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2021 December - East Tennessee State University Retirees Association Newsletter

Retirees Association, East Tennessee State University

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ETSURA Newsletter



RETIREES ASSOCIATION
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

VOL.34, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2021

ETSURA President's Report



Happy Holidays

It's been my honor to serve as president of ETSURA for the past two years. Our ability to offer social gatherings during the past twenty months or so has been limited. The good news is the Board has been able to offer a variety of quality and enjoyable programs via a zoom format. Even though the epidemic seems to be abating, a decision was made to exercise caution and wait until early spring of 2022 before resuming social gatherings.

As I wind up my tenure as your president, I wish to thank all those who have previously served in this role. At the closing of the November zoom meeting, the membership was offered the opportunity to approve new officers and board panels. Officers and board members were approved as presented. Dr. Fred Tudiver will begin his term as president on January 1, 2022, and Dr. Norma Hogan will serve as president-elect. Norma will also serve as our new secretary. Charles Moore was elected as treasurer. (A full listing of officers and board panels is found on page 2.)

The Association is financially sound. Our operating budgets maintains a balance of approximately \$5,000. We also have a separate scholarship fund to support the Mack P. Davis Scholarship. The scholarship endowment as of this past November was \$266,164.42 with an endowment operating of \$17,687.31. Fourteen students are currently befitting from the scholarship; twelve returning students and two students added this year. Each recipient of the scholarship receives \$1,000 to help defray expenses associated with tuition.

My thanks go to all of our board members who worked behind the scenes to make programs and activities happen and advocate for the good of the Association. They generously gave of their time and expertise. A special thanks to Susan Burkey for serving as ETSU-RA secretary for the past several years. Tisha

Harrison, ETSU-ETSURA board liaison, also deserves our gratitude for keeping the board on track. We invite you to consider becoming a board member, volunteering on a committee, or becoming an officer. I believe you will be glad you did.

As we enter into this special time of the year, I wish you and your family peace and joy this holiday season and throughout 2022.

Dr. Jack Rhoton
ETSURA President 2020-2021



Martin Center Tour by Dr. Jack Rhoton

Approximately thirty member of ETSURA toured the new Martin Center for the Arts on September 2nd. Members on the tour were totally dazzled by the unparalleled beauty of the 93,000-square-foot facility. The group had the opportunity to walk through the entire facility while examining



the unique features of each of the spaces, including the Tindall Lobby, ETSU Foundation Grand Hall, Powell Recital Hall, Bert C. Bach Theatre, Rehearse Rooms, Dressing Rooms, Green Rooms, as well as the Sonia S. King Plaza.

The tour guides described the Center as providing world-class performances venues for showcasing the exceptional talents of ETSU students. In addition to providing performances arts venues, the Center will also bring together arts lovers and visitors from throughout the region to examine and explore the human condition through the arts. The Center also provides state-of-the-art instructional and administrative spaces.

After touring this iconic facility, ETSURA members came away most impressed with this immersive, behind the scenes experience. There is no doubt that the facility will not only serve as a performance hub for ETSU, Johnson City and Washington County, but will also expand the richness of the cultural and economic impact of the entire region.

Dr. Jack Rhoton

ETSURA Officers 2022

President—Dr. Fred Tudiver
President Elect— Dr. Norma Hogan
Secretary – Dr. Norma Hogan
Treasurer—Charles Moore

Panel of 2021

Susan Burkey
Charles Moore
Norma Hogan
Fred Tudiver

Panel of 2022

Chu-Ngi Ho
Donald Gotterbarn
Scott Champney
Cynthia Burnley

Panel of 2023

Gail Burleson
Jack Rhoton
Bonny Stanley
Jeff Wardeska

Executive Committee:

Membership Committee: Dr. Cynthia Burnley, Chair
Communications Committee: Dr. David Kalwinsky, Chair
Finance Committee: Charles Moore, Chair
Program Committee: Dr. Fred Tudiver, Chair
University/ Community Service Committee: Dr. Jack Rhoton, Chair
Liaison Committee: Dr. Priscilla Ramsey, (Faculty Senate Report)



Charles Moore in Retirement

I retired in 2010. I had been working since I was 15 and it was time to stop. I've learned a couple of lessons in 11 years. They probably apply only to me.

One is, time flies! Don't put off until tomorrow what you want to do today. Get out there and enjoy the weather, the country, things going on. This uneven emergence from the panic of the pandemic means unpredicted opportunities exist for doing something. It does not mean that care is not needed. It is. Caution is good. You haven't come this far to screw it up.

On the other hand, *manana*, comes in handy sometimes.

Staying sociable. I've met many retirees whose lives seem to become enveloped by other obligations. Sometimes it can't be helped: illness, the pandemic, grandkids, family obligations. A personal life might be difficult to carve out of all the other obligations. It is important to realize we all have to live our lives as we see fit.

