



# Retired Faculty & Staff Association *Magazine*

*Fall 2013*

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## 2013-14 RFSA Board

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*Volume XXVIII, Issue 1*

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

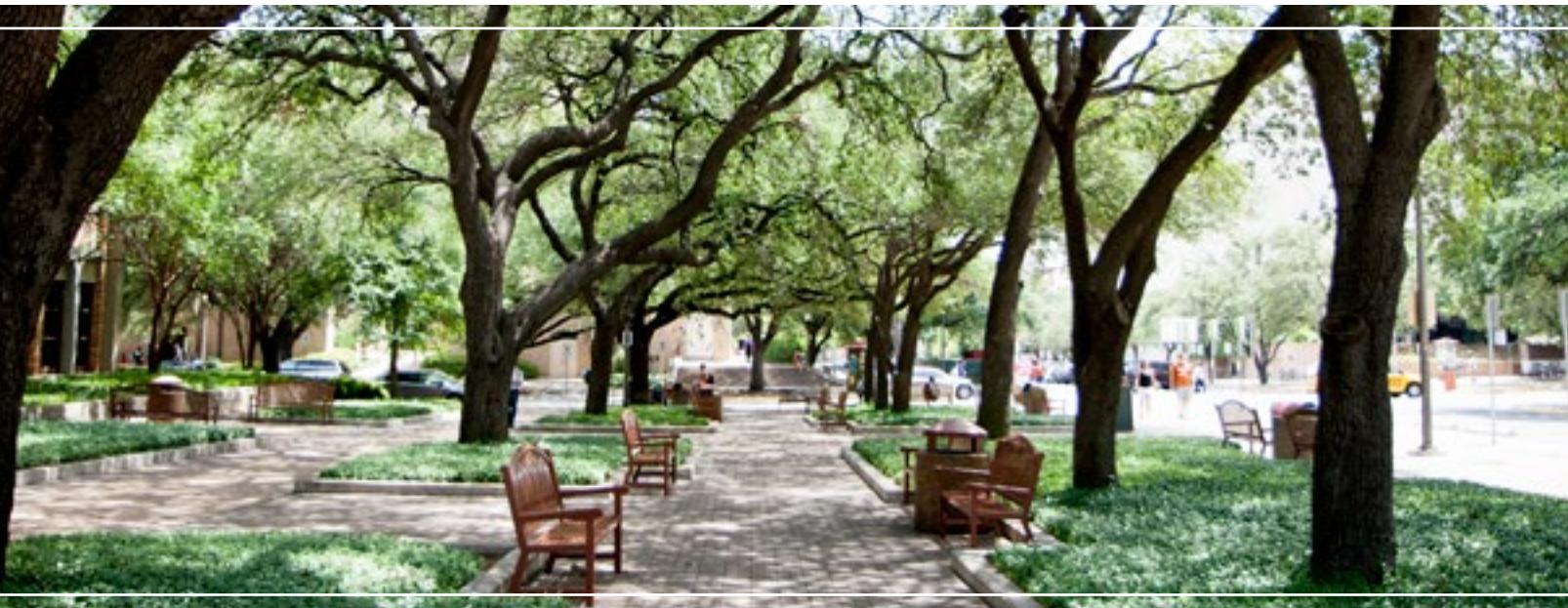


WELCOME, NEW AND OLD MEMBERS OF RFSA! Fall is well under way, and I hope you've already attended some of the programs presented by our seven interest groups. RFSA doesn't strive to be a "life-time learning" organization, but the knowledgeable speakers present a lot of interesting and valuable material in informal settings. And the trips organized by the Fine Arts and Travel groups are stellar!

I first learned about RFSA long before I retired, when some information about the then-new organization made its way across my desk. I recall that the late Shirley Bird Perry had a hand in its beginnings, and I thought it was quite a nice way to connect with former colleagues and UT people I'd never met. And it is, as I discovered when I joined shortly after retirement. If you're interested in how RFSA came to be, you can find Margaret Berry's history

of our organization on our website, [www.utexas.edu/rfsa](http://www.utexas.edu/rfsa), along with information about our programs and pictures taken by our talented photographer and IT chair, Miles Abernathy.

Our two committees, Membership and Fundraising, met this fall to talk about plans for this year. The Membership Committee, co-chaired by Peggy Kruger and Norm Minter, recommends ways to increase membership and participation by attracting retirees from all departments and offices on campus, not just from faculty and staff of academic departments and administrative offices, and also to make a greater effort to attract retirees from the UT System offices. Committee members have begun attending pre-retirement sessions held by the Office of Human Resources, making brief presentations about RFSA and encouraging retirees to join. And efforts will be made to keep in touch with new members and encourage them to get involved with RFSA activities. Another recommendation is for members to monitor and have an active role in making changes to UT retirement benefits



when such changes are discussed. And last, the committee recommends that we encourage new and old members of RFSA to share their ideas about programs and policies with the Executive Committee. We need to hear any ideas you may have. One important way you can help is by recruiting friends and co-workers who have recently retired – over 275 people during the 2012-13 academic year. Retirees are more likely to join if someone they know is a member, who can tell them what RFSA has to offer. Many thanks to Peggy and Norm and the members of the Membership Committee for their work on behalf of RFSA.

I am pleased to share with you the results of the new fundraising efforts begun last year, through the sale of raffle tickets at luncheon meetings of RFSA, and through the sale of advertising to appear in the RFSA Magazine and the member directory. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of Deena Mersky and members of the RFSA Board in obtaining items for the raffles, we raised \$1,200. And kudos to Cecil Martinez, chair of the Fundraising Committee, for getting the advertising campaign off to a great start, and to Deena Mersky and Peggy Mueller for their assistance – \$2,600 was raised last year and \$5,000 already this year! Funds from the raffle and advertising will be used to support the programs and operating expenses of RFSA, and to augment the scholarship program.

