

# August 2025



## HARTA

**Humble Area Retired Teachers Association**

**Local Chapter of Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) District 4**

HARTA is an organization for all retired educators & school employees who reside in the Humble, TX area.

### 2025-2026 HARTA OFFICERS

President..... Linda Spiro  
1ST VP Membership..... Bobby McAndrews  
2nd VP Books & PR ..... Chris Pieknik  
3rd VP Programs ..... Janie Branham  
Secretary ..... Margaret Fahrenthold  
Treasurer..... John Widmier  
Parliamentarian ..... Carolyn Mashburn  
Immed. Past President ..... Brenda Pearson  
Newsletter Editor ..... Marjorie Isgitt



**MESSAGE FROM  
PRESIDENT  
LINDA SPIRO**

### HARTA MEETING DATES AND PROGRAMS 2025-2026

**August 18:** Welcome Back and Pot Luck Luncheon  
**September 15:** Congressman Crenshaw & Sen. Creighton  
**October 13:** The Women's Storybook Project  
**December 8:** High School Choir and Pot Luck Luncheon  
**February 9:** *Butterflies: A Practical & Spiritual Guide*  
**April 13:** Safety Presentation by Vicky Stansifer  
**May 18:** Installation/Awards and Pot Luck Luncheon

Social time—9:30 a.m.; Meeting—10:00 a.m.  
Eggers ISC, 4810 Magnolia Cove Dr., Kingwood, TX 77345

#### **To access HARTA Webpage and Facebook:**

Go to [www.trta.org](http://www.trta.org), Districts & chapters, District 4, scroll down to Humble.

Need to contact us? [hartamembers2@gmail.com](mailto:hartamembers2@gmail.com)

***The Voice of all Public Education Retirees***



### ***SPECIAL NOTES***

- Please bring your favorite dish (main dish, appetizer, dessert, salad, bread, etc.) to share at the August potluck luncheon.
- Please see the HARTA website for a list of recommended children's books for the Women's Storybook Project, our October 13th program.
- Please see the President's message for information about an August group order for red TRTA shirts.



## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT LINDA SPIRO

I'd like to welcome both new and returning members to another dynamic year in the Humble Area Retired Teachers Association (HARTA). Since our state TRTA President Ella Gauthier serves two years, her theme "Bridge to the Future" continues this year for all local TRTA chapters like HARTA. HARTA strives to serve as a transitional bridge for new Texas public school retirees leaving active employment and as a dynamic bridge to school and community organizations that need our help. The HARTA newsletter features all kinds of social and volunteer opportunities, and you can easily find the newsletters on the HARTA website by accessing [www.trta.org](http://www.trta.org), Districts & Chapters, District 4, and scrolling down to Humble. You don't have to log in to see the website.

The August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting at the James D. Eggers Instructional Support Center (4810 Magnolia Cove Dr., Kingwood, 77345) is a potluck luncheon with returning members bringing their favorite food while new retirees come as guests. Social time begins at 9:30 am and the meeting at 10 am. Invite a potential new member to come with you to learn about HARTA and enjoy the great food HARTA members bring to share.

See the Lunch & Learn newsletter entry to discover how a public education retiree who has never been a member of TRTA and HARTA can get a free year in both organizations

paid for by AMBA, TRTA's endorsed benefits provider, by attending a free luncheon while learning about valuable benefits including cheap liability insurance for those who are substitute teaching.

Please read James Ellis' Legislative Committee entry for important information about the special session Governor Abbott has called. As an avid supporter of public-school education, I am concerned about provisions that might negatively impact our public schools. Although when representing TRTA in any way, we are to discuss only how provisions affect retirees, when speaking as individuals we can contact our U.S. and Texas Senators and Representatives to express personal opinions. If you have not already, please consider subscribing to TRTA's Tim Lee's *Inside Line* which provides "email updates on issues pertaining to pension, health insurance, Social Security, and other important retired educator information." Sign up at <https://trta.org/inside-line-sign-up/>.