Staying positive. What with all the tragedies and aches and pains "keep on the sunny side" can be difficult. Being retired does not mean being washed up. You might not be able to run a mile but you can walk it and enjoy the view. To stay positive is to protect your peace of mind. Turn off the TV. Get outdoors. You can be safe and still feel the sunshine and the sunshine feels awfully nice!

But then, don't forget the sunscreen.

Thomas Moore, author of several books on mental health, suggests the best thing is to keep your mind open and creative. The very best thing I did in the last 11 years was to take up guitar. But we also know that vital to the active mind is an active body. That's harder than it looks eleven years on. Hobbies will become more important because they might keep your mind and body active. If you like to eat out start up a blog of restaurant reviews. Combine the older hobby, eating out, with a new one, blogging.

Staying at home is not a hobby.

Retirement seems like a duty to live each day as best as you can. Yet, somehow manage every day as if it were Saturday. Habits are hard to break and equally hard to build. The next thing you know it's been five years since retirement. Then ten years. Then you develop this chronic ache that needs fixing. Then the pandemic strikes. Then this. Then that. What next? I think I'd rather be a part of what's next rather than never having the chance to find out: what's next.



We thank Eastman Credit Union for their generous donation and for always supporting our activities.

Alliance for Continued Learning by Dr. Scott Champney

Due to increasing concerns about Covid19 infections, the Alliance for Continued Learning will not meet this Fall. We hope to resume the program in the Spring of 2022.

Dr. Scott Champney

Dr. Robert Pack -Guest Speaker for the ETSURA Fall Meeting

Dr. Robert Pack is Professor and Associate Dean in the ETSU College of Public Health. He also serves as Executive Director of the ETSU Center for Prescription Drugs Abuse Prevention and Treatment, and Co-Director of the Opioids Research Consortium of Central Appalachia. He emphasized the ongoing work of the Center. In collaboration with Center faculty, university affiliates and community partners, stretching over several years, more than \$10 million dollars have been obtained to address addiction-focused abuse. These have included studies to advance recovery supports, rural resident's experiences with substance use disorder, screening brief intervention and referral to treatment, and worksite policies related to persons in recovery who are entering the job market. This work has also led to more than three dozen peer-reviewed journal publications and 150 educational and scientific presentations to community, regional and national audiences.

In 2016, the Center, the ETSU Research Foundation and Ballard Health, created a jointly, non-profit opioid treatment clinic from which net revenues were granted to the Center for prevention and research activities. The Clinic, Overmountain Recovery, offers methadone and Buprenorphine services, counseling and psychosocial wrap around services.

In 2019, the Center partnered with Virginia Tech/Carillion Research Institute to establish the Opioids Research Consortium of Central Appalachia, which has created an addictions research network and blueprint for the Central Appalachian region. Consortium members include ETSU, Virginia Tech, University of Tennessee, University of Kentucky, Marshall University, West Virginia University, Ballard Health, and multiple community organizations throughout the region.

In 2020, ASC leaders worked with partners from the University of Tennessee system to start the Substance Misuse and Addictions Resources for Tennessee. Modeled after the Stanford Network on Addiction Policy, this network is intended to bring together subject matter experts and policy makers from around the state, to use evidence to guide decision making about addiction policy. The group's first policy briefs were made available in Spring 2021.

The Sycamore Institute, a non-partisan group in Nashville, recently published an excellence document on the problem of substance use disorder in Tennessee. Here is a link to the document: https://www.sycamoreinstitute.org/mental-health-substance-abuse-covid-19-tennessee/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Keep%20Reading&utm_campaign=general

Volunteer for the Gray Fossil Site

Think of the scene from "Jurassic Park," Sam Neill out on the plains of Wyoming unearthing something as tiny as a tooth the size of a pinhead. Barely discernible to the naked eye, this little something has not been in the sunlight for millions of years. Who wouldn't want to be a part of that?

Here's a chance to be a part of fossil discoveries. Visit the site. Take the tour. See what you'd like to do. Visit <https://www.etmnh.org> and fill in the application. The science of paleontology is as strong as ever but it takes people to get the work done. By you.

--Charles Moore

News From Around Campus by Dr. Priscilla Ramsey

I hope you all had a chance to walk around campus in the past two or three weeks. It was a breathtaking show of the most brilliant colors of reds, oranges, and yellows on the many varieties of trees.

In a blink, the leaves are gone, and last week on my walk around campus, the Christmas decorations are up and ready for lighting. See the displays on our new campus Commons where the parking lot used to be in front of Lamb Hall. As I walk the Commons, I can't even



remember what it looked like before even though I used to park there. It is busy with students eating their lunch, talking in groups, playing instruments, or using the putting green and basketball court.



Speaking of the Commons, the new candy shop is now open. It's a fun place that reminds me of old timey country stores that had big jars filled with a variety of sweets you bought by the pound. It is located in the bottom corner of Carter

Hall next to the Commons. It also sells coffee and Danish, and I am told that soft serve ice cream counter will be added later.

