

2021-2022 Officers

President	
Susan Thurman	386-2555
1134 Blackthorn Road	
Louisville, KY 40299	
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	
Dale Warren	609-7954
Audit and Budget	
Ann Marie Hafling	690-3358
Community Liaison	
Donna Wiseman	228-7733
Insurance	
Lue Peabody	767-9328
KRTA Membership	
Sheila Carson-Smith	262-2686
Legislation	
Beth Dowdell	641-5667
JCRTA Membership	
Marilyn Hazard	499-2716
Necrology	
VACANT	
Nominating	
Melanie Wood	290-4944
Remembrance	
Tara Parker	226-0219
Scholarship	
Myra Fugate	807-8517
Technology	
Ken Draut	592-8049
Trips and Tours	
Martha O'Bryan	426-5394
KRTA/AARP Essay Contest	
Jill Ginsburg	939-6219



Susan R. Thurman
JCRTA President

A Message from the President

As spring gets into full swing with many traditions and celebrations, we are reminded that spring is also a time for renewal. JCRTA is headed into spring with opportunities for both celebration and renewal!

First, we are celebrating several board members who have agreed to remain in their same positions, pending election results at our next general meeting in May. Those up for reelection include **Pam Gooch – 2nd Vice President, Marilyn Puckett – Recording Secretary, and Debbie Dunn – Corresponding Secretary.** In addition, **Tara Parker** has agreed to serve as our next **KRTA Representative** as

Dr. Rick Tatum is stepping down to pursue nomination as the new KRTA Vice President. New board terms begin in July 2022. Thank you to these outstanding board members who agreed to renew their leadership roles within JCRTA!

Another sign of renewal for JCRTA is membership renewal. Dues are used to help sponsor general meetings, cover the costs of newsletters and other mailings, provide scholarships for high school seniors, support JCRTA and KRTA initiatives, and more. Most importantly, we are a local association of KRTA, which is the only organization within the state whose sole mission is to serve retired teachers.

Our “**May is Membership Month!**” campaign reminds us now is the time to pay our dues. *JCRTA dues are \$10 and need to be renewed annually.* This year we are also asking current JCRTA members to help recruit educators who are retiring this spring. If we ask potential members to sign up in advance, they’ll be members of JCRTA as soon as they retire! For membership info, contact:

Marilyn Hazard – JCRTA Membership Chair (mkayhazard@gmail.com)

Sheila Carson-Smith – KRTA Membership Chair (sheilacarson52@gmail.com)

Lastly, we hope to see you at our upcoming general meeting on **Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Wildwood Country Club.** This is our last general meeting prior to summer vacation and it’s sure to be a wonderful celebration of fun, food, and friends!

Sincerely,

Susan Reynolds Thurman

JCRTA Newsflash!



- **JCRTA General Meeting and Luncheon:** Tuesday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. at Wildwood Country Club (*Masks are optional, but encouraged.*)
- **May 2022- Renew your JCRTA membership-** pay your \$10 JCRTA dues!
- **Friday, August 26, 2022:** JCRTA General Meeting/KRTA Fall Workshop: 10:00 a.m. at Wildwood Country Club

From the Desk of the First Vice President

Sahara A. Myers, 1st Vice President



Remembering Michael

My friend passed on February 27, 2022. He was a choral music teacher in Jefferson County. His name is Michael Bolden.

I met Michael and his wife Annie when I was a student at the University Of Louisville School Of Music. We became instant friends when we were members of

the Kentucky Opera Chorus. Singers are a special group. If you aren't in competition with each other, you can become the best of friends. And we were the best of friends. The two of them were warm and inviting and Michael had the most infectious laugh. He made you feel like you were the most important person in the room. Our families became close and often socialized together.

Michael had taught music in Bowling Green and Northern Kentucky and also worked for the United Methodist Church but we both started teaching in Jefferson County in 1985. When Michael started teaching at Moore High School, I taught at Seneca. We combined our students many times for field trips and performances. There was no competition between schools. My students looked to Michael as a role model/teacher and his students did the same for me. One of our favorite activities as choir teachers was to prepare our students for participation in the Morehead State University Choir Festival. This event was held every November.

We would rehearse our students together. He would bring his students to Seneca and I would take mine to Moore. He would work with the tenor and bass students and I would work with the sopranos and altos. To say we worked well together is an understatement. We were like a well-oiled machine. I made all the preparations, reservations, and travel arrangements and he would LET me... Like I said, we got along. Our students picked up on our mutual love and respect for each other and in kind, they worked well with each other also. We continued that tradition even after he went on to teach at Butler High School. Not only did we continue to take our students to Morehead but for six years we prepared our students to perform Masterworks Concerts that included The Messiah, Faure

Requiem and Mozart Requiem accompanied by the Seneca orchestra. Those were the days the students always remember fondly.

