

# Retirement Times

## President's Message

"Retirement is a blank sheet of paper. It is a chance to redesign your life into something new and different." I want to thank Gussie Cherry for recently introducing me to this Patrick Foley quote. July 1 marked the first day of my term as President of the Knox County Retired Teachers Association. Some of you walked out of your schools for the last time on May 25th. Others of you are experienced retirees. We are going where many have gone before, but our pages are our own to fill. We're fortunate to have the Knox County Retired Teachers Association, the Tennessee Retired Teachers Association and the NEA-Retired to assist us in writing the best possible next chapter.

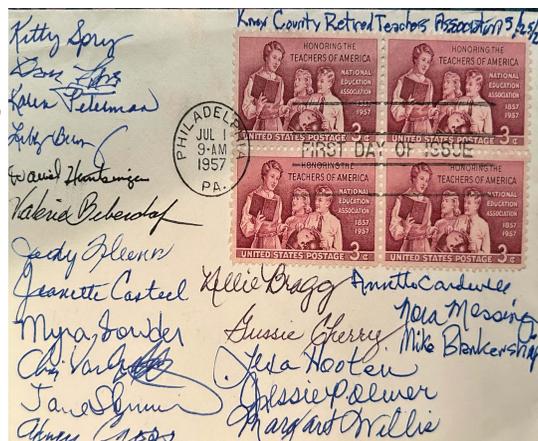
Our July luncheon is scheduled for 11:15 AM on the 27th and our intent is to celebrate recent retirees. Please join us at The Foundry, 747 World's Fair Park Drive, for lunch and entertainment. The O'Connor Center Jazz Band will be on hand and offering a lively program of music. Some of you may feel like "cutting a rug". If you are a first-time attendee, your lunch is on us.

According to Mr. Foley, we're living the best years of our lives. Let's spend some time together on the 27th.

Karen Peterman, President

## Historical Photo

This National Education Association commemorative postcard was issued on July 1, 1957 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. All KCRTA members had the privilege of signing it at our May 2023 membership meeting at the Foundry. Thank you Mike Blakenship, KCRTA Parliamentarian for making this special Membership Moment happen.



## KCRTA July Service Project

School supplies are already being stocked in the stores. I look at them and think about the things I bought for my students each year. It's so tempting to buy dry erase markers, pencils, or notebook paper. Give in to that temptation and bring an item or two to the July meeting to be donated to the Knox County Teacher Supply Depot.



## KCRTA Officers and Committee Chairs

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Karen Peterman

President-Elect:

Mary Brockett

Past President:

Libby Burney

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Gussie Cherry

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Margaret Willis

Hosting Chair:

Linda Tyler

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Services:

Pam Chiple

Legislative Chair:

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Jeanette Casteel,

Chris Vandergriff

Newsletter Editor:

Myra Sowder

Parliamentarian:

Mike Blakenship

Scholarship Foundation Rep.:

Lexa Hooten

Web Page Chairman:

Chris Vandergriff

Executive Secretary /

Treasurer:

David Huntsinger

## KCRTA Membership Moments

Special thanks to those who have already paid your dues for 2023-2024. However, we haven't heard from several of you! If you haven't already done so, simply fill out the membership form and mail it along with your dues check to: KCRTA, 711 Hall of Fame Drive, Knoxville, TN 37917. The memberships are due on June 30.

Payroll Deduction is still an option for paying your dues! All you have to do is fill out your personal information on the membership form AND your SS number and signature on the right hand side of the form! Then send that to KCRTA, 711 Hall of Fame Drive, Knoxville, TN 37917. Less than \$6.00/month will be deducted from your TCRS check; you will never have to remember to mail a dues check again!

Several have asked questions about your membership card/number. These are included in the Fall issue of the TRTA Newsletter which is mailed to all members. It will be on the back of that newsletter and is perforated for easy removal. Your membership number will be on that card. If you still have questions regarding this matter, contact Jeanette or Chris; and we will assist you in any way we can

Thank you for your continued support of KCRTA!

Chris Vandergriff and Jeanette Casteel, KCRTA Membership Co-Chairs

The KCRTA Membership Committee hopes that you will take just a few moments and write down one of your special moments that you experienced during your teaching career. It might be an interaction with a student, staff or an award that you are proud of receiving, or a funny, sentimental, happy moment, a leadership moment, a friendship moment, or why you became a teacher, why it is important to be a KCRTA member, etc., etc. KCRTA members can submit as many "moments" as they would like—the more the merrier!! The Membership Committee is going to take the members' moments and publish them in our newsletter and share a few at our KCRTA luncheons. We are so excited about this project and want as many KCRTA members to participate as possible. Thank you!

