

# Travis Association of the Deaf Senior Citizens Newsletter Austin, Texas

Volume 3                      March, 2008                      Issue 3



*Happy Patrick's Day*

## TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF IN 1908'S



VIEW FROM ONE HUNDRED FOOT WATER TOWER

Industrial Building      Large Boys Dormitory      Main Building      School Building  
    Small Boys Dormitory      Dining Room and Kitchen      Girl Dormitory

This picture was taken in 1908. The Main Building was facing the Colorado River. See the State of Texas Capitol in the background. It was the only tall building. *(Original photo courtesy TSD Heritage Center).*

*More photo of early days of TSD. See next page 2*



Franna Camenisch, Chairperson, TSD Heritage Center, commented that in the early days of TSD, when students wanted to go downtown in Austin that was north of the Colorado River, they paid a nickel to ride on a pontoon ( a flat float or a flat-bottomed boat) across the river. Sometimes they did not want to pay five cents to ride on the pontoon. Instead they either forded in the shallow river or walked on the only one railroad bridge in Austin. (Original photo courtesy photo by TSD Heritage Center)



## NEWS & NOTES



Virginia Ruebush, Jerry Smith, and wife Laverne Smith, Lola Justiss, Sheri Negrini and Juanita Basham. Jerry and Laverne Smith and friends of La Vista gave Juanita Basham a small surprise birthday party at the Smiths' place in San Marcos on January 20, 2008.

### **Wedding Bells:**



Rogelio (*ex-TSD'56*) and Alicia (*ex-TSD'42*) (Martinez) Rodriguez celebrate their new union among dozens of other couples during a Valentine's Day mass wedding on the River Walk in San Antonio on February 14, 2008.

As of February 8, 2008, Chicago, Illinois, won the bid for Deaf Senior America in 2011.



Linda (MacArthur) Bradford, Kyle, Texas resident has been selected by United States Deaf Golf Association of Washington, D.C. to the golf team to represent the United States at the World Deaf Golf Championships in Perth, Australia. The tournament will be held from September 30 to October 3, 2008. (*Don (TSD'44) Bradford's wife*)

Mary Lynn White and her husband Herbert flew to Austin to visit with their daughter Debbie Lacey and family for two weeks. They returned home in Georgia on February 10. They will come back in April. She loves to see all fo her friends in Austin.

**MAN MISSING FROM STREETS NOW LIVING IN WIMBERLEY** *(He is deaf and doesn't talk much.)*

By American-Statesman Staff

Austin, Texas, Sunday, February 17, 2008



Family took in Jerry, to relief of many who feared for his safety.

*Wimberley* – At first, the kindness of strangers made Jerry a target.

Now, it may have save his life.

The homeless man known to many South Austinites as Santa Claus is safe and sound in Wimberley, taken in by a family after the combined efforts of police, state protective services, his relatives and other people who cared. Rumors had flown for weeks after he disappeared from his usual spot on South First Street near Ben White Boulevard, and after the appearance of an impromptu memorial Thursday, many feared the worst. But although he misses the fresh air from being outside all day, **Jerry, 63**, now has a nice place to stay, a comfy chair to sleep on- he hasn't gotten used to beds yet-and an assurance that the semiweekly beatings he endured are over.

Saturday night, sitting in the kitchen of his new home, on a 14-acre property, Jerry was reserved, responding with brief answers to questions written on paper because he is deaf. He's asked that only his first name be used to protect his privacy; the family that took him in requested the same. "I didn't know people was gonna know I was gone," he said. "I didn't think nobody would be that interested."

The people who took him in said that for years they had offered to let him stay with them but that he insisted he could take care of himself. But as winter approached, they felt he just wasn't safe any longer. Soon after, various agencies and friends began a concerted effort to convince Jerry that he needed to leave South Austin.

"There are a lot of good people in Austin who helped Jerry out with food and money," said Sgt. Art Arevalo, supervisor for the Austin Police robbery unit, who helped coordinate the effort. "Unfortunately there's a criminal element that also knew people gave him food and money....He was being robbed and beaten for his food."

Arevalo said some of Jerry's family in Austin had tried before to persuade him to get off the streets. The answer was always "no".

Arevalo met Jerry in November, 2006. He had just been robbed. Arevalo noticed how often Jerry was getting hurt and robbed on the streets and started to worry.

"My thought was if we didn't do something, someone is going to kill him," Arevalo said, "They knew that he was a defenseless old man."

It took about three more months of visits from family, protective services, police and the friends who ultimately took him in to convince Jerry. The night he agreed, Jerry had just been beaten up again, Arevalo said. "A lot of people helped do this," he said. "Jerry is in a safe place and thriving."

Now he spends the day relaxing at home, where he enjoys watching science fiction movies with closed captioning. He has learned to do his laundry, use the microwave and make coffee. But asked whether he thinks he'll stay in the home forever, he wouldn't commit.

"I don't know," he said. "I ain't decided."



