

VOLUME LVIII, NUMBER 1 - FALL 2008

# *the* TESA CONNECTION

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS EDUCATIONAL  
SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION, INC.



# President's Message



MaryAnn Hollingsworth

Welcome to a new year in TESA! As many of you know, I chose for my logo this year "TESA Achieving Excellence Hand In Hand" with three clasping hands surrounding the TESA logo. As I sat at the computer to compose this welcome letter, I thought of all the TESA hands that would be used to start our school year. Take a moment as you read this message to think of all you have done with your hands today. There isn't a thing that you have done that your hands were not a part of.

TESA is the same way; it has played an integral part of many lives since its inception 57 years ago. What a tradition TESA has for service. Each member since September 1951 had a hand in the success of TESA throughout the years. Our hands, minds, and hearts keep TESA going and striving to be better than the year before and will continue to strive to be better in the years to come.

As I start my year as your president, I want each of you to know that I will dedicate myself to making sure that TESA continues to keep the tradition of service to each and every member and affiliate. I want to assure you that my hands, mind, and heart will be in service for TESA. I will strive to make sure that we continue the tradition that makes TESA so great.

As members of TESA, there are nearly 1,650 pairs of hands working toward making TESA better each day. Before I started my year, I had so many members come and assure me that if I needed any help in any way, all I needed to do was ask. I have made many friends in my 19 years as a TESA member, and though I must admit I cannot remember each name, I can remember the enthusiasm I felt knowing that I would not have such good friends if it wasn't for my involvement in such a great organization as TESA. I can still remember the first person who told me all about TESA and the person who brought me to my very first conference. Oletta Rudloff took my hands and in them put information about TESA and told me that I needed to join and then went on to explain all that TESA had to offer. Vickie Swam brought me to my first conference, and I have been coming ever since. These two ladies offered their hands in friendship and in that friendship introduced me to TESA. They never knew that by making their hands so useful to TESA, they would be introducing a future president to TESA.

Each of you can do the same thing to someone you know. Your hands could bring the next TESA member and the next TESA president to this great organization. Each of us has a talent, and each of us has so much to give to this great organization. As I have said before, the executive board, committee members, and past presidents are here to help each and every member. As a TESA member, reach for a hand and help it along so that together you can achieve excellence hand in hand and we can continue to achieve excellence in TESA.

God Bless,

MaryAnn Hollingsworth

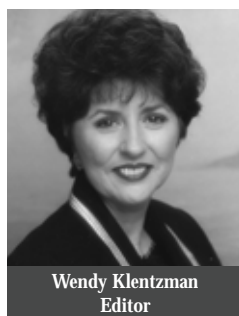
MaryAnn Hollingsworth  
TESA President, 2008-2009  
mh70@txstate.edu

*The mind has exactly the same power as the hands; not merely to grasp the world, but to change it.*

~ Colin Wilson



# Editor's Message & Table of Contents



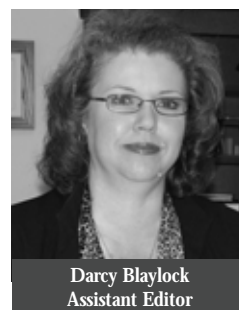
Wendy Klentzman  
Editor

Wow! With this first issue I begin with my committee members, Darcy and Juneanne, the journey of "Achieving Excellence Hand in Hand." It takes many hands to put together the TESA Connection. Many hands have touched this issue. Some have contributed articles; some have proofed, and some have been there to help gather the information that has been placed in the magazine. I have been a TESA member for many years and enjoyed receiving the magazine.

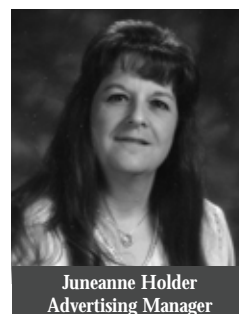
Now I am the one given the job of putting it together. I could not do it without the help of so many TESA members. I hope you are looking forward to reading what all these hands have gathered here in this issue. As you go through the pages of this issue, you will be introduced to your TESA board. There are pictures of each board member. Look at the pictures taken at Summer Work Conference. If you were there you may find a glimpse of yourself in one of those pictures. Get to know what other associations are doing by reading the association news. Send me what your association is doing so that others can read about you in the next issue.

Darcy, Juneanne, and I look forward to putting together a magazine for all of our TESA friends.

Wendy



Darcy Blaylock  
Assistant Editor



Juneanne Holder  
Advertising Manager

Dates to Remember.....	3
Minutes from General Meeting, SWC.....	7
Legislative Update.....	13
Feature Article: Learn to protect yourself by adopting new philosophy.....	18
Feature Article: Light the Night Walk Kick-off Party.....	22
Affiliates in Action.....	27



# 2008-2009 TESA Executive Board

## TEXAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION, INC. 2008-2009 Executive Board



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**Member-At-Large**

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**Patti Walling**  
**Member-At-Large**

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# TESA Executive Board & Committees

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President Elect  
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Wendy Klentzman  
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Alvin Community College  
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Alvin 77511

Martin Saenz  
Second Vice President  
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Mercedes 78570

Christine Ortiz  
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Jan Lampart  
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Patti Walling  
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Pasadena 77504-3398

## **Appointed Positions**

Phyllis Hyden  
Immediate Past President & Marketing  
Chairman  
Galena Park ISD

Irma Ford  
Parliamentarian & Legislative Consultant  
Retired  
Comal ISD

Dianne Lemons  
STEM Committee Chairman  
Mesquite ISD

Janie Giddens  
Web Advisor  
San Antonio ISD

## **Committees:**

### **The TESA Connection:**

Wendy Klentzman, Editor  
Darcy Blackstock, Assistant Editor  
Channelview ISD  
Juneanne Holder, Advertising Manager  
North East ISD

### **Membership:**

Martin Saenz, Chairman  
Gloria Cantu, Bloomington ISD  
Linda Brewer, Channelview ISD  
Faith Gonzalez, Lubbock ISD  
Ann Echart, Regent 7 ESC  
Patsy Hinson, San Jacinto College North

### **Affiliate Services:**

Sylvia Flores, Chairman  
Teresa Espino, Galena Park ISD  
Sherry Gray, San Jacinto College

### **Area Workshops:**

Cindy Bright, Chairman  
Lucille Davidson, Fort Worth ISD Retired  
Helen Kettler, Alvin Community College  
Carlton Sands, Spring Branch ISD

### **Awards/Scholarship/Journalist**

Jan Lampart, Chairman  
Bonnie Brewster, Spring Branch ISD  
Ricardo Martinez, Lubbock ISD  
Kay Riggs, Pasadena ISD

## **Nominations:**

Patti Walling, Chairman  
Peggy Hudson, Leander ISD  
Bettye Ruth Wilson, Lubbock ISD

## **Elections:**

Annette Knaus, North East ISD

## **STEM**

Dianne Lemons, Chairman  
Tenna Hancock, Garland ISD  
Sandy Salazar, Mesquite ISD  
Wanda Honeycutt, University of Houston-  
Clear Lake

## **Summer Work Conference**

Sue Hand, Chairman  
Brenda Heinsohn, Exhibits  
Comal ISD  
Robin Pool, Registration  
Pasadena ISD  
Debbie McFadden, Social  
University of Houston-Clear Lake

## **Fall Work Conference**

Elaine Simmons, Chairman  
Doshia Jones, Exhibits  
DeSoto ISD  
Carmen Tyminski, Social  
Dallas ISD  
Karen Turner, Registration  
Lubbock ISD

For contact information  
visit the TESA website at  
[www.tesatexas.org](http://www.tesatexas.org)





