VOLUME LXI, NUMBER 4 - SUMMER 2011

## the TESA CONNECTION

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



### President's Message



Thank you to the 2010-2011 board for all of their hard work this past year. There have been challenges and the board has met them with great energy and determination. Your board has done an outstanding job.

I began to look over the calendar, and there were TESA events every month. There were STEM classes, planning meetings, board meetings, and board members representing TESA at local association meetings, Fall Work Conference, Summer Work Conference, Area Workshops and the list could go on and on. Contact with

other educational personnel keeps us informed about current issues and keeps us up to date on new trends in the work place.

At this year's Summer Work Conference the membership passed a bylaws change. TESA will only have one meeting of members, held annually during the Summer Work Conference, for the purpose of conducting business. This eliminated the necessity to have TESA host a Fall Work Conference. A contract was already signed for a Fall Work Conference 2011 that will be held in San Marcos at the Embassy Suites. Associations can still bid to hold a Fall Work Conference. If your association is interested, contact any of the TESA officers for help in applying.

It was such a wonderful sight to look out at meetings and TESA events and see so many wearing pearls. Thank you all for taking my theme and growing your "Pearls of Wisdom and Knowledge."

My year as TESA president has come to an end. I have passed the gavel on to Sue. It is a tradition that others have done before me, and now I understand the emotions that they have felt at that moment. I am so proud and honored to have served. The support you have given me is much appreciated.

Thank you for a wonderful year.

Wendy Klentzman

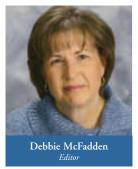
"We have a duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of praise or thanks or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet. Blessed is the man who speaks such a word."

- William Barclay



## Letter from the Editor & Table of Contents

#### From the Editor



Wow, what a year it has been! Seems like the years are going faster than they used to, or are we just getting busier and can't seem to keep up?

Marylu, Patti and I have enjoyed working on *The TESA Connection* this year and hope that we brought you articles, information from affiliates and general information that was helpful to you. As you know, TESA once again won the First Place Rachel Maynard Award for Excellence in Communication from the National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP). Thank you to everyone who contributed to the award winning magazine, and we hope that each of you enjoyed reading it.

This issue will be focusing on Heroes and Volunteers submitted by TESA members. As you read the articles, think about the heroes or volunteers you know and remember to thank them for all they do. A thank you, handshake, hug and/or a smile means a lot to the individuals who give their time and expertise to a cause they believe in.

With the start of another school year, consider volunteering some of your time for a cause that means something to you, whether it's in your community, local association or TESA. The volunteer form for TESA is on the TESA website. The organization depends on volunteers to help make it a great. Don't want to be on the board? Try starting as a committee member or volunteering at a conference to facilitate a breakout session, helping at registration, or assisting with the many other opportunities TESA has.

I'd like to say a special thank you to Marylu and Patti for serving this year and working with me to make it possible to bring you four issues and to Ben Albers, Richardson ISD, for designing the layout for each issue. AWESOME job!

See you in San Marcos on November 4 – 6 at FWC.



Patti Walling
patti.walling@sjcd.edu

Debbie Wade
Special Assistant to the Editor

Marylu Parvis mparvis@alvincollege.edu





Volunteering is for Life
Feature Article by Denise Adams Volunteers in Lamar, CISD
Feature Article by Barbara Jennings Cystic Fibrosis Gave Me My Heroes
Legislative Update by Gerald Wharton 82nd Texas Legislative Session and Special Session

### Summer Work Conference Thank You



Thank you, TESA members, for your participation in helping to make this conference one to remember! It is because of your loyalty and dedication to your professional and personal growth that this conference was absolutely FABULOUS!

The 2011 Summer Work Conference committee would also like to give many thanks to Region 10 ESC, Pasadena ISD, Garland ISD, Mesquite ISD, various vendors, board and committee members and so many more that gave of their time to help make this conference what it was.

Our hopes are that each of you were inspired to continue on your path of SUCCESS by all that was provided to you at the 2011 SWC. Use this and make this work in your favor for your professional and personal growth. Never give up on your dreams or goals, as they are reachable.

Most importantly, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for the team I had working alongside me. This group of ladies is absolutely unique and hard-working! It truly was a blessing for me to have had these amazing individuals to work with. My cup runneth over!

We wish each of you all the best. Please remember, your dreams and goals are only a reach away; you can do anything you set your mind to do. I believe in each of you and know that you can succeed!





#### Feature Article - Heros & Volunteers

## Cougar Fan Extraordinaire

By Robin Pool

Let me introduce you to Brian. Brian is a very enthusiastic University of Houston Cougar fan and Alumnus! If the Coogs are playing in town, you know where to find him. He is out in the parking lot 4-5 hours (or more) before the game, setting up everything for his tailgate that will take place when 20-30+ other devoted Cougar fans arrive to prepare to cheer the Cougars to victory. If no one signed up to bring the food, that's okay, Brian will make sure there is always plenty of food, even if he is providing most of it!

My son Brian, usually clad in a red and white shirt, almost always in a UH cap, is more than just a Cougar fan, though. During the tropical storm Allison flood when the hospitals in Houston were asking for assistance in moving their patients from hospitals with no power, he managed to find his way over there and spent most of the day volunteering and moving all sorts of equipment and patients. Recently, for the second year in a row, he has volunteered to be a team leader for a playground build at Houston area elementary schools.





Yes, he is very busy, married with 2 beautiful little girls, but he always finds time to lend a helping hand when there is a need. He routinely calls his grandmother and checks in on her to see if there is anything he can do for her. And of course, he is always willing to help out his parents when assistance is needed around the house or his sister when she needs a little help watching her kids.

Brian is a wonderful son and grandson, a great husband and father, a special brother and a true friend. I am proud to be his mom.

We the members of the Texas Educational Support Staff Association, 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, spring, 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 fall issue to:

#### Darcy Blackstock

1403 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX 77530 Email: darcy.blackstock@channelview.isd.esc4.net



# $S_{\text{taff }T \text{raining }for} E_{\text{ffective}} \ M_{\text{anagement}}$ Two Full Days of STEM CLASSES at FWC Conference

November 3-4, 2011

## TESA FALL WORK CONFERENCE November 4-6, 2011 Embassy Suites • San Marcos, Texas

Save the Dates and

Dive into STEM Classes with both

feet!

Your 2011-12 TESA STEM COMMITTEE
Wanda Honeycutt, STEM Chair
honeycutt@uhcl.edu
Peggy Hudson, Area I Coordinator
peggy.hudson@leanderisd.org
Paula Lambright, Area II Coordinator
plambright@mesquiteisd.org
Cheryl Gregory, Area III Coordinator
cdgregory@mesquiteisd.org

Check the web for more exciting FWC announcements. For FWC STEM and other upcoming STEM Classes, Check the TESA web calendar at www.tesatexas.org/STEM link.



