Retirement is the time to enjoy yourself, and to ‘keep moving, growing and learning!’

by Janet Jackson

Wow. When retirement finally arrived in 2014 for me I was a little concerned about what I was going to do with hours of free time. Like many of you I’ve worked since I was very young. In the beginning I read lots of books and enjoyed it but realized I needed more structure and organization.

So what am I doing in retirement? I am doing fun things that I enjoy.

I started volunteering at the hospital a few months after I retired. The reason had to do with my husband’s heart bypass surgery years ago. At the time our closest relatives lived three hours away. So the day of surgery our children go off to school, then Steve and I go to the hospital. After we checked in, the lady asked who was with us. I said it was just us. Once Steve is off to surgery I’m in the waiting room for hours. After a while the kind and thoughtful lady who checked us in came to the waiting room to see how I was doing. For me that falls under “you never know when an act of kindness will impact a life.” I wanted to give back to patients when I was able—volunteering made it possible. As an added benefit I have been able to talk with many former students, some are doctors, nurses, sales reps and yes, patients. What a blessing! Just like teachers who touch students’ lives every day, there are many who touch our lives. We never know when our actions can have a movement in someone’s life. I believe we should be thoughtful and kind, you never know what impact you may have on someone without knowing it.

Something else I wanted to do was learn to play the piano. I believe we need to continue to learn to exercise our brains. It may take a little more effort now but it’s worth it! Years ago I started to take piano lessons, and then I started library school, after earning my MLS, I started a new job, then—surprise!—we had a new baby. So piano lessons had to take a back seat for a few more years. Now I thoroughly enjoy learning and practicing, even when it’s not always as good for the ears as it is for the brain. I am happy to say I have learned a lot and I am making progress!

I continue to work for education by staying involved in the Kentucky Education Association, now on the Retiree side. KEA has always been important for teachers and students. It is even more so now that our pensions are under attack as well as public education itself. There are so many wonderful and talented people in our organization. I am amazed at the dedication and drive of the members in our profession. Thank you all for giving so much to our students, you have made Kentucky a better place to live.

I’m thinking about taking some classes for “seniors” at the college. From what I’ve read, it is “auditing” classes. Someday I will make time in my schedule for fun and interesting classes.

There are so many ways to continue to be productive in retirement—volunteer opportunities are wide and varied. I urge you to look around, check out community centers, hospitals, schools, veteran facilities, fine arts to name a few. There are so many things to do that will help others and also keep you active and learning.

Retirement is the time for you to enjoy yourself, learn something new, travel, visit family and friends. Keep moving, growing and learning. Life is amazing!

Know your KEA-Retired Executive Committee

Tom Denton, President
(502) 361-5738
tomdenton@bellsouth.net

Arletta Kennedy, Vice President
(270) 851-7700
arlettak@bellsouth.net

Arthur Marx, Secretary
(270) 683-5021
wildcat860@aol.com

Jim Sproul, KEA Board
(606) 542-4263
jgsproul@barbourville.com

Fred Tilsley, KEA Board
(859) 925-4305
ftilsley@windstream.net

Elizabeth Caples, Minority Seat
(502) 231-6713
capleseliz@aol.com

Kathy Hobbs, ESP-at-large
(270) 929-8566
sixtytwofairlane@aol.com

Meet your KEA-Retired Board of Directors on page 7

Plan now to attend the 2018 KEA-Retired Annual Meeting

Wednesday, April 4 at the Marriott Louisville Downtown

For information, email Kathryn.whitlock@kea.org
Looking back, and looking ahead

2017 was a good year for KEA-Retired. Together we will make 2018 even better.

It is appropriate at the start of the new year to look both backward and forward, to assess what we have accomplished, and to prepare for what we may yet do.

LOOKING BACK:
As I reflect on KEA-Retired in terms of what was achieved in 2017, here are a few things that I feel were noteworthy:

First and foremost is that KEA-Retired now has an organized and functioning chapter in every KEA-Retired district. With the work of some dedicated retired members UKREA-Retired was formed and now has a constitution, meets on a regular basis, has duly elected officers, and most importantly has a duly elected KEA-Retired Board Director. Congratulations to Howard Stanfill, Pam Maggard, Maria Bellamy, and the other dedicated retired members who are helping UKREA-Retired grow.

The elimination of the KESPA-Retired district required all other districts to revise their constitutions to make sure that the retired classified individuals were included and represented in their membership. Several districts took this opportunity to dig out, dust off, examine, revise, and update their constitutions to assure they were in compliance.