At the September meeting please wear a red shirt (it doesn't have to be a HARTA/TRTA shirt) since we take a picture of all attendees to serve as our newsletter back cover. If you'd like to order an official TRTA District 4 shirt in August to wear in September and at HARTA events like book giveaways, there will be a clipboard circulating for you to write down your information. We'll do one group order right after the August meeting. Extra order forms will be available after that for people to place individual orders and pick the shirts up themselves or pay a delivery fee for home delivery. If you would like to be included in the August order, please bring cash or a check to the August meeting made out to HARTA, **not** Bull Shirts since we are condensing all orders into one. HARTA is also tax exempt. Prices are as follows:

	Small	Medium	Large	X L	2XL	3 XL	4XL
Ladies Polo Short Sleeve	\$19	\$19	\$19	\$19	\$21	\$22	\$23
Ladies Long Sleeve	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$31	\$32	\$33
Ladies Short Sleeve	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$30	\$31	\$32
Ladies ¾ Length Sleeve	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$31	\$32	\$33
Ladies T-shirt	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$14	\$15	\$16
Unisex/Men Polo Short Sleeve	\$19	\$19	\$19	\$19	\$21	\$22	\$23
Unisex/Men Long Sleeve	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$29	\$31	\$32	\$33
Unisex/Men Short Sleeve	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$30	\$31	\$32
Unisex/Men T-shirt	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$14	\$15	\$16

# Happy Birthday

Wendy	Otsuka	Aug 02
Gwendolyn (Gwen)	Prewett	Aug 03
Michael V	Astwood	Aug 04
Patricia	Brown	Aug 04
Penny	Westerfeld	Aug 04
Jeanne	Barton	Aug 05
Rebecca (Becky)	Jinnette	Aug 06
Cynthia	Calvert	Aug 07
Nancy	Foisner	Aug 07
Patricia	DeVoe	Aug 08
Sharon	Smith	Aug 08
Carolyn	Monroe	Aug 09
Terri	Velvin	Aug 09
Chris	Pearce	Aug 10
Mary, Dr	Widmier	Aug 12
Yvonne	Centanni	Aug 13
Stella	Cunningham	Aug 13
Elaine	Koester	Aug 13
Lisa	Clark	Aug 15
Shelley	Ricks	Aug 16
Betty	Whitehead	Aug 16
Sheron	Evans	Aug 17
Lorie	Taylor	Aug 17
Betsy	Duplechain	Aug 18
Patricia (Pat)	Kahak	Aug 18
Sharon	Marion-Bohot	Aug 18
Susan	Clark	Aug 19
Ellyn	Manning	Aug 19
Lisa	Bollig	Aug 20
Glenna	Bagley	Aug 22
Cynthia	Babich	Aug 23
Willie	Eakin	Aug 24
Theresa	Hartman	Aug 25
Karyn	Spiegel	Aug 27
Faye	McKinzie	Aug 27
Janet	Roberts	Aug 29
Trilla	Cook	Aug 30
Melissa	Hunt	Aug 30
Ronnie (Ron)	Westerfeld	Aug 30
Charlotte	Elder	Aug 31
Judy	Flemings	Aug 31



## **AUGUST PROGRAM** - Janie Branham

This is a quick reminder that we are having a potluck luncheon at the August meeting; therefore, there will be no invited speaker for this event. Bring your favorite dish to share. It may be a main dish, dessert, appetizer, bread, or salad. Hope to see you there.

Congressman Dan Crenshaw and Senator Brandon Creighton will be our speakers for the September meeting.



## **BOOK PROJECT** - Chris Pieknik

### **HARTA REPORT FOR BOOK PROJECT JUNE AND JULY**

As of July 29, 2025 we have distributed 10,615 books. Our total for May was 6,744. We have since distributed 2,000 books to four Humble ISD schools for their summer school programs, 1,079 at the July 4<sup>th</sup> book giveaway at Town Center, 600 books to Magdalene House Social Services, 106 books to neighborhood mini-libraries, 80 books to the Creativity Shell, 6 as gifts to family, and 1,173 on August 2 at HEB. Thank you for donating books and your time to make this program work.