### 2010-2011 CEOP Recipients

Elia Ovalle, Galena Park ISD Barbara Paredes, Region 7 Jennifer Pena, Mesquite ISD Zoraida Pineda, Garland ISD



SWC 2011 CEOP Graduates and STEM Committee Members

Bambi Aceves, Mesquite ISD Lori Alford, Region 7 Estela Alvarado, Mesquite ISD Sandra Alvarez, Spring Branch ISD Rosa Ambriz, Mesquite ISD Sharon Andrews, Region 7 Nelly Anes, Spring Branch ISD Janice Ayers, Region 7 Bryonne Barnes, Region 7 Frankie Barnes, Region 7 Robin Beckett, Spring Branch ISD Jannetta Bell, Region 7 Lori Berry, Weatherford ISD Jennifer Boltz, Garland ISD Deb Bosco, Garland ISD Ioann Boswell, Garland ISD Brenda Boyd, Region 7 Anne Brown, Region 7 Velma Brown, Region 7 Margie Brownsberger, Texas State University San Marcos Donna Bruffy, Humble ISD Donna Byers, Garland ISD Annette Caballero, Spring Branch ISD Berta Campa, Region 7 Deborah Carnes, Region 7 Benita Carroll, Garland ISD Monica Castaneda, Fort Worth ISD Maria Castaneda, Mesquite ISD Loida Cedillo, Spring Branch ISD Mitzi Cepeda, Spring Branch ISD Irma Cerrillo, Garland ISD Carolyn Choice, Region 7 Lisa Church, Canyon ISD Rebecca Cochran, Channelview ISD Christie Cofer, Region 7 Linda Coleman, Region 7 Tonya Cooke, Region 7 Maria Covolan, Garland ISD Nancy Craft, Region 7

Sandra Curry, San Jacinto College Ernestine Daniels, Region 7 Brandy Dean, Spring Branch ISD Misty Eberhart, Region 7 Alice Faz, Region 7 Melissa Fernandez, Garland ISD Margarita Figueroa, Garland ISD Luz Fino, Garland ISD Canida Flores, Garland ISD Denise Gean, Region 7 Patricia Gilmore, Region 7 Jerrie J. Goforth, Fort Worth ISD Esther Gomez, Garland ISD Maria Gomez, Garland ISD Linda Gonzales, Region 7 Sheryl Gradick, Region 7 Yvonne Gray, Region 7 Linda Gray, Garland ISD Sylvia Green, Mesquite ISD Susan Green, UHCL Novaline Greenwood, Region 7 Teresa Griffin, Killeen ISD Felicia Griffith, Region 7 Elsa Guardiola, Garland ISD Fredina Guevara, Mesquite ISD Dolores Gutierrez, Fort Worth ISD Benita Guzman, Region 7 Freweini Gailemicael, Mesquite ISD Brenda Haines, Garland ISD Deyavor Harnage, Region 7 Virginia Harris, Region 7 Gracie Hawkins, Region 7 Veronica Haynes, Garland ISD Janice Hays, Region 7 Terri Heinen, Garland ISD Claudia Hernandez, Mesquite ISD Becky Hoag, Region 7 Denise Holman, Region 7 Gloria Hurd, Region 7 Maria Interial, Garland ISD

Ginny Jennings, Region 7 Hazel Johnson, Fort Worth ISD Patricia Johnson, Region 7 Elizabeth Johnson, Region 7 Linda Jones, Region 7 Ferne Kilpatrick, Garland ISD Gina Kincaid Caralynda Klenk, Madisonville CISD Jennifer Lamb, Mesquite ISD Olga Lara, Region 7 Irene Lara, Region 7 Valerie Laughlin-Rushing, Region 7 Pya Lee, Region 7 Gloria Lewis, Region 7 Carolyn Lewis, Region 7 Gerri Lilly, Garland ISD Barbara Livingston, Region 7 Claudia Lobatos, Region 7 Kimberly Lockhard, Canyon ISD Veronica Lopez, Region 7 Rose Lopez, Rio Grande City CISD Milagro Lopez, Spring Branch ISD Donna Loving, Region 7 Myra Lujan, Garland ISD Debra Mackey, Region 7 Jodie Mannlin, Mesquite ISD Mariel Marquez, Garland ISD Francisca Martinez, Mesquite ISD Maria Martinez, Spring Branch ISD Denise McCoy, Thorndale ISD Ruby McCray, Region 7 Stephanie McBride, Fort Worth ISD Fabiola Molina, Mesquite ISD Dulce Montes, Mesquite ISD Maria Montoya, Region 7 Theresa Moore, Mesquite ISD Araceli Morin, Region 7 Frances Munoz, Mesquite ISD Holly Norman, Madisonville CISD Ginger Orange, Region 7

Nilda Pineda, Mesquite ISD Gloria Pinuelas, Region 7 Sina Pirtle, Region 7 Dona Pitstick, Region 7 Roberta Ponder, Region 7 Adriana Porras, Region 7 Cherry Powell, Region 7 Kelly Pruitt, Region 7 Leticia Quintana, Region 7 Dulce Rabun, Region 7 Celia Ramos, Mesquite ISD Deborah Ramoz, Region 7 Jagruti Rana, Garland ISD Karen Rehders, Region 7 Lucia Reid, Spring Branch ISD Becky Reno, Garland ISD Marilu Renteria, Region 7 Kathleen Ritch, Texas State University San Marcos Diana Rodriguez, Garland ISD Graciela Rodriguez, Region 7 Maria Rodriguez, Region 7 Maria Rodriguez, Rio Grande City CISD Juana Rojas, Region 7 Cenda Royall, Region 7 Jessica Rudman, Region 7 Julie Russell, Region 7 Karen Salazar, Region 7 Mary Salazar, Spring Branch ISD Bobbye Salinas, Mesquite ISD Maria Santoy, Region 7 Tamra Shields, Garland ISD John Sims, Spring Branch ISD Hanmah Skinner, Region 7 Doris Smith, Garland ISD Delisa Smith, Region 7 Mary Smith, Region 7 Brenda Solano, Garland ISD Norma Solis, Region 7 Debra Sossamon, Garland ISD Angela Soules, Region 7 Cheryl Spangler, Spurger ISD Stephanie Stafford, Region 7 Dianne Stanley, Garland ISD Rebecca Steinsiek, Fort Worth ISD Cindy Stephens, Region 7 Bikira Stevenson, Spring Branch ISD Carolyn Stone, Garland ISD Stephanie Stump, Region 7 Deron Swinney, Garland ISD Susan Taylor, Region 7 Daysi Valencia-Evans, Spring Branch ISD Monica Villarreal, Region 7 Annette Voss, Weatherford College Kathy Ward, Region 7 Ernestine Williams, Mesquite ISD Cari Winkle, Spurger ISD Felicia Woodard-Shaw, Region 7 Jeanie Wright, Garland ISD Erin Wyatt, Region 7 Rachel Zepeda, Spring Branch ISD

## Volunteering Is For Life

By MaryAnn Hollingsworth, TESA Past President, Texas State University-San Marcos



MaryAnn Hollingsworth TESA Past President, Texas State University-San Marcos

Webster's New College Dictionary definition for volunteer is as follows: "One who serves or acts of his or her own free will. One who gives help, does a service, or takes an obligation voluntarily."

