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2018 June - East Tennessee State University Retirees Association Newsletter

Retirees Association, East Tennessee State University

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President's Report

Inside This Issue

- 1| President's Report
 - 2| Condolences
 - 2| Eat and Chat
 - 3| 2018 Officers
 - 3| Board of Directors
 - 4| Survey Results
 - 5| *Volunteer Fund-Raising at WETS-FM*
 - 6| Volunteer Opportunities
 - 7| Recent Retirees
 - 8| Membership & Donation Form
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Hello again, Fellow Retirees, Aloha, and mahalo (thanks) to those who filled out our survey. People generally do not do surveys, because they feel it's pointless. When I was course director, students said they had complained about "so-and-so" for years, and nothing was done (they had a great grapevine with earlier classes). In many cases, our hands were tied. By contrast, your ETSURA board is pretty much unshackled, but it takes a while to see what's not working, especially with a rotating board. What has not worked is phone call

"reminders" of upcoming events—in this age of robocalls and scams, people do not want unnecessary calls, so we have stopped making them. We have also stopped "manning" the retirees' office and phone in the old Student Union building, because of lack of usefulness.

Results from the survey are attached. The first number is the average score out of 5, and the parentheses show the number of responses (many were "NA" or blank). Some items were general questions, while others (A5, B3, C3, D4, I11, I12, I13, I16, I17) were specifically asked by a board member. Overall, the Annual Meeting/Banquet appeared to be well received. However, the Summer Luncheon was only marginally acceptable—I should explain that the food and location were said to be very good the first year (2016). However, last year the food was cold and service non-existent. At that time, the manager handling our event was AWOL and arrested days later for embezzling \$10,000 from The Depot (*JC Press*). We do not expect a recurrence this year, but the board opted to be safe and go with a cold salad bar. The "Eat and Chat" speakers were well rated, but the location was only "okay." There are few eating places with a separate meeting room and buffet service, so this is an obvious compromise (like most of life). Ratings for "Service

Opportunities" were mixed, possibly reflecting those who are able and not able to participate. In this regard, I have asked the board for ideas on how we can better serve our own members with limited mobility. I will report the board's conclusions and recommendations in the next newsletter, after it has had a chance to discuss the survey results.

Our next event is the Summer Luncheon (Fri., June 15), with Dr. Noland and Kari Albarado (Director of Campus Recreation) as speakers. We hope you will take time to mingle with other retirees during and after this event. Our September Eat and Chat (Thurs., Sept. 20) will feature Dr. Scott Champney (retired biochemist from Quillen COM), discussing "Ancestry and Forensics from your DNA." He will tell us what you can learn from commercially available DNA testing services. Next April, we will have Dr. Colin Baxter (retired from ETSU history) talking about his recent book *The Secret History of RDX: The Super Explosive that Helped Win World War II*. This is a topic of regional interest, as RDX was developed at the Holston Army Ammunition Plant.

Our Annual Meeting/Banquet (Fri., Nov. 2) will feature Dr. Kyle Colvett as keynote speaker. Kyle is Director of the Radiation Oncology Center and an illustrious graduate of Quillen COM. He will tell us about the planning, construction, facilities, capabilities, and future directions of the Center, which is so important to this region's health. For entertainment, we will have a local favorite, the "Jonesborough Novelty Band," with ETSU's own Terry Countermine. After this, we will have the annual THERA Meeting (Sun.-Mon., Nov. 4-5) at Fall Creek Falls State Park (open to all), where we will brainstorm with other schools on ways to better serve our constituency.

Finally, because of institutional reorganization, Diana McClay and HR will no longer be assisting ETSURA. Diana has been the lifeblood of the association for 30 years, going back to day one. It is difficult to conceive of functioning without all her guidance and expertise. Please join me in thanking her for all she and her staff have done for us. In her place, we will have Tisha Harrison of the Office of Administration, Director of Special Projects, assisting us, and we extend a warm welcome to Tisha.

So, I hope to see you at an upcoming event. As mentioned, life is full of com-promise—if you *come*, we *promise* you a good time.