### **UPCOMING BOOK GIVEAWAYS**

**Our October Halloween Book Giveaway will be held in front of My Happy Place from 10 AM-5 PM on October 25.** We may split the day between HEB and My Happy Place. (It all depends on what HEB decides to do for Halloween.) Please plan to help for an hour or two. Contact Chris Pieknik, 540-660-2879; Email: [pieknikpw48@yahoo.com](mailto:pieknikpw48@yahoo.com).

**Cash Donations for books for (BAMU) the Women's Storybook Project will be requested at our August meeting.**

This program offers an opportunity for incarcerated parents to record themselves reading for their children.

The program requires brand new books with specific titles that we will order with your donations. If you wish to pur-



chase the books yourself, please check out the list of recommended books on the HARTA website.

**We have offered to have book giveaways at our Humble ISD schools.** We are waiting to hear back from the district regarding future opportunities.



**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER SERVICES (CVS)**  
- Patty Murphy

**Welcome back!** Hope all of you had a memorable summer with many opportunities for fun and relaxation! In addition, I bet you accumulated many VOLUNTEER hours to report at our first meeting in August! Thanks to those of you who have already texted or emailed summer hours to me. Did you cook for a friend, babysit, care for a family member, provide transportation, give out books on July 4<sup>th</sup>, or visit with a sick neighbor? These are just a few examples! As always, index cards will be on the tables at our meeting for reporting. You can also text (832-444-6630) or email ([patty253@gmail.com](mailto:patty253@gmail.com)) your hours to me!



**HEALTHY LIVING**  
- Dawn Meador

Welcome. We are going to focus on ways to 'Keep Moving' as well as other healthy tips!

**Here are 6 tips from Harvard on safe stretching:**

1. Warm up first (5-minute walk). Muscles stretch more easily when warm.
  2. Feel no pain. Stretch only to the point of mild tension, never to the point of pain.
  3. Pay attention to posture and good form.
  4. Focus on the muscle being stretched.
  5. Focus on breathing.
  6. Practice often.
- \*. Hold stretches 30 seconds



**READERS LOVE TEACHERS**

- Jan Resell / Patti Sano

**READERS LOVE TEACHERS!**

Did you know Readers Love Teachers is unique to HARTA? We created it and are the only ones in Texas with this program! So what is RLT? During our book giveaways, we ask children to tell us what makes their favorite teacher special.

Each month we choose a teacher and arrange a surprise visit to his/her classroom to present a certificate and \$25. The teacher is surprised and pleased. Students love seeing their teacher win something. Principals are thrilled that teachers have been recognized for the work they do.

How can you be a part of RLT? Join us at book giveaways to help students complete nomination forms and join us when we make presentations at schools.

If you are interested, please contact us. Thank you!



**HARTA members at a book giveaway**



**INFORMATION AND  
PROTECTIVE SERVICES**  
- Virginia Cowen

*Since HARTA Safety Chair, Virginia Cowan, recently fell and broke her arm when getting off a treadmill, here is an AI summary from several sources about preventing falls. HARTA sends prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery to Virginia.*

To prevent falls, it's crucial to make your environment safer, improve your physical health, and be mindful of your surroundings. This includes removing hazards at home, staying active, exercising and ensuring you have proper footwear and assistive devices if needed.

**Home Safety:**

- **Remove tripping hazards:** Clear clutter, loose rugs, and cords from walkways.
- **Improve lighting:** Ensure adequate lighting, especially on stairs and in hallways.
- **Install grab bars and handrails:** Add grab bars in bathrooms and handrails on staircases.
- **Use non-slip mats:** Use non-slip mats in the bathroom and shower.
- **Secure rugs:** Secure loose rugs with double-sided tape or remove them entirely.
- **Keep frequently used items within reach:** Store items in easily accessible locations to avoid reaching or stretching.

**Physical Health:**

- **Stay active:** Engage in regular physical activity, focusing on exercises that improve balance and strength, such as Tai Chi or walking.
- **Maintain good vision and hearing:** Get regular eye and hearing exams, as poor vision and hearing can affect balance.
- **Manage medications:** Be aware of potential side effects of medications that could affect balance and consult your doctor if needed.
- **Stay hydrated and eat well:** Proper nutrition and hydration are important for overall health and can prevent lightheadedness or fainting.
- **Strengthen bones:** Ensure adequate calcium and vitamin D intake.