In December of 2016 I called the District Presidents together so they could meet each other and share and compare organizational structure, meeting schedules, activities, concerns, and so forth. Based on the success of that gathering all 12 of the KEA-Retired District Presidents had the chance to come together for their first formal meeting in April 2017.

In addition, I appointed three new ad hoc committees: The KEA-Retired Goals Committee; the Friend of Education Committee, which has formalized and created guidelines for the selection of the award recipient; and the Membership Engagement Committee, which is charged with helping retired members become more involved.

For another change, if you have not checked out the Kentucky Education Association-Retired page on Facebook lately I encourage you to do so. It has been revitalized over the last few months. Page membership has grown from about 550 to over 800 in that short time. It has proved to be an effective way to share critical information quickly.

LOOKING AHEAD AND CONTINUING TO MOVE FORWARD:

I am truly excited as I turn to look forward to what 2018 may bring. Much of this excitement stems from the most significant accomplishment in 2017, stopping (for the moment) Governor Bevin’s pension “reform” scheme. Due to your participation along with active KEA and community members in contacting your legislators, attending pension reform rallies, and spreading the message of “fund it first,” the governor never got the votes he needed to pass harmful legislation that would among other things end funding to the current defined benefit pension and suspend COLA’s.

However, this battle is NOT over! As we progress through this legislative session we need your continued energy to fight off this governor’s attack on public education and public employees, both retired and active. I implore you to continue your vigilance and activism in holding your legislators accountable to their constituents.

I formed the KEA-Retired Goals Committee to help steer the direction for KEA-Retired by creating a mission statement, a vision, and setting goals. It is my intention for this committee to bring forth recommended goals for KEA-Retired to achieve for the 2018-19 Association Year. Your KEA-Retired Board will review these goals at its February meeting and the committee will present these goals at the April KEA-Retired General Meeting for discussion and adoption.

KEA-Retired is already off to a running start this calendar year. We have activated our ROCs (Retirees On Call) to come to Frankfort to make our presence felt. Although the KEA-Retired Day of Learning is not until February 14, retired members from 2nd District attended alongside their active members for the first 2018 Day of Learning. I encourage each retired district to send members on both days as well.

KEA-Retired has also conducted recruitment training in Elizabethtown, Paducah, and Prestonsburg using funds from an NEA-Retired grant. Since we have continuous membership we can focus our recruiting efforts on building active membership.

This grant allows us to train retired members in one-on-one conversation and other related skills so that they can assist in school visits. KEA-Retired also received another NEA-R grant focused on “Saving Our Pensions.” I have asked the Membership Engagement Committee to take a look at a program the Illinois Retired Teachers Association has initiated designed to enhance the relationships and bridge the gaps between retired and active.

There is much work to be done. This legislative session will no doubt be a challenging one. There are plans to be made for upcoming meetings and events, goals to be established and accomplished, and let us not overlook the “unexpected” challenges that come along in life.

Finally and on a personal note, I have had the privilege and pleasure of attending district meetings all across this Commonwealth. Thank you so much for the invitations and hospitality, but more importantly your time and effort you put forth for KEA-Retired. I thank you for all that you have helped KEA-Retired accomplish and look forward to what we will achieve. With our collective efforts there are no challenges too daunting for KEA-Retired to overcome.

In solidarity,

[Signature]
Remembering Louise Avanelle Hite: “One of the greatest Kentucky educators”

[Editor’s note: The Blast from the Past challenge in the last issue of TODAY/TOMORROW was a photograph (below) of then-KEA President Louise A. Hite with Governor Wendell Ford and KEA Executive Director Marvin Dodson. Pat Allison of Louisville was the first member to correctly identify all three, so she wins a prize package of KEA-Retired merchandise.

And even though she wasn’t able to identify the two men in the picture, we are also going to send a prize package to Helen Wilder, for this poignant memoir of President Hite, whom she knew and taught with for many years.]

Today’s KEA-Retired paper came, and as I leafed through to page 3 I was immediately plunged into so many happy memories from early in my teaching career. I do not know the names of the two men in the photo pictured at the bottom of the page, but I will always and forever remember Louise A. Hite, pictured with them, who was president of KEA during those early years of my teaching career.

Louise Avanelle Hite was my across-the-hall neighbor at West End Elementary School in Middlesboro, Kentucky. She was a wonderful teacher who gave her all to support Kentucky teachers and their futures. During the years Avie (as we called her) was in office, our system had one hundred percent KEA Membership and she represented professionalism at its finest whether she was giving a speech locally or for UCEA district or even at the state or national level. She worked so tirelessly as KEA President and she worked tirelessly for our teacher pensions to be separate from the state retirement pension plan.

