

2020-2021 Officers

President	
Dale Warren	609-7954
412 East Southside Court Louisville, Ky. 40214-3026	
1st Vice President	
Sahara Myers	245-0781
2nd Vice President	
Pam Gooch	836-7640
Treasurer	
Mary Perry	277-1813
Recording Secretary	
Marilyn Puckett	935-7002
Corresponding Secretary	
Debbie Dunn	541-1865
KRTA Representative	
Dr. Rick Tatum	649-7613
Past President/Parliamentarian	
Dr. Rick Tatum	649-7613
Audit and Budget	
Ann Hafling	361-5245
Community Liaison	
VACANT (Contact Ken Draut)	
Insurance	
Lue Peabody	767-9328
KRTA Membership	
Sheila Carson-Smith	262-2686
Legislation	
Susan Thurman	386-2555
JCRTA Membership	
Marilyn Hazard	499-2716
Necrology	
Donna Seaford	429-8227
Nominating	
Melanie Wood	290-4944
Remembrance	
Tara Parker	226-0219
Scholarship	
VACANT	
Technology	
Ken Draut	592-8049
Trips and Tours	
Martha O'Bryan	426-5394
Trips/Tours Treasurer	
Bonnie Wantland	241-7535
KRTA/AARP Essay Contest	
VACANT	



Dale Warren
JCRTA President

A Message from the President

It's springtime and good things are happening! The weather is warmer and the sun is shining brighter. Flowers are blooming, trees are getting green, birds are chirping, but grass is also growing!! Nature is awake and active.

The 2021 KRTA Virtual Conference was April 19-20, 2021. One of our JCRTA members was awarded the KRTA Volunteer of the Year, Rose Mangino! Rose had more than 1400 hours volunteering to the Ronald McDonald House, Muhammad Ali Airport, Kennedy Center for the Arts, and to her church. Thank you Rose for all you do to make our city and community a better place.

The U.S. has vaccinated over 200 million citizens as of April. The COVID vaccines are eligible now for all age groups, 16 years old and above, in Kentucky. Medical professionals still recommend that we wear masks, continue to social distance 6-feet apart, and avoid large crowds. Not everyone has received the vaccination, but hopefully soon that goal will be reached.

We are hopeful that our lunches will be able to begin as more citizens are vaccinated and restaurants will be able to handle large groups like ours in the future.

It will soon be time to renew your JCRTA and KRTA memberships. Please look for the renewal form. Your membership helps us to continue to help our school community, our membership, and our lobbying efforts in Frankfort to protect our state teacher's retirement and health benefits.

Enjoy the newsletter and if you have questions or suggestions, please let us know.

Thank you for your membership

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Warren". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dale Warren



From the Desk of the First Vice President

Sahara A. Myers, 1st Vice President

This past March marked the first anniversary in which our world as we knew it came to a halt. If I could describe it in a school equivalence, it was like a GIANT summer vacation. Well, not exactly... we didn't go anywhere, we didn't visit anybody, some of us didn't attend in-person worship services, we didn't have backyard get-togethers, we didn't meet friends for lunch, and we didn't take special trips to see family in other states. Okay, maybe I was wrong. (I can be wrong and still feel good about myself!) It was NOTHING like a giant summer vacation. It was a period of time that many of us experienced trauma. For far too many, it was a period of fearfulness, isolation, discomfort, loneliness, disconnection, confusion, and even betrayal. This year has been brutal!

How easy it was to rattle off all of the negative aspects of this past year. I'm almost ashamed that I put so much emphasis on them. Because if I really think about it, no matter how difficult the days, there have also been blessings as well. We stayed healthy, my elderly parents stayed healthy, my husband and I didn't get on each other's nerves, we were able to see family and friends virtually, and I successfully recovered from TWO surgeries. I've been blessed. The first verse of the song by R. C Ward "Think of His Goodness to You" says

When waves of affliction sweep over the soul,
And sunlight is hidden from view,
If ever you're tempted to fret or complain,
Just think of His goodness to you.