Mike Miyamoto

Our Condolences

Judith Johnston passed away April 15. She was a retired Associate Professor, Health Sciences, of 28 years. Judith is survived by her two sisters, brother-in-law, and nieces and nephews.

LaVeta Ligon passed away March 10. She served as a Professor of Psychology and Counseling from 1964 until her retirement in 1989. Dr. Ligon was a Lifetime ETSURA member. She is survived by her niece, Carileen Bollinger, and her nephew, Tracy Ligon.

Robert Peplies passed away on March 28. Robert taught Geography for 40 years at ETSU and retired in 2000, becoming a Lifetime ETSURA member. He leaves behind his wife, Anne Brading, and children, Mark Frederick and Barbara Chaffins.

Janet Powell passed away on May 9. She is the wife of retiree Harry Powell and a Lifetime ETSURA member. Janet is survived by her husband, and their children Wade Powell, Douglas Powell, and Allison Sharpe.

Wanda Richardson passed away on April 27. She retired from ETSU after 30 years of service as a Program Analyst 2. Wanda is survived by her mother, Jessie Mae Richardson; her sister, brothers, and nieces.

Robert Samuels passed away March 23. Robert was a professor emeritus upon retirement from ETSU's Biology Department. He is survived by his wife, Gloria, and children, Joel, Deborah, and Leslie.

Joyce Walwick passed away April 6. Joyce was a Lifetime ETSURA member and wife of late retiree, Paul Walwick. She is survived by her son, David Walwick, and daughter Paula Baskin.

Robert Wondergem passed away on March 21. Robert was a Lifetime ETSURA member after he retired from the Quillen College of Medi-

Eat & Chat

On April 12, thirteen people heard Bob Patton talk about his new book *The History of Public Health at East Tennessee State University*. Many of the attendees were contemporaries of his and lived through a lot of the events discussed. Bob started with the Civil War, explaining that Tennessee was the last to leave the Union and first to return. After the war, there was a lot of political divisiveness, but the Democrats dominated the scene until Republican Winfred Dunn was elected governor. Dunn advised against forming a medical school here, but House Speaker Ned McWherter ran with the issue and worked tirelessly to see it through.

Before 1903 public education in TN was almost nonexistent. The General Education Bill of 1909 changed that and was the basis for state appropriations and contained the core of the educational system that exists today. Four normal schools were created by this bill, and Johnson City was successful in winning one of them. The first president was Sidney Gilbreath who had many problems and eventually resigned. His replacement was Charles Sherrod, who served for 24 years. Not much changed until Burgin Dossett arrived. He and John Lamb were interested in promoting health education and had a vision of a public health school.

Delos Culp served as president during the 1960s to 1970s. At that time, ETSU was controlled by the deans, so Culp created the Faculty Senate to provide a voice for faculty and students. However, his primary goal was to get the medical school accredited. With the help of Charles Allen and John Lamb, he succeeded in 1972. Contrary to public perception, Art DeRosier (1977-1980) was a force for positive change, pushing the concept of a true "university." At that time, there were no rules or regulations for promotion, tenure, or salary raises, and DeRosier instituted a set of standards. He also got rid of deadwood and changed 16 out of 18 chairs.

2018 Officers

Dr. Mike Miyamoto	President
Dr. Jeff Wardeska	President-Elect
Ms. Susan Burkey	Secretary
Ms. Gail Burleson	Treasurer
Dr. David Kalwinsky	Past-President

2018 Board of Directors

Ms. Susan Burkey	3 years left in tenure*
Ms. Gail Burleson	2 years left in tenure
Mr. Donald Carter	1 year left in tenure
Dr. John Hancock	2 years left in tenure
Dr. David Kalwinsky	Past-President
Dr. Mike Miyamoto	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Louis Modica	3 years left in tenure*
Dr. Priscilla Ramsey	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Jack Rhoton	2 years left in tenure
Dr. Dale Schmitt	3 years left in tenure*
Ms. Judith Story	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Fred Tudiver	3 years left in tenure*
Dr. Jeff Wardeska	2 years left in tenure

*Elected at the Organizational Meeting on November 3, 2017

Eat and Chat—cont.