# *Dates to Remember*

## *Dates to Remember*

### **November**

- 14-16 Fall Work Conference-Addison
- 27-28 TESA Office Closed-Thanksgiving Holiday

### **December**

- 24-26 TESA Office Closed-Christmas Holidays
- 31 TESA Office Closed-New Year's Eve

### **January**

- 1-2 TESA Office Closed-New Year's Day
- 15 The TESA Connection (Spring Issue) Deadline
- 19 TESA Office Closed-Martin Luther King Birthday
- 26-27 TASA 2009 Midwinter Conference-Austin

### **February**

- 16 TESA Office Closed-President's Day
- 21 Rio Grande Valley Area Workshop
- 23-27 TASBO Annual Conference-San Antonio

### **March**

- 16 Awards/Scholarships Applications Deadline

### **April**

- 4 San Jacinto Area Workshop
- 10 TESA Office Closed-Good Friday

### **May**

- 15 The TESA Connection (Summer Issue) Deadline
- 30 TESA Office Closed-Memorial Day

### **June**

- 17-21 Summer Work Conference-Houston

### **July**

- 3 TESA Office Closed-July 4th Holiday
- 20-24 NAEOP Annual Conference-Bloomington, MN

## **Purpose**

We the members of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association Inc., hold that the primary purpose of the educational secretary is to assist, as a team member, in developing citizens who will safeguard, strengthen, and improve America. *The TESA Connection* is published four times a year - fall, winter, summer, and summer. Membership in TESA entitles the individual to an annual subscription to *The TESA Connection* magazine, circulation approximately 2,000. Subscription rate for libraries and nonmembers is \$10 per year. Send request for subscriptions to: TESA Central Office, PO Box 1565, Austin, TX 78767. Please send information for the Winter Issue to:

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3110 Mustang Road, Alvin 77511  
P: 281-756-3600 F: 281-756-3858  
E: wklentzman@alvincollege.edu



## November

11/06/2008 Mesquite ISD	Assertiveness Training	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320
11/19/2008 Mesquite ISD	Time Management	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320
11/19/2008 Spring Branch ISD	Effective Office Practices	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401

## December

12/09/2008 Spring Branch ISD	Leadership / Team Building	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401
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## January

01/08/2009 Spring Branch ISD	Managing Change	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401
01/17/2009 Mesquite ISD	Conflict Management	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320
01/29/2009 Mesquite ISD	Dialogue of Diversity	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320

## February

02/07/2009 Mesquite ISD	Managing Change	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320
02/17/2009 Spring Branch ISD	Profile for Success (Formerly Effective Communication)	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401

## March

03/07/2009 Mesquite ISD	Basic Communication	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320
03/10/2009 Spring Branch ISD	Interpersonal Communication	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401
03/26/2009 Mesquite ISD	Rules for Spelling	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320

## April

04/15/2009 Spring Branch ISD	Professional Growth Plan	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401
04/18/2009 Mesquite ISD	Agenda for Personal and Organizational Improvement	Dianne Lemons	972-882-7320

## May

05/06/2009 Spring Branch ISD	Assertiveness Training	Becky Wuerth	713-464-1511 ext. 2401
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# *Minutes from General Meeting, SWC*



Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

Minutes for the Summer General Membership Meeting  
Summer Work Conference  
Marriott Houston Westchase  
Houston, Texas  
June 21, 2008

- Call to Order: The meeting of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. (TESA) General Business meeting was called to order by President Phyllis Hyden at 10:00 a.m. at the Marriott Houston Westchase, Houston, Texas.
- Invocation: Invocation was given by Barbara Jennings.
- Parliamentarian: President Hyden recognized Gerald Wharton, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, as Parliamentarian to establish a quorum. Mr. Wharton stated that as directed by the bylaws of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. Article VII, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised would govern in all matters not covered by the bylaws of the association.
- Minutes: Minutes of the General Business Meeting of the Fall Work Conference held November 10, 2007, at the Crown Plaza Hotel, Addison, TX were approved as presented.
- Correspondence: None
- Treasurer's Report: A detailed treasurer's report was provided to the general membership. The report will be filed for audit.
- Reports: Member-at-Large Membership Council Chairman Sue Hand reported: Membership is 1,444 for Active, 25 Retirees, 2 Associates and 68 Honorary, bringing a total of 1,539. Thank you to all that have renewed their membership.
- Member-at-Large Area Workshops Chairman Debbie McFadden reported that there are two workshops tentatively scheduled for 2008-2009; Rio Grande Valley, February 21, 2009 and San Jacinto College, April 11, 2009.
- Unfinished Business: None
- New Business: Discussion by members on where Summer and Fall Work Conferences are held. Things that are considered in booking a conference were discussed such as room rates, food issues, travel and number of members attending. All factors are considered when booking a conference.
- Motion One: Savilla McEntire, I move that the business meeting agenda and new year proposed budget be included in the conference registration check in packet so





# *Minutes from General Meeting, SWC*

members have time to review the information prior to the meeting. Seconded by Linda Sockwell. Motion carried.

Motion Two: Irma Ford, I move a written report be presented to the general membership regarding the hotel search and selection for both Fall and Summer Work Conferences. Seconded by Linda Sockwell. Motion carried.

Motion Three: Motion from the Executive Board, I move that the Proposed 2008-2009 TESA Budget be approved as presented. No second required. Motion carried.

#### Announcements:

- July 4, 2008 TESA Office Closed
- July 7-11, NAEOP Annual Conference, Broomfield, CO
- November 14-16 TESA Fall Work Conference, Addison

Adjournment: President Hyden adjourned the Summer General Membership meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Submitted by:

Wendy Klentzman

Wendy Klentzman, CEOE, CEOP  
TESA Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by:

Phyllis Hyden

Phyllis Hyden, CEOE, CEOP  
2007-2008 TESA President

Date Approved: July 25, 2008

Tapes of all business proceedings are on file with the Secretary until July 31, 2008. Thereafter, they will be located at the Central Office of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. in Austin, Texas. They may be inspected by any member of the association or his/her agent or attorney for any purpose between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM on Monday of each week or by prior appointment.

*“Real glory springs from the silent conquest of ourselves.”*

*~ Joseph P. Thompson*



## TEXAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION 2008-2009 Budget

Revenue Source		2008-2009
Summer Work Conference		104,000.00
STEM		60,000
Fall Work Conference		30,000
Affiliate Services		4,000
Member dues		48,000
Affiliate Dues		1,300
Area workshops - registrations		1,500
Sales - pens/patches/novelties		200
Advertising		250
Interest income		1,000
Fee income - MBNA		1,500
Miscellaneous income		250
<b>Total Budgeted Revenue</b>		<b>252,000</b>
<b>Expense Source</b>		<b>2008-2009</b>
Summer Work Conference		70,000
STEM		25,000
Fall Work Conference		21,000
Area workshops - expenses		1,000
Affiliate Services		2,500
Salaries & wages		25,500
Employee P/R taxes/Retirement		3,000
P/R taxes - 3000		
Retirement - 0		
Insurance - employee health		
Insurance - workers comp.		300
President		4,000
President-elect		2,500
Past president		50
Secretary/treasurer		50
Board Travel		14,000
NAEOP Conference		4,000
NAEOP Officer/Marion Wood		500
NAEOP Officer Travel - 450		
Marion Wood Scholarship - 50		
Nominating/Election Verification		1,500
Nomination Committee -\$ 500		
Election Certification - 0		
Membership expenses		3,500
Magazine/newsletter		28,000
Content/Bond Insurance		950
Content Insurance - 850		
Bond Insurance - 100		
Capital outlay		500
TASA/NAEOP Affiliation		550
TASA - 150		
NAEOP - 400		
C/O expense/Stationary/PO Rental/Microfilming		3,750
Central Office expense - 1,500		
Stationery/Business cards - 1,000		
PO Box rental - 150		
Internet - 1,100		



TEXAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION  
2008-2009 Budget

Expense Source		2008-2009
Rent - office		11,000
Rent - equipment		3,600
Bank/credit card fees		100
Employee training		400
Audit & accounting		5,000
Marketing Committee/Booth		500
Website maintenance		6,000
Telephone		2,000
Postage		3,000
Property/Sales Tax		500
Property - 250		
Sales - 250		
Repairs & maintenance		2,200
Novelties - TESA pins/patches		50
Miscellaneous expenses		500
Miscellaneous expenses - 250		
Awards/Scholarship - 250		
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>		<b>247,000</b>

*The secret of greatness is simple:  
do better work than any other  
man in your field - and keep on  
doing it.*

~ Wilfred A. Peterson

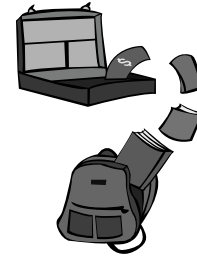


## Awards, Scholarships, & Journalism Committee 2008-2009



We are already “Gearing Up” for the Summer Work Conference so that we can present some awesome awards.

Don't forget that we are in the “Kid” business so it's never too early to be thinking of some deserving TESA members and students for our scholarships.



We are in the process of gathering pictures, articles, etc. for the 2008-09 President's Scrapbook so send us all the things you would like to see included.

Contact a member of the committee



if you have any questions!

Jan Lampart, Chairman  
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Bonnie Brewster  
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## TESA AREA WORKSHOPS



### SCHEDULE AN AREA WORKSHOP TODAY IN YOUR AREA!

TESA needs **your** help in reaching across Texas in  
Achieving Excellence Hand-in-Hand

A one-day Area Workshop is an excellent way to offer professional growth,  
network with others in education, raise awareness and funds for your local  
affiliate, and promote your area of Texas.

We encourage you, to host an Area Workshop.

#### TESA will advertise your workshop by:

- } TESA Connection Magazine
- } Posting on the TESA Calendar
- } Posting on the TESA website
- } Promoting at Fall Work Conference
- } Promoting at other Area Workshops

#### Area Workshop Committee will help you by:

- } Attending your workshop and promoting it in their area
- } Facilitating sessions
- } Presenting sessions
- } Being available for anything you might need

THANK YOU to those who have already scheduled for next year.

- ★ Rio Grande Valley Area Workshop – February 21, 2009
- ★ San Jacinto College Area Workshop – April 4, 2009



**The TESA Area Workshop  
Committee's goal is to promote  
TESA in more areas of the state  
through Area Workshops.**

**If you are interested in  
hosting a TESA Area  
Workshop, please contact:**

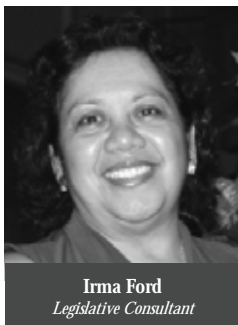
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#### TESA Area Workshop Committee:

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Carlton Sands - [alma.sands@springbranchisd.com](mailto:alma.sands@springbranchisd.com)



# Legislative Update



Greetings,

Most of you will remember me as a Past-President, but this year I am honored to be your Legislative Consultant. I will follow in the footsteps of Nelda Van Dyke, Mary Barbara Gold, and Gerald Wharton. I hope to make them proud in letting our membership know what goes on in the Texas Legislature.

First of all, the Legislature will convene for the 81st Regular Session on January 13, 2009. I will keep you posted on the news that affect us, whether you're working or retired.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

You can still eat, read, shave, or put on your makeup while driving, but many cities in Texas are approving a School Zone Cell Phone Ban. The ordinance would also prohibit text messaging while driving in school zones. Motorists can legally talk on their cell phones using hands-free devices. The ban will be enforced on school days during the hours when school zones are active, and violators face fines starting at \$200. This is the latest in many similar laws. Some are on a pilot program for a year, as in the case in San Antonio. It has become an ordinance in Dallas, Duncanville, Highland Park, University Park, Houston enclave of West University Place, and Boerne.<sup>1</sup>

Six states and the District of Columbia have banned the use of cell phones while driving, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. A California study showed that use of either hand-held or hands-free phones had a distracting effect on drivers equal to driving drunk.<sup>2</sup>

This is a great move for all school districts because the districts don't pay for ban notification signs, and most important of all is the safety of our students. I'm sure there are more cities with the same ordinance, but check with your city to see if it has an ordinance for banning cell phones in your school zones. There are many resources where we can educate ourselves, and I will write about them in the magazine.

## DID YOU KNOW

The Texas Association of School Administrators has [www.tasanet.org](http://www.tasanet.org). As I was browsing, I found where superintendents have "First-Time Superintendents' Academy." That reminded me of our TESA "First-Timers" sessions held at Fall Work Conference and Summer Work Conference. Though it's not as long as the superintendents' classes, our "first-timers" learn more about TESA events when they meet Past-Presidents who are leaders and are knowledgeable, energetic, and wise, and in other words they want to help you by Achieving Excellence Hand in Hand.

As stated on the TASA website, "You only get one chance to be a first-time superintendent – make it a rewarding and successful experience!" In my opinion, I feel that all Past-Presidents feel the same way. We only had that one chance to lead TESA, and it has been rewarding. They also want you to know that TESA is a rewarding and successful experience.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.insurancejournal.com](http://www.insurancejournal.com); [www.dallasnews.com](http://www.dallasnews.com); [www.ksat.com](http://www.ksat.com)

<sup>2</sup> [www.insurancejournal.com](http://www.insurancejournal.com)





## ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

This just in to the news room, TESA is looking for new members for the 2008-2009 school year. Please contact any member of the Membership Committee or visit the TESA website at ([www.tesatexas.org](http://www.tesatexas.org)) to learn more about this great organization.

If you are already a member, please remember to renew your membership.



### TESA has much to offer their members and affiliates:

- Affiliates and their districts are eligible for discounted fees for Affiliate Services presentations and Area Workshops.
- National award winning *The TESA Connection* magazine published four times a year included in your membership dues.
- Member discounted registration fees for Summer Work Conference and Fall Work Conference.
- Member scholarships – Lorene Roby Rogers Memorial Scholarship, Michael Zolkoski Technology Scholarship, and Founders' Scholarship
- Great staff development through one day Area Workshops, STEM classes, Affiliate Services presentations, and state conferences.
- Retirees discounted membership.
- Networking opportunities with others in education from all across the state.
- Legislative proceedings and updates relating to education.

### Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. Membership Application

Last Name	First Name	MI	Member #
Address		City/State/Zip	
Daytime Phone	Evening Phone	Email Address	
Employed by		Local TESA Affiliate	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership \$25		<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal \$25	
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership \$25		<input type="checkbox"/> Retired Membership \$12.50	
Name Change/Address Change information			
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary		<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary	
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative		<input type="checkbox"/> Education Service Center	
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Referred by			
Are you a member of NAEOP? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			

Complete form and mail with payment to: TESA, P.O. Box 1565, Austin, Texas 78767  
Renew online at [www.tesatexas.org](http://www.tesatexas.org)

Dues paid to Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc., are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. However, they may be tax deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense. Consult your tax advisor.