So what **did** I do over my "summer vacation"? I re-learned how to crochet. I started out with some leftover yarn from projects long ago abandoned. I made a huge "granny square" afghan. This particular hobby is great while sitting and watching television. And boy did we watch television. I love watching television, in fact. But last summer, we were glued to news channels and every latest event. They were talking about me and Ralph when they warned people to not overdose on news reporting. However, crocheting kept my mind and hands occupied and gave me the feeling that I had control over something. I went on to make a number of other projects that I found on YouTube.

Since going out to restaurants was not a possibility, I cooked every meal and tried out new recipes I found. That was fun, but of course it required going to the grocery store for supplies which terrified me for a long time. I would be a nervous wreck when I got home and demanded that

every item be washed in antibacterial soap...even cardboard boxes! I know, that is EXTREMELY excessive... don't judge me!



I dusted off my sewing machine and started making cloth masks. I tried many patterns that I found on YouTube until I found the ones that fit the best. I don't know how many masks I made, having given most of them away. Once again, I had the feeling of control. Not only control, but I also felt like I was somehow helping other people.

What did **YOU** do over **YOUR** "summer vacation?" I remember in grade school participating in an activity called "Show and Tell." It was a routine we did when we got back to school following summer vacation. We would be asked to bring in an object and tell the class why it was interesting or significant, or simply tell the class about an event that we attended and enjoyed. I never thought of this as something that was a difficult task because I like to talk. The difficulty for me was trying to find just one thing to talk about. As I think about it now, this may have been the planted "seed" that made me want to be a teacher.

Take a moment now and think about what **you** did this last year. Think about the new things you have learned and how you were impacted by them. Think about the positive things you were able to do and the people you were able to help. Think about the blessings you have received. Yes, think of His goodness to you.

Our next **virtual** meeting will be **May 15, 2021** beginning at **10:00 am**. Our guest will be Judy Sisk. Judy is a retired nurse manager. She has had experience in the field of oncology as well as being involved with a private practice group that participated in clinical trial research programs. She will give us insight and awareness regarding drug trials and research. I hope you will join us as she helps us understand how research is done and why it's important to us. There may be a couple of special surprises planned for this meeting as well. So please tune in. You will receive an invitation to attend via email. Don't forget to register and then sign in on May 15th.

One final note: JCRTA raised over **\$1,000.00** for Blessings In A Backpack. Thank you all for whatever you were able to give.

JCRTA Membership

Marilyn Hazard, Chair | Michael Jones, Co-Chair

We are now approaching the time to renew our membership since membership expires on June 30th. July 1, 2021 will mark the beginning of a new membership year for 2021-2022. We have two types of membership:

1. Regular membership – For those retired teachers who live in Jefferson County and receive their annuity check from TRS or the teachers who taught in Jefferson County that receive their annuity check from TRS but do not live in Jefferson County.
2. Associate membership – People who do not receive an annuity check from TRS but are interested in the concerns of teachers and enjoy participation with trips and tours.

If you know of a recently retired teacher, have a friend, or know of a retired teacher that's not a member of JCRTA, please share the benefits of being a member. Membership renewal forms will go out with the newsletter in this mailing. If you have a friend that wants to be a regular or associate member but missed the enrollment period, they can go to our website www.jcrta.org to download the form. All forms will be sent to our treasurer (with \$10.00 check) to Mary Perry. Any further questions, call me at (502) 468-3654 and I will do my best to help. I am excitedly, looking forward to the time we all can get over Covid – 19 and will be able to meet/greet each other. So, stay safe and take care of yourself, and your family.

Thank you,
Marilyn Hazard and Michael Jones

**RENEWAL
REMINDER**

Trips & Tours for 2021

Martha O'Bryan

JCRTA is no longer directly involved with Trips and Tours. They have decided to use a professional company called Platinum Travel for their travel needs. Their trips will be similar or enhanced for us. I will continue to co-ordinate the Diamond Tour trips and our overseas adventures.

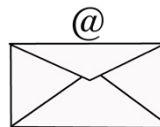
Platinum Travel will schedule a fall trip using Diamond Tours. Please go to www.jcrta.org to check for new information. Hope to see you on another trip with us.



Cincinnati 2017

Technology Update

Ken Draut



Our general meetings, for now, are being conducted in Zoom Webinars. You don't need a camera or microphone for Webinars, just a computer, tablet or phone and a connection to the Internet. You can interact with the speakers via a CHAT button allowing you to send questions or comments to the speakers. You will receive an email invitation for the Saturday, May 15th meeting at the beginning of May.

