



Volume 2009.09 – September 2009

## Board Honors State Representative Vicki Truitt

At the August 11 quarterly board meeting, the Board of Trustees honored State Representative Vicki Truitt.

Rep. Truitt is in her sixth term representing District 98 in the Texas House of Representatives. She is the current Chairman of the House Committee on Pensions, Investments and

Financial Services, and is a member of the House Committee on Public Health.

Earlier this year, Rep. Truitt was instrumental in the demise of a bill that could have been detrimental to the local control of public pension Systems.

The board thanked her for her

service, and presented her with a plaque.

“I truly appreciate receiving this honor today,” said Representative Truitt, “but it is you, my friends, who deserve praise and accolades for what you do in the way of public service for the people of Dallas, every day.”



*Left to Right: Richard Wachsman, Fire Pensioner Trustee; Steve Shaw, Police Trustee; Rector McCollum, Police Trustee; Gerald Brown, Chairman and Fire Trustee; Rep. Vicki Truitt; Steve Umlor, Police Trustee; Rick Salinas, Fire Trustee; and George Tomasovic, Fire Trustee.*

## NCPERS Life Insurance Open Enrollment Runs Thru Sept. 30

In early August, you should have received information on the Family Protection Plus Plan from the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS).

The plan is a decreasing term life insurance benefit which is separate from your City-provided Life Insurance Coverage.

The open enrollment period for

the benefit runs through September 30. If you did not receive the mailing or need more information, call HealthSmart Benefit Solutions at 1.888.697.8897.

## Fire Station #11 to Celebrate 100 Years of Service to Community

Fire Station #11 at Cedar Springs Road and Reagan Street will celebrate 100 years of continuous service with a celebration on Wednesday, November 18th, from 10:30 until 12:30.

Attendees are invited to bring photos of their time serving at Station #11. There will be food and beverages served.

Whether active or retired, anyone who has ever been assigned to Station #11 is invited. Please R.S.V.P. by November 1 (see form below).

When the station opened in 1909, it was known as No. 4 Hook and Ladder, referring to companies who carried ladders and ceiling hooks (pike poles). The station housed a Silsby steam engine (with iron wheels and carrying copper-riveted leather hose), a ladder company, some horses and a fire dog.

The station, which has been designated as a historical landmark, was designed by architects Hubbell and Green. They designed other notable Dallas buildings including First Church of Christ Scientist and the Scottish Rite Temple.

Station #11 was built as a sister station to Station #5 or "Old Tige," built at the turn of the century across from Fair Park and now housing the Dallas Firefighters Museum. These two stations are the last of their kind in Dallas.

The Department completely remodeled the station in 1985, adding an additional 1,000 square feet, bringing the total area to 10,561 square feet.

Several features built in Station #11 not in today's stations include a hose well drying rack that hoists the hose up for drying after use, and apparatus room doors that open from the side instead of bottom-to-top.

For more information about the Station #11 100th Anniversary Celebration, e-mail Captain Rett Blankenship at [firebrew20@aol.com](mailto:firebrew20@aol.com).



*Fire Station #11 at Cedar Springs Road and Reagan Street in Dallas*



**R.S.V.P. (by Nov. 1) for Fire Station #11 100th Anniversary, Nov. 18, 2009, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Guests (including yourself): \_\_\_\_\_

When were you assigned to Station #11?: \_\_\_\_\_

*It is preferred that you send the above information by e-mail to Captain Rett Blankenship at: [firebrew20@aol.com](mailto:firebrew20@aol.com). If you do not have access to e-mail, fill this out, and send it to: DPFP, Attn: Kevin, 4100 Harry Hines Blvd., Ste 100, Dallas, TX 75219*

## Active Officers Invited to Annual DPD Picnic

On the first Saturday of October each year, DPD retirees meet for a picnic at Hogg Park in Quitman. This year, it will be held Saturday, October 3,

The organizers invite active officers to attend as well.

To reach the park from Dallas,

take US Highway 80 to Mineola; then go north on U.S. 69 for 9 blocks, then veer onto State Highway 37. Go approximately 8 miles to Quitman. The park is off State Highway 37 about 6 blocks south of the Wood County Courthouse.

This event is traditionally attended by over 300 DPD pensioners and families.

A catered BBQ dinner will be available for a small charge.

To RSVP or for more information, contact:

Cline or Ruth Wright

Phone: 903.878.2945;

E-mail: rucli1395@aol.com

or Karen Graham

Phone: 903.240.9925;

E-mail: kg3779@gmail.com

(Reservations are not necessary, but please notify them if you are planning to attend so they can order enough BBQ for everyone).

## Our Sincere Condolences

### Paul C. Kirksey



The Board and Staff of the Pension System wish to express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of DPD Senior Corporal Paul C. Kirksey, 53, who passed away on July 19.

Sr. Cpl. Kirksey served with the DPD for 18 years, and was assigned to South Central Patrol Division.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### NEW RETIREES!

#### FIRE

David L. Brooks

Michael K. Tartt

#### POLICE

David F. McWilliams

Robert F. Newton



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 7: Pension System office closed for Labor Day
- Sept. 10: Regular Board Meeting
- Sept. 24: PREP Class
- Oct. 3: Police Picnic in Quitman
- Oct. 8: Regular Board Meeting
- Oct. 19-22: Board/Staff Annual Workshop

## Check the Accuracy of Your Pension Contributions When on Workers' Comp

If you are injured on the job and are being paid Workers' Compensation, you may be eligible to receive continuation pay from the City to make up the difference between your regular pay and Workers' Comp.

The City is required to withhold pension contributions from the continuation pay, equal to what it would withhold if you were receiving your full pay.

We have learned that in some

cases the City has withheld contributions only on the continuation pay amount. If this occurs, your pay is under-reported to the Pension System.

If you are, or have been, on Workers' Comp, check your City pay stub to make sure that the proper contributions were made to your Pension System.

If you have any questions, feel free to call a counselor at 214.638.3863.



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***First Responder***  
***September 2009***

**From the Administrator**

***By Richard L. Tettamant,  
Pension System Administrator***



September is here, and hopefully we will soon see some relief from the hot weather. I hope things are well with you.

This month's newsletter is full of information for you. Last month, the Board welcomed State Rep. Vicki Truitt to our offices to thank her for her service. See page 1 for the story.

Also, I wanted to let you know that the Board voted on the DROP interest rate for the next year. Beginning October 1, the interest rate will be 9.5 percent. There will be more about this in next month's newsletter.

Remember, we are here for you. Call us if you have any questions or concerns.

***Richard L. Tettamant***  
*Pension System Administrator*

**ADMINISTRATION**

- Richard L. Tettamant  
*Administrator*
- Brian F. Blake  
*Assistant Administrator*
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*Assistant Administrator*
- Mike Taylor  
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The ***First Responder*** newsletter is published monthly by the **Dallas Police & Fire Pension System** for all Active Members.

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*Editor*