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Fall 9-1-2019

2019 September - East Tennessee State University Retirees Association Newsletter

Retirees Association, East Tennessee State University

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President's Report

Hello to all.

I hope you have been having a wonderful summer. Our board of directors typically takes a couple of months off during the summer. This year we took the month of May off, met in June and will meet again at the end of August. However, we have been busy, we realized as we planned our June luncheon that, although we are financially secure, we really didn't have a clear picture of our finances. Looking at the past year, 2018, we found we received \$970.00 from membership dues, a \$1500 grant from Eastman Credit Union, and \$1530 in reservations for the summer and Annual luncheons. Our expenses for the summer luncheon, \$1321.39, Annual luncheon, \$1864.80, and postage (mostly newsletters), \$820.38 constituted our major expenses. Our operating budget maintains a typical balance of some \$5,000. We have a separate scholarship fund from which the interest is used for the Mack P. Davis scholarships. Last year, we were able to award 18 such scholarships from this fund, and as we described in our last Newsletter, we voted to raise the scholarship amounts by reducing the number awarded in the coming years. (We have included letters from recipients of these scholarships elsewhere in this Newsletter). Overall, thanks to your support over the years we have a good, stable financial situation!

We have several upcoming events which are detailed elsewhere in this Newsletter. August 22 is ETSU's move in day in which we volunteer to help guide students through their check in process in Governor's Hall. Our September Eat and Chat is scheduled for September 19, at the One Acre Café and features Dr. Bob Patton as our speaker, and our Annual luncheon is scheduled for November 8 at the Johnson City Country Club, see the reservation form in this newsletter. This year's theme will be the 150th anniversary of Johnson City, and Jenny Brock, Mayor of Johnson City, has agreed to present our program for that event. We encourage everyone to attend any or all of these events.

There will also be four new members to our Board of Directors to replace those rotating off the Board this year. If any one wishes to serve, we would be happy to receive your application. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming events and wish you an enjoyable remainder of the summer!

Jeff Wardeska

ETSU ACL (Alliance for Continued Learning) to offer 2019 Fall Classes with J.C. Mayor Jenny Brock to give the opening session

ETSU's Alliance for Continued Learning (ACL) invites you to join other retirees from ETSU and the community for its fall 2019 course. The course will run for 6 weeks, starting on Tuesday 9-17-19 and ending on Wednesday 10-23-19. Classes will be held each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00 am-noon (12 total contact hrs.) in the upstairs meeting room (*The Depot*) of Food City at 940 N. State of Franklin Rd. (intersection with Sunset Dr.).

ACL will welcome all participants at an introductory continental breakfast on Tuesday 9-17-19 at 9:30 am. At 10 am Johnson City Mayor Jenny Brock will discuss "The Past, Present, & Future of Johnson City," and at 11 am students from ETSU's Music Department will provide special entertainment under the direction of Dr. Matthew Potterton.

This fall's course will include a wide range of subjects that were selected by ACL participants for an opportunity to learn something new. These classes will include the Opioid Dilemma with Dr. Robert Pack, Northeast State Community College with Dr. Bethany Flora, Cognitive Dysfunction & Dementias with Dr. Ron Hamdy, Rocky Fork State Park with Mr. David Ramsey, Health Issues in Appalachia with Dr. Randy Wykoff, and other topics one would not want to miss.

Sponsored by the ETSU's Office of Professional Development, ACL is a member-empowered and member-governed organization with a motto of "Life Long Learning." No educational prerequisites, required attendance, examinations, or grades are involved. Registration is \$45.00. For more information, a fall semester schedule, or to register, please call the ETSU Office of Professional Development at 423-439-8084 or visit www.etsu.edu/professionaldevelopment and click "Community Groups."

John Hancock

Our Condolences

May

Mr. Larry Massey passed away May 10, 2019. He served as an Electronic Technician for the Office of Information Technology.

Dr. Daniel Wooten, Professor, Associate Dean in Academic Affairs passed away May 19, 2019.

Mr. Gary White passed away May 19, 2019. He served as a Supervisor for the Department of Health & Environmental Safety.

