



TexasSpeaks

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Winter 2015 Edition



Past-President Mellessa Denny, Parliamentarian Martha Haun and Secretary Lou Ann Seabourn raise cupcakes to honor TSCA's 90th birthday.

TSCA celebrates 90 years

Annual Convention this year was a weekend full of learning, networking, renewing and a very special anniversary. This year's convention marked the 90th year since a group of like-minded individuals had the idea to start a professional organization for speech teachers in the state of Texas.

The roots of this organization started with the urging of UT Professor Edwin Dubois Shurter who helped to create the University Interscholastic League in 1910. That same year he went before the State Teachers' Association in Abilene and asked for their cooperation in organizing a high school debate league. Twenty-eight schools participated that first year. In the next two years, that involvement grew to include 248 schools. In 1917, Schurter organized the Public Speaking Section of the Texas State Teachers Association. Sixty-one teachers became charter members. In 1922, the San Antonio Speech Arts Association was organized by Bernice Hardy Duggan. After the organization's initial year, with Duggan as President, she suggested enlisting all the teachers of the state in a similar organization.

Duggan sent a form letter to every teacher of speech in every school in the state. Several hundred letters were mailed. The first meeting of what would become the

Texas Speech Communication Association was then held in conjunction with the Texas State Teachers Association in Fort Worth. Forty members attended.

TSCA now boasts 402 members, 255 of which attended convention in 2015 in Dallas.

To honor our organization's long history, several fun activities took place at convention. Members took pictures with the TSCA logo, toasted the organization's history and importance at the annual luncheon and President Mellessa Denny collected items to put into a time capsule.

"I am putting items into a time capsule to be opened at the 100th birthday convention," Denny said. "It includes things like the program, one of the glasses, the photos, and other items I picked up throughout the weekend. It is just something for fun!"

Danny Moss spearheaded several of the anniversary activities including the picture taking station and he gave the following toast during the luncheon.

What was going on in the world 90 years ago? Babe Ruth was hitting home runs in the World Series. The 1st professional black basketball team, Renaissance, was organized. Sound occurred in film. Harry Houdini was escaping. Disney Bros. Cartoon Studio was founded. The USSR was established. 1st permanent radio station was formed. Calvin

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Coolidge was the 1st President to address the nation on radio. His world peers included: Vladimir Lenin, Benito Mussolini, and Adolf Hitler. The heavyweight champion of the world was Joe Dempsey. Albert Einstein was a theoretical physicist in the USA. Insulin was being used for the first time to treat diabetes. Rin Tin Tin was the first canine superstar. Time Magazine debuted. Pat Neff was the Gov of Texas. EJ Stewart was the head football coach at UT. The Powell oil field was discovered in Corsicana. Strawn High School was the state champions in UIL Boys Debate. Wichita Falls was the state champions of UIL Girls Debate And the roots of this organization were formed when the first convention was held 90 years ago. Please raise your glass and wish TSCA, Happy 90th Birthday.

Denny encourages teachers to make good ripples

by Mellessa Denny

Imagine dropping a stone into a pond. Do you see the series of waves caused by the stone?

They are small and subtle. The water is gently rising and falling. This is a ripple. Of course, ripples can be big too. That is what the waves of the ocean are. Often something that happens on the other side of the world can affect the weather here.

In his book, *The Ripple Effect*, Steve Harper describes how our actions create ripples, or consequences, for those we interact with. These ripples move through the lives of our family, peers, next door neighbors, co-workers, even occasional acquaintances and people we are connected with on social media. With each ripple, we can affect the lives of people we encounter, often in dramatic ways.

In science, they call this the Butterfly Effect, and author Andy Andrews talks about this in his book—*The Butterfly Effect: How Your Life Matters*.

In the book, he describes scientist Edward Lorenz. Lorenz hypothesized this butterfly effect in 1963 at the New York Academy of Science. His theory, as described by Andy Andrews was this: “A butterfly could flap its wings and set molecules of air in motion, which would move other molecules of air—eventually capable of starting a hurricane on the other side of the planet.”

His peers at the conference laughed at him because they thought his proposal was ridiculous. Not everyone was laughing, though.

The Butterfly Effect theory became a common theme in books and movies and even comic books.

Nearly 30 years after he said it was possible, physics professors concluded that the theory was not laughable but was actually viable. It was re-named the Law of Sensitive Dependence Upon Initial Conditions, and they concluded it went beyond butterflies flapping their wings.

