

# Retirement Times

## President's Message

**MEMBERSHIP** begins with me! You should have received your membership information in the mail recently. If you haven't already done so, please fill out your membership form and mail it along with your check or complete the payroll deduction section for your dues payment. Just think, with payroll deduction you will not have to worry about sending in your dues payment. TCRS will take care of this for you. Thank you for your continued support. A special thanks to those who helped with the membership letter mailing.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your President for the past two years. A huge "Shout Out" goes to the KCRTA Leadership Team during this term. They were always willing to step up and help out where ever needed. As you can see, it takes a village to make KCRTA successful. I could not have a better team surrounding me. Thanks to each of you from the bottom of my heart.

Jeanette Casteel, President

[jacasteel1@gmail.com](mailto:jacasteel1@gmail.com), (865) 705-9632

## Opportunities for Service

New Officers will be elected and installed at our May meeting. Thanks to Pam Chipley and her committee for their work on the Slate of Officers. The new President will be reaching out for your involvement on committees soon. When the call comes, your answer is YES!

## Check It Out!!!

The KCRTA website, [www.knoxretiredteachers.com](http://www.knoxretiredteachers.com), is now live. Thanks to Jason White, TEA Uniserve Rep for KCEA has graciously worked with us to achieve this. This website has been several years in the making and has finally become a reality.

We also have a new email address: [Knoxretiredteachers@gmail.com](mailto:Knoxretiredteachers@gmail.com). This is yet another way you can get in touch with us about any of your concerns.

The KCRTA Newsletter will soon only be available by email. To receive an electronic copy, please email newsletter editor, Leslie at [lcasteel@casteelandcompany.com](mailto:lcasteel@casteelandcompany.com). If you would like a hard copy, please contact Jeanette at [jacasteel1@gmail.com](mailto:jacasteel1@gmail.com).

## Membership

HELP! As most of you know by now, long-time Membership Chairman, Jim Oakes, lost his battle to cancer recently. KCRTA really needs a Membership Chairman. Since Jim's passing, a team of volunteers has pitched in to get the Membership dues letters mailed. We have come together to do the labels for the newsletter, updated the Roster, and completed the tasks that were necessary. We really do understand and appreciate all of Jim's hard work. We have some volunteers who will serve on the committee, but need a chairman to guide us. Please let Don Loy, David Huntsinger, or Jeanette Casteel know if you are willing to work on this committee.

## Program

Gary Harmon, local author and educator, will present this month's program. He will tell his story of how he has dealt with overcoming many challenges and will have copies of his children's book, My Daddy Takes Off His Legs for sale.



## KCRTA Officers and Committee Chairs

President:

Jeanette Casteel

President—Elect:

Don Loy

Past President:

Elnora Williams

Secretary:

Glenda Childress

Community Participation:

Charlotte Linge

Hosting Chair:

Lu Jones

Information & Protective Services:

Pam Chipley

Legislative Chair:

Betty Berry

Membership:

David Huntsinger

Chris Vandergriff

Newsletter Editor:

Leslie Casteel

Parliamentarian:

Dan Williams

Publicity:

Margaret Willis

Scholarship Foundation Rep.:

Lexa Hooten

Web Page Chairman:

Chris Vandergriff

Executive Secretary / Treasurer:

David Huntsinger

## Calendar

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

- May 17, 2018  
ETRTA Annual Meeting, 1:00 PM, Ebenezer United Methodist Church
- May 31, 2018  
Brunch, Celebration and Recognition, Gary Harmon will present the program, Installation of Officers
- June 12, 2018  
TRTA Annual Meeting, Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro
- July 26, 2018  
KCRTA Legislative Forum
- September 27, 2018  
TBA
- November 15, 2018  
Scholarship Luncheon

Meetings are held at the Foundry, 747 World's Fair Drive, at 11:00 am. Meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of alternate months. The Executive Board meets at 9:30 am. All members are welcome to attend.

Quotes of the Month:

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"*

*Nelson Mandela*

*"If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours."*

*Dolly Parton*

## Information & Protective Services

**Financial Security:** At a funeral last week a friend, "Jane" related that they were almost victims of the "grandchild in trouble" scam. They received a call from some foreign place saying that their grandson was in jail and needed to talk. The kid on the phone sounded exactly like the grandson they remembered and had a good reason not to call the parents. He needed bail money. They asked him authentication questions about parents' names, birthdays, hobbies, etc. and he got all of the answers correct. They went to the bank the following morning to wire transfer substantial money overseas. The bank promptly warned that these calls were always a scam and convinced Jane to call parents. The kid was at home doing homework!

This is speculation. Between the Equifax hack and social media, they know almost every detail of the young generation's lives. The scammers had probably called the target kid on his smart phone for a fake survey that interested him and got a voice recording. A very skilled scammer mimicked the voice and talked convincingly to grandparents.

The lesson learned is "do not believe your ears". No grandchild is ever going to call his grandparents because they all know about this scam.

Pam Chipley

## Legislation

Legislation is another way retirees can be involved. We are not all able to go to Nashville, but we are able to contact our Legislators. Please help us continue to fight to protect our COLA and other retiree benefits. Go to [www.capitol.tn.gov/legislators/](http://www.capitol.tn.gov/legislators/) or [www.knoxretiredteachers.com](http://www.knoxretiredteachers.com).

The July program will be a Legislative forum featuring members of the Knox County delegation to the Tennessee House of Representatives and the State Senate. This will be a time to interact face to face with your Legislator. There will be a time for questions and answers after a brief panel discussion from the Legislators.

## A Special Thank You

I would like to express gratitude to the Officers, Committee Chairs, Scholarship Foundation Members, Scholarship Luncheon Co-Chairs, and Newsletter Mailing Party Members for your willingness to serve in leadership positions during these last two years. These members will be recognized at our May meeting.

KCRTA Past Presidents will also be recognized for their past leadership some of which are still very active in KCRTA. KCRTA lost two Past Presidents who were still serving on the Executive Board; Bill Crosland, President-Elect; and Jim Oakes, Membership Chair.

## Necrology

The May necrology report will be included in the July newsletter.