

Klein Association of Retired Employees



KARE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE <https://KleinKaremembers.wixsite.com/Kare>

SAVE THE DATES!

KARE Meeting

**October 15 9:30 a.m. Social Time; 10 a.m. Meeting
at Klein Multipurpose Center, 7500 FM 2920
Speaker: Richard Ford, BBB Fraud Control**

KARE TRIPS

**October 22 8:00 - 6:00 Scarecrow Festival at Shangri La Botanical Gardens
in Orange and Lunch at Old Orange Café.**

**November 21 3:00 -10:00 Dinner at Kelly's Country Cookin' then on to
Radiant Nature at Houston Botanic Gardens.**

**December 4 10:00 - 5:30 Lunch at Cafe Texan in Huntsville (Texas History
Museum) then on to Madisonville Christmas Store.**

**If you have not previously signed up for these trips, sign-up will be available
at the October 15th meeting and by email when the trip information comes
out.**

**OR SIGN UP NOW: message, email or call Kathy Bell at 281-455-9907
kbell1718@sbcglobal.net. I need your name and email address**

About KARE Trips:

You do not have to be a KARE member to travel with us. Feel free to invite any friends who are age 50+. Send name and email address to kbell1718@sbcglobal.net in order to get on the trip list.

If you need a lift (cannot climb the bus steps) please let me know so that I can request a bus with a lift.

Arrive at the Barbara Bush Library parking lot at least 15 minutes before departure time in order to complete the sign-in list before the bus leaves.

Bring a sweater or light wrap as sometimes the bus AC is on high.

Trips are limited to 26 people. I will keep a waiting list if trips are filled.

QR Code
Use to link to the KARE website.



On our website you will find information about KARE, our newest newsletter, officers, and other useful information. There are links to our Facebook page and the TRTA Website where you can find information about what is going on at the state level and a link to the District 4 Website. There is a link to our website at the beginning of this newsletter.

Texas Retired Teachers Association

Please go to the TRTA Website and check your information.

A personal request from Linda Carroll,

I am teaching a paper crafting class for ALL on November 5. We will be using old or unwanted calendars as the basis for our projects. If you have calendars to donate, please bring them to the October 15 meeting.

Thank you

Klein Association of Retired Employees

Scheduled Events and Tentative Events for 2025–2026

For KARE, TRTA and District IV, Trips, Book Club and Other KARE (day or place)

Unless otherwise noted all meetings are scheduled for 10 a.m., with social time beginning at 9:30 a.m., at the Klein Multipurpose Center at 7500 FM 2920, Klein, Texas 77379.

- August 2:** 4 p.m. Stargazing at Dominey Observatory SHSU Campus
- August 20:** 11:30 a.m. Ha Ha, You Have to Go Back to School Luncheon at Spring Creek BBQ, 6068 FM 2920
- September 16:** Book Club Mtg at Jason's Deli Grand Pkwy Marketplace
THE FROZEN RIVER by Ariel Lawhon
- September 22:** Monday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center
Speaker: Jenny McGown – The State of the District
- September 24:** 9:30 a.m. Murals at Texas Southern University, Lunch at Rado Market & Tour Project Row Houses.
- October 3:** District 4 Fall Conference
- October 15:** Wednesday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center
Speaker: Richard Ford, BBB Fraud Control - Top Scams of 2025
- October 22:** 8 a.m. Scarecrow Festival at Shangri La Botanical Gardens in Orange and lunch at Old Orange Café.
- November 18:** Book Club Mtg at Jason's Deli Grand Pkwy Marketplace
I'M GLAD MY MOTHER DIED by Jeanette McCurdy
- November 19:** Wednesday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center
Speaker: Lindsey Drouset from the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management on Emergency Preparedness
- November 21:** 3 p.m. Dinner at Kelly's Country Cookin', and Radiant Nature at Houston Botanic Gardens
- December 4:** 10:00 a.m. Lunch at Cafe Texan in Huntsville (Texas History Museum) then Madisonville Christmas Store.
- January 21:** Wednesday KARE Meeting at NOC (Central Office)
- January 20:** Book Club Mtg at Jason's Deli Grand Pkwy Marketplace
MY FRIENDS by Fredrik Backman
- February 13:** Friday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center
Speaker: Tom Ramsey, Precinct 3 Commissioner - The State of the Precinct.
- March 17:** Book Club Mtg at Jason's Deli Grand Pkwy Marketplace
SHARP FORCE by Patricia Cornwell
- March 23:** Monday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center
- March 25:** A.M. TRTA Virtual Convention P.M. Dist. 4 Spring Conf
- April 22:** Wednesday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center
Speaker: "Cyber Threat Brief" by Special Agent