In this issue of the RFSA Magazine, you will see features describing many of the ways RFSA members participate in our activities – through the interest groups, the luncheon meeting each semester, and the annual holiday reception at Bauer House. And check out the variety of offerings of the interest groups in the Activity Calendar, edited by Barbara and George Frock. There's something for everyone.

Special thanks to the Office of the President for sponsoring RFSA and for providing our fall and spring luncheons, and to Carol Barrett of the Texas Exes, for her outstanding and unfailing support.

I hope to fill at least one of the shoes of Deena Mersky, immediate past president, who did such a wonderful job, and to continue the great tradition of RFSA, founded in 1982, with roots going back another 40 years. I'm honored to have this opportunity.

**Barbara Myers**  
*President*



*Travel Group during the 'Great Trains & Grand Canyons' tour*



*Members tour Circuit of the Americas*

# INTEREST GROUPS

## TRAVEL

THE RFSA SPRING GETAWAY TO CRYSTAL BRIDGES MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART in Bentonville, Arkansas was April 4-8, 2013. Before touring the University of Arkansas campus and the Nanoscience Center, the RFSA travelers were invited to have coffee at the Alumni Center, overlooking Razorback stadium. Jim Stice and Carol Kay Johnson were surprised to be welcomed into the Golden Tower Society,



*Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, AR*

which recognizes graduates who have been members of the alumni association for 50 or more years, receiving a medallion, pin, and certificate (which Jim pointed out is suitable for framing) and proving they have not forgotten how to call the Hogs, though Hook 'em Horns is more natural now. The Fayetteville visit concluded with Jim's niece, Fenner Russell, hosting a barbecue dinner in the family home which Jim's grandfather had built in 1916. The stunning Crystal Bridges Museum, the unique Cooper Chapel, the Philbrook in Tulsa, the Oklahoma City National Memorial and the Western Heritage Museum were all memorable stops on the trip.

On October 1, more than 40 RFSA members boarded

the buses to tour the Circuit of the Americas facility southeast of Austin. Highlights included stopping at Turns 1 and 11 and going up to the top of the Grand Tower for a fantastic view of the surrounding area and cars racing around the track below. We were fascinated by the local connections – everything from sourcing of construction materials and labor to UT architects and mechanical engineers involved in design and construction.

RFSA travelers headed to Sedona, Arizona October 13-18 for the "Great Trains and Grand Canyons" tour. In spite of the federal government shutdown, the State of Arizona and US Government cooperated so travelers could see everything on the original itinerary. Destinations included exploring scenic Sedona, visiting the Grand Canyon, riding the Verde Canyon Railroad, taking the Pink Jeep ride through the red rock formations, touring the Lowell Observatory founded in 1894, and walking the lava flow trail of Sunset Crater. The scenery was spectacular, the company was congenial, the weather was perfect, and a good time was had by all.

On January 12-22, 2014, we look forward to the Tanzania Migration Safari, and will report on that in the next newsletter. *For more information or if you have suggestions for future trips, contact the RFSA Travel Chair, Carol Kay Johnson at 512-926-8191.*



*Carol Kay Johnson and Jim Stice recognized*

ON DECEMBER 9, WE WILL HOST DR. LAURA STARKS, Professor of Finance at the McCombs School of Business, at 1:00 p.m. at the Howson Library. *For more information contact chair Phil Kelton at [pkelton@gmail.com](mailto:pkelton@gmail.com) or 512-458-9961.*

## FINANCE & INVESTMENTS

“THE PURPOSE OF ART IS WASHING THE DUST OF DAILY LIFE OFF OUR SOULS.” *Pablo Picasso*

“Fine Arts” by our definition is inclusive of all creative activity, although many assume it applies primarily to the visual arts. This year we will be moving beyond our traditional museum tripping and exploring some other venues and experiences.

Carolyn Wylie ([cwyylie13@att.net](mailto:cwyylie13@att.net)) keeps up with musical events in Austin and lets the membership know what is happening and where – check the website for current concerts and musical events. We’ve had Gilbert and Sullivan group events and will probably repeat this in the spring.

## FINE ARTS

Judy Amis ([judy.amis@yahoo.com](mailto:judy.amis@yahoo.com)) arranges the theater parties, and we will have our second at St. Edwards in April. It will be a musical, “Merrily We Roll Along,” book by George Fruth, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Once more, we will meet beforehand for a happy hour and dinner. We’ve done this several times already – always fun for all, with easy access to the theater and a nearby restaurant.

On October 25th, 16

Art Trekkers were treated to a visit at the home of twin sisters Susan and Stephanie Amster. These unusually gifted and talented women, now retired from college teaching in Illinois, graciously led us through their home, filled floor-to-ceiling and every spot in-between, with their own diverse works as well as lovely indigenous art from their extensive world travels. Their yard was a xeriscopic wonderland of winding paths filled with colorful examples of nature’s beauty, enhanced by the sisters’ own sculptural creations. This trip was outstanding and we are extremely grateful to the Amsters for their gracious hospitality.

Other events in the works: a talk with Molly Martin, an RFSA member expert in African fabric, who has a fantastic collection dating back to her Peace Corps days. We will also have an author talk, special events on campus and elsewhere, and perhaps a program with a filmmaker. *Please contact Fine Arts chair Deena Mersky (512-477-4152 or [merskd@gmail.com](mailto:merskd@gmail.com)) with your ideas, and best of all, an interest in joining the committee to participate in planning some informative and enriching events.*



*Visit to the Amster's house*

Join the RFSA exercise group to improve your balance, flexibility, and energy level! We meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8:30 in the Recreational Sports Center, room 1.106. To participate, you need to join Rec Sports, and there is a 50% discount for retirees. Or get a free one-day pass if you want to just try it first. Discounted parking permits are also available for class times. *For more information, contact chair Carolyn Wylie at [cwyylie13@att.net](mailto:cwyylie13@att.net) or 512-453-2556.*

## EXERCISE

# THANK YOU

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Thank you for sharing your influence, wisdom and friendship throughout our community. We are grateful for the wonderful things you do and say to support higher education at the University of Texas.