**Other Precautions:**

- **Wear supportive footwear:** Choose shoes with good support and non-slip soles.
- **Use assistive devices:** If needed, use a cane or walker for extra support.



**TREASURER'S CORNER**  
- John Widmier

As of July 28, 2025, HARTA has a balance of \$22,359.84 in the Business Checking Account at PNC Bank.

The Certificate of Deposit held at PNC Bank earned \$94.49 in interest in May, June and July and now has a balance of \$10,058.24

The Endowed Fund with the Humble ISD Education Foundation had a balance of \$36,702 at the end of the second quarter of 2025 (June 30, 2025). That balance does not reflect a deposit of \$3000 for students scholarships for 2025-26 nor a transfer of \$2100 from the Endowed Fund to the Humble ISD Education Foundation to reimburse the foundation for Educator Grants for 2024-25.

Just a reminder that TRTA and HARTA dues for 2025-26 are now payable. You may find it easier to pay your TRTA (\$35) and HARTA (\$10) dues at the same time with one payment of \$45. When I receive your TRTA payment I will enter your name and directory information into the TRTA portal and you will be paid through June 30, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding HARTA's finances, please feel free to contact me at (281) 798 8735 or [johnwidmier@yahoo.com](mailto:johnwidmier@yahoo.com).



**HARTA members preparing Welcome Bags for Humble ISD Child Nutrition staff.**



## **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

**- Bobby McAndrews**

We are now well into the new membership year which began on July 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have not renewed your membership, we are now accepting your renewal payments for the 2025 – 2026 membership year which will run from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

There are currently 348 paid Chapter Members listed on the TRTA portal for the new year. Of those, 149 have paid HARTA dues. Thank you for renewing your membership.

We have a NEW HARTA directory. For those who would like to have a copy of the directory, be sure to come to the August 18<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. We printed only 75 copies and will ask for a \$2.00 donation (first come, first served). For privacy and commercial security reasons, ***the directory is not available in electronic format.***

Thank you for helping HARTA to attract new members. We need a few more new “prospective” new members to sign up for a lunch and learn event to have their first years (TRTA and HARTA) dues free. If you know of any retired school employee who may be interested in HARTA, please invite them to the August meeting. We are stronger when we come together for a common purpose. The work you do to support education with books, scholarships, and support of our students and teachers is commendable. Let’s spread the word and give all retired school employees the same opportunity to serve our community.

While we work hard together, we also have a lot of fun together, attending shows, museums, restaurants, games, trips and many other fun outings. Why would any young at heart retired person not want to belong to HARTA?

Be sure to visit our NEW and improved Webpage and Facebook group page by going to [www.trta.org](http://www.trta.org). Simply click on Districts and Chapters > District 4 and scroll to Humble RTA.

Our webpage has everything HARTA members need to stay informed including announcements, meeting dates, newsletters, trips and events, meeting minutes, new member/renewal application and more. There will be a brief demonstration at the next meeting to get you up to date.

If you are a donor, please consider the benefits of joining as a non-annuitant member in 2025-26. Paying the additional \$35 to join TRTA allows you access to support teacher initiatives and to purchase AMBA’s member services and discounts.

Everyone who has attended any of the last 4 HARTA meetings should have a new name tag. If you did not have one, or if yours requires changes, please let me know by sending an email to [harta1stvp@gmail.com](mailto:harta1stvp@gmail.com).

Thank you for being a HARTA Member.



## **LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

**- James Ellis**

Governor Abbott has called a special session of the Texas Legislature which convened Monday, July 21. While the Governor can add topics to the “call” any time, so far none relates directly to Teacher Retirement. However, several items do relate to education:

One proposes to replace the STAAR test.

Another further limits the spending power of local governments, including school districts.

A third limits the ability of local governments, including school districts, to lobby the Legislature on matters affecting them.

In its regular session, the Legislature proposed 17 amendments to our state Constitution. We will vote on them November 4. The following propositions will affect education in some way:

Proposition 1 creates a workforce education fund.

Propositions 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 17 all limit the ability of local governments (including school districts) to assess property taxes but do not guarantee that the state will replace any lost revenue from state funds.

