound city of Kiev, a bookish history student organizes her life around her library job and her young son - but Hitler's invasion of Russia sends her on a different path. Given a rifle and sent to join the fight, Mila must forge herself from studious girl to deadly sniper - a lethal hunter of Nazis known as Lady Death. When news of her

three hundredth kill makes her a national heroine, Mila finds herself torn from the bloody battlefields of the Eastern Front and sent to America on a goodwill tour.

Based on a true story, The Diamond Eye is a haunting novel of heroism born of desperation, of a mother who became a soldier, of a woman who found her place in the world and changed the course of history forever. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and could not put it down. Hint: Be sure to read the Author's Note for the historical facts and photos.

# THE GREAT UT TRIVIA QUIZ

## Part 2

By Jim Nicar

Did you pass part one of the UT Quiz in the last issue of the RFSA Magazine?

How well do you know the University of Texas, its history, traditions, and architecture? Take the quiz and find out.

Answers with explanations are found on the RFSA website: <https://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa/>

1. In 1900, a vote of students, faculty, staff, and alumni officially selected orange and white as the University's colors. What colors came in second place – by only seven votes?
  - a. Red and Blue
  - b. Pink and Green
  - c. Orange and Purple
  - d. Orange and Maroon
  
2. What was the name of UT's first academic recruitment program, spearheaded by the Texas Exes in 1958?
  - a. Gone to Texas
  - b. Bevo's Buddies
  - c. Texans for Tomorrow
  - d. Operation Brainpower
  
3. In 1964, pranksters placed which full-grown animal in Littlefield Fountain?
  - a. Fresh water shark
  - b. Sea turtle
  - c. Alligator
  - d. Manatee
  
4. Approximately how many degrees does the University award annually?
  - a. 5,000
  - b. 10,000
  - c. 15,000
  - d. 20,000

5. In 1961, as part of the Civil Rights Movement, what form of protest did UT students invent to integrate the movie theaters on the Drag?
  - a. The Sit In
  - b. The Stand In
  - c. The Walk In
  - d. The Run In
  
6. During the fall 1972 term, a group of students mounted an unsuccessful campaign to replace the "Texas Longhorns" with what animal?
  - a. Armadillos
  - b. Mexican Free-Tailed Bats
  - c. Rattlesnakes
  - d. Grackles
  
7. In 1908, law student Tom Ball registered the freshman class with bogus papers by impersonating which University official?
  - a. Registrar
  - b. Dean of Students
  - c. Provost
  - d. President

PHOTO BY BOB CHILDRESS



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## What Starts Here Campaign

PHOTOS BY JERRY HAYES

► The University of Texas at Austin is in the midst of the largest philanthropic campaign in the history of Texas higher education in an effort to advance the university's aspiration to become the highest-impact public research university in the world.

"At this moment, we face incredible opportunities as we pursue our goal of becoming the world's most impactful public research university," said UT Austin President Jay Hartzell. "We will accomplish this by continuing to attract highly talented people, by taking advantage of our unique place in Austin and Texas, and by focusing on transformative pursuits. By fueling our ambitious plans, the What Starts Here campaign will truly change the world."

The What Starts Here campaign has a historic goal to raise \$6 billion — one of the largest campaigns of any public university in the country — and unites all areas of campus around shared objectives to attract and support top talent, leverage the competitive advantages of Austin and Texas, and enhance UT's position in health care, research and scholarship.

The campaign includes a \$1 billion goal for scholarships and student support programs that expand experiential learning opportunities, help students graduate on time and prepare them for success after graduation.

Recruiting and retaining world-class faculty members has become increasingly competitive nationwide. Gifts to establish endowed faculty

chairs, professorships and fellowships will attract exceptional faculty members and graduate students to teach and innovate.

Bold new pursuits supported by the campaign include UT's health and well-being initiative, which will enhance UT's position as a premier health destination and national leader in health research and scholarship. A goal is to make Austin a hub for destination care, much like Houston, Dallas and other major health care centers.