#### 2008-2009 TESA Membership Council:

Martin Saenz, South Texas ISD  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Membership Chairman  
[martin.saenz@stisd.net](mailto:martin.saenz@stisd.net)

Faith Gonzalez, Lubbock ISD  
Administrative Council  
[fgonzalez@lubbockisd.org](mailto:fgonzalez@lubbockisd.org)

Gloria Cantu, Bloomington ISD  
Elementary Council  
[cantug@bisd-tx.org](mailto:cantug@bisd-tx.org)

Ann Echart, Region 7 ESC  
ESC Council  
[aechart@esc7.net](mailto:aechart@esc7.net)

Linda Brewer, Channelview ISD  
Secondary Council  
[linda.brewer@channelview.isd.esc4.net](mailto:linda.brewer@channelview.isd.esc4.net)

Patsy Hinson, San Jacinto College  
Higher Education Council  
[patsy.hinson@sjcd.edu](mailto:patsy.hinson@sjcd.edu)

# Affiliate Services



## ***TESA Affiliate Services***



Get ready for **BLAST OFF!**

Let the TESA Affiliate Services help you

***“Achieve Excellence Hand in Hand”***

Upon request the TESA Affiliate Services can assist local groups in:

Organize a Local Association

Give a Pep Talk

Affiliating with TESA

Affiliating with NAEOP

Installing Officers

Present professional development sessions

STEM (Staff Training for Effective Management)

To make arrangements for any of these services, contact one of the members of the Affiliate Services Committee:

Sylvia L. Flores, CEOP  
Affiliate Service, Chairman  
[slflores@mcisd.org](mailto:slflores@mcisd.org)  
Mission CISD (956) 323-4609

Teresa Espino, CEOP  
Committee Member  
[tespino@galenaparkisd.com](mailto:tespino@galenaparkisd.com)  
Galena Park ISD, 832-386-1081

Sherry Gary, CEOP, APII  
Committee Member  
[Sherry.Gary@sjcd.edu](mailto:Sherry.Gary@sjcd.edu)  
San Jacinto College, 281-998-6150 x 3751



# POTS

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck.

One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments.

But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the

woman one day by the stream.

‘I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house.’

The old woman smiled, ‘Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot’s side?’

‘That’s because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted

flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them.’

‘For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table.

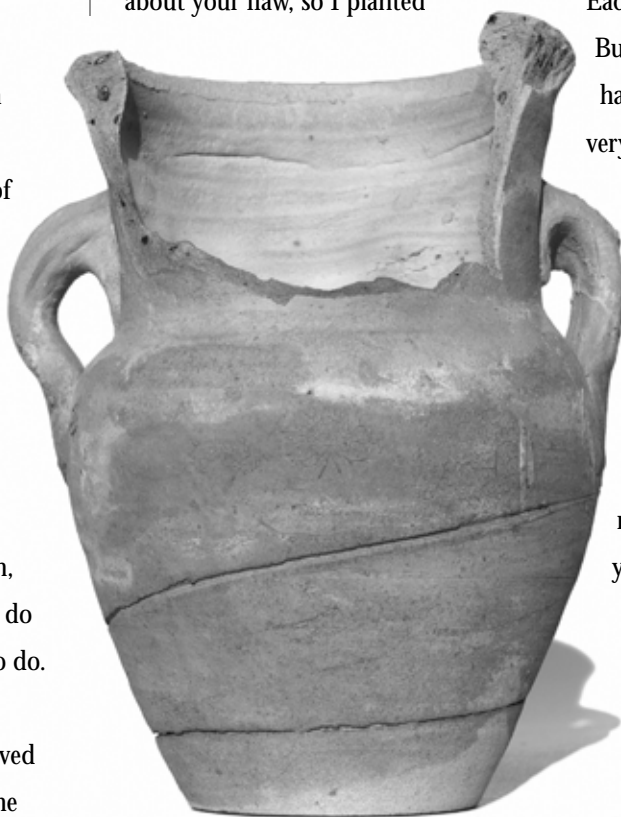
Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house.’

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it’s the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding.

You’ve just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

SO, to all of my crackpot friends, have a great day and remember to smell the flowers on your side of the path!

*Chinese Proverb*



# Learn to protect yourself by adopting new philosophy

By: Kim Strube, Creator of Safe Self™

The contagious affection and laughter of her grandchildren caused Susan to lose track of the time. Realizing it was after 10 p.m. and work awaited her in the morning, she said her goodbyes and rushed home in the rain. An accident on the usual route caused a detour and Susan was sent out on an unknown, rural road. As fate usually behaves, while out of sight of another soul, her car's engine gave a quick cough and stalled. Without cell phone coverage in the area, Susan sat in her automobile, as the drops pounded on the metal roof, for over 30 minutes before the headlights of another vehicle became visible.

Trying to catch the attention of the driver, she leaped into the street, draping a coat over her head to stay dry. At first, she thought help had arrived because the car slowed down as it approached; however, the driver continued on by her out of sight. A few minutes later, headlights returned from the same direction. Susan could see it was the same vehicle as before. This time, though, it stopped about 100 feet away and the driver remained still. She thought to approach the car, but an uneasy feeling overwhelmed her. She did not know what to do or what was about to happen.

How we feel and act in any given situation is typically determined by what our core beliefs cause us to focus on. Core beliefs are underlying definitions, whether true or false, of how we see ourselves and the environment.

We consciously and subconsciously develop our core beliefs over the years as life's experiences make positive and negative impressions on us. Many of these beliefs, however, are formed during intense emotional conditions or repeated societal programming – usually absent of logical or independent reasoning. Without analyzing the events that create the beliefs, we tend to create beliefs that are not

accurate. When false perceptions and beliefs rule our actions, we are not in control.

When it comes to protecting ourselves in life-threatening situations, our beliefs and actions will play an integral role in the outcome of the encounter. In order to take more control of the circumstances in our lives, regardless of the harmful efforts of others, we must evaluate and eliminate false beliefs, develop appropriate beliefs and gain the experiences required to initiate actions based on the beliefs.

The first false beliefs to tackle are those relating to the need for learning how to protect ourselves, what self-protection really means and our true abilities to keep ourselves safe.

According to the latest U. S. Department of Justice statistics in 2005, there were approximately six victims of murder for every 100,000 people, and for every 1,000 people over the age of 12, there was one rape or sexual assault, one assault with injury and three robberies. If you are like many people and feel your risk for becoming a victim is small because of these figures and the fact that you do not live in the heart of a big city, think again.

Law enforcement experts estimate that 60 to 90 percent of violent attacks, especially rape, go unreported. Incidents in which crimes were averted by potential victims or circumstances are not included in statistics, either.

Personally, I have thwarted three potential attacks in the last 22 years.

In reality, people who want to inflict harm do not care about statistics.

They only care about whether they have

an opportunity to be successful in their attempts. As we have witnessed in the news, violent attacks can happen anywhere and to anyone.

On the flip side, another false belief would be to overestimate our potential for becoming a victim. Media's focus on violent crimes often creates an illusion of widespread danger. Living in fear of a potential attack is a terrible waste of time and very detrimental to emotional well-being. Ironically, it also hinders our ability to protect ourselves if the moment ever arrives.

The appropriate belief is to determine that it is wise to not leave our safety up to chance and know how to protect ourselves – and to develop those skills without any emotion attached to them.

In order to do this, we must develop a "self-protection" mindset instead of a "self-defense" one. The brain's literal translation of "self-defense" is to "defend oneself" and can send a mixed signal to the subconscious. To defend means to only react, and to only react means to not be in control. We may be able to consciously understand that "self-defense" implies more, but the subconscious cannot. We want to work in harmony with our subconscious, so we have to program it appropriately.

