

HISTORY OF TEXAS INDUSTRIAL ARTS

The Texas Industrial Arts Association was founded by a few concerned industrial arts educators and teachers who recognized the need for a state organization to represent industrial arts as a phase of general education.

A meeting of industrial arts teachers who were interested in organizing a state association was held Saturday, May 7, 1955, in the Brazos Room of the Roosevelt Hotel in Waco, Texas. Those in attendance were: W. A. Mayfield, Jack P. Dial, E. L. Werner, M. A. Stevens, V. D. Cooper, Steve Quitta, Leslie V. Hawkins and Rogers L. Barton. W. A. Mayfield was elected presiding chairman.

The official organization meeting was held on July 24, 1955, in Waco. The first officers were: President: W. A. Mayfield; Vice-President: Earl B. Blanton; Treasurer: John Ballard; and Secretary: Steve Quitta.

The Texas Industrial Arts Association was founded for these purposes:

- (a) To promote interest, growth and development in a state student technology student association
- (b) To provide opportunities for industrial arts teachers to develop leadership abilities, and to voice them professionally
- (c) To improve the industrial arts program and teacher image in the State of Texas
- (d) To cooperate with other educational groups in the improvement of general education
- (e) To provide recognition for those teachers who have contributed to the industrial arts program in the state

With the idea of forming the Texas Industrial Arts Association conceived and the commitment of a small group of dedicated industrial arts professionals, the Texas Industrial Arts Association became a reality.

The first annual conference was held at Texas A&M on February 24 and 25, 1956, in conjunction with the annual Industrial Education Conference.

David A. Williams, "A History of the Texas Industrial Arts Association, From 1955 to 1970," Master of Science Thesis, North Texas State University, Denton, Texas, December, 1971.

THE EARLY YEARS OF THE TEXAS INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

By Michael R. Kozak

(Published in the Spring, 1985 *TIAA Journal*)

A national movement to introduce manual training in the United States began after the Civil War. As part of that movement, the first land-grant college in Texas was established in 1876. It was located in Bryan as a branch of the University of Texas and was known as the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.

At the secondary level, the Allan Manual Training School of Austin was established in the fall of 1896. The first manual training program in the secondary schools of Texas consisted of mechanical drawing and woodworking. Manual training was introduced in San Antonio in 1900 and Fort Worth in 1902.

From 1929 to 1949, the number of Texas Education Agency affiliated units of industrial arts increased in Texas from 167 to 933. During this period of time, in 1935, the first industrial education teacher organization in Texas was formed and was called the East Texas Industrial Education Association.

The first meeting of the East Texas Industrial Education Association was held in Gladewater. Victor L. Bowers of Union Grove was the first President. Others in attendance were Clyde Butler, of New London, James B. Lenoir of Nacogdoches, Jack Coven of East Mountain, Welcome W. Wright of White Oak, and Colgate Elmer of Kilgore. Jack Coven was elected as the first Vice-President and Colgate Elmer as the first Secretary. A meeting of the Association was scheduled to be held the first Monday of each month during the school year. The East Texas Industrial Education Association was one of the first groups in Texas to sponsor a student project exhibition. It was held in Gladewater in 1938.

Other early associations included the North Texas Regional Association, Tri-State Industrial Arts Association, Coastal Bend Industrial Arts and Vocational Education Teachers club, Southeast Texas Industrial Arts Association and Gulf Coast Industrial Arts Association.

The first state conference was held at Texas A&M in 1949. Chris Groneman, head of the Industrial Education Department at Texas A&M, had invited the East Texas Industrial Education Association to hold its March meeting at Aggieland. This led to invitations being mailed to other associations to join in the activity. Dr. M. T. Harrington, President of Texas A&M, was the first

guest speaker (consultant). The attendance was 120.

In March 1950, 180 individuals attended the second conference. Dr. H. H. London, head of Industrial Education at the University of Missouri, was the conference consultant.

In the early 1950's there appeared to be some controversy between industrial arts and vocational education teachers in Texas as to philosophies, objectives and goals for the two programs in the public schools. Industrial arts teachers attended the various meeting of the Texas Vocational Education Association as well as those of the Texas State Teachers Association, without participating in the program or in the decision-making. The time was appropriate for the industrial arts profession in Texas to join together.

The first known movement to organize the industrial arts teachers of Texas into a statewide professional association occurred in the spring of 1955. It began at the state conference at Texas A&M where approximately 40 industrial arts teachers were discussing the formation of student industrial arts clubs. They voted to solicit the cooperation of regional industrial arts associations. The idea of student clubs was further pursued at the Texas Vocational Association meeting in April 1955, in Corpus Christi. A committee was appointed to organize and study the student club. The chairman of the committee was W. A. Mayfield of Snyder. Other members were B. E. Davis, Terrell Newberry, Leland Luchsinger and Rogers L. Barton. Leslie Hawkins served as the chairman of a second committee whose purpose was to secure information of paraphernalia to be used by the proposed student club. The possibility of starting a statewide industrial arts association was also discussed. Letters were mailed to regional associations inviting them to participate in a meeting concerning the formation of a state association.

On May 7, 1955, an important meeting was held in Waco, Texas . Those in attendance at the Roosevelt Hotel were: W. A. Mayfield of Snyder, Jack P. Dial of Amarillo, E. L. Werner and M. A. Stevens of Waco, J. D. Cooper of Forth Worth, Steve Quitta of Crane, Leslie V. Hawkins of College Station and Rogers L. Barton of Austin. E. L. Werner made a motion to call the meeting to order to officially organize the new association. Letters were mailed to the presidents of regional industrial arts associations requesting their representation at an official organization meeting in July 1955.

On July 24, 1955, at 9:00 a. m. in the Brazos Room of the Roosevelt Hotel in Waco, twenty-one individuals attended the official organization meeting. The North Texas Industrial Arts Club was represented by M. A. Stevens and E. L. Werner of Waco, Richard L. Boyd and J. D. Cooper of Forth Worth, David W. Duncan of Denton, Jim Broughnaugh of Carrollton, and Rudolph L. Sadecky and Robert Quast of Dallas. The Gulf Coast Industrial Arts Club was represented by Robert R. Kelly of Rosenberg. The Houston Industrial Arts Club was represented by Bill Madeley of Houston. The Southeast Texas Industrial Arts Club was represented by Terrell

Newberry, James D. Spencer, and Irwin M. Rushing of Beaumont. The Hill Country Industrial Arts Club was represented by Jack P. Dial of Amarillo. The West Texas Industrial Arts Club was represented by Steve Quitta of Crane and W. A. Mayfield of Snyder. Earle E. Blanton of Denton represented North Texas State Teachers College, Welcome E. Wright of Commerce represented East Texas State Teachers College. Rogers L. Barton of Austin represented the Texas Education Agency.

The name agreed upon for the newly formed organization was that Texas Industrial Arts Association. The first officers elected (temporary until the constitution would be approved) were: W.A. Mayfield, President; Earle B. Blanton, Vice-President; Steve Quitta, Secretary; and John R. Ballard, Treasurer.

The group decided to contact the Texas State Teachers Association and the American Industrial Arts Association to obtain information about affiliation requirements. They also decided to contact Chris H. Groneman about hosting the first annual TIAA meeting at Texas A&M in conjunction with the annual Industrial Education Conference in 1956.

Business concluded, the meeting ended. The Texas Industrial Arts Association had come into existence.

ATTE MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of ATTE is to be the primary advocate for the study of Technology Education, in all grades, to prepare the youth of Texas for success in a Technological Society. June 9, 1997