In Health Sciences, John Lamb was a micromanager who did not understand research—Dean Blevins wanted to do research and get grants, and Monroe Morgan wanted to promote Environmental Health. Eventually, both bachelors and masters research programs were created. When Guy Lanza left Health Sciences, Paul Stanton had Wilsie Bishop take over to settle the waters. Randy Wycoff brought instant credibility with his experience at HHS, work on the ship Hope, and medical (MD) and public health (MPH) training. He and Bruce Goodrow helped to get a record \$6 million Kellogg grant. Today the College of Public Health offers degrees of Doctor of PH and PhD in Health Sciences. In the early 1980s, there were only 13 schools of education for public health—now there are over 130.

Patton has a BA, MA, MPH and EdD and has been a faculty member and chair of the Department of Health Education. He has written or edited seven books. Many know him as a former County Commissioner and State Representative (99th thru 103 General Assemblies). He has received numerous awards for his advocacy as a legislator. He has also been a businessman and active contributor to his community and church.

Bob told me afterwards that he had remarried and was moving back to Johnson City. I asked whether he might be interested in getting back into local politics. He said he had several health issues and that physically, things changed a lot when he turned 80. It reminded me of my comment to a friend, who was a marathon runner, on his 60th birthday— I told him

Save the Dates

Eat & Chat

“Ancestry & Forensics
from your DNA” featuring
Dr. Scott Champney



September 20th, 2018 at 11:30 a.m.

Golden Corral (3104 Browns Mill Road, Behind Lo-

The ETSURA Annual Meeting will be held Friday, November 2nd. Dr. Kyle Colvett will be the guest speaker. See September newsletter for more details!

ETSURA Survey Results

Below are the results for the survey. There were 27 unique returns---many had blanks or "NA." The first numbers are the averages rounded to nearest tenth out of 5, and the numbers in parentheses are the numbers of responses. I took the liberty of reversing the num-

I. Indicate your satisfaction with current programs/activities by filling in the blanks below with **1 = total disagreement** to **5 = total agreement** and **NA = not applicable**.

A. *Annual Meeting/Banquet*

- 4.8 (24) 1. Johnson City Country Club is a suitable location.
4.6 (25) 2. Food is acceptable in quality and quantity.
4.7 (23) 3. Last 3 speakers (Grant Summers; Steve Wallace; Dan Schumaier) were good.
4.8 (23) 4. Entertainers the last 3 yrs (Heath Hill/ Heather Killmeyer; Ed Snodderly; Appalachian Men's Express) were good.
4.2 (23) 5. Having door prizes is a good idea.

B. *Summer Luncheon (Picnic)*

- 3.0 (24) 1. Food City Depot is a suitable location.
4.7 (21) 2. Speakers the last 3 yrs (Brian Noland/Anita DeAngelis; Scott Carter/Yasar Zaatini; Steve Forbes/Brittney Ezell) were good.
3.9 (22) 3. Luncheon should be primarily to meet with old friends (be more laid-back).

C. *Eat and Chats*

- 3.8 (18) 1. Golden Corral is a suitable location.
4.8 (13) 2. Last 3 speakers (Doug Taylor; Jeremy Ross; Ron Roach) were good.
3.2 (15) 3. Number of Eat and Chats should be increased.

D. *Service Opportunities*

- 3.1 (19) 1. I intend to help at 2nd Harvest Food Bank sometime in the future.
3.5 (17) 2. I intend to help at ETSU Move-In Day sometime in the future.
2.5 (17) 3. I intend to help at WETS Fund-Raising Campaign sometime in the future.
2.9 (18) 4. We should focus more on ETSU-related service projects.

E. *Membership*

- 4.9 (26) 1. Annual dues (\$10) and lifetime membership cost (\$100) are reasonable.
5.0 (26) 2. Newsletters are worth reading.