Friday and Saturday, hundreds of people came to admire a plaster sculpture made to remember Jerry and to scribe memories in two notebooks. Bob Ratliff, who made the sculpture, said he was relieved Jerry was safe and hoped to give him the notebooks.

Vernon and Joan Pate are planning to move to Tucson, Arizona on the first week of March to be near Joan's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They are very excited. They will stay there for good. *Good Luck and Enjoy life in Arizona, Vernon and Joan!*

Joyce Adams of San Marcos had an surgery to remove meniscus from the right side of her right knee on December 11. She was not satisfied until she took three supatz shots injected in different sides of that knee once a week in February. She is doing fine.

Laura (Lemmon) Moore, TSD'67 of Dallas was in Austin for Austin Association of the Deaf's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mixed Bowling Tournament on February 9. There were 200 deaf fabs attending. Laura stayed at Beth Strain's house for several days. She also visited Ron Strain at Regency Village Care Center.

About 70 residents attended the Valentine's Day Pot Luck at La Vista Community Center in San Marcos, on Thursday, February 14.

After Pot Luck, they play games and social. They enjoyed themselves.

#### 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY TSD CHEERLEADERS

Left to right: Mary (Crenshaw) Tippet, Sandra Barnes-Smith, and Betty Jo (Jackson)



Quinn in the fall of 1957 and we celebrated in the other photos in 1997 (40<sup>th</sup> anniversary).

We yelled and cheered in front of the audience in 1997 and it was so much fun even tho we could not jump high enough.



Sandra Griffin of San Marcos had been hospitalized for five days after undergoing knee replacement surgery on January 21. She started a six-week physical therapy on February 8.

#### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Betty Bounds
- 8 Beth Strain
- 9 Sallie Curtis
- 22 Morris Porter
- 31 Frank Clark



## RECIPE

By Glenn Brunson

### BANANA SPLIT SALAD

- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese
- 1/2 large carton Cool Whip
- 1 can cherry pie filling
- 1 (8 oz.) can crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 3 bananas, chopped
- 1/2 c. chopped pecans

Combine Cool Whip and condensed milk in large bowl, beating well. Fold in remaining ingredients. Chill in refrigerator until serving time.

### FACE OF THE DAY: *Barbecue*

Barbecue (the word) came into English via Spanish, who adopted the term from the Arawak of the Caribbean to whom the barbacoa was a grating of green wood upon which strips of meat were placed to dry or cook over slow fire.

### GREAT TIPS:

#### No More Mosquitoes

*Place a dryer sheet in your pocket. It will keep the mosquitoes away.*

#### Foggy Winshield?

*Hate foggy winshields? Buy a chalkboard eraser and keep it in the glove box of your car. When the windows fog, rub with the eraser! Works better than a cloth!*

### Daylight Saving Time

Start and end date changes

Beginning **March 9, 2008** One Hour Forward

One hour back in Next **November 2, 2008**.

## Obituaries



**Tommie Elizabeth Hill**, age 82, of Austin passed away Wednesday, February 6, 2008. She was a lifetime resident of Austin, Texas and very active with her church and the

deaf community.

Tommie was a CODA. She worked at TRC (now DARS) for many years in the company of Ralph White, Jerry Hassell, The Seegers, best friend to Carrie Abbott, Fran Herrington-Borre and numerous others. This is great loss for us. She was a surrogate grandmother and great-grandmother to a new generation of TSD students.

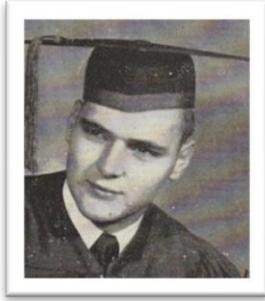
She was preceded in death by her husband, Billy B. Hill; and daughter, Peggy Lois Lozano. Tommie is survived by her two daughters; three brothers; eleven grandchildren; and thirteen great-grandchildren. Burial at Austin Memorial Park, Austin.



Year of 1956

**Clifton Harvey Newby**, ex-TSD'56, age 71, of Arlington, Texas passed away Thursday, January 24, 2008. Survivors: Wife, Macaria Hortencia Newby; mother, Ruby Lee Newby. Burial: Parkdale

Cemetery, Arlington.



**Franklin D. Tippett**, TSD'52, age 75, of Kirbyville passed away Wednesday February 5, 2008. He is survived by his wife of 19 years, Mary Faye Tippett;

a sister, Betty Lou Bevil; 3 children, and 4 grandchildren. He was born in Call, Texas on December 31, 1932. He resided in Port Arthur and Nederland for many years, before returning to Kirbyville. He worked 56 years as a machinist, beginning



his career with Standard Brass in Port Arthur, then at Elliott's Machine Shop in Groves. For the past 24 years, he worked as Precision Enterprise, Inc. in Woodville, as a machinist and inspector. He was active throughout his life in various organizations and activities to improve the lives of other people who are deaf. In the 1970's, he was instrumental in getting used teletypewriter machines from SWBell and the Pioneers, which he then repaired and modified them to be used for telephone communication by Southeast Texans who were deaf. He was a member of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf. Funeral Services at Call Junction Baptist Church with burial at Trout Creek Cemetery.



