

♪ RETAIN ♪

Betty Beyer, (15) Brown County Retired Teachers Association bkbeyer44@gmail.com

Encourage Diamond Plus. This is our Best Friend for RETAINING.

Many do not want bank accounts drafted. More often they will allow TRS to take dues from their monthly annuity. Offer them the option. Always have the appropriate documents with you, so you can sign them up on the spot!

Call every member in the directory who has not joined to remind them to renew. Always explain the importance of their membership and be prepared to explain details about regular meetings.

Prepare call list.

Distribute them to committee members.

Membership Chairman will verify those who have joined.

Remove names from call list of those who have joined.

Trade call list so that someone new calls them each time.

Repeat until everyone has joined.

Some members like to remind their friends at church or in other organizations. Here is the note that some of them use as reminders.

TIME TO RENEW TRTA MEMBERSHIP

We need your membership to represent us in Austin to protect our annuities and insurance now and in the future. To make it easy, just send me your check for \$45 made to BCRTA with your name, address, phone contact, and email. You can give it to me here or mail it to (insert membership or treasurer's name and address). One easy way is to become a Diamond Plus member by having \$2.92 per month taken out of your annuity monthly to pay state dues and then a check for (\$ for local dues) mailed to me. I have those documents with me – just ask.

Evelyn Leggitt, (13) Seguin/Guadalupe County Retired Teachers Association ealeggitt@hotmail.com

INTERESTING/INFORMATIVE PROGRAMS – A yearly theme helps to present meaningful programs. (This year it is Volunteerism.) Certain Special Meetings keep members coming back. September – kick-off Luncheon; December – “Antique Road Show”; March – Field trip; May – End-of-Year Brunch. People remain in TRTA if the meetings they attend are meaningful, informative, and fun.

FELLOWSHIP TIME – Meetings begin with a time to visit with light healthful breakfast snacks served by 4 or 5 hostesses. Our members look forward to this. One of the main reasons people stay in TRTA is to keep in touch with friends and fellow teaches and to meet others who shared their profession.

SHORT/MINIMAL BUSINESS MEETINGS – Short, scripted business meetings are held at the end. Only necessary items are covered. This is possible due to great communication. Minutes, treasurer reports, and committee reports are posted on our web site whenever possible helping to keep the

(over)

“boring” business meetings short. People don’t like to do boring. They much prefer informative and enjoyable. Members “stick around” because they know our business meetings are short and informative.

COMMUNICATION – Multiple emails are sent to ALL MEMBERS each month to keep EVERYONE informed. We have a website and Facebook page containing useful information, fun photos, special events, and members’ news for all to see and enjoy. ALL MEMBERS are encouraged to use these as well as to subscribe to “The Inside Line.” Communication helps each member feel he/she is an important part of TRTA. Communication is vital for any healthy group and a reason our members stay members.

PROJECTS – Our state sanctioned “Childrens Book Project” helps to unite us in a common goal and provides a way for us to continue to care for our local students. Each year we give over 500 children at our Pre-K campus a book of their very own to take home. We also help out our “four legged friends” with our “Paws for a Cause” project where we monthly give pet food, and other items to our local animal shelters. These projects are one more reason our members like our local unit.

DOOR PRIZES – Who doesn’t like to have his/her name called and to receive an unexpected gift. We keep these gifts inexpensive, but fun and useful. Our members enjoy these little surprises and keep coming back year after year for more fun and “loot.”

Sondra Long, (10) Allen Retired Teachers Association billysondralong@tx.rr.com

MEET AND GREET – 30 minutes before/after meeting

STUDENT SHOWCASE – Recruit local students entertainment

PROGRAMS – Interesting, Informative, Applicable

KEEP MEMBER IN THE LOOP – Email agendas and reports

MEAL/REFRESHMENTS – Snacks, potluck, or catered

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS – 3 minute oral and/or brief written on back of agenda. All reports submitted to board for approval.

COMMITTE INVOLVEMENT – Encouraged, friendships formed

MEMBER RECOGNITIONS – Monthly, by president and/or chairmen

MEMBER INCENTIVES – Challenge by president, bring new member/visitors, reward gift cards, award certificates

NEW IDEAS – Create groups, dominoes, cards, bunko, travel, book, etc.

HOLIDAYS – Utilize unit talent, skit, dance, sing, story telling

HEADS-UP – President should email to all members detailing up-coming activities

DAY TRIPS – Two trips a year

LOBBY DAY – Charter a bus for members and other units

STEER CLEAR OF - “It has always been done this way” Be creative

SCRIPT THE MEETINGS – Write out exactly what is to be said or done for each meeting...and stick with it

BRAGS AND BIRTHDAYS – Let members share - (\$1 for minute each)