F. *ETSURA Website (etsu.edu/humanres/etsura)*

- 3.1 (14) 1. I have visited this site in the past.
2.8 (11) 2. Website is useful. It would be more useful to me if _____

Other Comments: _____

II. Indicate your interest in the following, with **1 = not interested** to **5 = very interested**.

- 2.2 (22) 1. A free "Mini-Library" of books/literature relevant to ETSU retirees.
3.3 (18) 2. Lunch as a group following work at 2nd Harvest.
3.8 (20) 3. Tickets to ETSU events & local merchant items/services as door prizes.
4.5 (21) 4. Tour of Bldg 60 & simulation (mannequin) lab by Doug Taylor on its opening.
4.9 (24) 5. Tour of Fine Arts Bldg by Anita DeAngelis on its opening.
2.0 (18) 6. ETSURA Bridge (cards) Group.
1.9 (18) 7. ETSURA Bowling Group.

Suggestions (e.g., speakers, entertainment, activities): _____

Volunteer Fund-Raising at WETS-FM

Two years ago, Charles Moore organized a group of retirees to help with the WETS Fall campaign. Unfortunately, no one picked up the ball last year, when Charles rotated off the board. I volunteered to help on April 27th to see exactly what was involved.

The inside of the building was more spacious than it seemed from the outside.

The call room was in “Studio One” on the far end near the parking lot. Tables were arranged back-to-back with four stations facing each other, each with computer and phone (head-set and hand-set). One of several broadcast booths was visible through a large plate window, and below the window was a table with donated food (Popeye’s fried chicken, red beans & rice, and cole slaw).



Chad Barrett, operations director, was there to help with questions. Each volunteer had to establish an account and log on. The screen showed boxes to type in names, addresses, and credit card info, with prompts at each step, such as “Thank you for calling WETS,” “How much would you like to contribute today?”, and “May we mention you on the air?” Info on previous donors was on file, so you could just click on the name to input all the data. Info on first-time donors had to be typed in completely. There are various payment options, but most do a one-time payment with credit card. There is also a box for comments, such as “In support of ‘Democracy Now’.”

Afraid of messing up, I tried doing my own donation a couple of times, thankfully without a problem. I had to use the head-set, as I soon learned I could not hold the phone with one hand and type with the other while also using the mouse. I had another problem when I could not hear the donor, with the broadcast in the background, delayed broadcast in the foreground, calls on other lines, and the announcer coming in and talking about something. Luckily, it was “slow time” (afternoon), or I might have been overwhelmed.

If you leave your station to get food or use the restroom, your calls will automatically be switched to another station after 3 rings. Not all calls were for donations. The delightful college student across from me received a call complaining about the constant barrage of biased programming. Her response was, “So.....how much did you want to contribute today?”

Chad said the Fall and Spring campaigns are not predetermined, just sometime in March-April and September. He said that “Studio One” (live musical guests with Dave and Mike) is broadcast from that same room (1 p.m. on Saturdays), and people are welcome to sit in. The room in fact was filled with makeshift acoustic-absorbing panels. There is also a large collection of CDs there, free for the taking—I got one from the ETSU Music Department. Overall, it was a great experience, and I would love to do it again. However, I will need to figure out a way to work around my hearing problem.



For current news and information go to the ETSURA website at:

www.etsu.edu/humanres/etsura

Or

Find us on Facebook @etsuretires

Become a Volunteer at Second Harvest



WE

NEED



YOU

Volunteering at the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee is one of the signature activities of the East Tennessee State University Retiree

Association (ETSURA). The Food Bank is housed in the old Sam's Club building located at 1020 Jericho Drive in Kingsport, within a quarter of a mile off of Interstate 81 North, airport exit 63. The scheduled time ETSURA has coordinated with the food bank for our members to volunteers is during the second Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. -12 noon. A growing number of children and adults are experiencing food insecurity in our region. The Food Bank provides food to some of Tennessee's most impoverished counties, which are located in Northeast Tennessee. Last summer the food bank provided meals for more than 2,500 children, including nearly 7,000 meals, when school meals were not available. The food bank hopes to meet this goal again this year as part of its Summer Food Service Program. When school is in session, children benefit from the food bank's backpack program.

What do Second Harvest Food Bank volunteers do, exactly?

