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Meet the KEA-Retired Board of Directors on page 7

2011 ANNUAL MEETING ...

HONORS, ELECTIONS, AMENDMENTS

Over 100 KEA-Retired delegates, members and guests gathered April 6 for lunch, visiting and business. This is a special time each year when friendships are renewed that go back many years in KEA.

This year we honored three who have been particular friends to KEA-Retired as UniSev staff—Elana Crane and Angela Dukes, 5th District Office, and Mona Ball, now at KEA Headquarters. Each has been invaluable to KEA-Retired through the years. They have given their time with generosity and patience. We thank them. (See photo, page 8.)

KEA-Retired also honored our own past presidents whose pictures will be displayed in the KEA-Retired office in Frankfort. They have all helped the organization grow and obtain a political presence. And last, but not least the KEA-Retired announced Gov. Steve Beshear as its FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD recipient. The Governor accepted his award at the KEA D/A. Watch some of his speech on KEA-Retired Facebook.

President Jon Henrikson reported on KEA-Retired activities during the year. Some great strides were made. Among the accomplishments are: agreed to contribute \$50,000 a year for each of three years to allow KEA to hire a fulltime Education Issues/KEA-Retired specialist and a part-time KEA-Retired associate, began a campaign to organize effective

retired organizations in all KEA Districts, moved the KEA-Retired office from Louisville to Frankfort, began an on-line newsletter, won two membership awards from NEA-Retired, and engaged KEA-Retired leaders and members in recruiting active members to KEA.

Another accomplishment we are especially proud of is the \$1,000 KEA-Retired Scholarship presented to Dominic T. McCamish, an education student at Eastern Kentucky University.

Elections for various committee positions took place at the meeting. Results: KEA Compliance/Constitution Committee—Ginger Simpson; KEA Diversity Committee—Penny Robinson, KEA Visibility Committee—Sondra Baker; KEA Government Relations Committee—Louise Steidel. Also elected: to the KEA Board—Fred Hester and to the KEA-Retired Board Ethnic Minority seat—Maureen (Cookie) Henson. Congratulations to all!

Two constitutional amendments were adopted by the assembly.

The first amends ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP, Section 4, No member may be censured, suspended or expelled from membership without the right to a due process hearing (add) in front of the KEA-Retired Review Board, which shall also include the right to appellate review.

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



*Jon
Henrikson*

BESHEAR OUR 'GOALIE' AND FRIEND

Medicaid budget, which Governor Beshear and most Democratic and Republican legislators believe can be balanced within the Medicaid budget.

We are all aware of recent attacks on public education.

We are all aware of recent attacks on public education, its employees and retirees in faraway states like Wisconsin and New Jersey, nearby states like Indiana, Tennessee and Ohio, and in Kentucky. Attacks have been successful on education budgets, Defined Benefit pensions, retiree and employee health insurance, tenure, performance pay, charterschools, and collective bargaining. These attacks have been successful where vindictive, conservative, or tea party Republicans control the governor's chair and the house and senate chambers.

In Kentucky the Republican Senate controlled by David Williams has passed in the last year or so bills for charter schools, performance pay, a very restrictive health insurance plan for active employees and retirees, change to state Defined Contribution retirement savings accounts for new classified employees, and additional unnecessary budget cuts in public education to balance the

For the most part, House Democratic and Republican supporters of public education have not gone along with the Republican Senate majority of David Williams. Even when both the Democratic House and Republican Senate voted last year for a very restrictive health insurance plan with no flexibility in its administration, Gov. Steve Beshear vetoed the plan.

This year, the governor vetoed Sen. Williams' plan for more cuts in education to balance the Medicaid budget after the House Democrats and Republicans and the governor agreed to pass and then veto the Senate education cuts.

Kentucky is a basketball and football state where goal tending is against the rules and a field goal is kicked against the whole defensive team. In hockey and soccer a single goalie in the end zone

stops the attempted goal for the attacking team.

In Kentucky Gov. Beshear has done his best to protect public education through eight budget revisions in almost four years of the Great Recession. He has been our goalie against the attacks of Sen. Williams.

Both of these men are running for governor in 2011. Defenders of public education, educators, and retirees have no real choice but to support Gov. Beshear as our defender and goalie and to vote our profession and our pocketbooks.

In November you, the members of KEA-Retired, will have the opportunity to work with your families and friends to vote for and elect our friend and goalie, Steve Beshear, to a second term as governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

REMINDER:

**Deadline for next issue of
TODAY / TOMORROW
is July 29.**

Send articles & photos to:

Gayle Greer, Secretary

190 Balsam Court

Versailles KY 40383

or

gdgreer190@windstream.net

DISTRICTS TO ELECT KEA-RETIRED BOARD REPS

District elections for KEA-Retired District Directors will take place in June.