I inherited the volunteering bug from my parents, as well as the inability to say "no" when asked to volunteer. My parents volunteered my siblings and me at an early age to do things in our church any and every time they themselves volunteered. I was seven years old when my parents informed me

that I would be helping to clean the church so that it would be ready for Sunday Mass. I remember asking why some other family couldn't do it, "It's always us cleaning." My father would tell me that we had an obligation as a church family to give back to the church for all they had given us.

All five of my brothers and sisters were volunteered to dance (folklorico) at our church festivals. We weren't the only ones that danced, but sometimes it seemed like it. Now I must admit that church wasn't the only place that we were volunteered and, eventually, I began to realize that volunteering wasn't so bad. It did get me out of doing dishes, ironing and even washing clothes as well as other things that I did not enjoy doing. I actually fell in love with volunteerism when, at the age of 15, I volunteered to help with the church bulletin. What a joy; I absolutely loved to write and create.

When my husband and I were married he knew how much I enjoyed volunteering to do things that others couldn't or didn't want to do. In fact, both of us spent most of our spare time at our children's functions which included band, soccer, baseball, softball, volleyball, basketball, scouting and in our church to name a few. I even said yes when our oldest daughter's service sorority asked if I would be one of their sponsors. I later found out that if they had not found another sponsor they would have not been able to be on campus. I met a group of fantastic young ladies who were devoted to doing whatever needed to be done to make sure their campus was well represented in the community. By volunteering to be one of their sponsors, I became a TESA Volunteer in 1993 and have enjoyed every year of my involvement since.

I remember starting out in the membership booth helping TESA's administrative assistant with conference registrations, payments, nametags for those that were registering on site and anything else I could find. When the conference was over, I couldn't wait for the next one to come along just for the opportunity to be in that membership booth to help and meet folks.

As you might guess, my volunteering eventually led to serving on the

board when I was approached by Past Presidents Marilyn James and Willetta House to consider volunteering to be on the ballot to run for a board position. What could I say, but "Yes." At my very first conference when I walked into the first meeting and saw the head table on stage, I knew that one day I wanted to be on that stage. I have held or been appointed to just about every committee or office that is in TESA. It all started by saying, "Yes."

I have always felt and still do that every member of TESA has talent that TESA can use. TESA isn't just conferences, workshops or fun times (though when we get together we do have fun), it is a group of dedicated men and women who take time out of their busy lives to give of themselves. They believe in the organization and what it stands for. They are committed to helping others realize how much this organization has to give to those who are involved and to those who will be involved in the future.

I know that each of you have a story similar to mine. Or perhaps you think you have no talents? That is where you are so wrong. WE NEED YOU! In fact, I know many of you by name and even know some who would just like to be asked to do something in TESA. I know how intimidating getting involved can be. I promise that when you decide to step into those volunteer shoes, it will be one of the most rewarding things you have ever done.

Without each of you always busy doing for TESA, there would be no TESA. I urge each of you to take that first step; fill out that volunteer form and turn it in to Dianne Lemons, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee. Start out by volunteering to be a door greeter, working the membership desk, or even on a committee. If you are a first timer, visit the TESA website at www.tesatexas.org for all the information you would ever want to know about our great organization.

When you have become familiar with TESA, give our National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP) website a visit at www. naeop.org. I also volunteered to help at NAEOP summer conferences. When I first heard that TEXAS would be hosting NAEOP in Austin (1995), I volunteered to be on the Conference Committee since we were hosting NAEOP that year. Marilyn James encouraged me to continue in NAEOP. I was elected to the nomination committee that year, and I have made some incredible friends from across the nation and found many who have the same volunteering bug that I have. In fact, saying "yes" when asked if I would consider running for a position is how I was elected as the new NAEOP South Central Director for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 years.

If you are a seasoned TESA or NAEOP member or a "newbie" wanting to find out more, I urge you to take the plunge to volunteer. Contact a member who you know in either organization or even me, and we will be more than willing to answer any and all of your questions. You never know what adventures and friendships you can have by becoming a volunteer.

Take that first step and remember that TESA and NAEOP not only NEED YOU but ARE YOU.



## TESA Membership



## Send in your membership dues for

2011

Reminder!

2012

2011 — 2012

Membership Chair

Patti Walling

patti.walling@sjcd.edu

#### Thank You!

The 2010-2011 Membership Committee wishes to express our deepest thanks to all TESA members for your continued support to TESA and we look forward to seeing you in 2011-2012.

#### 2010-2011 TESA Membership Council

Pat Crawford, Richardson ISD 2nd Vice President, Membership Chairman pat.crawford@risd.org

Teena Hancock, Garland ISD Administrative Council tlhancoc@garlandisd.net

Denise McHaney, Killeen ISD Elementary Council virginia.mchaney@killeenisd.org

Sylvia Martinez, Mesquite ISD Secondary Council smartinez@mesquiteisd.org

Karen Morgan, Alvin Comm. College Higher Education Council kmorgan@alvincollege.edu

> Angelia Brooks, Region 10 Educational Service Center angelia.brooks@region10.org

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



#### **Membership Application**

Last Name	First Name	MI	Member ID#
Address		City/State/Zip	
Daytime Phone		Evening Phone	
Work Email Address		Home Email Ad	dress
Employed by		Local TESA Aff	iliate
New Membership \$35	Renewal \$35	☐ Associate \$35	☐ Retired \$17.50
Name Change/Address Change in	formation		
☐ Elementary	☐ Secondary	☐ Higher Ed	ucation
☐ Administrative	☐ Education S	ervice Center	Other
Referred by			
Are you a member of NAEOP?	□Yes □ No		

Complete form and mail with your payment to TESA, P.O. Box 1565, Austin, TX 78767

Renew online at 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.

## Volunteers in Lamar, CISD

By Denise Adams, High School Journalism Teacher, Lamar CISD

It's tough for an adult to fit into a small chair made for a kindergarten student, but at Stephen F. Austin Elementary in Richmond, Texas, volunteers willingly sit at short tables and in pint-sized chairs to help struggling students learn how to read and spell. Without the help of these volunteers, many of these students would fall behind in class, lose confidence and possibly become a dropout statistic. Because a retiree decided to give four hours a week in the mornings or a high-school senior helps a child instead of sleeping late, the program H.O.S.T.S., helping one student to succeed, works.