The quiet phase, or leadership phase, began Sept. 1, 2016. Since then, more than 240,000 donors have contributed more than \$3.3 billion. This exceeds total contributions to UT's past campaign (Campaign for Texas 2006-2014). Many of these impactful gifts are already helping students excel, attracting new scholars and launching new programs.

The What Starts Here official campaign kicked off on campus on March 4 with showcases by the various schools, colleges, and units during the day, a Taste of UT Food Festival featuring local Austin food booths under large orange and white tents on both the south and main Malls, and TedxUTAustin, a student-led platform spreading new ideas and connecting a community eager to grow their impact on the campus with UT student, alumni and community speakers. In the evening, there was a community celebration featuring a concert by the Grammy nominated Black Pumas, President Hartzell's speech, and a large fireworks display with the tower turned orange. These selected photos are from this event. Enjoy!

For more information about the What Starts Here campaign, go to [giving.utexas.edu/wsh](https://giving.utexas.edu/wsh).



## RFSA CONSTITUTION REVISION

### Adopted at Spring Membership Meeting

CORKY HILLIARD  
PAST PRESIDENT 2021-22

► Revisions to the RFSA Constitution were approved by the membership at the Spring Membership Luncheon Meeting on April 27, 2022.

The Constitution Revision review began in August 2021.

The revision objectives were adopted:

- Utilize a formal Constitution and By Laws Format
- Simplify the language
- Clarify key processes and procedures
- Update the information and provisions to include items previously approved by the board and membership,
- Allow for electronic voting

The committee solicited suggestions and input from the Board, the Executive Committee, and membership. You can review the revised Constitution at <https://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa/>.

The Constitutional Revision Committee Members:

- Corky Hilliard, RFSA Past President and Chair
- Tany Norwood, RFSA President
- Susan Kessler, RFSA President – Elect
- Eleanor Moore, RFSA Former President

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# MY FAVORITE THINGS

SENIOR VERSION — A HUMOROUS PARODY

## Music: “My Favorite Things,” Richard Rodgers

Maalox and nose drops and needles for knitting,  
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,  
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,  
These are a few of my favorite things.

Cadillacs and cataracts and hearing aids and glasses,  
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,  
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,  
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,  
When the knees go bad,  
I simply remember my favorite things,  
And then I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets, and corn pads for bunions,  
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,  
Bathrobes and heat pads and hot meals they bring,  
These are a few of my favorite things.

Back pains, confused brains, and no fear of sinnin',  
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',  
And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,  
When we remember our favorite things.

When the joints ache, when the hips break,  
When the eyes grow dim,  
Then I remember the great life I've had,  
And then I don't feel so bad.

## STAY CONNECTED ONLINE

► We have two ways for you to stay connected to RFSA online: our RFSA website and our Facebook group.

You can find photos and information about our organization and upcoming events on our website.

Our RFSA Magazine is also posted here as soon as it is mailed to members.

Note: UT recently changed the URL of many websites, so be sure you have our new website bookmarked:

[sites.utexas.edu/rfsa](https://sites.utexas.edu/rfsa). Please also see the RFSA website for additional digital content under the “Etc.” tab.

And if you are a Facebook user, you can access our Facebook page and join us at

[facebook.com/groups/131246400563201/members](https://facebook.com/groups/131246400563201/members), or by searching groups for “University of Texas Retired Faculty-Staff Association”. We want this to be a place where members can post activities, updates and photos, and not just those about RFSA. We want to create a community for our members to share all kinds of information.

# A PATRON SAINT PALOOZA

BY JIM NICAR



ABOVE:  
1918 Peregrinus at  
Commencement

► All hail the University's patron saints!! Among the schools and colleges on the Forty Acres, a few have taken on mascots which have affectionately been promoted to “patron saints.” Each has its own history, has become a unifying and is intended to portray the best attributes of the students in their respective schools. Three of the best-known mascots – for law, engineering, and business – all have likenesses that were created out of pinewood by Austin master woodcarver Peter Mansbendel.