If you change your email address, be sure to let the Teachers Retirement System of Kentucky know. Also, let KRTA and JCRTA know of the change.

Remember to visit our JCRTA website (www.jcrta.org) to see the latest information about JCRTA.

KRTA Representative Report

Rick Tatum

The last meeting of the KRTA District Presidents and the Executive Council was held Wednesday, April 14. We reviewed the list of Executive Council members and KRTA Committee members who would be retiring from their positions on June 30, 2021. Districts were reminded that any changes to their list of officers for 2021-22 should be sent to the KRTA office as soon as those changes have been confirmed.

The Executive Council also discussed Fall Workshops for this year and the procedures that were to be utilized in conducting those workshops. The three options that we discussed for the meetings were: (1.) In-person limited attendance, (2.) Virtual Workshops via ZOOM, and (3.) A hybrid blend in which we have some limited in-person and a virtual option using ZOOM. After considerable discussion it was decided to leave the option to the local Districts with input from Tim Abrams.

We heard reports from the Membership/Pre-Retirement; Health and Insurance; and Legislative committees. Some items which came from these reports were: KRTA current membership stands at 32,159. TRS is now offering several videos to help retirees, those include insurance, Retirement Process, and Retirement. The Executive Council also approved the legislative program for 2021-22.

We also received information that AARP will have the Grandparent Essay Contest, School Supply and Food Drive for 2021-22.

A reminder that the 2021 KRTA Convention will be held virtually this year. The first date of the convention is April 19 and the meeting will begin at 10:00am on that day. You must sign up on line in advance to be able to connect into the meeting. KRTA will be sending JCRTA \$25 for each of our members who attend the meeting. They will give our organization up to \$125 for members who register and attend. The first day's agenda will include updates from Gary Harbin, TRS Executive Secretary, and his staff. The updates will include the results of the 2021 General Assembly and how that will affect teachers in the state. We will also hear updates from the various vendors who support retired teachers. There will be door prizes given out at the meeting.

On April 20 at 10:00 AM (EST), KRTA will hold its Delegate Assembly. During the Delegate Assembly, voting will be on three important issues:

1. Leadership for the coming year.
2. The updated KRTA Constitution and By-Laws (These were printed in the latest KRTA Newsletter)
3. The legislative Program

Delegates will be receiving a link to attend the Delegate Assembly.

Also, a reminder to be watching for an email from TRS concerning voting in the upcoming Trustee Election. We encourage all JCRTA members to vote either on line or by paper ballot which will be sent at a later date.

Rick Tatum
KRTA Representative

Congratulations 2021 Retirees!!!

January

- MICHAEL E BEER
- JERRY N BURKE
- DWIGHT L CISCHKE
- LORRAINE D CUNNINGHAM
- AMY J DAVENPORT
- CAROL A DIXON
- PAUL W DUNLAP
- THOMAS P EGAN JR
- SUSAN A EPPS
- AMY M GRUBER
- GREGORY A GUREN
- KIM L HAMILTON
- MEVLJUDA HEROVIC
- JENNIFER L HOBBS
- TIANDA D JOHNSON
- KATHRYN E LOWREY
- AMELIA L MAGRUDER
- KIMBERLY A MCCARTHY
- CHARLES L MUDD
- SHARON M MULLER
- SELINA S NEWMAN
- ADOLFO NILLAR-FONSECA
- KAREN D OWEN
- MARY P THOMPSON
- KEVIN P WELCH

February

- JULIE B BAUSTIEN
- JULIE A DAILEY
- KIMBERLY P KENT
- CLARENCE W MILLER
- CYNTHIA A SULLIVAN
- MINA L TODD
- ANN F TROMPETER
- GERALD R WYMAN

March

- BEVERLY S BERGER
- DOUGLAS H COONTZ JR
- JULIE F HUNDLEY
- DOYLE L JAMES
- WEDDIE M LANIER
- JENNIFER L MATTINGLY
- JEAN C SEVERS
- TRACIE L WRIGHT

We celebrate your retirement and want to congratulate you on the completion of a wonderful career. In order to celebrate in person we will be inviting you to be our guest for lunch at the next scheduled General Meeting in which we have a luncheon.