From stepping up to help serve tacos in the school cafeteria to cutting out construction paper apples for the school bulletin board to greeting worried relatives in a hospital lobby, these men and women see there's a need, step up and lend a hand for free. To them, volunteering is simply living out a personal belief that one is called to give back in life. Without praise or fanfare, the people who come to school to help a teacher or spend a Saturday morning on a Girl or Boy Scout campout instead of staying home are living examples of the adage – one person can make a difference.

#### Giving Back

Linda Koenig is one of those volunteers. Finding volunteers to come in during the day can be difficult. Last year Koenig was the only volunteer at a high school with over 1,500 students. Twice a week, she came in and ran copies of chemistry tests, algebra quizzes and

English research paper study guides. She personally delivered whatever the teachers wanted, and she did so with a smile.

Sharon Boehm is one of those volunteers. She enjoys the feeling of accomplishment of finishing a project and knowing it has taken a load off of a teacher. During her volunteer time, she said she's become a better parent watching teachers deal calmly with their classes. She also volunteers with her church, donating her time and knowledge of her faith with eighth graders. It might be easier to let someone else lead faith discussions with fidgety teenagers, but Boehm walks away from those classes with a sense of renewal in her own faith. That's a byproduct of volunteering she never expected.

Glenn Witt is one of those volunteers. Witt is a long-time volunteer in Boy Scouts, both on the local level and the district level, although his son has earned his Eagle Badge and is no longer in Scouting, Witt continues to serve because he believes in the values taught in the Scouting program. "Our future depends on the next generation of leaders to be honest, strong and dependable," he said. "Working with the Scouts assures me that this will happen."

Witt is also active with his children's activities in school, from helping the school band to helping with ROTC. Instead of settling in on the couch on Friday nights, Witt is helping unload musical instruments from the band's trailer for a Friday night football

game. He's also a volunteer with the Texas Master Naturalist Program that hopes to get people back in touch with nature and back outdoors. He's passing on his love of the outdoors to others who also appreciate nature but aren't quite sure how to give back.

Volunteering accomplishes that goal, and it's a benefit he never expected to reap when he signed his name on the dotted line.

#### When No One Signs Up

It's not unusual to see the same faces at school, church and in the community volunteering behind the scenes. The same person helping teachers at the annual Field Day is often the same volunteer taking tickets at the church bazaar or manning the information booth at the Relay for Life event. But imagine what would happen if people stopped volunteering. There's no one to hand out tickets at the school carnival, no one to set up chairs or clean off tables at the church picnic, or no one serving juice and cookies to those who give blood.

There are hundreds of excuses why people don't volunteer – no time, they believe they don't have the right skills or they travel. Those are valid excuses, but people who volunteer somehow seem to make the time to give back. Those who do raise their hand give a variety of reasons why they do so. Maybe a friend pulled them along. Perhaps they want to meet new people in their community. Maybe their parents volunteered. Perhaps they feel a little bit guilty, knowing they have the time to give to others. But vol-



#### Feature Article - Heroes & Volunteers

unteers know the real secret about volunteering – one always gets back more than one invests. Those who volunteer are often witnesses to the best moments in life – when a child learns how to read or when a young boy learns how to paddle and canoe. They see the wonderment on a child's face when they're on a school field trip and cuddle a downy chick for the first time. Because they give, they receive.

For Boehm, volunteering has improved her quality of life, and she never expected that benefit when she offered to help. She gets out of the house, meets new people and feels useful and valued by giving of her time and

experience. "Volunteering has opened the door to many wonderful friendships with teachers and parents," she said.

Witt has also met hundreds of adults through Scouting and been asked to participate in a special ceremony when a young man reaches the pinnacle in Scouting – earning the Eagle Badge. He was there when this young man began his Scouting career and Witt's there when this now young man completes that journey. "Volunteering doesn't pay well and often costs, but the benefits far outweigh these costs," Witt said.

There's a sense of pride gained through vol-

unteering, whether it's from assisting a teacher with the bulletin board, helping someone find the hospital room where a loved one is recuperating or coming across a patch of bluebonnets while leading a Scout troop on an early morning hike. Giving back reaps ten times more than the time and effort put in, and that's a great investment.

By Denise Adams High School Journalism Teacher Lamar CISD

	4	9	2	1				
			4			6	9	8
7					3	4		
		4	3		1	9	7	
1			5		9			3
	9	8	7		6	2		
		2	8					4
4	5	6			2			
				5	4	3	6	

#### **SUDOKU**

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.



Your vision will become clear
only when you look into your heart ...
Who looks outside, dreams.
Who looks inside, awakens.

~ Carl Jung (1875-1961), Psychologist

We learn wisdom from failure much more than from success.

We often discover what will do by finding out what will not do.

And probably he who never made a mistake never made a discovery.

- Samuel Smiles



## Cystic Fibrosis Gave Me My Heroes

By Barbara Jennings, TESA Past President, Retired from San Jacinto College



Most of us can say we have a wonderful life. Of course, there are valley and mountain experiences we must go through but we make it. It is not until a near death experience

hits us that we fully realize what is important in life.

My life changed forever in June 1990 when my daughter Tami at age 25 was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis, and in August my baby brother was diagnosed with testicular cancer. He lived three years. In August 1990 my first love, MY DADDY was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and then in March my favorite uncle committed suicide. Well, God got my attention. I did not ask for a lighter load, just broader shoulders. I learned I could bear a heavy load. My daughters, Tami and Traci, were there to encourage me when I needed it.

After Tami was diagnosed, fear became my constant companion. The first six months after the diagnosis I questioned myself every day as to what I had done to my daughter. I later learned in a genetic counseling session that I had not done anything to my daughter. It was a genetic flaw.

The first 10 to 15 years Tami stayed healthy. She continued to dance with the Clear Lake Metropolitan Ballet Company and finished college. Because she loved children so much,

it was not surprising that she became a teacher. She married, and lived a normal life until about five years ago. Each time she would get pneumonia it would be harder and harder to recover. Eventually she had to give up teaching. You see, Tami loves children and this was her way of having them. However, after many tries she and Steve finally were successful in having a child. Wiley turned six in November. His life has been Mommy in and out of the hospital. I learned children are more adaptable than adults are.

Traci, my youngest daughter, always came to the rescue when I needed calming or Wiley needed a "Mom" because his Mom was in the hospital. Tami and Wiley moved in and out of Traci's home more than any of us care to remember. Traci was the perfect sister in Tami's time of need. Traci would often tell me, "Momma, it is going to be alright."

Tami and I spoke many times of this awful disease and I asked her one time if she ever wondered why she was chosen to bear this cross. Her words to me were, "Momma, God knew I could handle it. The disease began to progress and demanded everything she had. As time passed, CF told our family that our only hope was a double lung transplant. The time had come for her to be on oxygen 24 hours a day. It was hard for Traci and all of Tami's family to face what was happening. Traci dug deep to remain strong for Tami, and she was always encouraging me when I would be at my lowest point.