Michael was well known in our community as a teacher, singer, director, actor, and friend. He was a cast member and eventually the Musical Director for the Stephen Foster

Story. He also held various duties as a music staff member at the Christ Church United Methodist for over forty years. He loved to attend performances of friends, fellowship over a meal, or talk for hours on the phone. He was that kind of friend. One of the last things I had asked him to do for me was to sing for the JCRTA general meeting on March 10, 2020. He sang, "If I Can Help Somebody." That was his motto. Anybody who knew him, knew him to be a loyal friend who would do anything for them. The world is missing one of its brightest lights. Thank you Michael for making my world full of light and love.

Please don't forget our next General Meeting on May 19, 2022. Our guest, back by popular demand, will be Jo Ann James. Jo Ann is a retired Social Work professional from Jefferson County Public Schools. She is a wonderful speaker. You won't want to miss being in her presence. She radiates with a spirit that draws you in and holds you tight. She told me she was considering the topic "Relaunch". Whatever she decides, will be a treat. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Wildwood Country Club.

Trips & Tours for 2022

Martha O'Bryan

Branson Show Extravaganza

Oct 10-14, 2022

Come and join us this Fall on a trip to Branson, the "Live Music Show Capital of the World".

We will enjoy 6 musical shows. The highlight of our shows will be the "Branson's First Family of Entertainment" with the Presley's Country Jubilee. The shopping and dining along Lake Taneycomo's beautiful waterfront is sure to please us all.

This trip will be for 5 days 4 nights (Monday – Friday) for \$555 per person, double occupancy. For more information go to www.jcrta.org Go to travel and you will find all the information and forms to be sent in to go on the trip with us. Looking forward to seeing all of you again.

Martha O'Bryan.

502-426-5394

tennisbridgemom@gmail.com



KRTA Representative Report

Rick Tatum

The major activities that have been going on in the Kentucky Retired Teachers Association during the past few months have involved the current Legislative Session and annual convention planning.

Tim Abrams, our Executive Director, has been keeping us well informed of activities during the Legislative session. I hope that you are part of that e-mail link and are following those bills that could have an effect on retired teachers in Kentucky. I encourage you to keep in touch with your legislative representatives and let them know the need for their support for retired teachers in bills that affect us.

Annual convention planning is going well and things are in place for very informative sessions on April 25 and 26 at the Holiday Inn on Hurstbourne Parkway. We hope you are able to attend as there will be many worthwhile activities to include the Opening Night Dinner, Recognition of KRTA member's Service Years, Standing Committee Reports, election of 2022-2023 officers, door prizes, Local and District Recognitions and many other activities. There will also be exhibits by our KRTA partners and enjoyable music by Melanie Wood and the Master's Men Choir. The Master's Men and the Dave Stahl Duo will be joining us for the Opening Dinner entertainment.

Community Liaison

Donna Wiseman

Volunteer of the Year 2022

Frankie Buckman

Frankie Buckman, a retired Visual Impairment teacher from Southern High School is our Volunteer of the Year. After 33 years of service, she finds herself volunteering at Norton Children's Hospital greeting people coming into the hospital who welcome her infectious smile and cheerful hello. She helps them navigate the hospital to visit their loved ones. Another area near and dear to Frankie's heart is the USO. Coming from a family who has many veteran members, Frankie supports active service men and woman passing through Louisville at the USO by providing, snacks, drinks, conversations and encouragement. We are so proud to name Frankie Buckman Jefferson County Retired Teacher Association's Volunteer of the Year.

Opportunities to Volunteer

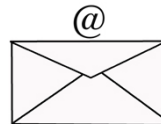
Be sure to go to the JCRTA web page and check out the opportunities to volunteer. New to the list is Family and Children Place.

Volunteer Hours

This year JCRTA provided **13,144** hours of service. Thank you!

Technology Update

Ken Draut



Several items to be knowledgeable about:

1. If you change your physical address or your email address be sure to go to the Teachers Retirement System Kentucky (www.trs.ky.gov) and request a change.
2. Also let JCRTA know of address/email changes by sending an email to jcrtamembership@jcrta.org. Marilyn Hazard will make the updates in our database.
3. Our JCRTA website has the latest trips and tours information as well as information about upcoming meetings, insurance, legislation, membership, community opportunities for retired teachers, and much more. Check it out. www.jcrta.org
4. Technology Tip: Did you know with wireless earbuds, your smartphone can be used as a hearing device during meetings, church, watching TV or talking with someone. Settings differ for different phones, but for example on an Apple Phone you go to the Accessibility settings and turn on "Live Listen" and your phone becomes a microphone picking up sound that goes to your earbuds.