Cordially,  
Rox, Duke & Danay Covert

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## INTEREST GROUPS *(continued)*

### BRIDGE

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW BRIDGE PLAYERS! Meetings are usually the first Monday of each month, at the Ex-Students' Association. *Contact Bill Crook if you are interested in playing at [wcrook@satx.rr.com](mailto:wcrook@satx.rr.com) or 210-251-3584.*



*Elizabeth Miller and family with Carol Obianwu*

### HEALTH

THE HEALTH INTEREST GROUP HELD ITS LAST MEETING OF THE SPRING SEMESTER on April 15, 2013 in the Howson Library. The speaker was Norma Almanza from the Texas Department of Insurance. Ms. Almanza's presentation, "Changes to Medicare due to Health Reform," was of great interest to the audience and many listeners had questions, which she answered both during and after the presentation. Dr. Elizabeth Miller, of the Austin Diagnostic Clinic, spoke to the RFSA Health Interest Group on October 21, 2013. Her topic, "Mature Skin: Common Problems and Skin Care," was of tremendous interest to those of us in attendance. She provided valuable information and care guidelines in her remarks. *For more information contact co-chairs Carol Obianwu ([cobianwu@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:cobianwu@mail.utexas.edu)) or Cecil Martinez ([cecil.martinez@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cecil.martinez@sbcglobal.net)).*

### DISCUSSION

THE DISCUSSION INTEREST GROUP WELCOMED ITS FIRST SPEAKER OF THE SEMESTER, Dr. Kedra Ishop, Vice-Provost and Director of Admissions at UT, at the September meeting. Dr. Ishop described the changing demographics in Texas that have affected in-state student competition for admission. As an indication, she said that UT received 38,000 freshman applications for Fall, 2013, for a class of approximately 7,200. Audience members recalled a very different college application process than the current electronic application, and admissions counselors travel the state to provide information and assistance to prospective students and their families. Dr. Ishop also discussed the influences on admission policy by the Hopwood decision, the Top 10 Percent Law, and the recent Fisher case at the U.S. Supreme Court.

The October meeting hosted Dr. Jeffrey Kerr, a practicing pediatric neurologist, who has made a personal study of Texas History and is the author of three books on the topic. Dr. Kerr led a lively talk focused on his book *Seat of Empire: The Embattled Birth of Austin, Texas*. Of particular interest to Austinites, his discussion was based on the differences and struggles between two of Texas' important statesmen, Sam Houston and Mirabeau B. Lamar. The movement of the capital among various cities and the commitment of Austin residents to protect the Texas archives and property deeds made for an interesting narrative on the selection of the capital city.

The Discussion Group invites everyone to join us on first Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Howson Library. *For more information, contact co-chairs Susan Howard ([reiterhof@gmail.com](mailto:reiterhof@gmail.com)), Alice Reinarz ([areinarz@neo.tamu.edu](mailto:areinarz@neo.tamu.edu)), or Don Davis ([dgdavis@ischool.utexas.edu](mailto:dgdavis@ischool.utexas.edu)).*



*Dr. Jeff Kerr and RFSA members*

# SPRING LUNCHEON • APRIL 30, 2013

*With Keynote Speaker Melissa Chavez*



# FALL LUNCHEON • OCTOBER 29, 2013

*With Keynote Speaker Steven Leslie*



# RFSA VISITS UT ELEMENTARY

Last spring, a group of RFSA members met at the UT Elementary School in east Austin for a tour conducted by Melissa Chavez, Executive Director. Ms. Chavez had given a talk at the spring luncheon meeting of RFSA, which, for most of us, was our first introduction to the school, opened in 2003.

Ms. Chavez describes the mission of the school: "To develop students into lifelong learners through rigorous, research-based curricula, individualized instruction, high expectations, and a nurturing environment that includes parental and community involvement; to provide opportunities for professional development and outreach for UT-Austin's academic units; and to serve as a model of an exemplary educational program for diverse learners." The school demographics reflect this diversity. Of the 260 students in 2010-11, 72% were Hispanic, 16% African-American, 11% white, and 1% Asian; 48% male, and 52% female. The area served by the school is bounded by Highways 290 to the north, 183 to the east, 71 to the south, and IH35 to the west.



The 2010-11 annual report reflects that, in addition to serving the students' educational needs, UT Elementary is a "research demonstration school – a training school for UT Austin students preparing for careers as teachers, nurses, social workers, and psychologists." Ms. Chavez says, "We get a group of students who provide support for our teachers in many different ways – being able to do small reading groups with kids, having more eyes on the playground, having more eyes in the cafeteria. We might have a student intern who has an expertise that we may not have so the relationship is mutually beneficial."

Recognizing that a significant number of the students are overweight and inactive, the school's physical education instructor has developed a program, the Healthy Families Initiative (HFI), which is helping students and their families "make lifestyle choices to improve their overall health and well-being. The HFI has lowered the prevalence of student obesity rates from 63% to 47%." During our tour, RFSA members were introduced to the school's chef, who ensures that the food served to the students is both healthy and tasty. He invited us to stop by for lunch any time we like, to see and enjoy the food offerings for ourselves.



Students maintain the school's garden, where they grow many of the vegetables for their lunches. Kids who grow their own food are less likely to have to be reminded to "eat your vegetables," and this hands-on approach seems to be working.