The School of Law claims the resolute Peregrinus (pronounced “perry-grin-OOS”). In 1901, law student Russel Savage was listening to a lecture on the Praetor Peregrinus, a traveling law official in Ancient Rome, when his attention began to wander. On the blackboard in the back of the classroom, Savage quietly drew an imaginative character and labeled it the Peregrinus. His doodle remained on the board for days and was quickly a hit with fellow law students. Copied into a notebook, later placed on a banner, and finally carved out of pine, the creature made regular appearances at school banquets and other events. The law school's yearbook, published from 1949 to 2004, was named Peregrinus in honor of the mascot.

Each part of the patron saint is meant to portray the finest qualities in a lawyer. The Peregrinus has a great bushy tail to sweep aside injustice, while his long beak pierces the mysteries of the law (after long hours of study). His arched back shows his willingness to spring into action to do right and oppose wrong. Irish ditcher boots on the forelegs are a reminder that the law must look out for the “common man,” and the boxing gloves on the hind legs are ready to defend equity. The Peregrinus' eyes are all-seeing, and atop his head rests a crown of truth.

Meanwhile, the Cockrell School of Engineering has Alexander Frederick Claire, or simply “Alec.” Initially a character in a song popular with engineering students, Alec took on physical form in 1908. On the evening of March 31, a group of engineers were “studying” at Jacoby's Beer Garden on Lavaca Street, just south of campus, when they spied a damaged five-foot wooden statue of Falstaff – an ad for Falstaff Beer. Distracting Mr. Jacoby and his staff, the students elected to “borrow” the likeness for their own purposes.

The following morning was, appropriately, April Fool's Day 1908. Just as 9 a.m. classes were about to convene, the engineers paraded the statue around the campus, complete with a makeshift band of homemade kazoos and trashcan lids for cymbals. In front of the old Main Building, the group declared Alec to be the patron saint of Texas engineers, and was lauded for being the true architect of the Great Pyramids of Egypt, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, and the Suez Canal. (Several of the students reportedly wept with joy, so great was their admiration of the new patron saint.) Freshly picked Texas bluebonnets were placed at Alec's feet, the students collectively swore allegiance to the mascot on “holy” calculus textbooks, and with the ceremony concluded, the engineering dean and faculty were promptly kidnapped for a class cut day.