To protect ourselves from potential attacks, we cannot only acquire tools and learn tips that can be used when a certain situation arises. That does not help prevent an attack or diffuse it. It only helps address it – and that is only if it fits certain parameters. If the situation does not fit those parameters, use of those tools and tips could be harmful to the victim – physically, emotionally and legally.



Regardless of what anyone tells you, every encounter is unique and will require a unique approach to handle it. Obviously, if we must come up with a new solution each time, memorizing a specific response to use in every circumstance is useless – and dangerous. Instead, we must develop a pattern for deterring potential attacks, analyzing unavoidable situations and using the right tools available to us in the appropriate manner. And the more tools we develop, the more choices we will have in a situation.

At the core, we all have the ability to protect ourselves in an attack situation. The size and gender of attackers, or the weapons they use, are not the threats. Their knowledge of how to use them is the threat. If we know more, we will have the upper hand. In reality, many violent criminals have very limited knowledge about how to use their bodies, minds and weapons effectively or intelligently. They are driven by emotion, which provides a tremendous opportunity for targeted victims to outthink their aggressor – as long as they control their own emotions.

The whole purpose of forming a new core belief which empowers us to protect ourselves in an attack is not just to give us confidence in a crisis. The primary goal is to take control and open ourselves up to all the possibilities of self-protection. It is essential to possess a state of mind that refuses to consider ourselves victims and takes charge of a situation mentally – even if the response is not one we may consider “right” at the time or may produce an unwanted or unexpected outcome.

Good beliefs, however, need good tools to put into action. To develop tools to use in self-protection, it is essential to understand what they are, how to recognize them and how to use them appropriately. Self-protection tools fall into two categories: internal or external. Internal tools are those which are always part of us, such as our senses, instincts, emotional control, ability to reason, communicate, balance and move, and so on.

External tools are those which happen to be around us because of our location or decision to possess them. This goes way beyond traditional weapons, such as guns, knives, clubs, etc. Everything in existence is literally

an external self-protection tool. If it exists, it has the potential to distract, create distance between, hinder movement of or harm an attacker (and visa versa).

Although external tools can be extremely beneficial in an assault, too many people have been conditioned to believe that their personal safety relies solely upon a few, standard handheld weapons. Not only is this belief extremely limiting and false, it is the main reason that people become victims of their own weapons or freeze in fear when threatened with them in attack situations. It is our internal tools which make the need for an external weapon often unnecessary or the use of an external tool safe, successful and legal.

Due to our differences, it is important to realize that not everyone will use internal and external tools in the same way. It is necessary to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses so we can use the tools that will best serve us in a given environment and situation.

For example, my hearing is very poor and a severe fall eight years ago took away my ability to run. Since I am aware of these limitations, I automatically compensate and plan around them. I know my hearing will not warn me of potential dangers or help me in an attack situation, so I make sure I use my other senses more often. When I plan on methods of escape for a situation, I make sure it does not involve running. Running, for me, would be futile and waste precious energy that I could use for other tactics. My major advantages are my critical thinking skills, martial arts training, height and strength. So, most of my self-protection plans revolve around these abilities.

Just like knowing our own strengths and weaknesses benefits us when developing our self-protection strategies, knowing the strengths and weaknesses of the attacker is just as helpful. By understanding the attacker's strengths, we can create situations that make them not as effective, so we can take advantages of the weaknesses. Even attackers have weaknesses, and that is what we have to remember when being threatened.

When developing a self-protection mentality

and plan, it is necessary to form them in steps and with specific goals in mind. The first goal of self-protection is to prevent an encounter altogether. This is accomplished by being aware of and understanding our environment, and the people in it, and planning effective and safe departures, if required. The second goal of self-protection is to diffuse a potential attack by noticing the threat and using actions that will not allow the situation to progress.

The next goal is to end an encounter, once it has begun, non-violently. This is accomplished by altering the attacker's state of mind so they will end the attack or flee from fear, or by subduing the attacker without harm. When the previous steps have not worked, the goal is to use only as much force as necessary to end the attack. Any more force than that is unnecessary and usually illegal. When all else fails and our only recourse is to save our life by ending the attacker's, we need to be able to do it within the confines of the law and within our emotional ability to handle it.

An attack situation can be a traumatic experience and has the potential to create certain negative beliefs. Without analyzing and facing the emotional impact of the attack, those beliefs could be based on fear, rather than rational thought, and wreak havoc in our lives. Emotionally preparing for an attack is, therefore, an equally important tool in self-protection.

We never can be completely in control of our environment or ourselves, but developing self-protection beliefs and skills will help us make the most of our abilities in a life-threatening situation, which is usually all that is needed to make a difference in the outcome toward our favor.



# TESA Executive Board & Committees

Board Orientation was held August 1-3, 2008, in San Marcos, Texas. Board members began arriving at the Hampton Inn on Friday. Board Members were greeted by President MaryAnn Hollingsworth and President Elect Gerald Wharton. The highlight of the day was a ride on the glass bottom boat at Aquarena Springs. That evening the board enjoyed a meal at Mamacita's Mexican Restaurant.

On Saturday and Sunday the board met at The Thornton House on the campus of Texas State University-San Marcos. The board had the pleasure of hearing a session on Communication by Nancy Cobb from San Antonio College. Training was held on Parliamentary Procedure, by Gerald, and Office Procedures, by Melissa.



*On the boat: We began our Board Orientation by boarding a glass bottom boat at Aquarena Springs. Left side of the boat: MaryAnn Hollingsworth, Wendy Klentzman, Martin Saenz, Patti Walling, Christine Ortiz, Janie Giddens, Gerald Wharton, Dianne Lemons  
Right side of the boat: Phyllis Hyden, Cindy Bright, Melissa Davis, Sylvia Flores, Annette Knaus, Sue Hand, Irma Ford*



*MaryAnn Hollingsworth presents Nancy Cobb, Director of Gateway to College at San Antonio College, a thank you gift for presenting an inspiring session on Communication at Board Orientation.*



*Irma Ford, Dianne Lemons, Janie Giddens, Sylvia Flores, and MaryAnn Hollingsworth are deeply concentrating on the information being presented.*



*On the Steps: Everyone is smiling really big! What is interesting to know is this was taken in the afternoon on very hot steps.*

*Top to Bottom: Standing MaryAnn Hollingsworth; Next row: Cindy Bright, Patti Walling, Phyllis Hyden, Sue Hand, Dianne Lemons; Next row: Irma Ford, Sylvia Flores, Janie Giddens, Martin Saenz, Annette Knaus; Last row: Christine Ortiz, Gerald Wharton, Wendy Klentzman*





# The VOTE

Dr. Kevin Jefferies, Head of the Economics and Government Department at Alvin Community College.

Like clockwork, every election season we're bombarded with do-gooders telling us how important it is to vote, that it is the fundamental duty of every citizen, that people fought for our right to have a voice in government, that it the right thing to do, etc.... But, again like clockwork, after every election we find out that most people did not vote. Only in presidential elections—and not in every one of those—does a majority show up even to cast a ballot.

There's a good reason of course. The non-voters know a thing or two. They know that the odds that a single vote will ever decide an important race are so thin they are non-existent. A statistician once reported that you are more likely to win a lottery 100 times in a row than cast the deciding vote in a presidential race.

The non-voters also know that by the time the general election has rolled around, all the major decisions have been made. The field is wide open in the early phases, but as the months pass the ability of any individual-or at least people like you and me-to have a major impact on who is and is not a viable candidate diminishes.

Competitive candidates muddy waters so much we have no real idea what they stand for or are likely to do when called to act. Do you remember candidate George W. Bush's 2000 promise to have a restrained foreign policy and not get involved in nation building? The se-

lection of the candidates, and even the winner, is determined by elites. All you and I do is legitimize a selection they have already approved.