This past April Tami moved in with us since she could no longer be alone, and Wiley lived with Traci and her family. Steve was working in Bagdad to keep insurance. His absence was hard for all of us. At night, Tami and I shared many things about our love of God, our love for each other and my fears. We spoke often of what the outcome might be it she did not get her lungs soon. Her time was running out fast. I learned to hold on to my faith. She gave me a wonderful gift one evening when she looked me in the eyes and with a bold assurance, told me, "Momma, I am not scared." I told her that was good because I was scared enough for both of us. She smiled and said, "I can't lose either way." I learned a great lesson that night. One was how much faith, courage, and character my daughter had. Her concern was that if she did not survive Wiley would have as normal a life as possible. Tami always thinks of others before herself. Tami and Traci are my heroes.

Satan and I fought daily when I would get frightened. He so wanted to take away all my faith, but I was not going to let that happen. I learned my belief in God's word was strong enough to get me to the finish line. I knew Tami would receive either earthly healing or heavenly healing. Tami and Traci never stopped believing either and encouraged me daily.

This past September 2 she had some dental work done and began coughing up extreme amounts of blood. The dentist called 911 and Tami was rushed to Methodist Hospital where they discovered the disease had eaten holes in the arteries that feed blood to the lungs. She was rushed into surgery immediately to plug the holes.



#### Feature Article - Heroes & Volunteers

That was Thursday. On Saturday, September 4 around 6:15 - 6:30 p.m. as the nurse was checking all the IVs, she received a call that there might be a possible donor. We were moved immediately to ICU, they began taking out her blood plasma and replacing it with clean plasma, and they had to get six anti-rejection drugs in her before midnight. As fast as one finished another started. She became very nauseated. Again, as I stood by the bed in the ICU Unit of Methodist Hospital, Traci smiled and assured me everything was going to be okay.

The liaison spoke with us and asked Tami if she wanted to know about the donor. She did. I learned that my daughter had compassion for the donor family. The donor was a

male, 40-50 years of age. The liaison said we would know between 11:00 and midnight if it was a go. Another lesson I learned was God wanted me to trust Him. I also learned there was another family close by that was in unthinkable pain. Even in pain, they loved life and gave life to my child. I had to be still and realize God knew Steve needed to be home with a job. He provided that. Tami was ready for the transplant and so were my husband, Bob, and I.

At 12:15 a.m., Sunday, September 5 we were informed it was a go. After four hours, the surgeon came out to give the family wonderful news. The surgery was a huge success and Tami did not have to be on the heart - lung machine. Tami is back home with her hus-

band and son and still needs prayers. Rejection and infection will always be a possibility.

When you are so far down in the valley you may not be able to see the mountain, you realize what is important. It is family, friends, health, and relationships. I learned never take one second of any day for granted. Cherish life and those you love. Most of all I learned I was not alone. I had a God who loved me, my family who loved and supported me, two beautiful and brave daughters who met fear head on and my TESA family who loved me and encouraged me during the journey.

When I think of heroes, I think of my daughters, Tami and Traci, and I have to smile.

### **Area Workshop Committee**

On behalf of the Area Workshop Committee, we extend a very heartfelt thank you to the members of TESA for a truly amazing year. We greatly appreciate your outstanding support and participation at Area Workshops and for allowing us the magnificent opportunity to serve.

I have had the wonderful privilege of working with two awesome TESA members, Lynn Andrews of Irving ISD, and Debbie Faires of Mesquite ISD. Their assistance, hard work, and inspiration to TESA and the Area Workshop Committee are remarkable and have made this year a success. You will forever have my sincerest gratitude, appreciation and respect.

Thank you all for your dedication to TESA and for allowing me to absorb and learn from your valuable **Pearls of Wisdom and Knowledge**.

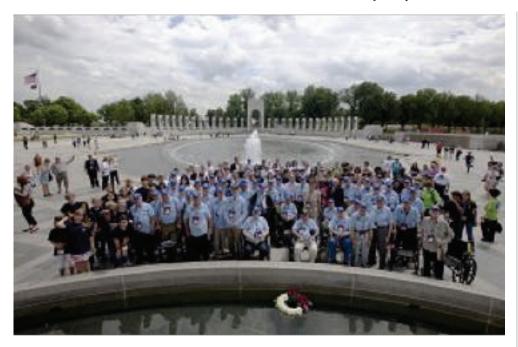
Respectfully, **Darcy** 

Darcy Blackstock 2010-2011 Member - At - Large Area Workshops



## WWII Freedom Flight Program Brings History to Life for North Texas Students

Submitted by: Grapevine ISD



What was it like to be at Iwo Jima, or to fight in the Battle of the Bulge? A group of Texas students recently had a chance to learn directly from veterans who served in World War II, including traveling with them to Washington, D.C., in the culmination of the first WWII Freedom Flight program.

The trip, which paired students with veterans included in flight education activities and visits to monuments including the National World War II Memorial.

The WWII Freedom Flight program, which includes a curriculum to increase students' literacy about democracy, is designed to give youths a direct understanding of the connection between the rights and freedoms we enjoy today and the heroes whose sacrifices made them possible. The program was developed by American Airlines and Grapevine-

Colleyville Independent School District with support from the Fort Worth Airpower Foundation.

The 60 student ambassadors were selected for the trip from among nearly 1,200 youths who submitted entries to two district-wide competitions held in March and April: a challenge coin design contest and an "Expressions of Freedom" competition that invited students to submit projects in various media illustrating how they would honor the nation's veterans. Ambassadors have specific assignments and duties associated with their role, and the overall experience is intended to provide a learning opportunity they will remember for a lifetime.

"The veterans participating in this trip will serve as the single best history lesson a student can ever experience," said Lisa Arpey, program leader of WWII Freedom Flight. "We hope that WWII Freedom Flight will help shape our students into self-directed, accountable young men and women who are motivated to do their best – not just because they are told to do so, but because they understand why they should."

The veterans and students ambassadors were honored during a community-wide "Celebration of Freedom Night" held the evening of May 9 at Grapevine High School. Special guest speakers included Medal of Honor recipient SSG (Ret.) Salvatore Giunta and Mary Eisenhower, President and CEO of People to People International. An overflow crowd of all ages gathered for the event, which also featured a parachute jump by SFC (Ret.) Dana Bowman, a former member of the U.S. Army Golden Knights elite military parachute team; a tandem jump by Golden Knight SFC Mike Elliott and GCISD's superintendent Dr. Robin Ryan; and musical performances by recording artists Steve Amerson, Matt Snook and Helene Cronin.