UT Elementary is funded from several sources: 70% from the State, 7% from the Federal government, 3% from UT, 2% from stimulus funds, and 18% from private sources. There is a long list in the annual report of private contributors to the school, and a list of community partners who support the school as well. The RFSA members making the tour

came away with a sense of pride and satisfaction that UT is making a significant contribution to the needs of elementary schoolchildren in the city of Austin and serving as a role model for other schools. *-Barbara Myers*



*Kate Bergquist in her studio*

## RFSA GETS A LOGO

Take a look at the return address on this magazine. We are thrilled to announce the addition of our very own logo.

The artist is Kate Bergquist, an RFSA member, albeit a relatively new one. Kate is a long-time Austin resident, having moved to Austin from Georgetown, Texas, many years ago when her husband, Carl, became a member of UT's architecture faculty.

Kate has a long and distinguished career as an artist and calligrapher. Some of her local work

has been for the Austin Public Library, the United Bank, and we all recognize her logo for Texas French Bread. Nationally, she has sold many designs to Caspari and other high-end companies for cards, gift-wrap, and other paper goods. Doing studio work as well as commercial, Kate won 4th place in the 13th International Juried Exhibition for "Pastels Only" in 2012.

About a year ago she exchanged her comfortable and attractive home on Bridle Path for the simplicity and carefree lifestyle at Westminster, where she thrives in her new living/studio space and continues to freelance her calligraphic, drawing, and painting skills for her many fans and admirers.



**"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  
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# SCHOLARSHIPS

## RFSA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Retired Faculty/Staff Association created a scholarship fund in 1983 and awarded the first scholarship in 1988. Members and friends make donations into that fund, and the market value of the endowment reached over \$613,000 in 2013. Available income from that fund varies, depending on prevailing interest rates and market conditions. For 2013-14, we were able to award 12 scholarships for the fall and spring semesters (at \$1,250 per session) and two for the Summer session (at \$1,000 each), totaling \$32,000.

Scholarship recipients are chosen by Student Financial Services based on several criteria. The scholarship fund benefits from donations made in memory of friends or colleagues, in celebration of particular events, in the form of a legacy from deceased members, or as a general contribution.

Please consider making a contribution to the scholarship fund – it will make a difference in a student's life!

*"I'm still having difficulty knowing how to express my gratitude for receiving this scholarship. Only a few days ago, I was making arrangements to help manage a financial deficit I had for this coming year, but then I received an email notifying me about this award. Instantaneously, a huge burden was lifted from my shoulders. All I can say is thank you from the bottom of my heart – to each and every single member of the Retired Faculty Staff Association. Because of the generosity of people like you all, students like me can reach their dreams and I will always cherish the help that has been given to me."* Armin Nourani

*"I think it speaks volumes on your dedication to students in that you all are still offering support to students even after retirement."* Christo Driscoll

*"With the help of this scholarship ... my parents, who are still recovering from my dad's extended unemployment last year, won't have to take out any further loans."* Haley Brooks

*The following 12 students received fall and spring scholarships, except as noted:*

**Haley Nicole Brooks**

*Junior, Honors in Advanced Human Development & Family Sciences*

**Christopher W. Driscoll**

*Senior, Neurobiology*

**Carol Denise Gilson**

*Master's, Social Work*

**Laura Ann Gonzalez**

*Master's, Social Work*

**Kim Leng Heng**

*Senior, Management Information Systems*

**Grace Frances Keliher**

*Junior, Chemical Engineering*

**Joshua Paul Morrow**

*Senior, Philosophy*

**Armin Nourani**

*Sophomore, Biochemistry*

**Austin Lee Papson**

*Senior, Math (also received summer scholarship)*

**Alejandro Edgardo Perozo**

*Senior, Petroleum Engineering*

**Megan E. Pfitzinger**

*Master's, Nursing (also received summer scholarship)*

**Katelyn Brooke Terry**

*Junior, English*

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

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## 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!

Contributions may be mailed to:

Carol Barrett, RFSA Coordinator

Texas Exes | P.O. Box 7278 | Austin, Texas 78713

Or simply donate online. Go to: [www.utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/utgiving/online/nlogon](http://www.utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/utgiving/online/nlogon). In the "Gift Area," scroll down and select "Retired Faculty-Staff Association," then complete the other information requested. You can even put information in the "Notes" section, such as birthday or a gift honoring someone.

## FROM OUR MEMBERS

### A SELECTION OF POEMS BY ZORENA BOLTON

**Autumn 2010**

I have seen the bow cutting through the Atlantic  
from an upper deck of one of the Queen's ships  
I have seen my babies emerging from my body  
I have seen leaves red and orange and yellow  
on trees lining the path near Parson's Field  
in the autumn woods of New Hampshire

#### **Marketing**

111

you my favorite foodie  
are now touting tomatoes once  
obtained from Holland now grown by  
our local farmers who have uncovered the  
secrets of beautiful tasteless tomatoes which  
will last forever and I who do not mind paying  
for delicious food and missing my usual nose  
for nonsense have overlooked the warning of  
Buyer Beware and am rudely reminded that  
foodie is another name for salesman and  
profit remains the bottom line and while  
I could be a little bit over dramatic  
Disappointed lovers always  
tell the worst tales

#### **Millie and Mollie and Mary and May All Over again**

Slumped and dozing against the green velvet chair  
you look like someone who used to be someone  
Your long, slick, gray blonde hair, fresh khaki shirt and pants  
your white socks and sturdy shoes much like mine define you  
Your glasses lying atop a pile of interesting newspapers  
suggest you've had them for a long time  
No ordinary person at Starbucks you seem a film star perhaps  
or a wealthy person still with the same flair but tired and worn  
Aging gracefully is hardly guaranteed but if we live long enough  
getting old is a certainty