As Mr. Andrews describes, “It includes the first movement of any form of matter—including people.”

The easiest example to think about is the lady in the drive-thru who pays for the meal of the people in the car behind her.

And in turn, they pay for the meal of the people in the car behind them, and it starts a ripple effect.

But our actions don’t have to be grand in order to ripple.

We all have stories of a ripple that started with a single incident. Oprah calls them our A-HA moments. German psychiatrist,

Karl Bühler, coined the term 100 years ago. Drew Dudley, in his 2010 TED Talk entitled “Everyday Leadership,” calls it our lollipop moment. So this is not something new.

They are, as Oprah defines them, those “unforgettable, connect-the-dots moments, when everything suddenly, somehow changed”.

The A-HA moment that led me to be a debate teacher came in the 9th grade. I was a terribly shy freshman who was in a theatre class. My teacher, Mr. Robinson, asked me to attend a speech tournament and read some poetry. I was reluctant and extremely nervous, but I prepared, and I went, and I ... Well, I got DEAD LAST! And I won’t even tell you what poem I chose to read because it is too embarrassing.

However, I loved every moment of that first tournament. I learned what I needed to do to be better, and I kept at it. And it led me to becoming a debate teacher. It even led me to a college debate class where I met my husband.

That simple, quiet conversation with my teacher, even though I had no idea how important it would be, was the unforgettable, everything-suddenly-changed moment for me. It was the catalyst for much of the rest of my life.

However, the ripple effect is not just what happens to us. It is more about how we can impact the lives of others.

During this time of year when we are writing lesson plans, planning our parent night presentation, learning the names of



the students in our overcrowded classes, as well as all of their special needs, preparing our teams, especially the new kids, for those first tournaments, it is easy to get bogged down and forget that we matter. All that we do matters.

If we really think about it, the small things are what make the real impact.

For instance, by simply smiling, you can make a person’s day because smiles are contagious. We smile when someone smiles at us. In fact, a 2008 Harvard study even found that a smile has the ability to spread socially up to 3 degrees — reaching friends of friends.

Simply saying thank you can be the boost to morale that someone needs.

Holding the door open for someone is a little thing that makes a big statement as we walk through the hallways.

Complimenting a difficult student on a small success in the classroom can change the student’s behavior in the future. Of course, our greatest examples are from teachers.

Shellee Hendricks and Russell Reich, in their book, *Notes on Teaching*, advocate shaking students’ hands on the first day of school because that simple act “sets the tone for the rest of the year. It shows respect and leadership and tells the students that we are in this together.” They even argue that this one little act is the most important way to start the year. What else?

Take an interest in what they like—whether it be current events or anime. Find a way to connect to their interests.

Congratulate a student on their

performance in a play or in a game, even if they didn't win. Listen to the kid when they just need an ear to hear. They will appreciate it.

Then use that appreciation to sustain you when your reserves of patience and motivation run low and when you forget why you joined this challenging profession where appreciation seems rare.

When a student tells you how your confidence in her led to graduation or that your passion for a subject blossomed into a passion to pursue a career in that field, THESE are the small things that make all the difference.

Just like my theatre teacher whispering in my ear, the impact of small things can have BIG consequences. Even if we never see those effects, they are there.

We make choices every day. Some choices we make with purpose, and some we make by not taking action – by simply choosing to go with the flow. Choosing to let our busy-ness be our excuse. Hoping that someone else will do what needs to be done.

BUT, you have the power to make your own choices. And those choices WILL impact others. It does not have to cost a lot. It does not even have to take a long time to do.

With today's technological capabilities, we can interact with numerous people in a short amount of time.

As educators, you affect lives every day. Your students are molded by you. Human Behavior Coach Beverly Flaxington calls this the Domino Effect. She asks that we think about how the Domino Effect can have an impact – for better and for worse –

all around you. “Doing something nice for someone, treating them with respect, looking outside of your own bad feelings and making a decision not to act on them can have a powerful positive Domino Effect as it ripples through the world.”

Most of the time, we never know how the “seeds we plant,” as Flaxington calls them, are turning out. But she says if we commit to plant more “positive and compassionate seeds most of the time,” we can be assured that the ripples created are also positive.