May 19: **Book Club Mtg at Jason's Deli Grand Pkwy Marketplace**
 JAMES by Percival Everett

May 20: **Wednesday KARE Meeting at Klein Multipurpose Center**
 Speaker: Shane Harris, Branch Manager, Barbara Bush Library
 – Information about the Library

July 21: **Book Club Mtg at Jason's Deli Grand Pkwy Marketplace**
 THE PALACE AT THE END OF THE SEA by Simon Tolkien

Children's Book Project

The Children's Book Project is a service activity through TRTA in which books are collected by KARE members and then donated to organizations, libraries, shelters, community clinics, etc. The purpose is to get books in the hands of children.

We can accept books for children from K-12 that are new or gently used. These cannot be religious in nature and must be age appropriate.

If you are a retired educator and have books from your teaching days that you would like to donate, please contact the Children's Book Project chairman, Carol Rios, at crios1055@gmail.com. We can also accept cash donations to purchase books.

Carol Rios will be accepting books at all meetings during the year.

Texas Retired Teachers Foundation: Please read all TRTF information found in The Voice and sent out by Tim Lee.

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SCAM ALERT from KHOU 11
[FBI warns about a scam targeting older adults](#)

KARE
Klein Association of Retired Employees
Minutes for September 22, 2025

Call to Order: President Linda Carroll called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Speaker: David Brand introduced Dr. Jenny McGown, Superintendent of Klein ISD. Dr. McGown spoke about the recent accomplishments and awards received by KISD, recent campus updates and political issues affecting the district.

Former Superintendent, Jim Cain spoke to us about the upcoming election and that we should all be wary of misinformation in our community. He urged us to vote and that the election matters.

Trips: Kathy Bell discussed upcoming trips scheduled through December. She is working on trips for the spring. She also urged us to “fill the pigs” on the tables. The money we collect goes to the Texas Retired Teachers Foundation.

Break

Christy Spisak, Director of Community Relations for Klein ISD informed us of the gold card available to senior citizens that allows us to attend certain sporting and arts events free of charge. She was available at the meeting for those that wanted to sign up for the card and reminded us of the Golden Brunch on Thursday, September 25 at the Klein Multipurpose Center.

Minutes as printed in the newsletter: Accepted as printed.

Treasurer’s Report: as printed in the newsletter: Accepted as printed.

Fall Conference: Linda Carroll asked for volunteers to attend the Fall Conference on October 3, 2025 at the Merrill Center in Katy. Seven people have volunteered to attend.

Membership: Dora Williams is still collecting membership dues and would like everyone to take care of this as soon as possible. She has forms you can fill out and give her your check today. If you are paying dues directly to TRTA, you only need to pay local dues of \$10 to KARE. Dora mentioned that there will be a table at the Golden Brunch on September 25 for new members to join KARE.

Programs: David Brand gave an update on speakers for KARE meetings coming up: October - Richard Ford from Texas Senior Needs Patrol discussing top scams, November - Harris County rep will give a preparedness presentation, Jan - TBA, February - Tom Ramsey, March/April - TBA, May - Shane Harris, Branch Manager of Barbara Bush Branch Library.

Hospitality: Bob Hrcir thanked those that provided snacks for our meeting today. He stated we will need members to sign up to bring food to the October meeting.

Safety: Dagmar Kidd gave an update on the latest scams directed mostly at senior citizens. These include data or account breaches, false surveys and sweepstakes, “bank juggling” and false traffic ticket alerts via text. She urged us all to check with your financial institutions directly or the BBB for assistance.

Committees needed: Linda Carroll stated that we need to form a Christmas Brunch Committee for the KARE brunch in December. She said we also need a Nominating Committee beginning in January to nominate officer candidates to be presented in March for the election of officers in April.

Adjournment: 12:08

Submitted by Carol Rios, substituting for Mary Young, Secretary

Financial Report for September.

Balance August 31, 2025 \$ 13,195.99

Submitted by Dale Robinson, Treasurer

Fall Conference held on October 3, 2025, at the Merrell Center in Katy.