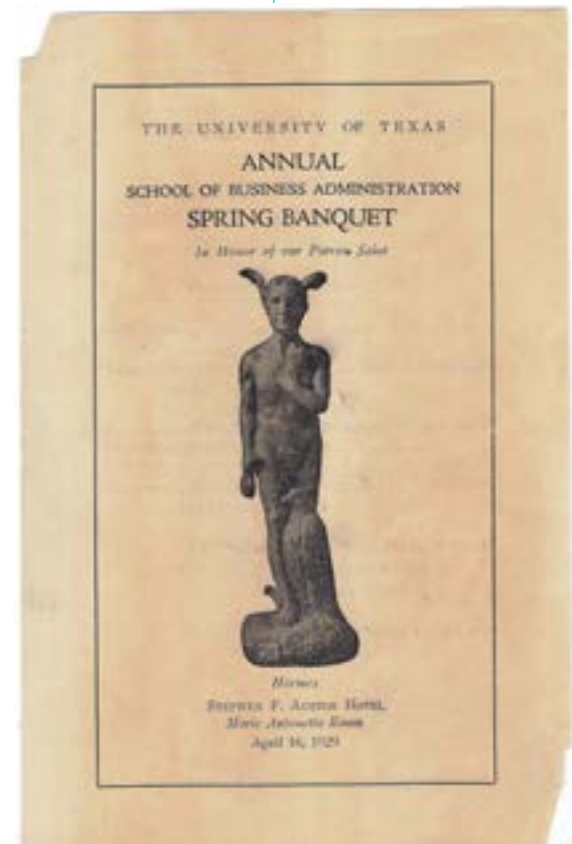
# A PATRON SAINT PALOOZA

Over the years, rival law and engineering students have stolen the other's mascots. At one point, Alec was spirited away to a farm in Pflugerville, where his photograph was taken while standing in a pig sty. "That's Alec with his own kind," announced the law students. "No!" countered the engineers, "That's Alec feeding the laws." Later incidents were rougher and the mascots were physically damaged. The latest versions of Alec and the Peregrinus were created by Peter Mansbendel in the 1920s.

The McCombs School of Business boasts the wily Hermes, the Ancient Greek god of commerce, renowned for his eloquence, speed, shrewdness, and wisdom. In 1922, when the UT Board of Regents voted to create a stand-alone business school (which celebrates its centennial this year), students sought an icon they could call their own. A committee produced several recommendations, but after a school-wide vote, Hermes was declared the new patron saint at the spring banquet on May 10, 1922.

Hermes wears winged sandals as a symbol of his swiftness. With his left hand near his heart he holds a caduceus, a staff with two entwined snakes that was a symbol of commerce to the Ancient Greeks, and declares Hermes the authority of strategic negotiations. In his right hand he carries a bag of gold, a trophy of his successful commercial transactions. An eagle sits at his feet, evidence that the business school's Hermes is "one hundred percent American" despite his distant origins. For UT business students, their patron saint is a symbol of strength, success, innovation, and efficiency in the commercial enterprise.

Today, the Peregrinus and Alec are on display in the law and engineering libraries, while Hermes supervises in the business undergraduate student office.



ABOVE:  
1930 Alec with  
Engineering Dean Thomas  
Taylor

1929 Hermes image on  
Banquet Program



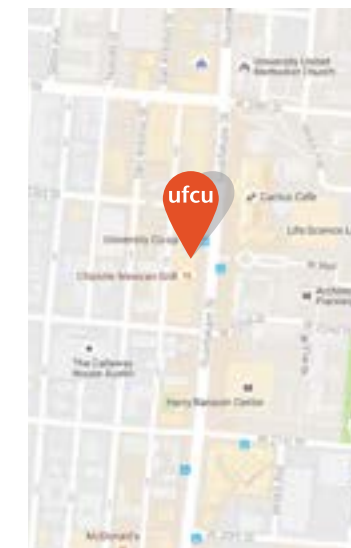
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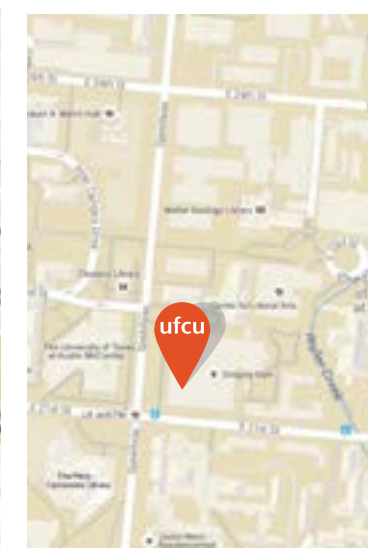
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**For more locations, visit [UFCU.org](http://UFCU.org).**

# LIFELONG LEARNING AT UT

## OLLI: UT's Extended Learning Program

► When Louise retired from her law firm management position, she soon realized she missed the companionship of her co-workers, the intellectual stimulation her career had afforded, and the sheer joy of learning something new.

A friend introduced her to UT OLLI. "I walked into that first lecture at the Thompson Center and immediately felt welcome. Everyone was excited about the upcoming session, and we all looked forward to the possibility of making new friends!"

Since that initial lecture three years ago, Louise has chosen other OLLI offerings from such diverse fields as architecture, music, memoir writing, estate planning, the art world, artificial intelligence, and updates in medicine. UT OLLI presenters are usually current or retired professors, as well as leaders, former leaders and outside experts in their respective fields.