The non-voters-explicitly or implicitly-see no reason to sanction that game. So they don't vote, and perhaps even look down on those of us naïve and gullible enough to think our vote matters more than a brief warm and fuzzy feeling.

But there is something they don't know. Though your elected representatives don't know which people voted, and who they voted for, they know which groups tend to vote and who they tend to vote for. They know that older people vote more than younger people, that the wealthy vote more than the poor and that business owners vote more than wage laborers. And they base their positions on bills based on what they know about these groups. Ever wonder why things turn out as they do? It all makes sense if you think about who bothers to show up.

Ever wonder why student access to college grants has declined over time and reliance on loans has increased. Perhaps that is because students, and those who work for their interests, turn out to vote and support their candidates less than business people vote for and support theirs. Funding for community colleges is sliced with impunity, but the mere thought of scaling back business subsidies or eliminating a tax break is met with fierce and effective resistance

because business leaders have leverage. They can threaten to remove the support that brought elected officials to office to begin with.

What leverage does the education community have? Only as much as we have members in the voting booth. The act of voting is not just an abstract exercise in patriotism; it's a pragmatic display of real power in a system that rewards those who show up and punishes those who stay home. We have the numbers; the only issue is whether individuals decide for themselves to do their part to make it obvious. Want to do your part? Go to [www.votexas.org](http://www.votexas.org).



**Dr. Kevin Jefferies**  
Head of the Economics and Government  
Department at Alvin Community College

# Light the Night Walk Kick-off Party

*By Candace Lehew*

For the first time, UHCL-ESA sponsored a kick-off party on Thursday, August 28th, for the Light the Night Walk in the Houston area. The Light the NightWalk is an annual event held nationally in October by communities across the United States to help The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society raise awareness and funds for finding cures for leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma. UHCL-ESA shared ice cream, information, and fellowship with the community. Details were given about how to register for the walk and about how people could become involved in helping find a cure and becoming a bone-marrow donor.

Another purpose of the walk is to celebrate the lives of those currently touched by cancer and those that are cancer survivors. During the walk, cancer patients and survivors carry white illuminated balloons. Their supporters carry illuminated red balloons. There are two walks in the Houston metropolitan area.

One will be held on Saturday, October 11th, at Discovery Green Park in Houston.

The other walk is in the Woodlands on Sunday, October 26th, at The Woodlands Market Street. To see if there is a walk in your area, go to [www.lightthenight.org](http://www.lightthenight.org) for more information.

The Team UHCL Captain for the Houston walk is LeeAnn Wheelbarger, the UHCL-ESA president for 2008-

2009. She is the reason this event is so near and dear to our hearts. Sometimes our greatest moments of strength come from our weakest moments in life. In August of 1999, LeeAnn was diagnosed with aplastic anemia/myelodysplasia. Aplastic anemia is a disease in which a person has a marked reduction in the number of stem cells or a lack of stem cells. Some of the stem cells that are produced in a person's bone marrow turn into oxygen-carrying red blood cells. According to WebMD, without enough red blood cells, organs in the body do not get enough oxygen, and tissue death can follow. Myelodysplasia is a blood disorder that affects the development of all three types of blood cells. Red blood cells carry oxygen throughout our bodies. White blood cells help to fight disease. Platelets help our blood to clot to prevent blood loss. Without properly functioning blood cells circulating in the blood stream, people end up with abnormally low blood-cell levels or low blood counts. Both diseases are considered pre-leukemia. Leukemia is cancer of the blood cells.

Most patients with aplastic anemia, myelodysplasia, or leukemia need a bone marrow transplant to survive. Finding a person with tissue that matches the patients can be a daunting task. If a donor cannot be found or in the process of waiting for a donor match, there are experimental treatments that can be tried. The experimental treatments work for some patients, but not for all. LeeAnn tried some of the treatments while wait-

ing for a bone marrow donor match.

Unfortunately for her, the experimental treatments did not work, and the only option left was a donor match.

Although the National Marrow Donor Program registry has millions of people registered, there are still patients waiting for a life-saving match. The NMDP Website states that people of diversity are underrepresented on the registry. Since racial and ethnic heritage plays a vital role in tissue matches, the lack of multicultural donors creates problems when a person of color or mixed background is looking for a match. Some cultures believe that they have to have all of their body parts, even bone marrow, to pass on to the next life. This can be a roadblock in recruiting people of diversity to be on the registry.

In LeeAnn's case, her father is from the United States and her mother is Korean. Since she has a mixed heritage, her brother was tested first to see if he was a match. The likelihood of tissues matching is higher in siblings. Unfortunately, he was not a match for her.

The long search for a bone marrow match began. This is the proverbial needle in a haystack. Even when a patient finds a match, there is no guarantee that he or she will actually receive the bone marrow donation.

Sometimes people on the registry are unable to donate at the time it is requested,



as in LeeAnn's case. The first donor that was a match was not healthy enough to donate marrow. The second and third donor matches were either unavailable or could not be located. Finally, after two years of fighting this disease and searching for a match, a fourth donor was found who was available, able, and healthy. The bone marrow transplant was scheduled. Luckily for LeeAnn, the bone marrow transplant was a success. Five plus years later, she is still in remission.

Watching the fear in someone's eyes when facing a life-threatening disease is indescribable. Knowing that a bone marrow donation could save a life but isn't available is hard to fathom. Fortunately for LeeAnn, four donors were located in the NMDP that matched her tissue type. Not everyone is fortunate enough to find a single match, let alone four potential matches. Because of the generosity and compassion LeeAnn's donor had, she is alive today to share her story with others and encourage them to be on the National Marrow Donor Program registry.

Signing up to be a bone-marrow donor is easy. At one of our ESA general meetings this year, we had two representatives from the National Marrow Donor Program registry come to speak to our members about becoming part of the registry. They discussed the importance of growing the diversity base of the registry so that they can help as many people as possible.

"The process to get put on the National Marrow Donor Program registry is simple, and it only takes about 5 minutes. Collecting sample cells is quick and painless," stated the NMDP representative, Robert Martinez.

The representatives brought kits with

them that could be used that day. The kits include a confidential questionnaire and two cotton swabs. The questionnaire captures the data needed for the registry. The two cotton swabs were for swabbing the inside of cheeks, one for each side. The representatives offered to do the swabs for those who wanted to sign up. They also offered to allow the person to do his or her own swab. Once the swabbing is completed, the cotton swabs are put into an envelope and are sent off to a lab for analysis. The tissue information is entered into the database and becomes part of the searchable database of donors. UHCL-ESA had three members sign up to be on the registry that day.

Everyone cannot become a member of the NMDP registry. Donors must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and healthy, to become a potential volunteer donor.

There are some medical conditions that would exclude someone from donating: AIDS/HIV; severe arthritis; asthma requiring daily use of oral steroid medication; autoimmune diseases; history of back, neck, hip and/or spine problems; bleeding problems such as hemophilia; breathing issues such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema, sleep apnea, or cystic fibrosis; cancer of any type with the exception of healed cancers that are in situ, meaning Stage 0; diabetes that requires insulin or injectable medications to control it; heart disease; certain types of hepatitis; serious kidney problems; liver disease. If you want to be put on the registry but aren't sure if you qualify, you can call the National Marrow Donor Program at 1-800-MARROW2 (1-800-627-7692). There are professionals available to answer any questions you might have.

Sometimes it is the things closest to us

in our lives that spur our passion to help a particular cause. Instead of looking at having aplastic anemia as a bad thing, LeeAnn used her experience and shared her story to help others. She goes out into the underrepresented communities and talks about being tested for the registry.