*Zorena Bolton*

*Although Zorena was an English major at Barnard College, she didn't start to write poetry seriously until her retirement about five years ago. She arrived in Austin in 1969 with one baby in her arms and another on the way. She continued her education with a master's degree from UT's School of Social Work, and for many years was a field instructor with the school. She next worked with the UT Medical School's Family Medicine Residency Program as the Director of Behavioral Science Education, working closely with family practice residents in making them aware of and sensitive to the mental health and social aspects of their patients' illnesses. And following that, for many years until her retirement, Zorena had a private practice as a psychotherapist, treating individuals and couples. Now happily retired, Zorena has enjoyed the freedoms afforded by her move to Westminster, particularly the opportunity to write and the time to think about writing poetry. Although she already has an impressive body of work, Zorena claims she still has a bunch of poems waiting to find themselves on paper. (Bio by Deena Mersky)*



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## FROM OUR MEMBERS *(continued)*

### Ship of State: State of Ship

After a fruitful trip to another country  
I find myself lying in my bunk assessing the Ship of State  
The ship feels steady and appears sea worthy  
One does have occasional doubts  
about the Captain's ability to stay on course  
owing to some difficulty with recall  
as well as a certain uncertainty about the future  
but the ship still seems able to cut through the waves  
in a graceful and steady fashion  
under its own power and flying its own flag

*Zorena Bolton*

### RECOMMENDATION FROM SHARON JUSTICE

A friend introduced me to Louise Penny, a crime fiction writer, this past spring and I thank her every time I read another one of this author's mysteries set in Three Pines, a rural village south of Montreal. Chief Inspector Armand Gamache, "one of the most complex and compelling characters" in crime fiction, investigates murders in this picturesque Canadian small community.

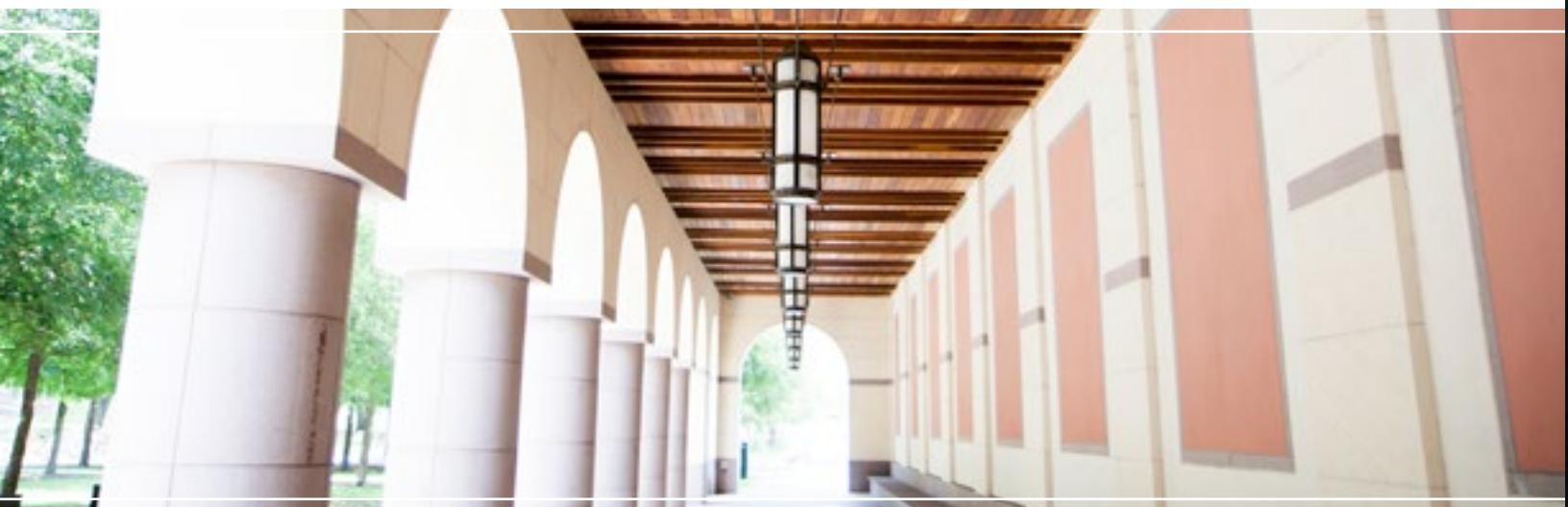
Penny's writing is so descriptive and after reading all of her Gamache mysteries except the most recent one, she has transported me to Three Pines where I know all the villagers intimately, I've tasted the gourmet food at the local bistro, and I've wrapped myself in a comforter as the snow and wind blow outside.