Memorable lectures have included, "The History of Italian Cuisine," "Global Challenges in our National Security" presented by Admiral Bobby Inman, and "Winter Freeze-Out: An objective analysis of the near-collapse of the Texas Power Grid," given by civil engineer, Oliver Smith, Jr.

But OLLI is not just about learning. "Besides keeping my mind active and engaged, I now have new friends who come from a variety of backgrounds and careers. Members gather for lunch during the sessions, and there are happy hour opportunities and field trips, both in and out of town. OLLI has been a joyous ride for me!"

Founded in 1989, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Texas at Austin (UT OLLI) is part of a larger network of institutes across the country, including 124 college and university campuses from Maine to Hawaii and Alaska. <http://www.osherfoundation.org/>

At the start of the winter session, OLLI members were delighted to welcome UT professors Dr. Rich Reddick and Dr. Sharon Justice to discuss their work with "The Eyes of Texas" History Committee, which addressed the controversy surrounding the school song and the committee's findings and recommendations for moving forward.

This lecture, sponsored by the UT OLLI Diversity Committee, was followed by another given by Dr. Andrea Holman to round out the winter semester. Dr. Holman, an expert in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, discussed the next steps needed to make sure concern for social justice leads to lasting change.

For more information about OLLI and how to become an OLLI member, visit [olli.utexas.edu](http://olli.utexas.edu).

## Helpful links

### SAMPLE CATALOGS OF LECTURES & SEMINARS:

[https://olli.utexas.edu/sites/default/files/documents/winter22-catalog\\_final\\_0.pdf](https://olli.utexas.edu/sites/default/files/documents/winter22-catalog_final_0.pdf)

<https://olli.utexas.edu/sites/default/files/Fall%202021%20catalog.pdf>

### SAMPLE ONLINE SESSIONS:

[youtube.com/channel/UCWLB9F8jpGaIjn9mwYLTlw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWLB9F8jpGaIjn9mwYLTlw)

### ONLINE PRESENCE:

[twitter.com/ut\\_olli\\_austin](https://twitter.com/ut_olli_austin)

[facebook.com/utolliaustin/](https://facebook.com/utolliaustin/)

# MEMBERSHIP

## Update

► Now that many of the pandemic restrictions are lifted, it was wonderful to see approximately 140 RFSA members and guests attending our spring luncheon and meeting on April 27, 2022.

RFSA membership is maintained without a break by paying dues, once per year or for three years. Reminder notices are sent to you by email in the month your membership is due. Please remember to keep your email address current.

All active RFSA members receive email notices of our two luncheon meetings and the Holiday Party. If you don't pay your dues, you won't receive these invitations. We also send notices of our Interest Group activities – bridge, exercise, foodies, health, finance, travel, arts and culture, and other topics and speakers of interest.

This year some of our service projects have included:

Orange Santa online donations and \$800 collected at RFSA Holiday Party. UT overall: 949 children (406 families) received \$40 gift cards from \$36,000 donations. Other donated funds purchased food for the Hispanic Faculty Staff Association meals and books for the Littlest Longhorn Book Program and UT Elementary School.

Seven RFSA donors contributed \$760.00 to the RFSA Scholarship Fund through 40 Hours for the 40 Acres April 6-7, 2022.

RFSA members generously donated to UT Outpost, the free on-campus food pantry and career closet for all currently enrolled students at UT Austin. At our annual spring meeting members donated requested food items, gift cards and cash to help students experiencing financial and food insecurity.

Approximately 36 RFSA members stayed after the spring luncheon and annual meeting to make UT Remembers mementos; orange and white ribbon tassels for the bookmarks and orange ribbon loops to pin to lapels and collars. Dr. Mary Steinhardt, chair of UT Cares and who will preside over UT Remembers joined us to make mementos. These will be given to families and guests at UT Remembers on May 6, 2022. [utremembers.utexas.edu](http://utremembers.utexas.edu)

Everyone is encouraged to spread the word about RFSA to your friends who may be thinking about retirement and/or those who are newly retired. Remember - the first year after you retire is free - it's our gift to new retirees.