Congratulations To Our Recent Retirees

May

Mrs. Kathy Carder, Information Research Tech 2, Business and Finance

Ms. Linda Francisco, Medical Program Facilitator, Internal Medicine

Ms. Cynthia Lucas, Placement Coordinator, Dean College of Education office

Mrs. Carol Plummer, Associate Registrar, Student Services COM

Mrs. Rebecca (Kathy) Smith, Legal Assistant, Office of University Counsel

June

Mr. Larry Britt, Custodian, Custodial Services

Ms. Sheryl Burnette, Registrar, Registrar Office

Ms. Teresa Carver, Information Research Tech 2, Trio Outreach

Ms. Susan Gardner, Executive Aide, Family Medicine

Mrs. Deborah Lee, Research Assistant 2, Biomedical Sciences

Ms. Linda Mongold, Coordinator, Student Services COM

Dr. Kenneth Phillips, Professor/Associate Dean Research, Nursing Graduate Programs

Dr. Eugene Scheuerman, Associate Professor, Pathology

Mr. Frederick Warren, Head Coach, Men's Golf

Mr. Gary Williams, Security Guard 2, Safety Security

July

Mrs. Mary Basconi, Senior Lecturer for Media & Communication

Mr. Scott Beck, Director, Planning & Evaluation, Office of Sponsored Programs

Mrs. Ellen Drummond, Associate Professor for Nursing Undergraduate Programs

Dr. Mary Littleton, Associate Professor in Community & Behavioral Health

Ms. Linda Lucas, Executive Aide, Adult, Commuter and Transfer Services

Dr. Eric Mustain, Associate Professor, Health Sciences

Ms. Billie Scott, Custodian, Custodial Services

Mrs. Joan VanEaton, Office Coordinator, Vice Provost Community Engagement

ETSURA Liaison to the Faculty Senate Report

Perhaps many of you remember our dear friend Bill Fisher, who was our Faculty Senate Liaison for many, many years and who died a few years ago. He is definitely missed! Anyway, I have agreed to take his place, although keeping up with the folks in Nashville isn't my strong suit. I hope to represent the ETSU retirees, not nearly as well Bill I'm sure, but giving it my best shot. It has been a busy academic year for Faculty Senate with several major changes on campus, such as the construction of the new Performing Arts Center and renovation of the Culp Student Center, among others. The major issue under discussion has been campus safety. The new ETSU Campus police chief has put into action a comprehensive plan to ensure the safety of students, faculty, staff and visitors during any emergency. These measures can be reviewed on the ETSU website. I'll admit, having my clear plastic bag checked by security at ball games is inconvenient, but it is, sadly, a sign of the times. Dr. Fred Alsop has been the very capable faculty representative on the two year old ETSU Board of Trustees and has kept the Senate informed of the proceedings. He turns over these responsibilities to another very capable representative Dr. Virginia Foley, elected by Faculty Senators. And last, Dr. Bert Bach is retiring after 44 years at ETSU. He addressed the Faculty Senate and described the many accomplishments while serving as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs as well as, for a time, interim President. Dr. Wilsie Bishop will be interim Provost until the search process selects a new one.

Dr. Priscilla Ramsey, Liaison to the Faculty Senate

Eat and Chat

Eat and Chat (New location)

Sept. 19, 2019 (Thursday) The presentation by Bob Patton that was postponed because of a death in the family has been rescheduled for 11:30 a.m. Sept. 19, 2019 at the **One Acre Cafe** (instead of the Golden Corral). Dr. Patton will be talking about Tennessee Politics based on his years of experience in Nashville as our State Representative. Much of this is detailed in his book *Tennessee Political Fireworks* (Westview Inc., Nashville, 2011, 230 pp.).

February 2020 (Date to be determined) Kathy Feagins, Director of the ETSU Scholarship Office, Div. of Student Life & Enrollment, will speak at our winter session. She will discuss the inner workings of her office and details of scholarships and the scholarship process, especially as it relates to the Mack P. Davis award.

The board voted to try a change of venue for a number of reasons: better food, choice of portions, ability to have slide presentations, and interest in supporting the community mission. Meals are offered in small, medium, or large sizes (\$5, \$7, and \$9 suggested donations, respectively). Drinks are included, but desserts are additional. As a charitable organization, there is no sales tax. Instead of tips, you can “pay it forward” to support others less fortunate. The location is 603 W. Walnut, Johnson City, TN, just across from the old General Mills building (soon to be Summers-Taylor offices). There is adequate parking, and the building is ADA accessible. If for some reason this does not work out, we can always go back to the Golden Corral.



Thank you to Eastman Credit Union for your generous donation and for always supporting our activities.