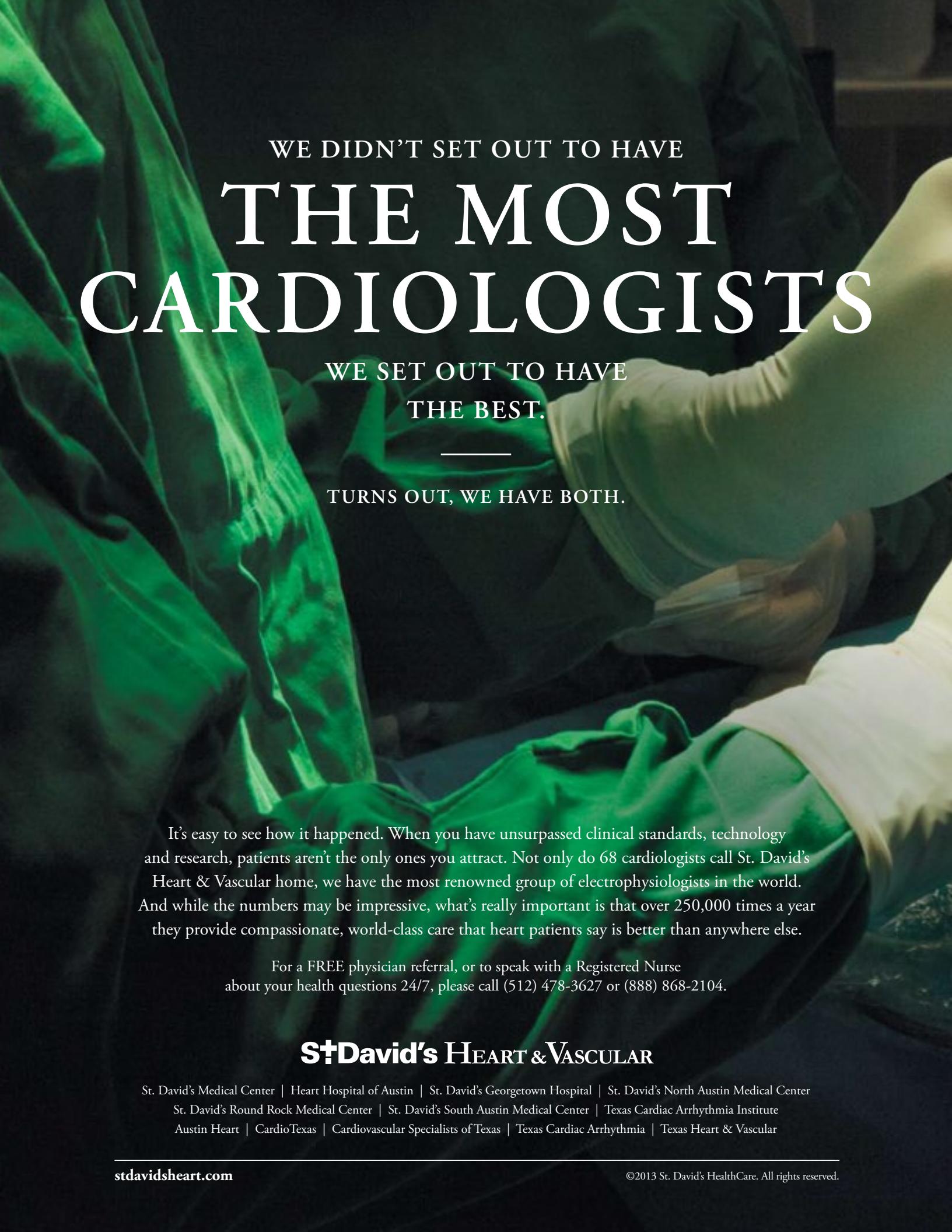
She writes traditional mysteries with cleverly constructed plots. I just wish life wouldn't get in the way when I am devouring one of her books.

### HOPE

High faith in God's presence  
Offers comfort and support, and  
Promotes strength and energy  
Every time you are in need.

*Martha N. Ovando*





WE DIDN'T SET OUT TO HAVE  
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CARDIOLOGISTS**

WE SET OUT TO HAVE  
THE BEST.

—  
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## THOUGHTS & NEWS

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### DR. MCKETTA'S GIFT

Dr. John McKetta, RFSA Treasurer since 2001, retired from his position shortly before his 98th birthday this fall. He will forever be our Treasurer Emeritus, however, and his generosity will live on in our organization through an ongoing gift. Dr. McKetta has created the "Annual Attendance Award" of \$1,000 to be divided among five attendees at the fall RFSA luncheon. In Dr. McKetta's announcement, he said that the five \$200 awards were

named after five very important people in his life – Ruth Crawford, Barbara Myers, Carol Barrett, Judy Amis, and Susan Clevenger. Recipients will be chosen by a random drawing of attendees at the luncheon. This gift will ensure that our luncheons continue to be very well attended, and will also be greatly appreciated by the lucky recipients. He will also donate \$1,000 to RFSA every year.

Dr. McKetta has been a frequent and generous donor to RFSA and the scholarship fund, and this gift will continue that tradition. RFSA thanks Dr. McKetta for his long service and generosity. His gentle humor, intellect, and spirit have been an inspiration to us all.



### WHY IS THE TOWER ORANGE TODAY?

When the UT Tower is lit orange, we know something is being celebrated, but we don't always know what. There is a website to find out why the Tower is orange or has an unusual lighting arrangement. Go to [www.utexas.edu/operations](http://www.utexas.edu/operations) then look at the "Flag & Tower Status" section. It will explain why the Tower is lit or why flags are at half-staff.

# RAFFLES? DOOR PRIZES? ADVERTISING? REALLY?

We've been having our fall and spring luncheon meetings longer than any of us can remember. With all the yummy food, fine music, outstanding speakers, and of course the rousing singing of "The Eyes of Texas" as the tried-and-true format, you may be wondering why we have added something so crass as the sale of raffle tickets and the distribution of door prizes to the mix. As in: "If it ain't broke, why are we trying to fix it?"

Well, for all you curious people (and I know there are many), here is the whole unvarnished story, the real lowdown, the nitty and the gritty from a nouveau insider. It was my first Board meeting as President early in the fall of 2012. All went well, until the treasurer's report was presented. While the account was solvent, the balance was so low it caused me a great deal of discomfort. The rest of the Board experienced discomfort as well. It was pointed out that all the dues had not yet come in, and also, we have intermittent windfalls from the very active travel group. But we still needed to improve our financial comfort zone, everyone agreed. As with so many things, our costs have gone up, mainly due to the printing and postage. We mail the newsletter and the directory together, which saves money, but the costs go up in spite of our frugality.

We are more fortunate than most other nonprofit organizations—let me count the ways:

1. Our first year of membership is free.
2. We have outstanding staff support and rent-free space at the Alumni Center, not just for the big luncheon meetings, but also for Board meetings and events for the interest groups.
3. The University of Texas Office of the President provides the tasty, ample, and beautifully presented meals. Everyone should know that event space, food, staff support and supervision are all a gift, and free to the entire membership. Now that is both a bargain and a blessing, which, of course, we deeply appreciate.
4. And finally, we have a Board of active, interested, and committed members.

