

## TCU RETIREES' OCTOBER LUNCHEON

# Jim Riddlesperger and Mid-Term Elections

The speaker for the October 16 TCURA meeting will be Dr. James (Jim) Riddlesperger, Jr., longtime TCU professor of political science. Jim will give one of his informative and entertaining presentations on elections; this one on the mid-term elections in November. Please join us to hear Jim's take on the upcoming election.

Jim holds bachelor and master of arts degrees from the University of North Texas and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri at Columbia. A native of Denton, he has taught at TCU since 1982.

His interest is in American politics, with emphasis on the presidency, Congress and Texas politics.

He is co-author of *Lone Star Leaders* (2011, TCU), *The Austin-Boston Connection* (2009, Texas A&M Press), and *Texas Politics* (13th edition, Cengage, 2015). He co-edited *Reflections on Rayburn* (2018, TCU Press), *Considering American Government: A Reader* (2017, Kendall Hunt), *The Wright Stuff* (2013, TCU Press), *Presidential*



**JIM RIDDLESPPERGER**

*Leadership and Civil Rights Policy* (Greenwood, 1995), and *Special Focus: Balance of Power between Congress and the President* (New York: College Board, 2008).

He has published articles in the *Journal of Politics*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Social Science Journal*, *Judicature*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Presidential Studies Quarterly* and *Congress and the Presidency*, among others.

At TCU, Jim has been named the winner of the Chancellor's Award

for Creative Teaching and Research as well as Honors Professor of the Year and is past president of the Southwestern Political Science Association.

He is married to Dr. Kristina Riddlesperger, father to two grown sons and grandfather to three granddaughters.

**SODEXO HAS CHANGED THE DEADLINE FOR OUR LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS. WE NOW HAVE TO GET OUR RESERVATIONS IN ONE FULL WEEK BEFORE THE EVENT.**

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 8.**

**RESERVATIONS MAY BE MADE ONLINE AT TCURA. TCU.EDU OR TO JOAN YATES AT J.YATES@TCU.EDU OR 817-292-7087.**

**LUNCHEON  
DATES**

**OCT 16  
NOV 13  
DEC 11**

**JAN 15  
FEB 19  
MAR 19**

**APR 16  
MAY 21**

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

## Old Dogs, New Tricks

My mother often invoked the adage, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." According to Dictionary.com, the meaning of this phrase is "People who have long been used to doing things in a particular way will not abandon their habits." Colleagues, we (the old dogs) are going to have to change one of our habits starting this month.

For as long as I've been involved with TCURA the deadline for luncheon reservations has been the Wednesday prior to the Tuesday event. Sodexo has informed us that they are now "enforcing" their longstanding policy of requiring our guaranteed count to Catering five BUSINESS days prior to our luncheon. This means that we must turn in our count on Tuesday morning, a week ahead of our luncheon. Starting in October – and beyond – our deadline for reservations will be on MONDAY and no longer on Wednesday. Since some of us have been challenged



JANET GEORGE HERALD

at times to meet the Wednesday deadline, I know this will be a true test of our adaptability. But it is VERY important.

Mark your calendar now, make your reservation as soon as the newsletter arrives or whatever you need to do to CHANGE YOUR HABIT. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Fall is my favorite season. For those of us who've lived most of our lives on a school calendar, it's the

start of a new year. It's also the start of football season and the beginning of organizational activities and meetings that keep us busier than in the summer months. Although we've only been teased with a few cooler mornings so far, we can look forward to cooler weather, changing colors and fall leaves, and the way-too-early signs of the upcoming holidays at retailers. I saw a meme on Facebook recently that said, "Fall in Texas is summer with pumpkins."

Vice President Julie Baker and I will be attending the biennial meeting of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education in Atlanta on October 7-9. Past association leaders who have attended the AROHE meeting have reported that it is very informative as well as reinforcing that TCURA is one of the better organizations in the country. I will report back next month.

I look forward to seeing you at our October luncheon (reservation deadline October 8)!

## TCU RETIREES' ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2018-2019\*

TERMS OF OFFICE END MAY 2019.

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### NEW WEBSITE FOR TCURA

TCURA's new web site launched on September 4 at [tcura.tcu.edu](http://tcura.tcu.edu). Be sure to check it out, as there are new features including news items, health columns, current and archived newsletters, a calendar of events and

easy online reservations for luncheons and other activities.

If you register using your email and password you create, you will have access to our member directory and be able to edit your own contact

information, plus your name and email will be filled in for you on the luncheon reservation form. Make [tcura.tcu.edu](http://tcura.tcu.edu) your resource for all things TCURA.

### COOKBOOK COMMITTEE REPORT

The recipes have been given to Anne VanBeber, where her students will do the nutritional analysis. The committee is now working on

choosing pictures of campus to be included in the book, and finalizing the theme and organization of the recipes.

Please contact Julie Baker for any questions at [j.baker@tcu.edu](mailto:j.baker@tcu.edu).

### ARTS AND ANTIQUES INTEREST GROUP

The Arts and Antiques Interest Group of TCURA is still in the organizational stage. We encourage those who are interested in the arts and antiques to join fellow retirees in exploring these areas in a variety of venues: members of the group sharing their art and antique collections and collecting adventures, speakers, tours of collections of non-members, visits to galleries and museums, etc. etc.