Volunteers are expected to arrive at the Food Bank by 9 a.m. on the day of assigned work. Upon arrival, volunteers are asked to sign in so that the organization can have a record of their work. The morning activities are previously planned and one of the food bank's friendly staff members will lead volunteers to the work station with explicit directions on what should be done and how to proceed. Volunteers typically work in an assembly line fashion, having individual jobs to perform, which involves sorting, labeling, and repackaging nonperishable food items, and sometimes including health aids and paper towels for the summer food service program. This work does not require any heavy lifting; however, it does involve standing while working. Also, a thirty minute break is planned from 10:30-11a.m. A breakroom is available where snacks and refreshments are provided. The summer food service program is the only food option for many of the food challenged students in our re-

gion. The food bank volunteer service is very worthy work, and we hope you will consider volunteering three hours of your time during the second Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. -12 noon.

What should you wear?

The dress code at the Food bank is casual. Comfortable, safe footwear is strongly recommended: sneakers, work shoes, or boots. Open-toed shoes or sandals will not be allowed. Long pants are required. It is recommended that volunteers dress warmly in the winter months—layers are suggested.

Move In Day 2018

the summer. In addition, no smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the warehouse.

When: August 23, 2018, 7 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where: Governors Hall

The ETSU Department of Housing has invited ETSURA to once again assist them in welcoming the new Buccaneers to Governors. A sign-up sheet is available for those who might wish to volunteer for one or more hours during this time. Volunteers should arrive (lobby of Governors Hall) about 10 minutes prior to their assigned times. More than 400 students are expected to check in throughout the day on the 23rd. Each volunteer will be provided a roster of all students checking in on that day. As students arrived, they will check in alphabetically by last name. The volunteer will highlight the student's name on the roster and provide his/her assigned room number, after which time the volunteer will hand the new resident a packet of information (forms) that the Governors Hall staff has previously prepared. The volunteer will instruct the student to take the forms to their assigned room where a RA will be available to assist them in filling out the forms. When this is completed, the RA will direct the student to take the paperwork back to the front desk where the Governors Hall staff will examine it for completeness. At this time the student will get their ID encoded. Once this is done, the student can move his/her belongings into the room.

Even though this activity does not require a lot of effort on the part of the volunteer, the Governors Hall coordinator, Brian Thompson, says that volunteers play a crucial role in the smoothness of the move-in day and they would not be able

Congratulations To Our Recent Retirees

Stanley Carroll - Custodian, Facilities Management

Dennis Defoe - Professor, Biomedical Sciences

Anne Ehle - Assistant Director, Mary B. Martin School of the Arts

Barbara Godsey - Drafter 2, Facilities Management

Ruth Hausman - Executive Aide, Regional Resources Institute

Lakie Hensley - Manager of Student Apartments, Student Housing

Janice Howell - Executive Aide, International Programs

Tamara Mottern - Coordinator, Cohort Programs

Roy Redman - Assistant Professor/Director of Clinical Education, Allied Health Sciences

Gloria Reilly - Teacher 1, Child Study Center

Lila Seal - Coordinator, Office of Practice

John Stone - Professor, Educational Foundations and Special Education

Jim Tolbert - Assistant Professor, Allied Health Sciences

Pamela White - Coordinator, Finance and Administration- COM

Greg Wilgocki - Executive Associate Vice President, Finance and Administration

Duane Williams - Associate Professor, Physical

Join ETSURA

2 ways to join!

ETSURA's membership count for the 2018 calendar year is 329. All retired ETSU employees and their spouses, and spouses of deceased ETSU employees are eligible for membership. In addition, other persons employed by ETSU for five years or more who are retired from other institutions or corporations are also eligible for membership with their spouses.

- Membership is \$10 per person per calendar year, or
- \$100 Lifetime membership, or
- \$150 Joint lifetime membership for retirees and spouses



TN

Do you have questions about your retiree insurance?

Contact the Benefits Administration at 800-253-9981 and select

Option 2.

Their hours are 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, Central time.



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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

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: _____

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:
East Tennessee State University
ETSURA, Human Resources
Box 70564
Johnson City, TN 37614-1707