So when faced with having to come up with a remedy for our shortfall, my suggestion was that we tackle the issue head on, by approaching the issue at various levels. As with most problem solving, more than one approach was needed so the Board worked on the issue for a long time, and finally agreed on a slight raise in the annual dues, while maintaining the first year free policy to encourage new members to give us a try.

Another annual event, the holiday open house at the home of the Chancellor, is held at our own expense. If we want to continue that popular event we must raise the funds ourselves. When additional suggestions for our own fundraising were made there was complete agreement. Two avenues were adopted: First, selling advertising for the magazine and directory and second, to holding raffles at each of the luncheon meetings.

The sale of advertising is going well. We wish to target advertisers interested in our particular demographic, assuring each advertiser they would be the only one approached in their category. We now have a rate sheet for various sizes of ads, and our new treasurer, Cecil Martinez, heads up the advertising task force.

There are now two experiences (fall 2012 and spring 2013) with raffles. Each time we raised about six hundred dollars, and peped things up a bit with the distribution of many door prizes as well.

Since we've only heard positive comments about this, the activity will be continued. All RFSA members in addition to the Board are welcome to participate in the acquisition of raffle items and door prizes. Consumable items such as meals, services such as manicures, pedicures, facials, and tickets are the most appreciated. RFSA member Della Sprager has accepted the job of coordinator for door prizes and raffles, and we have a fundraising task force that covers both the advertising and the raffle activities.

Finally, the Board has agreed that funds raised as described will support the activities of the organization until such a point of solvency is reached that we can divert all such funds to the scholarship fund.

We all hope that time is not far off. *—Deena Mersky*



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# IN MEMORIAM *March - October 2013*

**Joyce Elizabeth Adejumo**, 53  
Wife of Dr. Christopher Adejumo,  
Artist & Professor of Art Education  
*May 7, 2013*

**Gayle H. Barrington**, 75  
Widow of Wayne Barrington, Professor of  
Music  
*March 16, 2013*

**James E. "Jim" Boggs**, 91  
Retired Professor of Chemistry  
*June 2, 2013*

**Frederick William Botts, III**, 58  
UT User Services  
*May 15, 2013*

**Joe Bratcher**  
Music  
*April 5, 2013*

**David Braybrooke**, 88  
Centennial Commission Chair in Liberal  
Arts, Government  
*August 7, 2013*

**Albert D. Davies**, 83  
Physical Plant Operations, Jester Center  
*September 23, 2013*

**Raymond Edward Davis**, 74  
Professor Emeritus, Chemistry &  
Biochemistry  
*May 29, 2013*

**John Frederick Dugan**, 74  
UT Libraries  
*October 15, 2012*

**Dr. Raynor L. Duncombe**, 96  
Professor Emeritus, Aerospace Science  
*July 12, 2013*

**Bob Meredith Fannin**, 91  
Electrical Engineering  
*July 5, 2013*

**Mary Margaret Farabee**, 73  
Wife of Ray Farabee, General Counsel for UT  
System  
*March 3, 2013*

**Bernard Thomas "Tommie" Finger**, 85  
UT Austin  
*April 11, 2013*

**Mary Beth Fleischer**, 79  
Texas History Center Librarian  
*September 18, 2013*

**Carolyn Lee Fonken**, 82  
Wife of Gerhard Fonken, Professor Emeritus  
of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Provost and  
Executive Vice President  
*August 23, 2013*

**Mary Franklyn Chapman Friou**, 94  
Accounting Department  
*September 4, 2013*

**Shama Gamkhar**, 54  
Public Affairs  
*August 4, 2013*

**Clifford Speer Gardner**, 89  
Professor Emeritus, Mathematics  
*September 25, 2013*

**Mildred (Mimi) Fromme Gerding**, 86  
Editor of college textbooks  
*August 8, 2013*

**Neil James Gilligan, Jr.**, 85  
Radio/Television/Film  
*July 30, 2013*

**Theodore D. (Ted) Gittinger**, 73  
LBJ Library  
*June 29, 2013*

**Edward F. Guerra**, 68  
School of Music  
*August 8, 2013*

**Eva Hardeman**, 92  
University Ladies Club  
*September 18, 2013*

**Dolly D. Harrell**, 96  
Spanish Department  
*August 7, 2013*

**Catherine Hatgil**, 88  
Wife of Professor Emeritus Paul P. Hatgil  
*May 15, 2013*

**Virginia Hennig**, 86  
Maintenance Department  
*March 1, 2013*

**Harvey R. Herbst**, 90  
KLRU  
*May 17, 2013*

**Allan William Hook**, 59  
Taught at UT  
*September 3, 2013*

**Louise "Tex" Horvath**, 86  
Physical Education for Women  
*March 28, 2013*

**Olen L. Hudson**, 91  
Balcones Research Center  
*July 23, 2013*

**Robert Lee Hyde**, 87  
Physics Department  
*March 14, 2013*

**Frances Reynolds Johnson**, 82  
Wife of Leonard Johnson, retired from School  
of Music  
*July 23, 2013*

**Don W. Jones**, 72  
Applied Research Laboratory  
*June 16, 2013*

**Robert "Bob" James Kasper**, 80  
UT Data Processing Center  
*April 29, 2013*

**R.J. Kaufmann**, 88  
Stiles Professor Emeritus, Humanities &  
Comparative Studies (Professor, Dean &  
Chair)  
*June 11, 2013*

**James Edward Key**, 82  
UT Fusion Research Center  
*March 5, 2013*

**Howard Lacey**, 76  
Professor of Mathematics  
*June 21, 2013*

**Wann Langston, Jr.**, 91  
Vertebrate Paleontologist  
*April 7, 2013*

**Betty Browning Little**, 93  
Widow of Robert Little, Professor & Chair of  
Physics Dept.  
*May 12, 2013*

**William S. Livingston**, 93  
Professor and Chair, Department of  
Government; Vice Chancellor; VP and Dean  
of Graduate Studies; Acting President; Voice  
of TEX  
*August 15, 2013*