The point is to be purposeful in your ripples. So I challenge you to think of small ways that you can make an impact in someone's life. How can you start a ripple effect?

Here are some ideas:

First, send a note to someone who has impacted your life in a big way and let them know how thankful you are. Chances are they will have no idea what impact they have had.

Next, teachers, write a note to your students. Tell them something you appreciate about them that is unique to them. Do it for every student, especially the difficult ones.

Parents, you can do the same. Do your kids know what makes them special? Have you pointed out to them all the ways they impress you and make you proud—and not just those home runs they made in t-ball or the A's they made in school. What about their personalities? Is your child kind-hearted? Respectful? Well-behaved? Responsible? Let them know that you are proud of them for the small things as well as the big things.

You see, we don't need participation ribbons in life to make it more meaningful. We need ballots filled from edge to edge with input from people who love and care about us. That is what is most valuable and impactful—genuine input and investment.

Will it take some time—absolutely! But we tend to make time for things that are important to us, even if we seem busy!

Let me repeat that: We tend to make time for things that are important to us, even if we are busy.

Is it hard to do—you bet! Especially for those, shall we say, “challenging” people we deal with. But EVERY person has some unique and special quality. Point that out and let them know that you noticed it. Let them know how it impacted you or the classroom or the team.

These are things that don't cost a penny—well, maybe you have to mail a letter. But that is not much considering the impact you can have on someone's life.

Once you have dealt with those right under your nose, look for ways to impact others.

Consider this: The Salvation Army serves 30 million Americans EVERY year. And the Red Kettle Christmas Campaign, you know, where they ring the bells outside the stores at Christmas and people drop their change in the red buckets?

They raised \$144.7 million in the 2013 campaign—all through pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and the occasional bills.

Think about that—your spare change, combined with all the spare change of other people, makes a HUGE impact on the lives of others. The small stuff added up. Basically that means we don't have to do

Around the Halls



Far left: Ryan Lovell and Lacy Venhaus Cannon. Left: Marilyn Myrick, Josh Aguilar and Colin Malinak..

From 2015-2016 President Amy Tilton Jones



When I returned home from Dallas, I took out my phone to show my children pictures from the amazing TSCA convention weekend. After glancing through the pictures, my son said, “Mom, most of those pictures are of food.” And they were...the Texas shaped cornbread I shared with the Denny family, the amazing cookies provided by Danny Moss, the yummy chocolate cupcake from our birthday celebration, and sparkling cider in our TSCA 90th anniversary glasses! I have the pictures to prove that we ate well in Dallas, TSCA!

Thankfully, other people took pictures of the other amazing happenings: Professor’s Performance Hour, Joshilyn Jackson in our Meet the Author session, Geraldine “Tincy” Miller’s speech as our Communicator of the Year, and all of the members that were recognized for their service, excellence in teaching, and years of membership. The 90th TSCA convention in Dallas was a memorable one. Thanks to all of you that presented on a panel, attended the convention, and made the convention a success! We couldn’t have done it without you.

Now that we are all rested from convention, please think about the role that TSCA plays year-around. In the next month or so, I will have completed and posted TSCA committees for the 2015-2016 year. If you did not have the opportunity to request committee membership at convention, ***Denney, Cont.***

anything big. We just have to DO.

I challenge you to become involved.

Simon Sinek is best known as the author of the “golden circle” concept. The concept is this: in the center of all that we do is the why. It is followed by the how and then the what. Great leaders, businesses, and organizations work from the inside out. They start with the WHY.

Why? Because we all know what we do. We often get stuck on the how. But if we focus on the why, then we drive behavior. I want you to take a moment and in your program or in your phone, write down WHY you do what you do as a teacher? Why did you choose this profession? Why do you continue to work so hard and devote your life to this endeavor?

I want you to keep that. Put it on your computer screen. Send yourself a calendar reminder. Think about it daily. The WHY drives our behavior.

I challenge you to take that focus and DO something. Become involved. Don’t rely on other people to make the decisions and solve the problems.

There are plenty of places where

please email me soon so we can get you on a committee.

In the Spring/ Summer newsletter, I will have an update for you on our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan was created by an Ad Hoc committee at Convention 2015, and we are already making progress on that plan. I am excited to tell you about all of that progress in our next newsletter!