Summer Luncheon at a Glance



Summer Luncheon - June 14, 2019

This annual event was held on Friday, June 14, 2019 at *The Depot* at Food City and was attended by 66 people. In honor of *Flag Day*, the food selected was “American Fare” (hot dogs, hamburgers, pulled pork, cole slaw, baked beans, etc.). The room was tastefully decorated in *Americana* by Tisha Harrison and Susan Burkey and included tables covered in red, white and blue.

The invocation was given by the Rev. Pat Locke. Entertainment was provided by Hamed Kolahi and Sasan Ahouvan, playing a variety of Iranian music and American Bluegrass on the guitar and setar (Iranian stringed instrument, not to be confused with the larger Indian sitar; see photo). Hamed started playing classical guitar in high school in Tehran. He has a bachelor’s in English Literature and was a teacher for many years. He is doing a second bachelor’s in jazz at ETSU. Sasan grew up in the Kurdish community in western Iran and started playing the Tanbour at six. He decided to leave to study American music and recently graduated from ETSU with a degree in Bluegrass, Old-Time and Country music.

Jeff Wardeska next introduced Dr. Bert C. Bach for recognition of his service as ETSU Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. In honor of his approaching retirement, Dr. Bach was presented with a certificate of appreciation and Honorary Lifetime Membership in ETSURA (photo).

The Keynote speaker was Dr. Bethany Flora, the new President of Northeast State Community College (NSCC). Dr. Flora said that NSCC started as a welding school but now has a university parallel program to help students move to a 4-year school. In fact, NSCC and ETSU are partners in a 2+2+2 (high school, community college, 4-year university) program. She said that NSCC had one student transfer to Columbia (and Harvard Law) and another, a high school dropout, go on to Yale on a full scholarship.

Dr. Flora started her presidency by listening to students, faculty, and staff. Although they had certain deficiencies to address, they decided to put their initial focus on the \$30 million Technical Education Complex currently under construction. This building will house, on the ground floor, programs in HVAC, aviation, robotics, sound recording, and sound and light engineering. Upstairs will be brain-storming areas for collaborative, integrative thinking on Business Technologies, e.g., computer programming, cyber security, networking, accounting, and entrepreneurship. They hope to hold classes there in the spring of 2020.

Notable activities at NSCC included the Marine Advanced Technology Education International ROV Competition at the Kingsport Aquatic Center (attended by students from around the world, who design and build underwater robots to solve posed problems in workplace scenarios). Another is the Aviation Program, which involves maintenance work and repair that will be important for the adjacent Aerospace Park in development. Their Veterans Center program was cited for excellence in competition against 6,000 other faculty & staff in the state. Overall, there are 190 programs, including an honors and a student success program.

With no new dollars, Beth had to identify items for budget “rearrangement.” They went from a \$12 million to a \$6.7 million deficit and anticipate full recovery in 2-5 years. Summer enrollment is up, while fall enrollment is flat. When there was a budget crisis at ETSU, Beth remembered that Dr. Bach (appropriately) said it was “a great opportunity to become more efficient.” The goal at NSCC is to ensure that students don’t quit because of debt, and a big help has been the TN promise program, which provides free tuition for qualifying students. At the conclusion, Jack Rhoton presented Beth with an E-cap and E-bear (and a little bit of E-motion) as reminders of her ties to ETSU (photo).

Dr. Flora has a BA from UVa-Wise, an MA from Tusculum, and a PhD from VA Tech. She previously worked at Ball Corp. and was a faculty member at Tusculum, NSCC, and Radford. She was an Assistant Provost at VA Tech and most recently an Assist. Prof. of Postsecondary & Private Sector Leadership at ETSU.

Door prizes included an ETSU basketball autographed by Coach Forbes and much coveted by Priscilla Ramsey, who had tirelessly solicited donations from the Alumni Assoc. and Athletic Dept. Informal feedback has been that the food and program this year were good. However, problems did occur with the cold room temperature and difficulty in seeing the front stage. These will be addressed next year by propping the rear door open and moving entertainment to the center of the room. This event was supported in part by generous donations from Eastman Credit Union.

-Jeff Wardeska/Mike Miyamoto

Student Scholarship Recipients Thank You!