Proposition 15 affirms that parents are the primary decision-makers for their children.

TRTA Executive Director Tim Lee regularly, usually weekly, e-mails on issues which concern our retirement. Always read those and be ready to contact your legislators about current issues that matter to you.





**FOUNDATION NEWS**  
**- Glenda Laney**

We all know of the flood in the hill country. Your Foundation Disaster Relief provided \$500 financial assistance for emergency expenses to TRTA members.

This is just the most recent disaster to affect Texas education retirees. Remember the freeze, the wildfires, the hurricanes, the tornados. TRTF also provides funds for unexpected expenses like medical bills, house or car repairs. "A Helping Hand" is there for members.

The Foundation needs funds to assist all these situations. Please be generous. At our August meeting, the red envelopes will be on your tables. If you wish to write a check, make it to HARTA, with Foundation in the memo line. Thank you.



**MEMBER BENEFITS**  
**- Becky Hendricks**

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

FOR CERTAIN RETIREES RETURNING TO WORK

BARCLAY

INSURANCE

INC. 1944

Professional Liability Insurance is exclusive to paid members (receiving an annuity from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas) of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) who have returned to work in a public school district or public college/university either as a substitute teacher or in a full-time professional capacity other than administration and are subject to the exclusions of the policy.

You MUST receive your paycheck from an Independent School District, NOT from a third-party employer, to be eligible for this insurance, and you MUST be a paid TRTA member. The TRTA endorsed group professional liability plan with The John A. Barclay Agency, Inc. has an annual charge of \$39.00 per person. All enrollments and payments go through TRTA. For policy information and exclusions, contact John A. Barclay, III, 512.323.0566.

Insurance Premium per Member \$36.00 + State Taxes & Fees \$1.76 + Association's Admin Fees \$1.24 = TOTAL: \$39.00

The policy pays:

❖ Coverage A – \$1,000,000 per insured per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per occurrence

❖ Coverage B – \$5,000 per claim per insured subject to:  
1. \$1,000,000 annual aggregate for all claims.  
2. \$10,000 annual aggregate per insured under Criminal or Sexual Misconduct Actions or Proceedings combined.

❖ Coverage C – \$1,000 per full bond per insured.

Effective date of individual's coverage begins on date TRTA receives application (within the coverage year August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026). A policy summary will be sent to the participant after the application is processed.

Note: The duty of the insurer to defend extends even to the groundless, false and frivolous suits or accusations.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE FORM

Name

Full Mailing Address

Professional Liability Insurance for retirees returning to work.

**Those who volunteered for the August Meeting:**

**Those bringing beverages are:**

Patsy Faulkenberry  
Juanita Jordan  
Margaret Fahrenthold

**Those bringing water are:**

Diane Hancock                      Artie DeHart  
Patsy Spitzmiller                      Delores McCarter  
Peggy Wilkinson                      Marian Mannix

**Those bringing snacks are:**

Dottie Willner                      Deborah Dooley  
Juanita Jordan                      Carole Hood  
Fran Simister                      Peggy Wilkinson  
Patti Sano                      Cindy Piggott

**Those bringing Door Prizes are:**

Carolyn Mashburn                      Tina Smith  
Dawn Meador                      Mary Widmier  
Carolyn Monroe                      Janie Branham  
Kathy Spirakes                      Brenda Pearson  
Beverly Webb                      Trilla Cook  
Tom Duffee                      Chris Pieknik  
Patty Murphy

Books!

Please remember to bring **new or gently used books** to the meeting. We can use as many as you can provide. Thank you.



A young reader enjoying his book!

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **EDUCATOR GRANT COMMITTEE**

The HARTA **Educator Grant Committee** meets in November to review applications from educators in Humble ISD seeking funds to go to workshops, conferences, or to seek further certifications and degrees. This past year we had 71 applicants, which shows that our local educators appreciate the opportunities provided by HARTA to enhance their effectiveness. Twenty-four awards were given for a total of \$8,072 through the Humble ISD Foundation.

If you are interested in helping this committee, contact Susan Burroughs.