Directors are elected by district KEA-Retired members and serve a two year term on the KEA-Retired Board, which meets bi-monthly in Frankfort.

District Directors help organize district meetings and political activities, serve on committees, promote active and retired membership, report on district news and function as a communication link between district members and the state organization.

This year Third, Fourth and UKREA will conduct an election for one director.

Because of the constitutional amendment passed at the Annual Meeting, JCTA and EKEA are eligible to elect two directors, and Central is eligible to elect a second director.

If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else for one of these positions, please fill out the form included in this newsletter and send it to your district KEA office.

The elections will be conducted in district offices, so contact your KEA district office for a timeline. (Contact information can be found in your KEA pocket calendar.)

The nominee must sign the form.

NOMINATION FORM -- KEA-Retired BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name: _____ Last 4 digits Soc. Sec. # _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Nomination is for which KEA-Retired district? _____

Biographical statement (not to exceed 30 words): _____

Signature of nominee: _____

KEA-RETIRED BOARD MEETING DATES

June 7 & July 26, 2011

KEA Board Room, Frankfort

For more information, email Leo Lyvers: leo.lyvers@kea.org

HOW YOU CAN HELP RE-ELECT GOV. BESHEAR — A TRUE FRIEND OF EDUCATION AND EDUCATORS

Gov. Steve Beshear has a record of strong support for public education and educators going back more than 30 years. You can check this fact.

As responsible Kentucky citizens and retired educators, we need to work to re-elect Governor Beshear to secure educational opportunities for students and to secure our own retirement benefits.

Will you promise to help? Send the following pledge to KEA-Retired, 105 Diagnostic Drive, Frankfort KY 40601.



President Henikson presented the KEA-Retired Friend of Education Award to Gov. Steve Beshear during the KEA Convention in April.

Between now and election day on Tues., Nov. 8, 2011, I pledge to help re-elect Gov. Steve Beshear by volunteering for at least _____ hours in support of his campaign. I will:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make telephone calls | <input type="checkbox"/> Write a letter to the editor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walk a neighborhood | <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a voter registration drive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hold an organizing meeting at my home | <input type="checkbox"/> Become a KEPAC contributor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distribute yard signs/campaign material | <input type="checkbox"/> Collect 2 KEPAC contribution forms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Place a yard sign in my yard | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook/Twitter about the campaign |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a campaign rally | <input type="checkbox"/> Take others with me to a rally |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

Here is my contact information. Please call whenever I'm needed:

Name: _____

Home address: _____

Home or cell phone _____

Home email address _____

BOOMER TWO!

MORE thoughts from a bonafide member of *THAT* age group ...



by
Artie Marx

Now for *Part Two* of the saga of Medicare and Social Security. As promised, I will relate the road to Medicare and Social Security. Perhaps there is someone out there who is wondering about the process and how to get through it with a very minimum of error and anxiety.

I received my Medicare supplement packet from KTRS three months before the first day of my birth month, June. The packet is not for Medicare. For that you have to call Social Security and they will tell you to fill out the application online.

They will call you a few days later to discuss the application with you. The application is

very comprehensive as it asks you for all inclusive information about your past life.

The only items it does not ask for is your shoe size and PSA score. At this time you may only apply for Medicare. You do not have to begin your actual Social Security benefit. Whether you should is an individual thing and entirely up to you.

I filled out my "blue" application for KTRS coverage and waited until I received my colorful red, white, and blue Medicare Insurance card. I made a copy of the card and sent the form and card copy to KTRS. This KTRS supplement is what takes the place of the pre 65 insurance. The KTRS supplement will pick up where Medicare stops, plus prescription drugs. At this time you may call KTRS and they will answer any and all questions.

Obviously, everyone's benefit is different. I worked a second job all my life and have paid in the appropriate number of "quar-

ters." Then the "difference" ends. Everyone who has been paying into the KTRS pension is then told that they have to refigure the benefit amount and you receive your "penalty for teaching".

I emphasize, do not be afraid to ask questions. Keep on top of the system. What you do now will affect you for the rest of your life. Keep up with policies and procedures and be active, especially with Washington. Let your voice be heard. We are not "double dipping" we are "double working."

When I was younger I always thought of 65 as being old and ancient. Now, I don't see it like that. Get out and do things for YOU now and don't rust on the porch. You may not be as fast or as strong as you were, but just the same, stay active.

Email questions or comments to me: wildcat860@aol.com. I can relay any comments to the appropriate contacts.

KEPAC SUPPORTS DEMOCRATS & REPUBLICANS WHO SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION ISSUES

When you were an active teacher, you paid your KEPAC contribution through payroll deduction. As a retiree, to contribute you must send a check.

KEPAC contributors help make educators' voices heard in Frankfort. If you are already contributing, THANK YOU! If not, we invite you to sign up now to become part of the powerful voice of Kentucky's public school educators.