Also, the deadline for 2016 panel submissions is December 15, 2015. Please finalize those panel and program ideas for 2016 and submit them to Melissa Witt, TSCA Vice President. A full call for papers is located on the website, www.etsca.com. Finally, make plans now to join us for Convention 2016 in San Antonio. The theme is “Shaping the Future,” and the convention dates are October 6-8, 2016. Please email me with any questions, ajones@delmar.edu.

we can make an impact, especially in our organization.

Just like the Red Kettle campaign, it takes the small actions of a lot of people to make a difference. One person CAN make a ripple, but think of how much more impactful a BIG ripple would be? And who knows how far it will reach?

Poet Taylor Mali says it best in the conclusion of his poem, *What Teachers Make* when he says: I make a difference. What about you?

I challenge you to contemplate these things. Where can you find a place to serve?

We are at a precipice. The stone is going to drop, and ripples will be made one way or another. Positive or negative. For the foreseeable and unforeseeable future. You have a choice as to what part you play in making those ripples.

So be purposeful because you matter. What you choose to do or not to do will have ripple effects into the future. My hope is that you choose to make positive ripples.

***Service Awards
Fifty Years***

Martha Haun

Forty Years

*Charlotte Brown
M'Liss Hindman
June Smith*

Thirty Years

*Richard Jeffrey
Michael Merritte
Cecil Trent*

Twenty Five Years

*Eloise Blair
Randy Cox
Debbie Johnson*

Geraldine “Tincy” Miller named 2015 Communicator of the Year

For her work for the students of public education in the state of Texas, Geraldine “Tincy” Miller was named this year’s Communicator of the year.

Miller is the District 12 representative on the State Board of Education, a position which she held from 1984 to 2010 and then returned to in 2013. Collectively, she holds the longest seniority among the board members.

Miller’s service as an education policy leader began when Gov. Mark White appointed her to the board in 1984. She was subsequently elected to represent part

of North Texas in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2002, 2006, 2012 and 2014.

Some of Miller’s accomplishments on the State Board include helping pass the first dyslexia law in Texas and the nation for public schools, pushing for the early assessment of children at risk for dyslexia and related disorders and facilitating the creation of the state’s first Dyslexia Handbook in 1988. She has also worked to protect and grow the Permanent School Fund, one of the largest education endowments in the world.



2015 TSCA Educators of the Year

K-12 Educator of the Year:

*Melissa Witt,
Dimmit High School*



“I am convinced that Mrs. Witt is the most dedicated and hard working teacher that I’ve ever known. Performing the dual duties of teacher and coach can be extremely demanding, particularly when there are over a dozen tournaments during a typical school year, all of which are on weekends and many of which require significant travel. During my time as a high school speech and debate competitor, Mrs. Witt never missed a single tournament nor a single important moment within a tournament.” - Barry Duong, former student

2-Year College Educator of the Year:

*Mendy Meurer
Del Mar College*



“Ms. Meurer is a very deserving candidate. Not only is she an amazing teacher, but she goes far above and beyond the required duties of an instructor. Mendy is counselor, mentor, teacher, and friend to her students. She has touched the lives of so many students in the ten years she has been at Del Mar College. Her peers admire her and value her counsel. Her friendly smile, outgoing personality, and sunny disposition make her a person that is a pleasure to work with, work for, and learn from.” - Martha Fair, Corpus Christi ISD.

University Educator of the Year:

*Michelle Maresh-Fuehrer
Texas A&M Corpus Christi*



“[As a new student in class] Dr. Maresh-Fuehrer still managed to introduce herself and actively kept me involved in class all semester long. She helped me flourish as a student who clearly had a voice. I really appreciated this. If it had not been for her hospitality and outgoingness I would have never truly found my voice in the classroom. Have you ever just respected an authority figure so much that failure was not an option? This is exactly the type of connection I have with Dr. Maresh-Fuehrer.” - Chantel Ortiz, TAMU-CC Student

Committee initiative to study impact of HB5 on speech and debate in Texas schools

The TSCA Legislative Affairs Committee recently kicked off a new campaign that will ultimately create a plan of action to support speech and debate in Texas. This project, which has been coined Give Kids A Voice, is currently collecting data in Phase One of the project.

“The [survey on the website] is phase one,” said Debbie Waddell, who is the current Legislative Affairs Committee Chair. “The goal is to get information about how the legislative changes made through HB5 have impacted speech curriculum in classrooms across the state.”