**Ronnie Wilson White**, ex TSD'57, age 70, of Temple died Monday, January 28, 2008 at his residence. Mr. White was born August 15,

1937 in Bosque County in the Cayote community to Glenn Wilford and Helen Julia (Oswald) White. He attended Texas School for the Deaf in Austin. He married Aleta Joyce Taylor on September 11, 1965. She preceded him in death on December 14, 2004. He was employed at Wilsonart International for 30 years retiring in 1992. He was also preceded in death by his father and one grandson. Survivors include his mother, one daughter, Joyce Sue Lewis, one son, Marvin James White and his wife, Amanda, two grandchildren, one sister, two brothers, all of Temple. Burial at Temple Garden of Memories.

**SENIOR CITIZEN DAY**  
**SafePlace**  
**Deaf Services Open House**  
March 4, 2008 – Tuesday  
10 am to Noon

- Learn more about the Deaf Services program
- Tour of SafePlace
- Meet Deaf staff
- How to get services for yourself or your Deaf friends
- Learn more about parenting classes & support groups for Deaf
- How we can work together with the Deaf Community
- 

*Light Refreshments & Coffee will be provided*  
**Please come and Join us!**  
The SafePlace Resource Center is located at  
1515 A Grove Blvd., Austin, Texas 78741

## WHO ARE THEY? 1937-1938



**Left bottom;** Mary Ann Pekar, Weldon Westmoreland, Jennie Lee Roach, Juanita Easley, and Geraldine Letot. **Left top;** Geraldine Monroe, Joan Bennett, Weldon Watson, Virginia Gill, Mary Jane Cooper, and Teacher, Mrs. Ruth Orenbaum (Original photo courtesy by TSD Heritage Center)

### EDITOR'S NOTE

**Please** send any news, announcement, note, or favorite recipes **Deadline March 23, 2008** to the Editor, Glenn Brunson, 7101 Hanging Oak Circle, Austin, Texas 78749 or email to [gbrunson@austin.rr.com](mailto:gbrunson@austin.rr.com)

**RENEWAL MEMBERS:** Miriam Thumann, Walt & Betty Ailsock, Bobby Stephenson, Billie Jean Strickland, Charm Montalvo, Allison Lewter, Vera Butler, Tom & Patsy Compton, Sammy & Brenda Oates, Gertie Galloway, Judy Hill, Ruth Goolsby, Betty Jo Quinn, Dr. Victor Galloway, Edna Smiley, Ray Dean, Jr., Virginia Ruebush, Ruby Kleberg, and Lottie Marks.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Nada Ann Edgley, Larry Butler, Sheri Crawford, Peggy Eaton, James Goolsby, Mary Alice Luna, Eddie E. Warchesick, Billy Buza, John W. Stone, Constance Strain,

### NEXT MEETING

South Austin Senior Activity Center  
3911 Manchaca Road

**March 6, 2008, Thursday**

**At 1:00 p.m.**

**Regular Meeting**



**Be seeing you there!**

**March 17, 2008 – St. Patrick's Day**  
**March 23, 2008, Sunday – EASTER DAY**  
**April 1, 2008 – Fool's Day**  
**April 3, 2008 – TAD-SC Meeting**  
**May 1, 2008, Thursday – TAD-SC Meeting**  
**May 8, 2008, Thursday, TAD-SC Picnic**

## EASTER

Try to find the **EASTER** words from the list. Words may be hidden horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, or backward.

BASKET	J E L L Y B E A N S F M S Y D
BONNET	J G T U Y A P S N A K P H T B
BUNNY	F G N A M N D N M E I C E P T
CHICKS	R T U L L G N I R P S N I B G
CHOCOLATE	A G H W J O L U L H N F L H A
DRESS UP	D G G R X Y C D B O H Q H N C
EASTER	G R G E R B T O B N H U J Z C
EGG	K A E T A T G V H U F A W S S
EGG HUNT	G S W S P K G F B C W L Z X V
FAMILY	F S K A S U Z V P X A N G S E
GRASS	U E M E N U U I C R B R E E Y
HOLIDAY	T O B U H D P D L W D V P S E
JELLY BEANS	
SPRING	

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### SENIOR CITIZENS

(Above 55 years old)

*TAD-SC Membership Dues*

*\$10.00 a year*

Please check (X)

New Member

Renewal Members

Please print (*one person per form*):

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

VIDEOPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ TTY: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDAY: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail the above from with a check or money order payable to Travis Association of the Deaf –Senior Citizens (TAD-SC) to Glenn Brunson, Treasurer, 7101 Hanging Oak Circle, Austin, Texas 78749. *Thank you for your support.*