Show your support today! Make your check to "KEPAC" and send it to KEA, 401 Capitol Avenue, Frankfort KY 40601.

WORK MEETS FUN AT DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

During the KEA 2011 Delegate Assembly, we were inspired by NEA Secretary/Treasurer Rebecca Pringle, Gov. Steve Beshear, Attorney Gen. Jack Conway, Republican Representative John Carney and Democratic Representative Derrick Graham. We rallied, shouting "United We Stand," and listened to the stories from Wisconsin, Ohio and Tennessee.

In elections, Kandie McDaniel was named NEA Director, Edith Yarbrough is Senior Ethnic Minority to the KEA Board, and Alvina Littleton is Junior Ethnic Minority to the KEA Board.

We passed constitutional amendments (one presented by KEA-Retired that allowed "wall-to-wall" locals), New Business Items, a Legislative Program and the KEA Budget for 2011-2012. We listened to Pres. Sharron Oxendine's and Ex. Dir. Mary Ann Blankenship's reports on activities KEA has been involved in during the past year and challenges we face in the coming years.

There was the Smith-Wilson Awards Breakfast sponsored by the Diversity Committee. The speaker was Judge Sara Combs, Kentucky Court of Appeals, who reminded us of the history of civil rights struggles in Kentucky. The Smith-Wilson Award was presented to Mr. Jerry Gore, who spoke about how we must tolerate our fellow human beings.

It wasn't all speeches and work, though. There was fun too.

The Thursday evening "Kentucky Idol" program brought out hidden KEA talent. Nine districts put forth a contestant for the competition. The judges were brutal, but the "idol" winner depended on who raised the most money for the The Fund for Children and Education. The winner: Herman Rowlett, the

KEA-Retired entry. Thanks to Herman and the generosity of delegates, KEA-Retired came in first in the district challenge to raise money for The Fund.



Herman Rowlett won the "Kentucky Idol" competition at the convention and took in lots of money for The Fund for Children and Education.

Reminder:

Send your email address to KEA-Retired. Newsletters are sent electronically to those on the E-Alert system.

E-ALERT KEEPS YOU INFORMED!

To sign up for E-Alert, send this information to: KEA-Retired, 105 Diagnostic Dr., Frankfort KY 40601
IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PREVIOUSLY SENT IN YOUR EMAIL, YOU DO NOT NEED TO RESUBMIT

NAME _____ Phone # _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

KEA DISTRICT (Retired from) _____ (Live in if different) _____

The following information will also be helpful: US CONGRESSIONAL HOUSE # _____ SENATE # _____

Thank you for your help!

KY LEGISLATIVE HOUSE # _____ SENATE # _____

YOUR KEA-RETIRED LEADERSHIP

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DISTRICTS: NEWS & NOTES

FIRST DISTRICT will meet Monday, May 16, at the KEA Paducah office. The agenda will include elections. For information contact President Arletta Kennedy, 270-851-7700.

SECOND DISTRICT will meet Tuesday, May 3, at 4 p.m. at Madisonville-North Hopkins High School for election of officers. Contact President Joan Crowder, 270-881-7683, for information.

CENTRAL DISTRICT will meet May 10 at 1 p.m. at the KEA Lexington office, 1050 Monarch St. The presentation will focus on the benefits of NEA's "Click & Save" program. A light lunch will be served.

“Those who would destroy or further limit the rights of organized labor—those who cripple collective bargaining or prevent organization of the unorganized—do a disservice to the cause of democracy.”

JOHN F. KENNEDY



KEA-Retired delegates Judith Ihrig, Barbara Young and Nita Faye Perdue showed solidarity with teachers and public employees during the rally at the KEA convention.

ANNUAL MEETING ... [CONT. FROM PAGE 1]

The second amends ARTICLE VII DISTRICT DIRECTORS, Section 1 to read KEA-Retired members from each KEA geographic district shall elect one District Director for each 500 KEA-Retired members or major fraction thereof. (The rest of Article VII, Section 1 remains

the same.)

Other reports were given including budget and finance, GPO/WEP, lobbying team, and NEA.

Jon discussed the KEA Constitutional Amendment 3 presented by KEA-Retired that would establish the framework for

unified locals comprising Active, Retired and Student members as an option for locals. This amendment passed at the KEA Delegate Assembly.

If you have not attended an Annual Meeting make plans to attend next year.

KEA staff members (l. to r.) Elana Crane, Angela Dukes and Mona Ball, were honored at the Annual Meeting for their years of working with KEA-Retired.



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Fax: (502) 226-6010
Email: leo.lyvers@kea.org



Dominic McCamish, education student from Eastern Kentucky University, received the KEA-Retired Scholarship for 2011.

We're on the Web!
www.kea.org

A Quarterly Publication for members of KEA-Retired