Waddell said that preliminary results that have been collected thus far show that legislators promised flexibility but have no measures for accountability with speech TEKS.

Some school districts have chosen to keep a required Communication Applications or Professional Communication class as a graduation requirement.

If you have not completed the short, three to four minute survey, please visit the web page at www.etsca.com and follow the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FZH7DTP> to take the survey.

The next phase of the project will be a survey that will be sent to businesses and business professionals across the state to confirm the importance of communication skills. When this survey goes live, the committee will be requesting that everyone forward this survey to those they know in the business world.



Around the Halls



Clockwise from right: Ralph Long and Linda Long and friends enjoy the food at the awards reception, Mellessa Denny awards June Smith her service award, Katrise Skinner tells her former coach Linda Alderson secrets from their time together, Barbara Ixba tells her former coach Jana Riggins what really happened to her books and Joshilyn Jackson signs her books after her speech in the Meet the Author session.



2015 Convention Resolutions

*Whereas Dan Moss was inspired by Big things happening in Dallas, and Whereas there is no “I” in team, and Whereas there is definitely a “T” in TSCA and Texas, and Whereas sometimes, you need a little cookie with your T,

Be it resolved that you take your T pic and post.

* Whereas new teachers have a lot on their plate, and Whereas breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and Whereas support turns in to solidarity, and Whereas “It is important to stand in solidarity and provide for our students in a collective effort rather than in a competitive effort” Therefore be it resolved that the new teachers become part of the foundation of TSCA.

* Whereas there is nothing but class in elocution, and Whereas communication skills prepare you to fight the good fight, and Whereas I think I heard magic or voodoo when I heard that speech will come back from the dead, and Whereas TSCA has someone on the Texas State Board of Education that is on our side, Therefore be it resolved that the TSCA Members heartily endorse our Communicator of the Year Geraldine “Tincy” Miller

And be it further resolved that we extend a heartfelt thank you for everything she does for us.

* Whereas, the décor was beautiful, and Whereas the floral arrangements are masterful, and Whereas, is there anything this man cannot do? Be it resolved that we look at Ralph Long with admiration and gratitude for everything he does for TSCA.

*Whereas our lunch was deliciously healthy, and Whereas healthful meals can lead to longevity, and

Whereas longevity can lead to many birthday celebrations, Therefore be it resolved that TSCA raise our engraved

glass to Texas Tech for underwriting the beautiful luncheon and for helping us celebrate our birthday, gifts and all.

* Whereas the art of communication is about knowledge, and

Whereas, knowledge can be difficult to swallow, and Whereas, as communication educators, we should share the truth about the things that happen in our world, and Whereas this isn’t a Mexican thing, it’s a justice thing...and 43 students are still students, and Whereas if one life is saved, it has been worth it all, Therefore be it resolved that we applaud Charlie Min for bringing awareness of our neighbor’s tragedies and creating more than a ripple with his films.

* Whereas we were asked, “Why you do what you do as a teacher?”, and Whereas we all know that these educators have that answer pat, and Whereas sometimes it’s kindness as well as high expectations that reaches to their students, Therefore be it resolved that we congratulate our Educators of the Year: Melissa Witt- Dimmitt High School, Mendy Meurer-Del Mar College, Michelle Maresh-Fuehrer-Texas A&M University Corpus Christi

* Whereas, they hand deliver to every corner of the state, and I mean every corner, and Whereas, Custom Awards is a reflection of excellence and Whereas, without them, we would not have awards that are distinctly TSCA, Be it resolved that TSCA applaud Bo and Norma for delivering the beautiful awards.

*Whereas, he has better hair than He-Man, and Whereas, he has no Skeletor-like enemies, and

Whereas, we think he runs on Dr. Pepper, Be it resolved that we change Brent Hinkle’s title to WEB Master of the Universe!

*Whereas she has never killed anyone,

not one time but her characters have, Whereas “I fell in love with William Ashe at gun point in a Circle K.”, and Whereas according to google, 64 women claim to have experienced a virgin birth every year...though some of them are lying—I like to lie Therefore be it resolved there is no such thing as writers block, and in the words of best selling author Joshilyn Jackson, sit in a chair, put your hands on the keyboard, and get started

* Whereas a handshake can set the tone for your school year, and

Whereas a smile can effect three other people, and Whereas these seemingly small actions can change people’s lives, and Whereas we were reminded that we don’t have to big things, we just have to do. Be it resolved that TSCA thank Mellessa Denny for reminding us to be purposeful with our ripples because we all matter.