ETSU Retirees Association: I want to thank you all for selecting me as an ETSU Retirees Association Scholarship recipient. This scholarship will help me continue my education as an LPN to become an RN-BSN. The advance degree and knowledge will help me broaden my scope of care for those in East Tennessee. My goal with seeking an advanced degree was to do so without adding the burden of debt on my wife and children. Your contributions and selections will help make this possible. Thank you again, **Adam Potter, ETSU c/o Dec. 2020.(Sevierville, TN)**

Dear ETSU Retirees Association, I would like to greatly thank you all for considering me for this prestigious scholarship. My name is Erwin Lopez and I am an incoming Transfer Student from Lipscomb University in Nashville. Being that I am a transfer student, leaving home has and will be very nerve-wracking! However, because of this scholarship being awarded to me, a financial burden has been lifted from the shoulders of my family. I plan to major in the field of Biomedical Engineering and am excited for the fall! Now, I am a step closer to achieving my dream and making it a reality. Thank you for considering and awarding this scholarship to me. Gratefully, **Erwin Lopez (Hermitage, TN)**

I want to personally thank you for generously donating money to ETSU Scholarship funds. I was awarded the Dr. Mack P. Davis ETSU Retirees Association Scholarship. I am grateful for this opportunity. I am from Mascot, TN which is in the underfunded part of Knox County. This extra money has helped me go to school with less debt. I am currently a senior with hopes to attend Vet school. I am a biology major because I thought it was the best course of action to take to get into vet school. Your generous donation has helped me tremendously with school and securing a better future for myself. Thank you so Much and God Bless You!! **Elizabeth Morgan Tolliver (Mascot, TN)**

Dear ETSURA: My name is Katlyn Price and I am humbled to have been gifted the 2019 Dr. Mack P. Davis ETSURA Scholarship. Thanks to your generous donation of the Dr. Mack P. Davis ETSURA Scholarship, I am able to pursue my passion for Health Science at East Tennessee State University.

I am an Undergraduate Public Health student entering into my freshman year of the Health Science Program. Throughout my degree, I will strive to maintain a Grade Point Average of 4.0 while participating in Extracurricular Activities such as: Health Occupations Students of America better known as HOSAS and Buctainment, an organization that host activities for students and staff throughout campus. Although I will try my best to maintain a 4.0 I will be content with a 3.6 or higher. I look forward to pursuing a career as a Pediatric Surgeon upon my gradation. I am confident in learning the expertise and knowledge it takes to achieve my career goals at ETSU, with the help of the Dr. Mack P. David ETSURA Scholarship. This gift will also allow me to make a lasting difference in the Health Science Industry.

I chose this educational and career path due to my upbringing. I was born and raised in Johnson City, TN from 2001-2009. I then moved to Limestone, TN where I still live to date. I attended David Crockett High School and graduated in May of 2019. I graduated with many awards from academic excellence and certification courses. I was a very involved student within my high school, I was a four year HOSA representative and made my way into two different health certification courses: Emergency Medical Response and Personal Training. Throughout the years of experience within HOSA and the Health Science program at my school I build a passion for pediatrics and eventually the combination of surgery. The Surgery aspect came from the knowledge and curiosity I discovered while learning the human anatomy through my schools Syndaver, Myra Maines. The Syndaver is a synthetic human cadaver made to help with clinical training and medical situation.

Another part that played into choosing the right path for myself was the diagnosis of my ongoing health condition. On April 20, 2018, I was diagnosed with a Pituitary Microadenoma, commonly known as a brain tumor on the pituitary gland. Although my condition isn't visible it has still put a strain on my day to day activities and not to mention the way I think. Dealing with and learning more about my condition sealed my passion for pediatrics. I think about people that are going through the same thing I am and those who are going through way worse. It makes me want to strive for more help, more change, and hopefully more cures.

The Dr. Mack P. Davis ETSU Retirees Association Scholarship will pay for part of my tuition expenses which will alleviate my financial burden and allowed me to focus on my studies. Thank you for this gift and chance you **have** given me through the Dr. Mack P. Davis ETSU Retirees Association Scholarship. **Sincerely, Katlyn Price (Jonesborough, TN)**

Pres. Noland Volunteers with ETSURA

President Noland Joined ETSURA Members at Second Harvest Food Bank

President Noland got down to work, alongside other ETSURA volunteers, at the Second Harvest Food Bank on May 8. His work, captured in photos, shows him steering a hand-operated forklift to move a large container of cookies in position for individual packaging. His assistance brings visibility to this important work, and we very much appreciate him for taking time out of his busy schedule to assist our ETSURA volunteers in serving the needs of our community. Without volunteers, Second Harvest would not be able to do what they do.