If you are thinking of parking in the lot between Sam Wilson and Lamb Halls for women's basketball, better have another plan. It is completely blocked off for the ongoing Lamb Hall renovations. Tish Harrison, our wonderful



staff liaison, found a picture of the architectural plans for what it will look like when it is finished. I am sure the College of Public Health is happy to struggle with the inconvenience to have a modern facility in the future

I was walking on the loop in front of Brooks Gym, and a lady popped out of the Tree House Coffee Shop to say hello. It was Penny Hughes who used to work in the Main Meal cafeteria as the cashier but now working at the Tree House. "I've been working at ETSU for 47 years and have no plans to retire", she said, "I just love the students and they are always glad to see me." I'm sure there are plenty of other staff (and faculty too) who feel that way also. Aren't we fortunate?



Continued to 6.

Congratulations to Retirees

August Retirees

Dr. Rana Duncan-Daston, Clinical Associate Professor in Social Work

September Retirees

Dr. Stephen Geraci, Professor, Internal Medicine
Ms. Carol Maupin, Patient Care Representative, Office of Practice
Dr. John Schweitzer, Chair/Professor, Pathology
Ms. Mary Wright, Director of HR Operations, Human Resources

October Retirees

Dr. Wilsie Bishop, Provost/Sr. Vice President, Office of the Provost - Health
Mr. Keith Davenport, Manager, Information Tech. Comp. Services
Mrs. Beth Trinkle, Patient Care Specialist, Family Practice Resid. Bristol

If you have recently moved or have an email address you would like us to use, please be sure and update your information with Tisha Harrison:

ETSURA
Box 70564
Johnson City, TN 37614-1707

423-439-6145

Email: harristc@etsu.edu.

News From Around Campus, continued...



I belong to a couple of community groups that are always looking for projects to help out during the holidays. I have introduced them to Bucky's Pantry, which provides groceries and personal supplies to students and staff who are food insecure (see picture). It is located in the maintenance building up the hill behind the dorms and staffed by students and volunteers. Feel free to visit and donate any non-perishable items or make a cash donation. Ask about the clothes closet while you are there. Call ahead at 423-439-5243, Chuck Patton. Happy Holidays.

Our Condolences

Mr. Roger Dale Williams, passed away July 27, 2021, he was a Boiler Operator for Facilities.

Mr. Joe Stewart, died July 28, 2021, he was a Public Safety Officer 2 for Public Safety.

Mr. H. Joseph Faber, passed away August 4, 2021, Associate Professor of Mathematics.

Dr. Ben F. Lyle, passed away August 9, 2021, he was a Professor of Technology.

Dr. Jerry H. Rust, Director of Institutional Research & Planning, passed away August 21, 2021.

Mr. Gary Stevens, Plumber from Building Maintenance, died October 6, 2021.

Ms. JoAnn Fitzgerald, Custodian Lead Worker, died September 28, 2021.

Second Harvest Food Bank and Volunteer Opportunities by Dr. Jack Rhoton

During the second Wednesday of each month, from 8:00 a.m. to noon, members of ETSURA are invited to volunteer a few hours at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee. The work is very enjoyable and plays an important role in getting food out to a growing number of children and adults who are experiencing food insecurity in our region. In addition, this is an opportunity to come together, in person, and interact with our retired colleagues. The Food Bank is housed in the old Sam's Club building located at 1020 Jericho Drive in Kingsport, off of Interstate 81 North, airport exit 63. Upon arrival, please drive all the way around to the back of the building and enter the door at the loading dock.



Martin Center for Performing Arts Schedule of Coming Events

ETSU Choirs: We Need a Little Christmas
Saturday Dec. 4, 2021 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Grand Hall

Men on Boats
Nov. 18, 19, 20, 21, 2021 7:30 p.m.

Knoxville Gay Men's chorus
Dec. 12, 2021 4 p.m.

Straight White Men
February 17-19, 2021 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 20 2 p.m.

Bright Star
Music, Book & Story
April 1, 2, 7, 9, 2022 7:30 p.m.
April 3, 10, 2022 2 p.m.

Do you have questions about your Retiree Insurance?

Contact the Benefits Administration
and select Option 2.

Hours 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday,
Central Time
800-253-9981



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM ETSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

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

SPOUSE/PARTNERS 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/PARTNER NAME _____

ADDRESS: (Street) _____ (City) _____

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

EMAIL: _____

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)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER: \$100 ☐

MEMBER & SPOUSE/PARTNER: \$150 ☐

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

PROGRAM 999; CHART: E

ETSURA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT DONATION FORM

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PLEASE NOTIFY OF THIS GIFT: _____

Investment Account: Banner 653110/2552/550

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(Your check will be your receipt)