She explains to groups what bone marrow is and why it is so desperately needed. In certain communities, she explains how donating bone marrow is not like donating a body organ. Donating organs are against the belief systems of some people from various cultures.

The passion and leadership LeeAnn Wheelbarger shows is one of the reasons UHCL-ESA is such a great organization to be a part of. She sets a high standard for others to reach for. If you are unable to become part of the registry due to medical reasons, there are still other ways you can help. You can volunteer your time to help the NMDP registry, donate money to fund patient care and research, and spread the word about the need for bone marrow donors on the registry.



Candace Leheuw

# NAEOP Membership

## Membership Form for the National Association of Educational Office Professionals

Membership Type:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Active - \$45	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retired - \$25	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate - \$45	<input type="checkbox"/>	Institutional - \$80	<input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate - \$55

Membership Application Continuous Membership (12 full months)

- ☐ New Membership    ☐ Renewal Membership    Membership Number:  
☐ Magazine Annual Subscription - \$25    ☐ Magazine Annual Subscription (Retired) - \$10

-All fees must be paid in U.S. Dollars

-Outside of U.S. special postage and handling charges apply. Please add an additional \$15.

-Active membership fees include a one-year subscription to the associate magazine.

-Dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes.

Membership Information:			
Job description:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary <input type="checkbox"/> Middle School/Junior High <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary/High School			
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education <input type="checkbox"/> State Department <input type="checkbox"/> Administration			
<input type="checkbox"/> Career & Technical Education <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Name:			
Address:		City:	State:    Zip:
Home phone:		Office phone	Ext.
Fax:		Email:	
Recruited by (Name):			
Method of Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa			
Cardholder's Name:			
Card Number:		Expiration Date:	
Signature:			

Mail or Fax to:

NAEOP  
PO Box 12619  
Wichita, KS 67277-2619  
Fax: 316-942-7100





*Can you find yourself in any of these pictures? Summer Work Conference*



# TESA Scholarship Donation Form

## TESA Scholarship Donation Form

TESA Central Office Scholarship Committee Chairman  
PO Box 1565 • Austin TX 78767-1565

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: ☐ Lorene Roby Rogers Memorial Scholarship Fund  
☐ Dr. Michael Zolkoski Technology Scholarship Fund  
☐ Founders Scholarship Fund

Check one: ☐ Individual Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Local Association Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ State Association Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation is made in memory/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Notification should be sent to:

President's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### LORENE ROBY ROGERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Texas Educational Secretaries Association established a memorial fund to Mrs. Lorene Roby Rogers after her death December 31, 1969, as contributions were received in her memory by our organization. The general assembly of TESA voted in May 1970 to establish a permanent fund to be named the Lorene Roby Rogers Memorial Scholarship Fund for a secretary, clerical or instructional assistant in education to continue her education.

Lorene was well known to educational secretaries and to administrators throughout Texas and the nation as she organized local associations, served as president of TESA, and was in demand as a speaker. It is the desire of TESA to perpetuate Lorene Roby Rogers' memory through this scholarship fund by helping to develop another educational secretary, clerical or instructional assistant who may serve the field of education with similar zeal and conviction.

### DR. MICHAEL ZOLKOSKI TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP

In June 1996, the Texas Educational Secretaries Association established the Dr. Michael Zolkoski Technology Scholarship. This scholarship is for TESA members who would like to take computer enrichment classes. Dr. Zolkoski's commitment to TESA has been without precedent and exemplifies the spirit of TESA. This scholarship fund has been established to honor Dr. Zolkoski's efforts to enhance the paraprofessionals' knowledge of technology.

### FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP

In April 2006, the Texas Educational Support Staff Association established the Founders Scholarship to honor past TESA leaders and members who laid the foundation for this association. The recipient of the Founders Scholarship must be a graduating high school senior and a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of an active TESA member. The recipient is to be of good character and seeking to further formal education.





## *TESA Behind the Scenes*



Behind the scene is someone who works very hard to keep the TESA office in order. If you have not had the chance to meet her in person or speak to her on the phone I hope when you attend a Fall Work Conference or a Summer Work Conference you seek her out. Of course I am describing Melissa Davis.

Melissa works in the TESA Austin office part time. Office hours during the school year are M-F 9:30 – 2 off on Wednesdays. During the Summer M-Thurs. 9:30 – 3 off on Fridays.

Melissa is married to Dave and has two daughters Bella and Ireland and a new Pug puppy named Poppy.

Before coming to work for TESA Melissa was a stay-home mom. Melissa has completed STEM training herself, so she is very knowledgeable about the work involved in completing the STEM program and knew about TESA because she is the daughter of TESA Past President Peggy Hudson.

Melissa loves travelling, decorating her new home, all things purple, fleurs-de-lis, and has become quite famous for her salsa.

*A joyful life is an individual  
creation that cannot be copied  
from a recipe.*

*~ Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi*

## Affiliates in Action

### University of Houston-Clear Lake Educational Support Association



*Front Row: Treasurer - Patti Koch, Secretary - Sandy Jennings, President-Elect - Berenice Webster, President - LeeAnn Wheelbarger.*

*Back row: UHCL President-William Staples, Training Liaison-Ron Klinger, Historian- Candace Lehw, Past President-Anna Lowery, TESA Past-President Barbara Jennings, TESA Past-President Debbie Wade, UHCL Provost - Carl Stockton.*

University of Houston-Clear Lake's Educational Support Association is an active organization in the community. Annually, we select a family from a local women's shelter to sponsor for Christmas, but Christmas isn't the only time of the year that people need our help. UHCL-ESA also sponsors fundraising events to fund stipends so that ESA members can attend TESA conferences and workshops for professional development. We schedule speakers for our general meetings to help inform our members and help our community.

### Alvin Community College Association of Educational Office Professionals



*From Left: Natasha Patterson - Program Coordinator, Linda Smith - Historian, Stacy Chambless - Secretary, Anna Oskerson - Vice President, Marylu Parvis - President, Patty Balderas - Treasurer*

In preparation for the new academic year at Alvin Community College, my officers and I have been busy planning for the upcoming Alvin Community College Association of Educational Office Professionals (ACCAEOP) activities. We will begin the year

with a luncheon meeting on Wednesday, September 24. In addition to lunch (provided by the officers), we will be having a guest speaker on this year's theme. The next day we will hold our annual fall plant sale. This is one of two plant sales we have each

year, raising funds for our ACC scholarships and ACCAEOP member staff development. That's our first month's activities, and there's much more to follow throughout the year.

As mentioned above, our guest speaker will address the theme I have chosen for this year- "Dare to Dream." I'm hoping our speaker will help to encourage our members to reach beyond their comfort zones to achieve their dreams. The inspiration for my theme came from something I did last year when I achieved one of my dreams by going to Paris, France. But I did it in a way I never expected - by myself - for a two-week "Study Abroad" program. I've always wanted to go to Paris, but never thought I would be doing it alone. With the encouragement of my ACC French instructor, I decided that I would "go for it" even though no other students were going. It's one of the best decisions I've made. So, armed with this example, I hope to encourage others to just "go for it" - it's surprising what you can achieve when you are willing to plan and work for it.

Marylu Parvis, President  
ACCAEOP



## ***San Jacinto College Association of Educational Office Personnel (SJC AEOP)***



*Pictured left to right: Dolores Cantu - Historian, Debbie Wade - Parliamentarian, Nancy McShane - Treasurer, Leslie Horton - Secretary, Kathy Miller - 2nd VP, Patti Walling - 1st VP, Sherry Grey - President*

Welcome to a new year of great opportunities and adventures. As president of San Jacinto College Association of Educational Office Personnel (SJC AEOP) this year, I am so excited to see what is in store for us. Three AEOP members are on the 2008-2009 TESA Board: Patti Walling, Member-at-Large – Membership; Patsy Hinson, Higher Ed Council; and Sherry Gray, Affiliate Services Committee. Patti Walling recently attended the TESA Board Orientation in San Marcos and came back ready to go. We are excited and ready to get the new year started! We have planned several events this year that will enable AEOP members and other SJC staff to network and receive great professional development opportunities.