The inaugural meeting will be held at the home of Gail and Jack Davis at 4932 Westbriar Drive on

Tuesday, October 23 at 5 pm; they will share their collections with the group. At this meeting, the group will determine how often they wish to meet and what kind of programs they would like. It promises to be an active and enjoyable venture, so please join us.

October 23, 2018, 5:00 pm

Home of Gail & D. Jack Davis  
4932 Westbriar Drive  
Ft. Worth, TX 76109

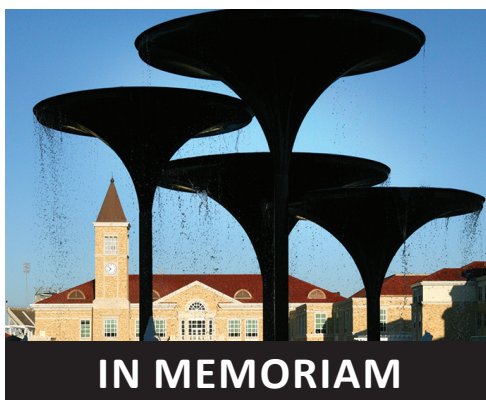
This is a gated community. Enter from the gate on Bellaire; the gate code is 7335. For more information you can contact:

Gail Davis  
[gdavis@twu.edu](mailto:gdavis@twu.edu)  
682-841-7335

D. Jack Davis  
[davis@unt.edu](mailto:davis@unt.edu)  
817-368-7016

### 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.



**Sanoa Hensley**  
Retired from Accounting

### TCU GIVES DAY NOVEMBER 8

A great time to give to your TCU Retirees' Association. Plan now to make a tax deductible gift to your TCURA on November 8 and earn extra dollars for TCU as well as support TCURA's programs and services for members. Watch for details coming in October.

## COLUMNIST CHUCK LAMB

# What is the most surprising thing I have learned about retirement?

Do you remember back when we were working that retirees would sometimes say that they didn't know how they ever found time to work? I always thought that was a pretty silly thing to say before I retired. Now I agree with the assertion and furthermore, I know why it is true, at least in my case.

I rarely set an alarm clock anymore. I set the alarm if I want to be sure that I am awake by 8:30, usually for a doctor's appointment that I couldn't schedule for later in the day. That shortens my day by about 1 ½ hours.

Back in the old days, I skimmed the Star-Telegram headlines in the morning. Sometimes I would read a column about the Frogs or the Cowboys or the lead story on the front page. Now I read two newspapers pretty thoroughly every morning (except Sunday). This

takes at least an hour of my day and sometimes more.

I spend more time in doctors' offices than I did in years past. I have so many doctors that I even called one by the name of another one of my docs. My cardiologist is my pulmonologist's son. I also spend time in my therapist's office (physical therapist).

We have three Pomeranians that want a couple of hours of my time daily, except when they need to go to the vet or to the groomer in which case they need more time.

I am not very skilled when it comes to technology and I sometimes spend seemingly endless time doing the same operation over and over again expecting a different outcome. Oh, how I miss Fran and Diane who handled my typing and data entry chores for over 25 years. I am paying the price now for not learning and

practicing these skills as I went along.

I also am charged with handling more honey-dos now than when I was working. The reason is that I have more free time.

I will admit that I have a pretty relaxed-some might say lazy-lifestyle now that I have been retired for 4 years. I don't miss the stress and the pressures that we all faced in our jobs. I loved working at TCU for 33 years and I am proud of what my colleagues and I in the Marketing Department, Neeley School and in the University accomplished. But now I am happy in my retirement and not surprised when someone says, "I don't know how I ever found time to work." They'll figure it out.

***If you are interested in writing a column for the newsletter, contact Nancy Madsen at [n.madsen@tcu.edu](mailto:n.madsen@tcu.edu).***

## FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

After a relatively quiet summer, the committee charged with addressing the issues surrounding health care benefits met again on Wednesday, September 26. This committee, which is composed of representatives from the Faculty Senate, the Staff Assembly, and the Retirees' Association, is charged

with looking at benefits not only for those who are now retired but also for those in the current TCU workforce and for those who may be entering in the future. Obviously, these are major challenges, but the committee is determined to complete its work in time to report to the Chancellor in early November. TCURA is

represented on the committee by Kirk Downey ([k.downey@tcu.edu](mailto:k.downey@tcu.edu)) and Stan Hagadone ([j.hagadone@tcu.edu](mailto:j.hagadone@tcu.edu)). If you wish to give them input or have any questions they might address, please feel free to contact them by email.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Recent retirees who attended the September TCURA luncheon included Bill Cron, Stephen Mooney, Luther Smith and Karen Weinman.





**Photos from the September TCURA Luncheon (from top left):** 1) Jeannie Chaffee and Nancy Grieser who provided homemade candy for door prizes 2) President Janet George Herald with speaker Meredith Meuwly 3) Sharon Campbell and Judy Wooten 4) Julie Baker and Chuck Lamb with Meredith Meuwly 5) Melissa and David Rubenkoenig with one of the door prizes 6) September's TCURA luncheon was well attended 7) Becky Roach and Nancy Madsen. *All photos taken by Deana Ray*

#### NOTE

If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, notify the newsletter editor or any of the others listed as contacts here.



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