New slate of District 4 Officers who will take office July 1, 2026:

President: Diane Apsey (Spring Branch)

First Vice President: Brenda Teykl (Alvin)

Second Vice President: Barbara Coon (Pasadena)

Secretary: Thomasine Allen (Mainland)

Treasurer: Dr. Mary Widmier (Humble)

Officer Needed: Parliamentarian

Each chapter is supposed to have a parliamentarian to make sure we follow Robert’s Rules of Order. We have the book; we just need someone to keep us in line.

Committee Chairs Needed:

Member Benefits

Legislative

Foundation

Retirement Education

All of these committees have information on the TRTA Website and Zoom Training with District 4.

Please consider joining, and better yet heading, a committee. See the list of committees on the membership form at the end of this newsletter.

Walk Across Texas

Our fall trek across Texas will begin on Sunday, October 26 and end on December 20, 2025. All walkers are welcome to register. Every step counts and adds to the total team's miles walked. No one checks or monitors your steps. So, join the fun and get some exercise too. If you would like to be registered, text or email Dora, your full name and email address. A link to register will be emailed to you from the Howdy website.

Text 926-534-4351 Email-dora7b11@sbcglobal.net

The Social Committee is seeking coordinators and other ideas for social get-togethers. If you would like to host a get-together, let us know. Even if you would just like company to pick out new flowers for your flowerbed, that could be a meet you there.

Would you be interested in a meet-you-there visit to Arbor Gate or Plants for All Seasons? Would you want to have a tour? Would you be interested in a tour visit to the Pearl Fincher Museum? Would you be interested in coordinating that? What about a movie or bowling?

We need a committee to plan the Christmas Luncheon. We ran into some glitches last year with only one person making plans and collecting money.

Sunshine: The health and welfare of KARE members is important. Text or email Dora Williams or Sharon Glasgow with notifications of members who are ill, recovering from surgery or have a death in their immediate family. See the website [see first page of the newsletter and the QR Code] for contact information or reply to this newsletter email.

Who wants to play Spite and Malice and when?

Maybe you have a recommendation for an after-meeting lunch place and would like to try it out with other KARE members first.

Remember: You can always contact Linda Carroll by replying to this newsletter.

**From Georgann Reitmier:
Voice for Public Schools proudly endorses the following candidates for the
Klein ISD Board of Trustees:**

**Dustin Creager - Position 3
Cathy Arellano - Position 6
Rob Ellis - Position 7**

**These student-focused leaders bring experience; integrity; a deep passion for
the school district and community; strong collaboration and communication
skills; and dependability to participate fully with the board.**

**Early voting begins October 20th with Election Day on November 4th.
Your Vote Matters!**

Volunteer Hours Record for 2025

Please keep track of your volunteer hours. Volunteers are anyone who does a job
they would have to pay someone else to do. Caregivers receive 4,380 hours.

January _____ hours	May _____ hours	September _____ hours
February _____ hours	June _____ hours	October _____ hours
March _____ hours	July _____ hours	November _____ hours
April _____ hours	August _____ hours	December _____ hours

Total hours for 2025 _____

As unbelievable as it seems, we are counting down to the end of the year. Please
get your hours together to turn them in, to be reported to TRTA, who reports them
to the legislature, who converts them into a dollar amount we have contributed.

Membership 2025-2026

Enrollment began March 1, 2025 and will end February 1, 2026.

If you are not on this list, a Membership Form and an Invoice are at the end of this newsletter with information about where to mail your check. Spouses are eligible to join with full membership privileges. This is through September 28, 2025

Jennifer Banks	Sara Ballard	
Jerry Bell	Kathy Bell	Sherry Bowersock
Clora Dean Bradley	Janice Bragg	David Brand
Jim Cain	Linda Carroll	Molly Cordeau
Linda Cox	Karen Crisler	Shiela Cunningham
Sherri Davenport	Sherry Davidson	Donna Day
Judy Diaz	Susan Dorsey	Sue Due
Susan Dunens	Rosa Faircloth	Joyce Finch
Carolyn Gandy	Susan Gaubatz	
Sharon Glasgow	Eva Grigg	
Loretta Hrncir	Robert Hrncir	Marie Hynes
Jeneen Joseph	Mildred Jensen	Emily Jones
Joan Kehlenbach	Delma Kelley	Tommy Kelley
Dagmar Kidd	Wayland Kidd	Penny Laughlin
Fernando Martinez	Lori Martinez	Faye McCroskey
Debbie McGee	Jane McKetta	Elaine McMullen
Joyce McMoran	Karen Becky Meredith	
Delma Neeley	Barbara Polit	Edna Ponton
Lois Redford	Georgan Reitmeier	
Carol Rios	Dale Robinson	Susan Rowald
Sue Ann Sandberg	Cynthia Smith	David Smith
Sandra Smith	Virginia Sonnier	Rhonda Stowe
Donna Taylor	Mary Todeschini	
Barbara Velotas	Elaine Volz	Wanda Washington
Dora Williams	Sheila Williams	Charlene Wilson
Marla Wood	Carol Young	Mary Young