In October, we will hold our annual Bosses Appreciation Luncheon which

always brings many of our administrators and staff together for an enjoyable and exciting experience.

This year's speaker will be Crockett DuBose, Galena Park ISD Chief of Staff, who is expected to make an impressive impact on everyone. Our theme for the luncheon is "Hand in Hand We Make a Difference."

In February, we will have our Half-Day seminar which includes a silent auction with the proceeds going toward our community service project. The afternoon will be full of great and exciting activities and networking opportunities for all.

In April, SJC AEOP is hosting a TESA Area Workshop. It will be held on the Central campus in Pasadena on Satur-

day, April 4. We plan to have STEM classes available for those wishing to work toward their CEOP. There will be multiple breakout sessions to choose from for even more professional development opportunities. And of course, plenty of shopping adventures will be available.

In between these events, AEOP will be holding professional development activities during our monthly meetings and working hard to make our jobs more productive as well as easier.

Best wishes to everyone for a successful school year!

Sherry Gray, CEOP, AP II  
SJC AEOP President 2008-2009



## Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

### *Philosophy*

The organization of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc., exists for the sole purpose of promoting professional growth and rendering services to all facets of its membership.

The TESA Board and all members of TESA are committed to the basic values found in our American heritage, including the system of Free Enterprise, the Constitution and Bill of Rights of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Texas. We feel the primary purpose of our membership is that of a supportive professional on the educational team which makes a vital contribution to the development of education—a student prepared to function in the mainstream of American society.

We recognize the need to remain objective in our viewpoint. Only by consistently exercising good judgment in our communications and recommendations can we expect to earn the respect and confidence of our colleagues and serve TESA to the optimum of our ability.

It is the intent of the TESA Board that all officers function according to the requirements of our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and that the professional growth and effectiveness of our total program be evaluated on a continual basis.

In summary, the overall TESA program, then, must be broad enough in scope, yet specific enough in character, to provide for the needs of all its membership.

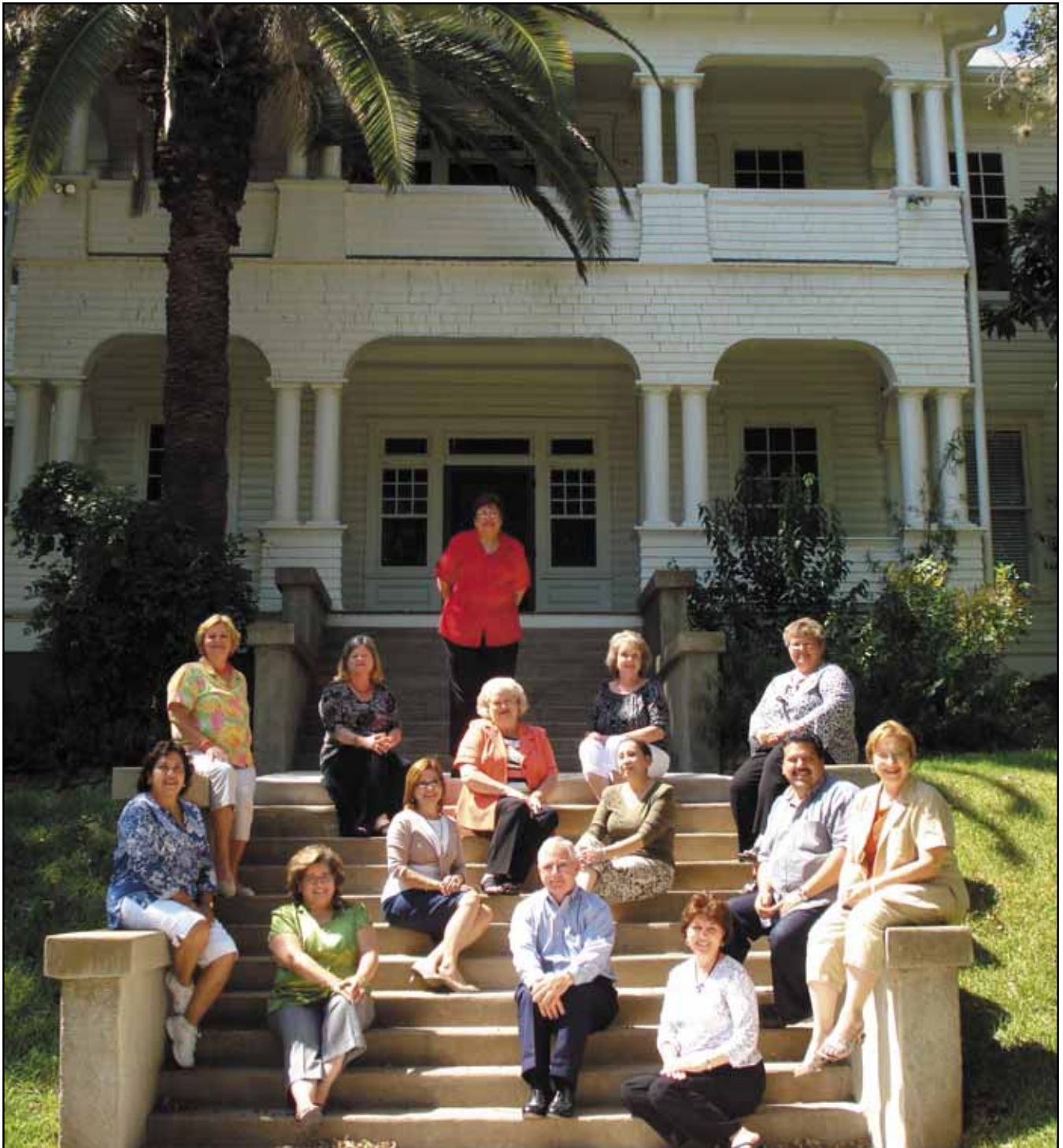
Author: Nelda Van Dyke

TESA President, 1979-1980





## *TESA Board Orientation*



*The Executive Board of The Texas Educational Support Staff Association would like to thank The Office of Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management, Texas State University-San Marcos for their generosity in allowing us the use of The Thornton House Conference Room to hold our Board Orientation. Their generosity allowed us to start our year "Achieving Excellence Hand in Hand."*

# **TESA**

## **Texas Educational Support Staff Association**

**2009 Summer  
Work Conference**

**June 2009**

**Marriott Houston Westchase**

713-978-7400

- \* STEM Classes
- \* Breakout Sessions
- \* Theme Baskets
- \* Exhibits
- \* Vendors



- \* Educational
- \* Fun
- \* Team Building
- \* Networking

**Installation Banquet and Dance**  
**President's Luncheon**  
**Sunday Brunch**



Sue Hand, SWC Chairman  
Debbie McFadden, Social Chairman  
Brenda Heinsohn, Exhibits Chairman  
Robin Pool, Registration Chairman

lhand@lcisd.org  
mcfadden@uhcl.edu  
Brenda.Heinsohn@comalisd.org  
rpool@pasadenaisd.org

Lamar CISD  
UH Clear Lake  
Comal ISD  
Pasadena ISD

### **The TESA Connection**

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Central Office - P.O. Box 1565 - Austin, TX 78767

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Texas Educational  
Support Staff  
Association