*Whereas TSCA is celebrating a milestone birthday, and so is Dr. Kerry Moore, and Whereas a federal judge ruled that Warner/Chappell Music does not own the copyright to the happy birthday song, and

Whereas we are speech teachers not singers, and Whereas you’re probably expecting it, Be it resolved that we sing or speak or sing/speak Happy Birthday (freely and with out penalty) to TSCA...and Dr. Kerry Moore.

*Whereas, when members change their names it is confusing...even to themselves, and Whereas it’s a good thing to move up the alphabet, and

Whereas Cannon is much easier to say than Venhaus, be it resolved that we congratulate Lacy Venhaus-Cannon on her marriage.

Continued on page 8

2015 Resolutions, cont

*Whereas, they've been together for a loong time, and Whereas they didn't hear resolutional suggestion last year, and Whereas even though they didn't hear our suggestion the engagement happened, be it resolved that we congratulate Stacy Thomas and Greg McGee on their upcoming nuptials (He finally put a ring on it!)

*Whereas he reminded his students to, "Walk like a champion", and Whereas if he told you to do something you did, and Whereas the double moo is now a single moo, and Whereas his influence on our community is immeasurable, Therefore be it resolved, that we lovingly, remember Dr. Guy P. Yates.

*Whereas Sami Womack always has a smile on her face, and Whereas Sami's smiled dimmed a bit during the past year, and Whereas she has amazed so many with her incredible strength, be it resolved that we hold Sami dear to our hearts and express our deepest condolences on the loss of her husband Dustin.

*Whereas she brought many mass communications programs to TSCA, and Whereas she helped to produce the lead trailer for the Terry Fator show in Las Vegas, and

Whereas, she was influential in many anchors' careers, and Whereas she encouraged her students to "find their passion", Be it resolved that we follow her mantra, "find our passion", and always remember Leigh Browning.

* Whereas, Kendra Willaby, is delighted to be behind the scenes, and Whereas, Jana Riggins will continue to maintain our history, and Whereas Wade Hescht will bring excellent energy to TSCA, and Whereas, TSCA continues to be in very good hands, therefore Be it resolved, that TSCA congratulate our recently elected officers.

* Whereas, Mellessa Denny reminded

us to make some positive ripples, and Whereas, Amy Jones continued the ripples with a meaningful panel of programs and events, and Whereas, Melissa Witt organized a plethora of enterprising endeavors, and

Whereas, LouAnn Seaborn is always calm, cool, and collected, but we know she's capable of making waves and Whereas Mike Jones has made waves, but has lead us to calmness, and Whereas, George Pacheco collects everything he needs, continuing to spread the news. Be it resolved that we thank Mellessa Denny for leading us with kindness, and Be it further resolved that we recognize the positivity created by our officers, one small ripple at a time.

* Whereas, changing conventions from one form of delivery to another, and Whereas, the Westin seems to handle everything swiftly (I think they employ magic gnomes) , and Whereas, they continued to feed our not so empty bellies, and Whereas, the hotel staff has been wonderfully courteous and quiet (for those that had post-convention meetings), Be it resolved that TSCA members thank our hotel staff for their dedicated commitment to providing full convention accommodations, friendly service, all while in stealth mode.

*Whereas many of the pieces sounded like confessions, and Whereas we found out that Barb defiled Jana's books, and Whereas we found out that Amy K can do the splits, and Whereas, we won't tell Linda anything at all (wink), and Whereas the Panhandle Princesses and Prince took us on a wonderful journey down memory lane,

Be it resolved that we applaud our performers as they gave thanks to their mentors, and reminded that we are where we are because of someone who made a difference.

*Whereas the TSCA convention always manages to refuel our inspiration tank,



From Top: Eloise Blair and husband Earl. (Middle) George Pacheco, Tony Blair, Sara Jane Barano and Vanessa Amos. (Bottom) Wendi Brandenburg, Gay Hollis and Joe Mueller.

and Whereas, the resolutions committee was definitely inspired from this weekend's events, and Whereas if you didn't know, if you're ever on this committee, you may end up dreaming of resolutions, and Whereas we look forward to our journey for next year, Be it resolved that continue to make ripples and plan on shaping our tomorrows in San Antonio.