Congratulations 2022 Retirees!!!

January

RENE A ALVAREZ
 GINA G BRAXTON
 LESLIE C BROWN
 ELIZABETH E BULLOCK
 STACY R CADE
 KEVIN M CARRICO
 CHARNITA V DAVIS
 YOLANDA R FARRIS
 KIMBERLY A GOFF
 BRENDA J GUNNELL
 MICHAEL W HALL
 WILLIAM B HEARN III
 LINDA C HIGGINS
 LINDA L IRVIN
 LARRY S LENHART
 MAXINE G MCCROCKLIN
 SUSAN M MCPHEARSON
 BRAULIO O MESA
 MELISSA E PAYNE
 ROXANN M SHEA
 MICHAEL W WILDT

February

SAMUEL A BEAUCHAMP
 GARY M CUSICK
 SAMUEL T GLASSCOCK
 KENNETH E HARDMAN III
 CATHY L KENWORTHY
 MARCIA A LIGGIN
 GREGORY P PUCSETTI
 VALERIE G RICHARDSON
 LISA E WASHINGTON
 YOLANDA J WICKER
 SANDRA L WILLIAMS
 JACK D WOOD

March

RONALD W NEWMAN
 BRIGITTE L OWENS
 NURAY YASAYANLAR WILLINS

We celebrate your retirement by inviting you to be our guest for lunch on Thursday, May 19, 2022. Be sure to send in your special invitation to Pam Gooch, 13804 High Trail Court, Louisville, KY 40299.

Insurance Update

Lue Peabody

2022 Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Insurance

Health care information and resources are available on our JCRTA website's home page - <https://jcrta.org>.

Your TRS MEHP is a Medicare Advantage Plan through United Health Care and Express Scripts. Do not enroll in another Medicare Advantage Plan (often advertised as Part C) or another Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. If you enroll in another plan, your TRS MEHP will be terminated. Retirees may think they are enrolling only in a dental and/or vision plan they have seen advertised in a television commercial. Most of the time this coverage is part of a Medicare Advantage plan. For additional information or if you have questions, please call TRS: 800-618-1687 or 502-848-8500.

Recently you received a letter and information from United Healthcare, "Make your health a priority in 2022." As part of preventive care, it includes a 2022 Annual Care Checklist that you may use with your Primary Care Provider (PCR) to decide which tests and health care services are best for you. It also includes information about how to earn a \$25 reward for completing your annual physical or wellness visit appointment by December 31, 2022. Plus, you may be eligible for an additional \$5 reward when you discuss at least one of the suggested topics during your visit. To learn more about Renew Rewards or to report your completed annual physical or wellness visit, sign in or register at medicare.uhc.com/retiree and select the Health & Wellness tab. Or call Renew Rewards Customer Service at 1-888-219-4602, TTY 711.

If you have questions about drug coverage, call Express Scripts Medicare Customer Service: 1-877-866-5834 or your Rx Coalition: 1-855-218-5979.

United Health Care offers its members a free yearly HouseCalls visit with a licensed medical staff, and if eligible a FREE \$50 gift card. Many of our members have participated in this program yearly and have continued to receive this gift card following their visit. To find out more about this program and your eligibility, call 866-447-7868.

Volunteer Tour Guides Needed at The Thomas Edison House

The Thomas Edison House celebrates the creative mind! Located in the heart of Butchertown, the Thomas Edison House honors the life and legacy of work of the famous inventor, who once lived in the Butchertown neighborhood. Our programs and tours play a crucial part in celebrating Thomas Edison's legacy. Our historic home has an extensive collection of Thomas Edison's inventions and a room reflecting Edison's work as a telegraph operator in Louisville. We are searching for volunteer tour guides to take guests through the museum and historic home. The Thomas Edison House is currently open Tuesday - Thursday from 10am-2pm. For questions or to volunteer call (502) 585-5247, email EdisonHouse@historichomes.org, or go to Facebook Messenger.

Legislative Report

Beth Dowdell

We are happy with the results of the biennial budget bill. The Kentucky House and the Senate have both passed their versions of the bill. The bill has been sent to Governor Beshear’s Office on 3/30/22 and he is expected to sign the bill in the upcoming week. The good news is the budget contains our legislative priorities including:

1. Full Funding for the Teachers’ Retirement System (TRS).
 2. Fully funds the TRS Medical Insurance Fund for the next two years.
 3. Allocates \$420 million in additional funding to pay off past obligations of TRS (not listed as a KRTA priority but welcome news.)
- Select members of the House and Senate will go into a conference committee to reconcile the differences in each budget. After the committee concludes, the budget bill will be sent to the Governor for signature.