"The WWII Freedom Flight was an amazing experience for everyone involved," said Dr. Robin Ryan, GCISD superintendent. "The opportunity for our students and teachers to connect with our nation's greatest generation in an authentic learning environment has laid the foundation for patriotism, history and pride in the country that will be passed along for years to come.



## 2010-11 Scholarship/Awards/Journalist Commitee

#### 2010-2011

#### Scholarship/Awards/Journalist Committee CONGRATULATES all of TESA's Scholarship and Award Winners!!

Nelda Van Dyke Office Professional of the Year Award Recipient



Phyllis Hyden Galena Park ISP

Galena Park Educational Paraprofessionals Association



Newsletter

1st Place - Galena Park ISP 2nd Place - San Jacinto College 3rd Place - Region 10 Administrator of the Year

Christy Willman Lamar CISP



Lamar Consolidated Educational Secretaries Association

Yearbook

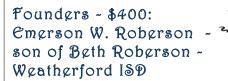


1st Place - Rio Grande Valley ESA 2nd Place - Channel View ISD 3rd Place - Garland ISD

Summer Work Conference Spirit Award

Lamar Consolidated Educational Secretaries Association

Scholarships



Lorene Roby Rogers - \$400 each: Virgina Holbert -Mesquite ISP Juritza Gaona - Magnolia ISP Rhonda Vela - Lamar CISP Teena Hancock - Garland ISP

Pr. Zolkoski - \$100: Tegna Hancock - Garland ISP Scholarship Purse Awards

Thank you to all who helped support the Scholarship Fund with your Purses and Cash donations for 50/50 drawings!

Purse Best Representing Texas: Sue Hand; Lamar CISD

Best Conference Theme Purse: Wendy Klentzman; Alvin Community College

Cutest Purse:
STEM Committee

Nost Unique Purse: Brownsboro ISP



## Summer Work Conference



Nelda Van Dyke Award Recipient: Left to Right-Jennifer Lamb, Dianne Lemons, Phyllis Hyden, Wendy Klentzman



Administrator of the Year: Sue Hand, Dianne Lemons, Christy Willman, Marie Enax, Wendy Klentzman



## Summer Work Conference



















## Legislative Update

## 82nd Texas Legislative Session and Special Session

#### - FINAL REPORT -



The 82nd Texas Legislative Session began January 11, 2011, and concluded its regular business May 30, 2011. A Special Session was required to complete school finance and Congressio-

nal redistricting. The Special Session ended Tuesday, June 28, 2011.

The 82nd Legislative Session and the Special Session was, as usual, a tumultuous event. This resulted in a school finance bill that cut public education funding \$5.3 billion over the next two years. Cuts included \$4 billion from the Foundation School Program and \$1.3 billion in grants and other public education programs.

I am going to focus on HB 1, Appropriations for 2012-2013 biennium, SB 1, State fiscal matters including school finance, and SB 8, Flexibility in management and operations. These historic reductions in education funding have placed many school districts, colleges, and universities in a financial upheaval. The need for a special session caused many to set FY12 budgets without knowing the final outcome of the legislative session. Almost everyone has cut programs, staff levels, change daily student schedules, etc. Did I say cut staffing? If you were lucky, staff reductions were occurred by not filling

vacant or vacated positions. Some did face a Reduction in Force, forfeiting their jobs. Since that time, many school districts were notified of federal funds being made available, for FY12 only, to cover some personnel costs. This has resulted in many school districts hiring back staff that was laid-off. Since the federal funds are only for FY12, many of these people will face lay-offs again next summer. HB 1 eliminated the following funding: Pre-K Early Start Grant Program, Technology Allotment, Science Lab Grants, new Instructional Facilities Allotment (NIFA), Middle School P.E. Grants, Optional Extended Year, plus property value and ADA decline protections. Educational Service Centers funding was set at \$25 million, a reduction of \$15.7 million from FY11. The state contribution rate for TRS was set at 6 percent for fiscal year 2012 and 6.4 percent for fiscal year 2013.

SB 1, State fiscal matters including school finance (NOTE: HB1 set the appropriations for FY12 and 13, but the fiscal matters bill actually funds HB1.) The legislature was not able to pass a fiscal matters bill, thus the need for a special session. SB 1 delays the annual August Foundation School Program payments to school districts. Payments will be made September 5 – 10, 2011. Adding criteria for students taking advanced placement exam to demonstrate financial need changes the formula for computing minimum salary for teachers, nurses, counselors,

librarians and speech pathologists, spelling out the distribution of the \$4 billion cuts over the biennium.

Lastly, SB 8 - Flexibility in management and operations. This was designed to help school districts save money. SB 8 allows districts to furlough employees up to 6 non-instructional days and reduce salaries proportionately. A few school districts have gone on record to say that they will not use furloughs this year. It will be interesting to see how and when districts opt to use furloughs as a cost savings. In our area county and city governments have use furloughs as a cost savings. The bill further requires defining conditions that must exist for a district to declare a financial exigency and the time period of this declaration. The financial exigency must be declared in order for a district to have a Reduction in Force.

SB 8 is most likely to have direct impact on employees during the next two school years. All of us will have to wait to see the full impact of the 82nd Legislative Session.



## NAEOP Membership

## Membership Form for the

#### **National Association of Educational Office Professionals**

Membership Type:		Active - \$50		Retired - \$30		
Associate - \$50		Institutional - \$85		Corporate - \$60		
Membership Application Continuous Membership (12 full months)  ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal Membership Membership Number:						
		<u> </u>		·		
☐ Magazine Annual Su	ıbscri	ption - \$30	ubscri	ption (Retired) - \$15		
<ul> <li>All fees must be paid in US Dollars.</li> <li>Outside of US special postage and handling charges apply. Please add an additional \$15.</li> <li>Active membership fees include 3 online issues of the association magazine and 1 issue (Winter issue) in print. If you wish to receive all 4 issues in print, you will need to request an annual magazine subscription in addition to your annual membership.</li> <li>Dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for income tax purposes.</li> </ul>						
Membership Informa	tion					
☐ Elementary ☐ Middle School/Junior High ☐ Secondary/High School						
☐ Higher Education	☐ S <sup>†</sup>	ate Department				
☐ Career & Technical Education ☐ Retired ☐ Other:						
Name:						
Address:		City: State:		Zip:		
Home Phone:		Office Phone:		Ext.:		
Fax:		Email:				
Recruited by (Name):						
Method of Payment:	] Che	ck MasterCard Visa	Disco	ver		
Cardholder's Name:						
Card Number:		Expiration	Date:			
Signature:						

Mail or Fax to:

NAEOP PO Box 12619 Wichita, KS 67277-2619

Fax: 316-942-7100



### 2011 Fall Work Conference

Fall Conference committee is selling chances to win an

## IPad2



The drawing will be held at Fall Conference in November, and the winner doesn't have to be present at the conference to win.

