



ALPHA STATE TEXAS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

ASTEF President's Report for 2013-2014

Fiscal year 2013-2014 has been a good year for ASTEF. As support for the foundation has grown, outreach activities and educational projects benefitting Texas educators and students are spreading across the state. Highlights of ASTEF's third full year have included the following:

- Twenty-nine ASTEF members and friends "Discovered the Wonders of Alaska" on an ASTEF fundraising cruise in August 2013.
- The September 2013 Board Meeting, held in Houston, included orientation and training for both new and experienced directors. A professional consultant led the Board in exploring "Board Roles, Responsibilities and Best Practices."
- ASTEF and TSO have worked closely together for the benefit of both organizations. The ASTEF president now serves as a member ex officio of the TSO Executive Committee, and the TSO president continues as a member of the ASTEF Board of Directors and Executive Committee.
- ASTEF information was provided for chapters and members through a prepared page for chapter yearbooks," on the Website, and in the *Lone Star News*.
- February was celebrated as **February Foundation Focus** or F³. Directors prepared a variety of activities and suggestions for chapter programs that were posted online.
- A total of \$53,000 was awarded in scholarships for 2013-2014 and funded by ASTEF.
- In conjunction with the TSO Leadership Seminar Committee, ASTEF sponsored Cathrine Hatcher as the speaker for the Second General Meeting of the TSO Convention.
- ASTEF sponsored three breakout sessions at this convention – "Composing a Legacy," "Colonial Williamsburg: Travel with Friends and Explore Your History," and "Basics of Grant Writing and Grant Management."
- Once again ASTEF directors organized and conducted a raffle at the convention as a fundraiser for Projects. This year ASTEF directors assumed responsibility for providing most of the raffle items.
- New ASTEF events at this convention were the Live Auction and the ASTEF Social, both held on Thursday evening.
- From 18 applications received, a committee of the Board selected 13 recipients of this year's ASTEF project stipends. Winners were announced at the Annual Meeting on Saturday.

Directors are busy promoting the ASTEF-sponsored Road Scholar trip to Colonial Williamsburg in October, as well as planning a unique fundraising activity that will run throughout the next year. We are developing new and exciting ways of communicating directly with members about ASTEF opportunities. Directors look forward to representing ASTEF at each of the area workshops in the fall and welcome invitations to speak to chapters and other groups within TSO.

The eighteen members of the Board of Directors are a creative and hard-working group, and it is both an honor and a privilege to serve as ASTEF president. Together, and in partnership with TSO, we are working to build an even stronger foundation to carry out the mission of ASTEF. Thanks to each of you, the members, for your support of these important endeavors.

Evelyn Barron

2013-2015 ASTEF President