On a personal note, I am stepping down from my position as Membership Chair. After serving first as member-at-large and then membership co-chair and membership chair, it's time after almost twelve years. My grateful thanks to Norm Minter, Peggy Kruger and Carol Barrett who mentored me, taught me the ropes and provided me with the script for the sessions at Human Resources "Retiring from UT Austin" class. I won't be far away. I will still be involved with several of the service projects – UT Remembers, UT Cares, Orange Santa, 40 Hours for 40 Acres and others. Thanks always for your contributions to RFSA. Hook 'em!

### **Peggy Mueller**

*RFSA Membership Chair, 2021-22*

**Thank you, Peggy, for your service as membership Chair!**

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## ABOUT OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

RFSA's Scholarship Fund is our main, and most impactful, service project. It was created in 1983 and the first scholarship was awarded in 1988. Two years ago, our fund reached a milestone of surpassing one million dollars in market value.

In addition to undesignated donations, members and friends are encouraged to make contributions in memory or honor of family, friends, and colleagues; in celebration of particular events, and through estate donations. In 2018, our organization committed to match any donations with reallocated operating funds, and some of that match is still available. So, if you donate soon, you can double the amount of your donation.

Please consider a contribution – it will truly make a difference in a student's life.

**A donation card is included in this magazine. Make a difference in a student's life this year and send your donation to RFSA for the next group of students receiving an RFSA Scholarship.**

## RFSA SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

GIFTS RECEIVED FROM  
NOVEMBER 1, 2021 – APRIL 15, 2022

James and Mary Crook	Pam Autrey In memory of Carolyn Wiley	Jean Harrison
Philip and Karen Kelton	Kaye Abikhaled In memory of Renata Babuska	Cecil Martinez, Jr. In honor of Frank Bash
Martha Ann Boyd In memory of John Durin In memory of David Gavenda In memory of William Glade In memory of Hans Mark	Carole Buckman	Dr. Charles Roeckle
	Lael Hasty	Peggy Mueller
		Sherry Melecki
Martha Ann Boyd In honor of Carol Barrett In honor of Tany Norwood In honor of Bill Lasher In honor of Lael Hasty	Colleen Matthews Mehner	Daniel Quinones
	Beverly Shivers	Tany Norwood
	Charles Mullins	Dr. Sharon Justice In honor of Tany Norwood
Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey S. Baldwin	Laraine Lasdon	
David Warner	Cynthia and Thomas Barnes III In Memory of Harlan J. Smith	Donna Bellinghausen In Memory of Bob Norwood
Patsy Boone		
	Admiral Bobby R. Inman, USN (Retired)	Darlene Gavenda In Memory of J. David Gavenda
John Uglum, Ph.D.		

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## 2021-22 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

<b>Kelsia Adil</b> Austin, TX Finance, Canfield Business Honors, International Relations and Global Studies	<b>Jocelyn Jimenez</b> Forney, TX Advertising and Texas Media and Analytics Sequence	<b>Ethan Martin</b> Round Rock, TX Computer Science
<b>Daeun Baek</b> Dallas, TX Advertising	<b>Joon Kim</b> College Station, TX Chemical Engineering	<b>Binh Nguyen</b> Palacios, TX Public Health
<b>Sam Briceno</b> Los Angeles, CA Chemical Engineering	<b>Phong Le</b> Burleson, TX Women and Gender Studies, Sociology, Race, Indigeneity, and Migration, African and African Diaspora Studies	<b>Tien Nguyen</b> Fort Worth, TX Biology Honors
<b>Hui Quang Bui</b> Houston, TX Public Relations	<b>Kyutae Lee</b> The Colony, TX Mechanical Engineering	<b>Kristina Tran</b> Arlington, TX Psychology
<b>Dillon Ding</b> Houston, TX Mechanical Engineering	<b>Amy Li</b> Richmond, TX Interactive Design	<b>Nida Virabalin</b> Sugar Land, TX Anthropology and Civil Engineering
<b>David Do</b> Pflugerville, TX Government and Economics	<b>Shianne Lum</b> Van Alstyne, TX Journalism	<b>Dallas Wilburn</b> Lone Oak, TX Psychology