Ticket sales are open to everyone ~ coworkers, family, etc.

Tickets can be duplicated from the page in this magazine or contact Jana Worthington at jworthin@weatherfordisd.com.

Just complete the contact information on the ticket and send along with the appropriate amount of money to TESA, PO Box 1565, Austin, Texas 78767.

Payment must accompany tickets to be entered in drawing.

iPad2 donated by Property Tax Compliance Resources



Make plans now to attend the last TESA Fall Conference in beautiful San Marcos, November 4-6, 2011.

You can be a part of TESA history on Sunday morning as a panoramic photo will be taken of those attending this last Fall Conference.





2011

CONFERENCE FALL WORK

## iPad2 WIN AN

\*\*\*\*DRAWING\*\*\*\*

Sunday, November 6, 2011

or 4 for \$10 \$3 each

**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN** 

Texas Educational Support Staff • • • • • • • • • •

2011 FWC - Win an iPad2 Association, Inc.

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER:

**EMAIL ADDRESS** 



2011

CONFERENCE **FALL WORK** 

## iPad2 WIN AN

Sunday, November 6, 2011 \*\*\*\*DRAWING\*\*\*\*

or 4 for \$10 \$3 each

**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN** 

Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. 2011 FWC - Win an iPad2

ADDRESS:

HONE NUMBER:

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** 



2011

CONFERENCE **FALL WORK** 

## WIN AN Pad2

Sunday, November 6, 2011 \*\*\*\*DRAWING\*\*\*\*

or 4 for \$10 \$3 each

**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN** 

Texas Educational Support Staff • • • • • • • • •

2011 FWC - Win an iPad2 Association, Inc.

**NDDRESS**:

PHONE NUMBER:

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** 



2011

CONFERENCE FALL WORK

MIN AN Pad2

Sunday, November 6, 2011 $_{oldsymbol{\Omega}}$ \*\*\*\*DRAWING\*\*\*\* \$3 each

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

or 4 for \$10

• • • • • • •

Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc.

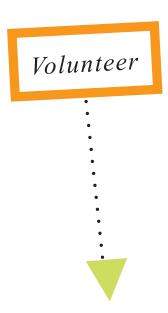
2011 FWC - Win an iPad2

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

#### TESA Volunteers





TESA Needs You!

Volunteer for TESA's exciting 2012-2013 year by:

- Serving on a committee
- Serving as a committee chairman, elected or appointed
- Placing your name on the ballot!

2012-2013

Visit www.tesatexas.org and print your volunteer form.

Once completed, please send to:

Mesquite ISD

**Attn: Dianne Lemons** 

Member-At-Large (Nominations)

405 East Davis

Mesquite, Tx 75149

Phone: 972-882-7320

Fax: 972-882-7382

dlemons@mesquiteisd.org





Nominations Committee Members:

Pat Crawford: pcrawford@richardsonisd.org

Linda Sockwell: Linda.Sockwell@richardson.k12.tx.us

Gerald Wharton: gwharton@gcisd.org



#### Lamar CISD

Lamar CISD LCESA's 2011-2012 school year officers were elected and installed at a luncheon held at the Swinging Door on May 12. (see picture below) Part of the officers' responsibilities is to provide staff development and support to its members along with raise money to provide scholarships. At this luncheon, LCESA presented scholarships to three LCISD students.

Amber Nicole Smith graduated from Lamar High School and aspires to become a doctor. She will be attending Spellman College in Atlanta, GA. Desirae Marie Castro, who graduated from Terry High School, has been accepted to the University of Houston where she has already made the Cheerleading Squad. She will work towards getting a degree in marketing and law. Graciela Lissette Ortiz is a graduate of Foster High School. She will be attending the University of Texas in San Antonio where she wishes to pursue a career in psychology. Each student received a \$500 scholarship.

The current officers were honored for serving diligently and making this another successful year for LCESA. The 2010-11 officers were Marie Enax, president; Blanca Herrera, first-vice president; Julie Chapa, secretary; Betsy Krevosky, treasurer; Mona Nino, historian; and Sue Hand, parliamentarian.



Pictured standing: Becky Melendez and Marie Enax. Sitting: Amber Nicole Smith



Pictured left to right: Becky Melendez, Graciela Ortiz, Desirae Castro and Marie Enax



Pictured left to right: Eva Zamora, second vice-president; Julie Chapa, secretary; Betsy Krevosky, treasurer; Becky Melendez, historian; Marie Enax, parliamentarian; Cheryl McGill, president and Melissa Rodriguez, president elect; Blanca Herrera, first vice president, not pictured

#### San Jacinto College AEOP By Sherry L. Gray



San Jacinto College AEOP held its 2010-2011 AEOP Past Presidents Luncheon and 2011-2012 Officer Installation in the San Jacinto College Central Campus Library on May 21, 2011. The theme for the 2011-2012 president, Angela Klaus, is Overcome, Preparing for a Brighter Tomorrow.

Debbie Wade, retired, started off the meeting with great tips on overcoming the changes we are now facing at San Jacinto College. She encouraged us by using acronyms for our new President's motto, OVERCOME.

Optimistic -- Things will get better! We have to believe this and have a positive at-

Versatility -- Be willing and able to do a variety of tasks. Throw out "But we've always done it this way."

Each Person Is Unique -- Remember that we all have our own characteristics, personality, talents, and skills.

Renew Yourself -- Take care of yourself first and then others, refresh, and relax.

Change is Inevitable -- News Flash!! Change is always happening! We must learn to deal with it.

Opportunities are Limitless -- Take your blinders off and look around! Try something new.

Make a Difference -- Take your mind off yourself and make a difference in someone's life.

Energy and Enthusiasm are Musts! -- Without these, you are flatlined in mind, body, and spirit.

We were honored to have Debbie McFadden from UHCL and 2010-2011 First Vice President of TESA, install our officers for next year. Special thanks to

Officers for 2011-2012 are: President Angela Klaus; First Vice President Patti Walling; Second Vice President Bea Rodriguez; Secretary Phyllis Bent; Treasurer Mary Tunstall; Historian Sherry Gray; Chaplain Rosemarie Munoz; Parliamentarian Debbie Wade

Past presidents, members retiring before August 31, 2011, and current and upcoming officers were all presented with lovely roses. After the installation, current President Kathy Miller presented her executive board with a gift for their awesome work this past year. The Most Outstanding Member award chosen by the membership was given to Angela Klaus. We are looking forward to 2011-2012 and already have some plans in the works.

## Tesa Affiliate Services

Renew! It is time to renew your TESA Affiliation Membership.

Complete the form that is available online and mail it to the TESA office.

Look at all the benefits!



Visits from TESA Board members to ascertain your needs



🏠 Installation of officers for your local association



Consultants for in-service presentations



Professional development advisory services



Evaluation and program suggestions for your group

It has been a pleasure to serve TESA as the Affiliate Services Committee for 2010-2011.

