



Retirement Times



President's Message

I want to express my sincere thanks to the KCRTA Scholarship Foundation Selection Committee who gave of their time to select the recipients of the nine \$3,000 scholarships. The recipients are in their final year of preparation to become professional educators either as an intern or student teacher. Among other criteria, the winners were chosen based on their desire to teach, financial need, and participation in community activities. Led by co-chairs Mary Lou Kanipe and Christine Oehler, our selection committee consisted of Anthony Hancock, Paula Hancock, Patricia Harris, Emily Lenn, Bill Parker, Shirley Underwood, Judy Pyne, Cathy Cooley, and Kitty Spry. Connie Silvey hosted us in her beautiful home. We are grateful for your service to this wonderful program. We are especially grateful to David Huntsinger, Executive Director and Lexa Hooten, treasurer of the foundation for making this program a success every year. Because of our membership, we have been able to provide thousands of dollars in scholarships through the years. The November 20 scholarship luncheon is the highlight of the year and you don't want to miss it!

Upcoming Programs for 2026:

- January 22 - Mobile Meals
- March 26 - The Suffrage Movement
- May 28 - Membership Mania
- July 23 - Active Teacher Grant Recipient Presentations
- September 24 - TRTA Executive Director
- November 19 - Scholarship Foundation

Libby Burney, President



KCRTA NOVEMBER SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Join us on Thursday, November 20th, 2025 for the annual KCRTA Scholarship Luncheon. We will be awarding nine (9) \$3,000 scholarships. This will be the first time awarding this amount to deserving students.

If you plan to attend the KCRTA luncheon on Thursday, November 20th, 2025, you will need to register by RSVP to David Huntsinger at 423-231-0682 or email him at huntsingerd@bellsouth.net. The last day to register is Monday, November 17, 2025. The luncheon will be at Rothschild's at 8807 Kingston Pike beginning at 11:00 am. There is no charge for the luncheon. Look forward to seeing you at the luncheon.

David Huntsinger, Executive Secretary/Treasurer



If you are interested in helping at the Teacher Depot...contact Nora Messing at ndbmess@comcast.net or call her at (865-406-5867) for more information.

KCRTA Officers and Committee Chairs

President:

Libby Burney

President-Elect:

Past President:

Karen Peterman

Secretary:

Communications:

Margaret Willis

Community Participation:

Karen Peterman

Hosting Chair:

Kitty Spry

Information & Protective Services:

Pam Chipley

Legislative Chair:

Terry Whitaker

Membership

Nora Messing

Chris Vandergriff

Newsletter Editor:

Myra Sowder

Parliamentarian:

Mike Blankenship

Scholarship Foundation Rep.:

Lexa Hooten

Web Page Chair:

Libby Burney

Executive Secretary /

Treasurer:

David Huntsinger

KCRTA Membership

Welcome to Our New Members

The Knox County Schools Retired Teachers Association is delighted to welcome new members Sherry Storms and William "Matt" McWhirter to our organization. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for your commitment and look forward to your active involvement. Your presence strengthens our community and helps us continue our mission of support, fellowship, and service. Please continue to recruit new KCRTA Members. If you need a membership form or have questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

KCRTA Membership Co-Chairs:

Chris Vandergriff
chris.vandergriff@gmail.com
(865-924-4600)

Nora Messing
ndbmess@comcast.net
(865-406-5867)

Information and Protective Services:

Subject: Security for retired teachers

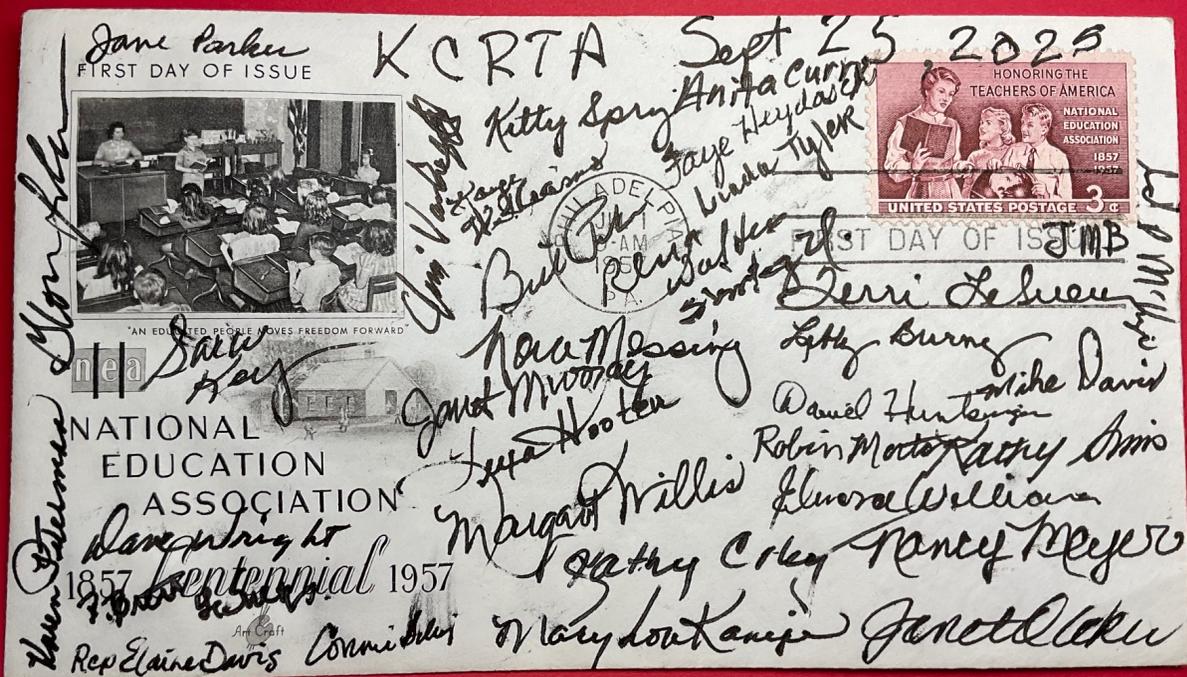
Most everyone will have seen the recent news article about the Knoxville postal worker who was caught with almost 1 million dollars of stolen paper checks. This emphasizes again the importance of avoiding using the postal system for sending or receiving paper checks. Modern banking systems emphasize electronic funds transfer for all transactions. Please consider this important option.