While we are pleased with the outcome of this legislative session for retired teachers, there are some bills that are pending that affect current teachers and students. Here are a few to watch:

SB120 Would allow local school boards to establish a police department for local schools.

SB320 Is proposing to create new sections of KRS158 to prohibit censorship of history curriculum and to offer equity, diversity and inclusion curricula.

HB9 Creates permanent funding for charter schools with local and state dollars.

HB 14 Is proposing to amend KRS158 to require local board of education to ensure no public school offers any classroom instruction/discussion that incorporates concepts related to race, sex and religion. Employees who violate this would be subject to disciplinary action.

HB18 Same as above but proposes amending KRS 164 to include post-secondary institutions.

SB 138 Would require public schools to provide instruction consistent with designated concepts related to race, sex and religion, and will require designated core American documents embedded in middle and high school curricula and grade level Social Studies academic standards. This bill also includes the prohibition of discussion of controversial topics during classroom instruction.

HB 305 Allows a voucher program in Kentucky. The House has presented an amendment that would require any educational service provider would not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, nationality, disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity.

The current legislative session ended the week of March 21, 2022. It should be noted that these bills are all in process and will be “on hold” until the next legislative session which begins on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

JCRTA Nominates Dr. Rick Tatum for KRTA Vice President



Rick Tatum

KRTA is divided into 14 districts around the state. Each district is comprised of 14 local retired teacher associations (RTAs). Jefferson County is unique in that we are both a local and a district association. Leadership within KRTA rotates through each of the 14 district RTAs. This year it is JCRTA’s turn to provide

a nominee for KRTA Vice President for 2022-23!

JCRTA is pleased to announce that Dr. Rick Tatum was unanimously selected by our board to be our nominee for

KRTA Vice President! The election will take place at the KRTA convention in April 2022. Dr. Tatum has served in various positions within JCRTA, including two terms as JCRTA President. He is currently serving as our KRTA Representative. In addition to his role within JCRTA, Dr. Tatum is active with the Boy Scouts of America and in his church. His leadership skills, friendly personality, and strong character make him an excellent nominee for KRTA Vice President.

We know Dr. Tatum will work hard to represent the retired teachers throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Congratulations to Dr. Tatum on his nomination!

From the Desk of the Second Vice President

Pam Gooch

Thank you for all the school groups that registered for our March general meeting. The winners with the most registered were Goldsmith and Shacklette Elementaries—Congratulations! We hope to see even more teachers reconnecting with their colleagues at our May meeting. If you have 3 or more retirees attending from your school, you can reserve half a table or a full table with 8 retirees. On the registration form below, you can indicate your school's name at "School Table Reservation." At the meeting look for your school's table sign with the number of seats reserved. Starting with the May meeting, we are going to reserve a table to recognize all new retirees. Stay up-to-date about your retirement and stay connected with people that will always be part of your school family.

JCRTA Membership

Marilyn Hazard

A new membership year will soon begin; thus, making the month of May the start of our membership drive. With this being stated, if you are aware of any retired or soon to be retired teacher that isn't a current member of JCRTA, share the benefits of our great organization. **RECRUIT THEM! SIGN THEM UP! BE ONE! TELL ONE!** Also, you can go to our website www.jcrta.org to download membership forms. You can call me at (502) 468-3654 and a form can be dropped in the mail to you. At each luncheon there are extra membership forms at my table to be given out. So, lets make this new membership year (2022-23), a success!

Thanks,
Marilyn K. Hazard

<i>GENERAL MEETINGS</i>	<i>Wildwood Country Club</i>	<i>BOARD MEETINGS</i>	<i>KRTA Office</i>
Thursday, May 19, 2022	10:00 AM	Tuesday, June 28, 2022	10:00 AM
Friday, August 26, 2022	10:00 AM	Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022	10:00 AM
Tuesday, December 6, 2022	10:00 AM		

Registration 30 minutes prior to meeting.

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Wildwood Country Club, 5000 Bardstown Road

Limited handicapped parking and golf-cart shuttle is available

Menu

Registration: 9:30 A.M.
Meeting: 10:00 A.M.

Garden Tossed Salad; CHICKEN CORDON BLEU; potatoes and mixed vegetables; Rolls and butter;
Coffee, Tea, Soda; DESSERT

Meeting: Thursday, May 19, 2022

Please detach this form and return it to:

New retirees as listed in this newsletter must send in the special invitation to qualify for a free lunch.

Name: _____ Telephone No.: _____

School Table Reservation: _____

I am enclosing \$ _____ for _____ reservations at \$20 each.

E-mail _____

**Reservations deadline for a meal is Tuesday, May 12, 2022. Make your check to JCRTA.
No telephone or walk-in reservations will be accepted.**

Pam Gooch

13804 High Trail Court

Louisville, KY 40299