The 2025-2026 Membership form is included at the end of this newsletter. Mail to Dora Williams (address on the form) or bring your checkbook to a meeting and turn in your form and check to Lori Martinez, Dale Robinson, Dora Williams, or Penny Laughlin. Yes, we accept cash, but it is even more important that you include a membership form to be used as your receipt that you paid.

October 2025 Agenda Draft

If you are on the agenda and do not wish to be, let us know.

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9:30 Social Time

10:00 Call to Order

Greetings

Linda Carroll

David Brand

Speaker: Richard Ford, BBB Fraud Control - Top Scams of 2025

Break

Birthdays and Special Events

Any questions about the minutes?

Any questions about the financial report?

Fall Conference October 3 report

Membership: Dora Williams and Penny Laughlin

Programs: David Brand

Children's Book Project: Carol Rios

Trips: Kathy Bell

Hospitality: Bob Hrcir

Health and Wellness: Lori and Fernando Martinez

Safety: Dagmar Kidd

Member Benefits: Linda Carroll on Zoom Meeting

Legislative: Linda Carroll on Zoom Meeting

Unfinished Business:

Nominating Committee

Christmas Luncheon Committee

Chairs/Coordinators needed.

Information for all positions is available on the TRTA Website.

Parliamentarian, Legislative, Member Benefits, Foundation

Suggestion for lunch: Cotton Patch, 5431 FM 2920

Adjourn

KLEIN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES 2025-2026
Local Chapter of the TEXAS RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt#: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Birthdate [mo/day] _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

Email: _____

I receive an annuity from a teacher retirement system. [☐] Yes [☐] No

If not paid by KARE, my TRTA dues are paid by: _____

I worked in [school(s)/district(s)] _____

Retired employees from districts other than Klein are welcome to join KARE.

Department(s) worked in _____

Who recommended KARE to you? _____

Return the form and a check payable to KARE to:

Dora Williams, 33611 Windcrest Estates Blvd, Magnolia, TX 77354

KARE will take care of submitting your dues to TRTA, if you are not already in a program that pays them for you.

Dues for both: \$45 (KARE \$10; TRTA \$35)

I would be interested in serving on the following committee(s): kleinkaremembers@gmail.com

____ Membership
Dora Williams and Penny Laughlin
____ Volunteer Services
Mary Young
____ Community Involvement
Martha Mallory
____ Member Benefits
Needs chair
____ Programs
David Brand
____ Children's Book Project
Carol Rios and Dale Robinson
____ Communications and Technology
Jane McKetta
____ Historian
David Brand
____ Legislative
Needs chair
____ Scholarships
Penny Laughlin

____ KARE Trips
Kathy Bell
____ Social Committees
Coordinators needed
____ Hospitality
Bob Hrcir
____ Book Club
Suzanne Bradley
____ Sunshine
Sharon Glasgow
____ TRTA Foundation
Needs chair
____ Retirement Education
Needs chair
____ Health
Lori and Fernando Martinez
____ Safety
Dagmar Kidd
____ Treasurers
Lori Martinez and Dale Robinson

INVOICE

DATE: 2025-2026

Mail Check Payable to KARE
Dora Williams
33611 Windcrest Estates Blvd
Magnolia, TX 77354

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

TRTA ID #: _____

FROM	JOB	PAYMENT TERMS	DUE DATE
Dora Williams, 1 st Vice President	Membership	Due on receipt	ASAP

QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	LINE TOTAL
1	2025-2026 KARE Membership	10.00	
-----	2025-2026 TRTA Membership	35.00	
	TRTA membership is a requirement to be a KARE member		
	If you have your TRTA dues debited from your Annuity, your KARE dues are \$10.00		
	Please return this invoice with your remittance		
TOTAL			

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO KARE
Thank you for your prompt remittance