

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

# Killing Time



**LINDA MOORE**

It's been a very strange month at TCU and worldwide and it's getting stranger. I'm on the mend from Type A flu. Normally I would watch TV or read but in March, why not watch our teams perform or see March Madness. But with this pandemic, even the easy solutions for spending time are not available. Now obviously I've read several books but when sports are not there to save you, it's clear that we are in a crisis. Seriously though, as a group, we are the most vulnerable people right now, something that is hard to accept since we've made it this far. When the doctors say

delicately, "you know people your age need to be careful" it's hard to believe they mean us personally. We are in a time that seems surreal. We need to reach out to each other yet want to avoid contact. One of the most difficult things we had to do in March was cancel our luncheon. Right now we should be hearing about scams but we aren't able to be together. TCU has been very proactive about this crisis and has taken steps to protect everyone in its purview and I appreciate that, but we have no clear knowledge about how long this self-quarantine will last. Our last communication with the administration indicates that we have to cancel our April 21 luncheon with Jacque Marquis, CEO of the Cliburn, and our special TCU Treasure celebration. Also unfortunately the tickets available for the TCU Theater production of The Pajama Game on April 19 cannot be used since that too has been cancelled. At this point we are assuming and hoping we will be back on track for the month of May. We will keep you informed as best we can. This may be a long difficult period but let's stay hopeful, careful, and focused on productive ways to kill time. Reach

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## PLEASE NOTE:

We are in the midst of a pandemic and there is focus from many sources on how to address the coronavirus issue. As part of the TCU community, TCURA encourages our members to use the TCU website to find out information about campus activities and obtain links to reputable health sources. This is a comprehensive site and very informative. Use it!

**<https://www.tcu.edu/coronavirus>**

In addition, some or all of TCURA's upcoming events may have to be cancelled. In that event, we will notify the membership as soon as we know. We already know that TCU Theatre's production of Pajama Game, which TCURA was to attend on Sunday, April 19, has been postponed, as has Eugenia Trinkle's memorial service, which was to have occurred March 23. Sharen Wilson, who was to speak at the March meeting on elder fraud, will speak instead at the May meeting, May 19.

**LUNCHEON  
DATES**

**APRIL 21  
MAY 19**

## REFLECTIONS FROM TCURA BOARD MEMBERS

# How to survive the Coronavirus

**ANDY FORT**

I'm co-teaching a course which is now online. Zoom works amazingly well. Our family has also set up twice weekly Zoom meetings. I really feel for my daughter who has a 2-year-old confined pretty closely in New Orleans. I've also been very proud to watch how the Tarrant Area Food Bank is responding. It helps that Julie, the food bank's new CEO was an Army captain working on logistics during Desert Storm. While I've had a huge number of events cancelled, including my 50th high school reunion, I'm still counting my blessings overall.

**DONNA JOHNSON**

Is coronavirus impacting me. Let me think. Of course it is! I don't mind staying home. I have lots of hobbies. Keeping my husband busy is another story. He does run errands

and is very conscientious about using wipes before he touches credit card machines or gas pump handles. We have great neighbors who are staying connected and trying to help one another. But nothing takes my mind off my youngest daughter who is a nurse in Denver. She is a committed woman with two young children. Her husband is trying to work at home and wrangle 6- and 8-year-olds. They are incensed that they have to wear their school uniforms while doing online classes. I worry because she doesn't have the protective gear she needs. The medical staff isn't getting tests. If they are running a fever, they stay home until they have been fever free for 24 hours, then back to work. My 12-year-old grandson here keeps us laughing. He is a sports fanatic. He was devastated that TCU's season was cancelled and his is being cancelled in two-week increments. He

did text me saying there was finally a good rerun on television: the TCU versus Georgia Tech NIT final. We are fine and strong and very grateful.

**NANCY MADSEN**

This experience has been bittersweet for us. We welcomed our sixth grandchild on Friday, March 13. He and his mom are healthy, but when they left the hospital on March 16, the world had changed. They would not allow any visitors at the hospital, and now we can't visit them at home, either. Our daughter and son-in-law are quarantined at home with the new baby as well as a 5-year-old and a 2-year-old. I wonder how long it will take for them to go stir crazy! My daughter is sad that we haven't been able to meet the new baby yet, and she will have to do without my usual help since we can't

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## FROM THE LIGHTER SIDE

**PARENTS DO THE DARNDDEST THINGS**

A millennial was quoted as saying:

"In an unsettling reversal of my teenage years, I am now yelling at my parents for going out."