*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 bfrack@austin.rr.com.*

**Ola Marie Maul**, 96  
Wife of UT employee Al Maul  
June 8, 2013

**Robert Henry Meyer**, 72  
UT Development  
May 24, 2013

**Dr. Robert Murff**, 73  
Director of Career Exploration Center

**Jane Swann Nethercut**, 63  
Wife of Classics Professor  
March 15, 2013

**Paul Olefsky**, 87  
Professor Emeritus in School of Music  
June 1, 2013

**Lila Anne Parker**  
Institute for Human Development & Family  
Studies  
August 20, 2013

**Claude Billy (Bill) Parrott**, 84  
UT Printing Division  
April 6, 2013

**Douglas Starks Porter, Jr.**, 70  
Adjunct Professor of Engineering  
March 1, 2013

**Helen Grace Burkhardt Prehn**, 86  
Office of Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs,  
UT System  
March 28, 2013

**Kenneth W. Prescott**, 93  
Chair of Art Department  
August 20, 2013

**John M. Regalado**, 78  
Physical Plant  
June 9, 2013

**John L. Rishling**, 73  
Associate VP of Campus Planning and New  
Construction  
June 27, 2013

**John Harold Rohlich**, 56  
Son of RFSA member Mary Rohlich  
August 31, 2013

**Oveida Fredric Rye, Jr.**, 74  
Mathematics  
August 1, 2013

**Francis Rudolph Sandberg**, 100  
Physical Plant  
March 13, 2013

**Michael Sharlot**, 77  
Professor Emeritus, Law School  
June 20, 2013

**David L. Sikes**, 80  
Center of Nuclear Studies  
October 1, 2013

**Jessie Lou Sparks**, 92  
School of Nursing  
September 11, 2013

**John F. Sutton, Jr.**, 85  
Former Dean and Professor of Law School  
April 19, 2013

**Edna Sophia Philen Tapley**, 75  
Wife of Byron Dean Tapley  
April 27, 2013

**Rose Taylor**, 68  
Professor in School of Music  
September 14, 2013

**Catherine Ruble Tull**, 84  
Dept. of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
March 11, 2013

**Reuben Henry Wallace**, 91  
Associate Director, Applied Research Labs  
September 16, 2013

**Hilda Sophie Bertha Werchan**, 102  
UT Food Service  
August 28, 2013

**K. Carter Wheelock**, 89  
Professor Emeritus in Department of Spanish,  
Assoc. Dean of Humanities  
August 31, 2013

**Max L. Williams, Jr.**, 91  
Adjunct Professor in Aeronautics  
September 18, 2013

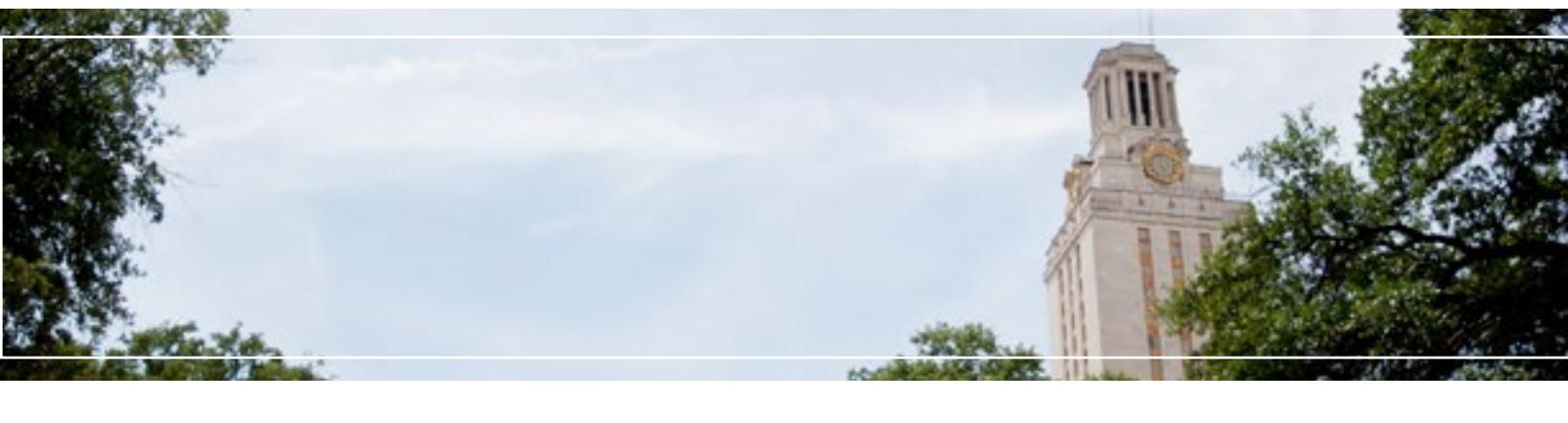
**William A. Worsham**, 89  
Physical Plant  
August 27, 2013

**Linda Hughey Wyatt**  
Wife of Bob Wyatt, Professor of Biochemistry  
June 25, 2013

**Billy Burben Wylie**, 86  
College of Pharmacy  
March 28, 2013

**Mario Yzaguirre**, 93  
UT System Board of Regents  
September 8, 2013

**Stanislav Zimic**, 83  
Retired Professor in Dept. of Spanish &  
Portuguese  
August 25, 2013



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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 can be emailed to [tanyenorwood@utexas.edu](mailto:tanyenorwood@utexas.edu) or mailed to Carol Barrett / RFSA Coordinator  
Texas Exes / P.O. Box 7278 / Austin, TX 78713*