### **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

HARTA has a **Sunshine Committee** that remembers current members who are experiencing health issues firsthand and might be in recovery; the committee mails a card expressing sentiments of get well or thinking of you. Also, during times of grief due to the death of a loved one, a sympathy card is mailed to the family from HARTA. If anyone has extra cards that fit either of these categories, please bring them to any upcoming HARTA meeting and we will put them to good use.

Fran Simister and Angie Shepherd

### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE HELPERS NEEDED**

On the Friday before each HARTA meeting the **Social Committee** meets at the ISC building and sets up our meeting room. We cover and decorate the tables, set up the snack or buffet tables, get the coffee cart ready, and prepare the room for the meeting. It's a quick process that usually takes about an hour or so. Several HARTA members volunteer to help with set-up, and also with staying after the meetings to fold up tablecloths and restore the room. If you helped with this last year, thank you! If you would like to remain on or be added to this volunteer list, please call, text, or email Ann Rice. Your help will be appreciated! Ann Rice 713-569-3812

[alcrice@aol.com](mailto:alcrice@aol.com)

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

The **Scholarship Committee** awards two \$1500 scholarships to deserving seniors who plan to attend a Texas college and major in education. Funds for this scholarship come from money raised from door prizes and the Christmas raffle as well as donations from HARTA members. Funding also comes from Road Scholar tours. If you have an interest in being on the Scholarship Committee, contact Sandra Fountain

at [jackfountain@kingwoodcable.net](mailto:jackfountain@kingwoodcable.net)

## **TRIPS AND TOURS**

### **- HARTA MEMBER SPONSORS**

All trips are sponsored by HARTA members. Please sign up at the meetings or contact the trip sponsor. **Some trips require pre-payment which can be done at the meeting.**

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Hey, have you ever wanted to go to the **Philippine Islands**? You can do it with a Fabulous Asiatown Foodie Tour in Houston. Leaving on **October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Departing the ISC Building at 8:15 a.m. and returning at 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$40.00 plus \$5.00 for the bus driver—\$45.00 in total.

The cost covers lunch and the tour. We will have a cultural experience, lunch, visit a market, and see a dance, etc. More information and pictures at the August meeting. Let's go! Nancy Timothy

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 - CONCERT TBA**  
BUS LEAVES @ 4:00 P.M. RETURNS ABOUT 11:00 P.M.  
ENTRY FEE \$18.00 + BUS \$5.00 = \$23.00  
RANSOM STEAK HOUSE FOR DINNER ON YOU OWN.  
MENU WILL BE EMAILED TO ALL THAT SIGN UP.  
CHECKS MADE OUT TO CAROLYN MONROE

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**HARTA group attended Honky Tonk Laundry performance at Stages Theater**





## **ROAD SCHOLAR TOURS 2026**

**- Carolyn Mashburn**

### **TRAVEL WITH HARTA Members Program # 9901 – Grit and Glory: Exposing the Panama Canal Friday, September 18 to Wednesday, September 23, 2026**

The Spanish thought about it. The French drew plans for it. In the end, though, it took a revolution, technology, money, determination and grit to complete the Panama Canal. On this unique journey, traverse the canal by boat and learn about the epic struggle to carve a nautical shortcut from one ocean to another. Learn about the canal's construction and its impact on world history, commerce and medicine.

- Learn about the history of the Panama Canal during exclusive boat transit.
- Witness the workings of the busy Miraflores and Gatun Locks and the Alajuela Dam.
- Admire the eclectic architecture of Casco Viejo — a UNESCO World Heritage Site — during a walking exploration of its cobblestone streets.
- Double Occupancy: \$2,499
- Single Occupancy: \$2,929

**Activity Level: On Your Feet** – Walking and standing for up to 90 minutes at a time in hot, humid weather. Getting on/off a boat, ascending/descending steps, no wheelchair access.

#### **Program Price Includes:**

- 5 nights of accommodations
- 14 meals (5B, 4L, 5D)
- 1 expert-led lecture
- 8 expert-led field trips
- Performance
- Group travel and transfers throughout the program
- A Group Leader to accompany you throughout the program to handle all logistics
- Modest gratuities, taxes and destination fees
- The Road Scholar Assurance Plan, including 24-hour assistance for medical and other emergencies

**Accommodations: Radisson Hotel Panama Canal, Panama City, 3 nights** Modern hotel located at Fort Amador,

on the boardwalk overlooking the entrance to the Panama Canal and the Bridge of the Americas.