Please email to Sowdermossy868@gmail.com or mail to Myra Sowder, 8045 Majors Road Corryton, TN 37721-2713

KCRTA MEMBER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS AND SCHOOLS YOU TAUGHT AT: \_\_\_\_\_

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KCRTA Membership Moments

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KCRTA Membership Moment shared by Jean R. Wall who taught at Richard Yoakley from 1988 to 2012.

In 1998 I received 2 computerized embroidery machines in my classroom under a grant, written by Karen Loy. My students loved it. It was like having a play station in my classroom.

## Information & Protective Services

How do I scan a QR code with my smartphone?

QR codes, which give your phone or tablet an instant link to a specific web page, have become more common because of the pandemic, especially at restaurants that don't want to hand out printed menus. To scan a QR code, point your phone's camera at the code. But instead of taking a photo tap the icon that appears once the phone correctly scans the code. That will take you to the associated website via your phone's web browser, which should launch automatically. If you are having trouble with this method, you can find and download free QR readers apps in the Apple or Android app stores.

Technology Made Easy by Sherlyn Freeman AARP newsletter October 2022

Pam Chipley, Information & Protective Services

## KCRTA Scholarship Foundation

The Knox County Retired Teachers Association Scholarship Foundation is a 501 © (3) non-profit tax-exempt organization. The goal of the Foundation is to provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships to students who are classified as full-time seniors or graduate students, who are pursuing a Tennessee teaching certification. The scholarships are awarded to students enrolled in a college or university in East Tennessee.

Since the 1980's, the scholarship foundation program has been a major emphasis of the Knox County Retired Teachers Association, and each November the KCRTA Scholarship Foundation holds its annual scholarship foundation awards ceremony and luncheon at The Foundry. For many years there were three standing scholarships---the Tom Underwood and the Reuben Hunter, named for the two men who established the scholarship program (1993), and the Colleen Bennett who left an endowment at her death to sustain the program. Since 2018, the families of Bill Crosland and Cindi Schowalter have funded a scholarship in their names. In addition, each year, the Knox County Retired Teachers Association, honors a member whose outstanding service to the organization merits recognition. Other named scholarships come from donations in memory of or in honor of those whose friends and/or family members wish to recognize someone special.

Although the scholarship initiative as we know it today has grown substantially and has evolved into a thriving, recognized effort of the KCRTA, it still remains true to the goals and core values established by its founders. Scholarship recipients are chosen from the applications of exceptional future educators enrolled in an East Tennessee college or university teacher education program. Each fall a selection committee, made up of former educators, critiques the scholarship entries. Over the years, the amount awarded to students has increased from \$300 during the first three years to the current total of \$1,500.

Gifts are welcomed in any amount and may be designated for either the Scholarship Fund or the Endowment Fund.

The KCRTA Scholarship Board appreciates the number of families and friends who have honored loved ones with named scholarships in recent years. To make a donation, please contact Lexa Hooten or David Huntsinger.

### KCRTA Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors

Chairperson	David Huntsinger	huntsingerd@bellsouth.net
Vice-Chairperson	Gussie Cherry	
Secretary	Libby Burney	
Treasurer	Lexa Hooten	lexahooten@bellsouth.net
Member	Liz Honeycutt	
Member	Connie Cole	
Member	David Sincerbox	

*Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.*

*--George Washington Carver*



Nothing is IMPOSSIBLE; the word itself says, "I'M POSSIBLE!"

—Audrey Hepburn



**LEARNING NEVER EXHAUSTS THE MIND.**

*--Leonardo da Vinci*

## Meal Price Increase

A note about the price of our wonderful meals. The Foundry held off as long as they could, but increasing costs necessitated raising the luncheon price to \$20. This includes gratuities for the servers. Many thanks for your understanding.

## Calendar

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

- July 27, 2023

The O'Connor Center Jazz Band

- September 28, 2023

Legislative Forum

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of alternate months at 11:15. In November it is the third Thursday. The Executive Board meets at 9:30 am. All members are welcome to attend.

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

\*A hard copy of *Retirement Times* is available upon request. Contact Jeanette Casteel at

(865) 705-9632 or  
jacasteel1@gmail.com

## KCRTA Scholarship Donations

Received for May - June 2023

### In Memory of

Mike Asquith  
Betty Berry  
Betty Berry  
Lillian Coleman  
Andrea Ray  
Nancy Rhea

### From

Jim and Vicki Andrews  
Pat and Lisa Berry  
George Patton  
Donna Hardy  
Jimmy Jane Ray  
Kitty G. Grubb

### In Honor of

### Donations

Mary Brockett  
Nancy Gerhardt  
Roy Mullins

## Necrology

Mike Asquith  
Flo Lee Barnes  
Sid Davis  
Marilyn Hayes  
Patricia Miles Jones  
Jean Mills  
Nancy Rhea  
LouAnn DeFord Robinson  
Frankie Walker  
Don Yarbrough