**LOVE IN THE TIME OF CORONA**

Due to the increased time at home with not much to do, there will probably be a baby boom, and they will be called "coronials."

**SOCIALLY DISTANT STAND-UP**

What kind of jokes are the CDC recommending during the coronavirus outbreak? Inside jokes.

**SURVIVAL OF THE FUNNIEST**

Click on the link below for a humorous take on things:

**["I Will Survive: Coronavirus Version"](#)**

PAUL HARTMAN

# Announcing TCURA Gives Day!

Linda Moore, TCURA president, has designated May 1 as the inaugural TCU Gives Day. Citing data provided by TCU's Legacy Giving Office, more TCURA members gave to the association during the TCU Gives Day drive than at any other time. Taking a page from the University's playbook, Paul Hartman, development coordinator, has called for members to mark May 1 as TCURA Gives Day.

The purpose of TCURA Gives Day is to increase the base of TCU retirees who support the organization. President Linda challenged members announcing the goal of the inaugural TCURA Gives Day event is "to secure 40 new gifts for the Association by May 1." Gifts of any amount will count toward the goal.

Contributions are needed to (1) continue subsidizing the luncheon costs, (2) support the website, newsletter, and other communication media, and (3) to underwrite new program initiatives.

Remittance envelopes will be available at the next luncheon or you can mail in your check directly to this address:

OFFICE OF LOYALTY GIVING  
Texas Christian University  
PO Box 961012  
Fort Worth, TX 76101-9005

Write a check for any amount, making the payment to TCU but be sure to write "for deposit to TCURA" on the memo line. "Be a part of helping to accomplish the goal for the first TCURA Gives

Day and help grow your TCURA," Hartman urged.



Announces the Inaugural

**TCURA Gives Day!**

**May 1**

Support your TCURA

**40 Gifts in 40 Days**

Send your check

**Today!**

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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out to each other. Let members of the Executive Council know if you need help or information. Go to the TCU web page – <https://www.tcu.edu/coronavirus> – for information about the corona virus impact and plans for the campus.

And in the meantime perhaps we will come up with some new, or maybe old ways of killing time. Remember playing outside? Not coming home until dark? Making stuff out of stuff? And just talking on the phone to friends or family and laughing out loud? Sometimes the worst of times can be the best of

times. Sometimes killing time means looking around again and seeing new ways to engage. Many places are asking for help in ways that will protect us from close contact with others. We will get through this and maybe it will spark some new ways of looking at the world around us. Take care of you and we will see each other soon.

## REFLECTIONS FROM TCURA BOARD MEMBERS

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be around them. I just hope and pray that this ends sooner rather than later, but that prospect seems doubtful. We

are grateful, however, and trying to stay upbeat.

*Editors Note: The Reflections on Retirement column will be published occasionally to highlight retirees' unique experiences with retirement, including activities they enjoy, places they travel, suggestions for Fort Worth restaurants, volunteer pastimes, and general reflections on this stage of life. It will not publish controversial subjects, such as politics and/or religion. If you are interested in submitting a column for future issues, send it to Nancy Madsen, n.madsen@tcu.edu or call or text her at 817-938-4341 with questions.*

# Special Interest Groups

The special interest groups will not meet in April but hopefully will resume in May.

## GOOD READS

In the meantime, you might want to read what the Book Club was planning to discuss at the April meeting - Erik Larson's new release, "The Splendid

and The Vile." The book is about Winston Churchill, his family and their defiance during the Blitz. It includes recently released classified information and many personal insights into their lives during that stressful time, researched and written by Larson as if it were a novel. Another book that's worth reading, according to Nancy Madsen, is

"Of the First Class," a fascinating history of the Kimbell Art Museum by Tim Madigan.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FUTURE

The "Coffee with the Chancellor" is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Minor House. More details are forthcoming.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Texas Christian University Retirees' Association exists to provide opportunities for fellowship, to promote lifelong learning, to advocate for fair benefits, to recognize the accomplishments of its members, and to strengthen the relationship between the retirees and the University.

## TCU RETIREES' ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2019-2020

TERMS OF OFFICE END MAY 2020.

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## NOTE

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## FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Search "TCU Retirees' Association" in the search line, and filter by groups. Click the "Join" button.