### Donate By Mail

Checks should be made payable to  
**The University of Texas at Austin**

and mailed to the following address:

*Carol Barrett, RFSA Coordinator  
Texas Exes  
P.O. Box 7278  
Austin, Texas 78713*

### Donate Online

You are also able to donate online through the UT Online Giving website at  
[giving.utexas.edu/RFSA2012](https://giving.utexas.edu/RFSA2012)

The "Gift Designation" line should read "Retired Faculty-Staff Association". Enter the amount you wish to give and complete the rest of the information requested. You will receive an electronic acknowledgement from UT and a written acknowledgement from RFSA in the mail.



# SCHOLARSHIPS

## COVERT DONATION TO RFSA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The UT Retired Faculty-Staff Association made a major financial decision in 2017 that we would have a limited number of business sponsors. From the very beginning, Rox Covert and the Covert Auto Group has been one of our biggest supporters. Not only have they supported RFSA financially through their sponsorship, but they have also contributed to our scholarship fund. At our Spring Luncheon this year, Mr. Covert asked to speak briefly to our group, and we were delighted to accommodate this request. He said he knew how hard RFSA worked to better the lives of our retirees and support students through our scholarship fund, and he wanted to help. And then he presented us with a \$10,000 donation to our scholarship fund!

Mr. Covert and his family of auto dealerships represent what is best about our local businesses. For 113 years, the Covert dealerships have provided outstanding products and services to the Austin community. But they have gone far beyond being a sound business model – they are community partners and have made central Texas a better place to live in many ways. We are deeply touched by Mr. Covert’s gift. It will make a difference in the lives of many students. And we are grateful for our partnership with the Covert family.

**Thank you to Rox Covert and  
the Covert Auto Group!**

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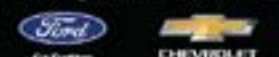


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## IN MEMORIAM

This column honors the memory of retired University of Texas at Austin faculty and staff and retired University of Texas System staff whose deaths have been made known to us between November 15, 2021 and April 30, 2022. Every attempt has been made to identify the university affiliation of each individual or their contributions to the university community. Also included, when known, are spouses of retired faculty and staff members, as well as notable friends of the University. Any additions or corrections to the list should be addressed to Barbara Frock, Historian, at jbfrock@gmail.com

**Alice Ruth Baker, 75**

*Gift Shop Manager, Texas Memorial Museum*  
March 10, 2022

**Mary A. Bedrich, 82**

*Wife of Jim Bedrich, Associate Director of Accounting*  
November 28, 2021

**Mary Beth Southerland Bennett, 81**

*UT Defense Research Laboratory*  
December 28, 2021

**Herbert Lester Berk, 83**

*Professor Emeritus, Physics*  
November 30, 2021

**Sigrid Clift, 72**

*UT's Bureau of Economic Geology;  
The State Geological Survey of Texas*  
April 10, 2022

**Robert James Coote, 90**

*Cass Gilbert Teaching Fellow, Professor Emeritus, Architecture*  
April 16, 2022

