

TI/TIHAA Retiree BBQ - September 28, 2019

by Lawson Cook



The 30th annual TI/TIHAA BBQ Event was held this year on September 28th, in the Stafford Convention Centre, in Stafford, TX. It was the seventh year for us to use the Stafford Centre for this event. We held the event again this year early on a Saturday afternoon so that all our attendees could travel there and back home before nightfall. The weather was nice, and the 151 TI retirees and guests in attendance were greeted at the entrance by Mary Ann Almendarez. Once they were signed in by Ralph & Estella Garcia, Brenda Moss or Thomas & Jeannette Johnson, they were given their raffle tickets for the gift cards that were awarded near the end of the event. The Stafford Centre afforded an excellent location for the delicious BBQ with all the trimmings, including a nice dessert.

This event is funded each year in the late-Summer or Fall by Texas Instruments and is supported by volunteers from the TIHAA. TI Sugar Land HR administrator, **Donna Manderscheid** was the TI facilitator. She was assisted by **Lucy Salas** and her team of volunteers in arranging all the details and making an event that was enjoyed by all in attendance. The beautiful table decorations were provided by Estella Garcia and Lucy Salas.



A few weeks prior to the event, a group of TIHAA volunteers met in the Caudel Conference Room at TI in Sugar Land to process all the invitations that were mailed out to eligible TI Retirees and members of the TIHAA.

In the back of the room, Mary Brown displayed brochures and a signup sheet for upcoming Day Trips. And to get everyone in the Christmas spirit, Della DuHart was giving everyone the opportunity to sign up for the TIHAA Christmas Party that is scheduled for December 8th at the Crowne Plaza Suites Hotel on the Southwest Freeway.

TIHAA Treasurer, Lola McMann, and her helper, Susan Blalock, were available at the Membership table to allow new members to sign up and old members to renew for 2020. We are happy to welcome the new members and returning members that joined the TIHAA that night.

As people picked out their tables and began conversations, the hum of conversations increased, indicating that everyone was having a good time. As everyone was socializing, background music was playing and a



slideshow provided by Lucy Salas was in progress on the front screen with many photos collected over the years. They brought back many fond memories at TI and TIHAA past events.

After the majority of the folks arrived, Lucy introduced TIHAA President Jean Houston, who gave some announcements to set up the smooth transition to the dinner. We were not able to have a TI speaker for this year.

TIHAA member, Thomas Johnson, prayed and asked for God's blessings on our gathering. Then volunteers served dinner to the attendees that indicated that they needed help with the food. As the folks gathered in the two lines, the conversations continued. The BBQ, consisting of roast beef, chicken sausage, the customary side items, and delicious desserts was soon distributed, and the noise level dropped as everyone ate.

Near the end of the activities, we held the drawing for the raffle. The following attendees were the winners of the \$25 gift cards:
Eva Rose, Pat Callahan, Ralph Garcia and Estella Garcia.