Volunteering at Second Harvest can be both a fun and rewarding experience. Volunteers witness first-hand how their efforts are helping families with children or elderly family members who are struggling with food insecurity. The work that our ETSURA volunteers do may change each month, depending on what needs to be done. It may include work in the Food for Kids Backpack Program, Summer Food Service Program, Kids Café Program, Mobile Food Bank, or Mobile Food Pantry. In each case, it typically involves sorting, labeling, repackaging nonperishable items, frozen food, health aids or paper goods. Second Harvest distributes enough food for nearly nine million meals annually, ensuring food safely throughout the region.

We invite you to be a part of this important work. We meet at Second Harvest, located in the old Sam's Club building (Kingsport), the second Wednesday of each month from 9:00-noon. The food bank serves eight counties in our Northeast Tennessee region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Washington, and Unicoi Counties.

Jack Rhoton



Become a Volunteer at Second Harvest

Every 2nd Wednesday

Second Harvest of
Northeast Tennessee

Join other ETSURA members at Second
Harvest in Kingsport

Upcoming dates: March 13, 2019

Time: 9 a.m. - noon (ETSURA lunch will follow)

Don't have time to volunteer?

You can donate directly to Second Harvest by mailing your
donation to the address below:

Second Harvest Food Bank of
Northeast Tennessee
1020 Jericho Drive
Kingsport, TN 37663

You are Invited to the 32nd ETSURA Annual



Meeting and Brunch

Guest Speaker:
Jenny Brock,
Johnson City Mayor



Date/Time: Friday, November 8, 2019
11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Johnson City Country Club

Cost \$20.00

Buffet Menu: Braised Beef w/ Root Vegetable,
Baked Fish w/ Roasted Red Pepper Compote, Sweet
Potato Souffle, Fire-Roasted Vegetable Medley,
Small Salad w/ choice of Ranch or Raspberry
Vinaigrette, Rolls, Ice Cream Fountain/Bar,
Coffee, Tea and Water.

Entertainment by:
Esther Jung A. Park,
DMA,
ETSU Associate
Professor,
Director of ETSU
Pre-College



32nd Annual ETSURA Meeting & Brunch

Name (s): _____

Telephone: _____

Number attending: _____ Names attending: _____

Amount Paid: _____ (\$20 per person)

Make check payable to ETSU and Mail by October 31, 2019 to:

ETSURA, Box 70564, Johnson City, TN 37614

Account No. 821350

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM ETSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

NAME: (Last) _____ (First) _____ (MI) _____ (Title) _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: (Last) _____ (First) _____ (MI) _____ (Title) _____

ADDRESS: (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

TELEPHONE: (____) ____ - ____ EMAIL: _____

FORMER STATUS WITH ETSU: FACULTY ☐ STAFF ☐

AMOUNT PAID (\$10 PER PERSON): \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐

ACCOUNT NO: FUND 821350, ORG 79998, Banner Account: 29300

PROGRAM 999; CHART: E

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:
East Tennessee State University
ETSURA, Human Resources
Box 70564
Johnson City, TN 37614-1707
(Your check will be your receipt)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION FORM

Enclosed is the applicable life membership fee. It is understood that this is a nonrefundable deferred gift to the ETSURA Endowed Scholarship Fund in the ETSU Foundation. The funds will be invested by the university with the income being used for current expenses of the association until my (our) death at which time it (one half if husband or wife) will be transferred to the Endowed Scholarship Fund. It is understood that any benefit received from ETSURA, the university or its foundation or this contribution will be of nominal value and it is fully deductible for tax purposes in the year paid.

NAME OF MEMBER _____ SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: (Street) _____ (City) _____

(State) _____ (Zip) _____ TELEPHONE: (____) ____ - ____

EMAIL: _____

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER: \$100 ☐

HUSBAND & WIFE: \$150 ☐

ACCOUNT NO: FUND 821410, ORG 79998, Banner Account: 29300;

PROGRAM 999; CHART: E

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:
East Tennessee State University
ETSURA, Human Resources
Box 70564
Johnson City, TN 37614-1707
(Your check will be your receipt)

ETSURA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT DONATION FORM

NAME OF MEMBER _____ SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: (Street) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

TELEPHONE: (____) ____ - ____ EMAIL: _____

AMOUNT PAID: _____

Memorial To or In Honor Of: _____

PLEASE NOTIFY OF THIS GIFT: _____

Investment Account: Banner 653110/2552/550

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:
East Tennessee State University
ETSURA, Human Resources
Box 70564
Johnson City, TN 37614-1707
(Your check will be your receipt)