Pam Chipley, Information and Protective Services, Chair

HISTORICAL PHOTOS

This National Education Association commemorative postcard was issued in honor of NEA's Centennial in 1957. All KCRTA members present at our September 2025 KCRTA luncheon held at Rothchild's had the privilege of signing it.

Mike Blakenship, Parliamentarian



Calendar

Be sure to mark your calendar for the following dates of the Knox County Retired Teachers Association meetings:

- **NEW VENUE for November 20th, 2025 Meeting at Rothchild Catering & Conference Center**
8807 Kingston Pike

In order to assure that everyone is served, a RSVP will be required.

SAVE THE DATE:

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, November 20th**. The executive Board meets at 9:30 am before each luncheon, except in the month of November when the Executive Board does not meet.

All members are welcome to attend the Executive Board Meetings.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS 2026

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- *March 26 The Suffrage Movement
- *May 28 Membership Mania
- *July 23 Active Teacher Grant Recipient Presentations
- *September 24 TRTA Executive Director
- *November 19 Scholarship Foundation

*Any change of address, email address, or phone number should be sent to KCRTA, 711 N Hall of Fame Drive, Knoxville, TN 37917 or to chris.vandergriff@gmail.com

*A hard copy of *Retirement Times* is available upon request. Contact Chris Vandergriff at chris.vandergriff@gmail.com

KCRTA Scholarship Donations

May- June 2025

In Memory of

Paul Bean
Sue Biggerstaff Tom
Dunne Mayford A.
Galyon Dr. Margie
LeCoultre Roy
Mullins
Roy Mullins
Dr. Lula Powell
Andrea Ray

From

David Huntsinger
Linda Hagaman
Sandy Forester Mossman
Wilma Greene Myers
Linda Hagaman
David Huntsinger
Dr. Mary Lou Kanipe
Gussie Cherry
Jimmy Jane Ray

September - October 2025

Dr. Fred Bedelle, Jr.
Sue Biggerstaff
Margaret Ann Christian
Margaret Ann Christian
John B. Foster, Jr.
Frances (Fran) Frday
Betty Jo Hamilton
Betty Jo Hamilton
Betty Jo Hamilton
Betty Jo Hamilton
Francis Ernest Israel, Jr.
Francis Ernest Israel, Jr.
Dr. Margie LeCoultre
Earnestine Moore

Ed Boling
Martha Hill
Nelldean Bragg
Ron and Lexa Hooten
Mamosa B. Foster
Bearden High School Retired
Teachers Group (BRATS)
Donna Hardy
Dr. Mary Lou Kanipe
Rhonda Keas
Dorothy Quinn
Sara Baskin
David Hunstsinger
Susan and Jackie Reed
Patricia A. Thomas
Mike Blakenship
Ed Boling
Martha Hill
Nelldean Bragg
Mary R. Cole
David Huntsinger
Cathy Hyatt
Rachel Williams
Martha Hill
Ed Boling
Vicki Andrews
Patricia A. Thomas
Martha Hill
Bill and Jane Parker

Roy Mullins
Roy Mullins
Roy Mullins
Patrica (Pat) Payne
Patricia (Pat) Payne
Patricia (Pat) Payne
Patricia (Pat) Payne
Patrica (Pat) Payne
Jo Roper
Benton Stewart
Misty Watts
Marie White
Dan Williams
Dan Williams

Necrology

Carole "Lesa" Roberts Packett
Sylvia Lee Jones
Francis Ernest "Ernie" Israel, Jr.
Donna Price Brasfield
Betty Jo Hamilton
Leo James Cooper, Sr.
Christine Schlennstedt
Dr. Denise LeAnn McGaha

In Honor of

Shirley Underwood

Donations

Dr. Mary Lou Kanipe
Anne Loy
Kaye Williams

From

Dr. Mary Lou Kanipe