**Durene Harlin (Bohannon) Crouch, 94**

*UT Student Health Center*  
February 22, 2022

**John Ray Crutchfield, 85**

*Resident Manager, Brackenridge, Field Lab-Biology Sciences*  
January 2, 2022

**Douglas Calvin Dacy, 94**

*Professor, UT Economics*  
January 23, 2022

**Colonel Ed Davis, 92**

*Aerospace Engineering*  
November 3, 2021

**Hans-Bertold Dietz, 92**

*UT Professor, Musicology*  
October 28, 2021

**Norma Olga Fischer, 98**

*Retired from UT Austin after 35 years in various positions*  
March 11, 2022

**Ronald Abbie Franklin, 79**

*Radio Voice of Texas Longhorn Football and Basketball*  
January 18, 2022

**David Gavenda, 89**

*Professor Emeritus, Physics*  
November 13, 2021

**Warren Gould, 93**

*Director of Development and University Relations*  
April 11, 2022

**Lino Graglia**

*Dalton Cress Professor of Law*  
January 30, 2022

**Lysle (Jack) Guyer, 91**

*Applied Research Laboratory*  
April 22, 2022

**Durrell Haynes, 80**

*Retired after 42 years, built research equipment,  
Chemical Engineering*  
November 26, 2022

**Rolando Hinojosa-Smith, 93**

*Professor of English*  
April 19, 2022

**Linda Hoffmann**

*Widow of Jerry Hoffman,  
Physics*  
March 30, 2022

**Elaine Kolker Horwitz, 71**

*Professor Emeritus, Foreign Language*  
February 16, 2022

**Martha King, 63**

*Executive Director,  
Endowment Services and Compliance*  
December 2, 2021

**John Kolsti, 86**

*Professor Emeritus,  
Slavic Languages & Literature*  
November 30, 2021

**Karl Richard Korte, 93**

*Professor Emeritus, Composition,  
Butler School of Music*  
March 27, 2022

**Kermit Dean Larson, 82**

*Professor, Chair  
Accounting*  
March 7, 2022

**Thomas Linscomb, 61**

*Senior Systems Specialist,  
Computation Center*  
January 18, 2022

**Lisa Anne Lockhart, 72**

*Admissions Counselor*  
October 29, 2021

**Marjorie Loehlin, 100**

*Widow of John Loehlin  
Professor, Psychology*  
December 26, 2021

**Sarah Patricia (Pat) Williams Marshall, 94**

*Wife of Ray Marshall, Professor Emeritus,  
LBJ School of Public Affairs*  
January 6, 2022

**Mary Mikeska, 67**

*International Student  
Program Coordinator,  
UT Law School*  
November 26, 2021

## IN MEMORIAM

**Peter Lee Oliver, 85**

*Professor, Zoology*  
November 30, 2021

**Patrick Cunningham Oxford, 79**

*Member, Board of Regents,  
Chair, Health Affairs Committee*  
February 13, 2022

**Haskell P. Rosenthal, 81**

*John T. Stuart III Centennial Professor,  
Math,  
Professor Emeritus*  
December 5, 2021

**Darla Faye Rowan, 74**

*Staff, Physics*  
October 27, 2021

**Anna Maria Saldana, 87**

*Director of Financial Aid, Law School*  
November 29, 2021

**Kathleen Barbour Saquer, 56**

*Assistant Director of Advising,  
McCombs School of Business*  
October 30, 2021

**Delbert D. Thiessen, 89**

*Professor Emeritus, Biopsychology*  
February 9, 2022

**Robert Gordon Tull, 92**

*One of the original professors in the new  
Astronomy Department*  
April 6, 2022

**Sarah Catherine Ragle Weddington, 76**

*Taught Law Courses at UT for 28 years*  
December 26, 2021

**Ashley "AJ" Welch, 88**

*Marion Fossman Centennial  
Professor, Engineering*  
January 1, 2022

## **RFSA**

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

The Retired Faculty-Staff Association of The University of Texas at Austin provides the point of connection, continuity and communication for the mutual benefit of its members and The University. A complete statement of the purposes of the association can be found in the constitution. Submissions may be emailed to [donnabell1015@gmail.com](mailto:donnabell1015@gmail.com) or mailed to Carol Barrett, RFSA Coordinator, Texas Exes / P.O. Box 37278 / Austin, TX 78713.

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