Robin Pool rpool@pasadenaisd.org

Phyllis Hyden phyden@galenaparkisd.com

Sherry Gray Sherry.gray@sjcd.edu



#### Rio Grande Valley Educational Support Staff Association (VESA)

44th Annual Bosses Banquet - By Lisa E. Gonzalez

Where has the time gone? VESA hosted its 44th Annual Bosses Banquet on Friday, May 6 at the Social Club in Edinburg, TX. It seems it was just a couple of months ago that we gathered for the 2010 43rd Annual Bosses Banquet. I don't know about you, but to me, it seems that the days are getting shorter. It's like the old saying "the faster I go the behinder I get," and sometimes this can be frustrating and stressful. We had approximately 35 of our bosses present for this year's banquet. We would like to thank our bosses for allowing us to be a part of their team, for helping us grow as individuals and for having the confidence in us to do our job. We are a team and as long as we continue working as such, our districts will be the ones to benefit, which ultimately benefits the children.

We also had Rosalinda Stillman, retired Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Donna ISD, as our Installing Officer for the night. She installed the following officers for the 2011-2013 school year: President Ofelia Barrón, CEOP, Donna ISD; First Vice-President Martin Saenz, CEOP, South Texas ISD; Second Vice-President Bonnie Sauceda, South Texas ISD; Treasurer Julie Briseño, CEOP, Rio Grande City CISD; and Secretary Norma Cerda, Donna ISD.

This year I challenged our VESA members to "Soar with Pride" as they represented VESA in our community, in our school districts and in our everyday lives. VESA has continued to grow and members continue to work together for the betterment of the organization. It is quite ironic that the members voted to have a Sports theme for this year's Bosses Banquet. This sports theme fits me perfectly plus it fits my philosophy of teamwork. In order to succeed in any team sport, it is a must. It seems that in everything in life there has to be teamwork. You have to have it in your workplace and even in your home. I am proud to say that our VESA members have all done their part and worked as a team to make VESA Soar with Pride. This year marks the end of my Presidency for VESA. It has been a long 4 years, but I have enjoyed every minute of it. We have had our ups and downs, our good times and our bad times, we have laughed and we have cried, but through it all we have remained a "team." All of us have made life long friendships through VESA.

God Bless each and every one of you.



VESA Members sporting their favorite team shirts/jerseys at the 44th Annual Bosses Banquet



2011-2013 Officers (Left to right): Secretary Norma Cerda, Donna ISD; Treasurer Julie Briseño, Rio Grande City CISD; President Ofelia Barrón, Donna ISD; Second Vice-President Bonnie Sauceda, South Texas ISD; First Vice-President Martin Saenz, South Texas ISD



Rennette Aguilar President

Kelley Henkell Treasurer

Celeste Potter Reporter

**Kathy Ulate** Secretary

**Ann Suiter** Historian

#### Odessa Association of Educational Support Personnel

2011-2012

The Odessa Association of Educational Support Personnel is located in Odessa, Texas, with the Ector County Independent School District.

The purpose of the OAESP shall be to study and discuss the problems of the school secretary, clerk, and aides; to develop a more efficient and professionally minded membership; and to pool our ideas and ideals toward a finer more valuable service to the school and to the community.

We did several fun things this year, the first would be our membership drive. We had 36 members join this year. We had our Christmas Celebration in December and got together to eat dinner and we had a sock exchange, which was a lot of fun! In February we had our Valentine fundraiser that consisted of making sundaes. We had three sundaes with two sizes to choose from. There were: "Red Hot," "Hugs n Kisses" and "M&M" sundaes available. They turned out beautifully and were delicious with all the candy in them! In March we had a food drive! We collected 468 pounds of food for local West Texas families. We also had a speaker at our meeting that month. Jan Crumpton presented, "The Power of Two - But One Will Do." It was a very "active" hands on presentation. This year we did have two ladies become Honorary Members, Nelda Loya and Gail Potter. We also had a few lunch meetings so we could all get together in fellowship over a bite to eat. To end the year, we had a "Secret Pal" reveal breakfast where all "secret pals" were able to meet the person sending them treats and gifts throughout the year. We did so many things and had a lot of fun!

It's hard to believe this year is coming to a close but, we are looking forward to a new year with more members and activities.





#### 2010-2011 OFFICERS

Left: Celeste Potter, Rennette Aguilar and above them is Ann Suiter. Right, top to bottom: Cynthia McNabb, Michelle Edwards and VJ Hornung



#### University of Houston Clear Lake - ESA



Attendees at TESA SWC 2011: Front Row, left to right: Kathleen Law and Agatha Whitney; 2nd row, left to right: Wanda Honeycutt and Terri Culbert; Back row: Debbie McFadden; not shown: Yvonne Lout



2011 – 2012 ESA Executive Board Members: Front row-left to right: Margaret Garcia and Debbie McFadden; Middle row-left-right: Fran Davis, Debbie Williams, and Teresa Chance; Back Row left to right-Thelma Brown and Susan Green



Michelle Dotter, Ron Klinger and Dr. William A. Staples

UHCL 2011 PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED STAFF SERVICE AWARD – THE HUGH P. AVERY PRIZE: RON KLINGER, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, TRAINING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

"He's everywhere! Education is truly his passion, and student success is a priority. In his 'spare time' he mentors and advises young college and high school students about how to be successful in college. He talks with them about their goals and ambitions, counsels them on whatever is going on in their lives, and encourages them to be strong and successful. He preaches the value of education and goal-setting.

"He inspires the people he works with, whether on the school board at his church, the youth he works with, in the office, on numerous UHCL committees, or in training programs he conducts. He helps

participants feel comfortable to share, learn and grow – and he makes people feel worthy.

"He regularly volunteers for Open House and commencement, and for many other campus-wide events. This year he has served on the Quality Service Task Force, the QEP Topic Selection Committee, and is currently on the QEP Steering Committee and the UHCL Mascot Leadership Team. He has been the keynote speaker for the Bay Area Human Resources Management Association and the Texas Educational Support Association on several occasions, and has provided training sessions for the Texas Higher Education Human Resources Association, College and University Personnel Association-HR, and the regional CUPA-HR association. And last, but not least, he has served as President of PASA for two consecutive years.

"He is approachable and understanding, and his upbeat personality and dedication are contagious! He is ready to listen and to help students, visitors, staff and faculty members at any time. He takes time to speak to everyone and asks how they are doing, a lot of times in Spanish. He greets each person in an energetic, welcoming fashion and is the kind of person any campus would be happy to have as its representative."

#### The TESA Connection

Texas Educational Support Staff Association, Inc. Central Office - P.O. Box 1565 - Austin, TX 78767 PRESORTED
STANDARD US
POSTAGE
PAID

Texas Educational
Support Staff
Association