**Gamboa Rainforest Resort, Gamboa, 2 nights** Resort is strategically located on the banks of the Chagres River and the Panama Canal, near the Soberania National Park. The lush surroundings and quiet neighborhood are a nice refuge from the hustle and bustle of Panama City. **To learn more or reserve a spot, please contact Carolyn Mashburn at [carolynmashburn44@gmail.com](mailto:carolynmashburn44@gmail.com)** *Deadline to respond is Thursday, September, 25, 2025*



**HARTA is sponsoring An Exclusive Learning Adventure for HARTA Members, our friends, and our relatives. The Program is # 12392 – Monumental DC, and the dates are Monday, April 27 to Friday, May 1, 2026.** Potentially, we can add \$2,400.00 to the HARTA Scholarship and Grants for Teachers projects if we take 25 people on this trip.

#### **Program Prices:**

- Double Occupancy: \$1,999
- Single Occupancy: \$2,589

**Activity Level: Keep the Pace** – Walking 2-3 miles per day during field trips over level terrain; extended standing.

Monuments accessible by elevator.

#### **The Program Price Includes:**

- 4 nights of accommodations
- 10 meals (4 B, 3 L, 3 D)
- 2 expert-led lectures
- 14 expert-led field trips
- Group travel and transfers
- A Group Leader to accompany you
- Modest gratuities, taxes and destination fees
- The Road Scholar Assurance Plan, including 24-hour assistance for medical and other emergencies

**Our accommodations are at The National Landing Hotel Crystal City, 4 nights. This is a Full service hotel located above Arlington's Crystal City metro subway station just three stops from National Mall. As a BONUS to us at no extra cost, Dan Crenshaw's office is scheduling a White House tour on Friday morning and John Cornyn's office is planning a Capitol tour and reception.**

**CONTACT CAROLYN MASHBURN if you are interested at [carolynmashburn44@gmail.com](mailto:carolynmashburn44@gmail.com) or 281-460-8255.**



Updated  
March 2025



## HARTA MEMBERSHIP FORM for Enrollment or Renewal (Please fill in all blanks)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthday: Mo \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ and/or Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ TRTA Member # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency contact for trips: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

**I receive a monthly annuity from TRS.**

- \_\_\_\_ I am paying both my TRTA dues of \$35 and my HARTA dues of \$10. I owe \$45.  
 \_\_\_\_ I already pay my TRTA dues monthly by TRS annuity auto deduction, I am paying my HARTA dues. I owe \$10.  
 \_\_\_\_ I already pay my TRTA dues monthly by bank draft auto deduction, I am paying my HARTA dues. I owe \$10.  
 \_\_\_\_ I have already paid my TRTA dues of \$35 by check or credit card. I am paying my HARTA dues only. I owe \$10.

**I do not receive a monthly annuity from TRS, but I want TRTA group benefits.**

- \_\_\_\_ I am paying both my TRTA dues of \$35 and my HARTA dues of \$10. I owe \$45.  
 \_\_\_\_ I already pay my TRTA dues monthly by bank draft auto deduction, I am paying my HARTA dues. I owe \$10.  
 \_\_\_\_ I have already paid my TRTA dues of \$35 by check or credit card. I am paying my HARTA dues only. I owe \$10.

**I am a Donor / Friend / Spouse who wishes to support HARTA. I owe \$10**

Designate donation to: \_\_\_\_\_ General Funds or \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Funds or \_\_\_\_\_ Where Needed  
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**\* For the HARTA directory & publications, please initial your choices below. (Donors are listed only by name.)**

- \_\_\_\_ Please include my name, address, email address, phone # and birthday (no year)  
 \_\_\_\_ Please include my name only **OR** \_\_\_\_ Please do not include me in the directory (opt out entirely)  
 \_\_\_\_ I give permission for HARTA to use my likeness in photographs, videos, or digital media in its publications.