I admired Avie greatly and through her leadership knew the importance of KEA and NEA membership in regard to their benefit to teachers. I have not always agreed with all the positions NEA has taken as a Christian, but I still paid my dues every single year of my teaching career and still am a KEA member. Avie took it upon herself to tell each new teacher entering the profession personally the importance of being involved in their professional organizations.

It was only after her retirement and death that our local organization did not have a perfect or near perfect membership in the professional organizations. How I have wished all the new teachers who began teaching in the last few years could have been a part of those years of excitement when Avie with her smile and determination infused our local teacher group with so much hope and joy toward the teaching profession and the hope our professional organizations promised then for us as teachers!

I loved being a part of those early years of my teaching when Avie was in leadership, even though my part in supporting Avie was mostly making favors for dinners and printing pages on scrapbooks and doing artsy-craftsy things for her endeavors for KEA and NEA events as well as for our local MEA and district UCEA. During my entire teaching career, not one time did I ever consider not being a member of NEA because I would never have let Avie down for anything. She was a true leader, a wonderful teacher, a wonderful person, and a wonderful Christian friend.

Even when I visited Avie in the nursing home before her death, the last things we talked about were our teaching days. We both had a fondness for first grade, and I spent an entire career in kindergarten and first grade, and continued to substitute 10 years after my retirement. Now, at 70, I still work with children in my home after school four days a week because I am not happy unless I am teaching, and I will always teach.

It was important to me to say some nice things about Louise Avanelle (Avie) Hite because she was such a dear person to me throughout my teaching career and as far as I am concerned was one of the greatest Kentucky educators of all times.

We challenged you to identify the folks in the picture at left in the last issue. Now here’s a new challenge:

The woman at right participated in KEA and KESPA’s 1988 rallies for better health insurance benefits for Kentucky school employees. Who is she?

Send your answer in an email message to kathryn.whitlock@kea.org.

Remembering Louise Avanelle Hite: “One of the greatest Kentucky educators”

Louise A. Hite, KEA President, 1973-1974

We challenged you to identify the folks in the picture at left in the last issue. Now here’s a new challenge:

The woman at right participated in KEA and KESPA’s 1988 rallies for better health insurance benefits for Kentucky school employees. Who is she?

Send your answer in an email message to kathryn.whitlock@kea.org.
Health insurance funds for retired teachers may or may not be ‘inviolable,’ but the Commonwealth promised it to you in 2010

At the January 25 meeting of the Kentucky Public Pension Oversight Board John Chilton, Governor Matt Bevin’s Budget Director, explained why Bevin chose to eliminate state funding for medical insurance for retired teachers. He said, “We needed the money to balance the budget. And we know insurance is not subject to the inviolable contract. So funding was reduced to zero.”

If you are a retired teacher under the age of 65, the Kentucky Retired Teachers Association estimates, the elimination of this funding could mean you will have to pay as much as $500 to $800 a month for the coverage.

In a letter to members of Jefferson County’s legislative delegation, JCTA President Brent McKim argued that while, technically, health insurance is not covered by the inviolable contract, it was promised to retirees by the state:

“When we were dealing with the Shared Responsibility Bill (HB 540) in 2010, educators were promised by the state that if they would support HB 540, which included taking an additional 3% out of active educator paychecks, adding an additional $134 to normal monthly health insurance premiums for pre-65 retirees, and requiring school districts to pay 3% to the TRS Medical Insurance Fund (money that would have otherwise been available for educator salaries), then, in return, the state would firmly commit to paying the balance of pre-65 health insurance costs for retirees, after they made their monthly payments plus the extra Medicare Part B premium ($134). The state had been reimbursing TRS for this previously, but we were told this would be made a permanent on-going commitment by the state by formally placing it in statute. Educators agreed to support HB 540 based on this commitment and the bill passed with the statutory state funding commitment included,” McKim wrote.

“So this was, and still is, a promise by the state. The state promised to cover this cost as part of its responsibility under the Shared Responsibility Bill. This is not inviolably protected by the state constitution. It is only protected by the integrity of lawmakers who believe the state’s statutory promises should be honored when the state is a party to a shared sacrifice solution like this.”

Even if you already have done so, it is important that you continue to contact your state representative and state senator and ask them not to vote for Governor Bevin’s proposed budget (House Bill 200) in its present form. You can leave messages for them by calling the Legislative Message Line at (800) 372-7181. If you don’t know who your state legislators are, you can find out by going to KEA.org and clicking on the “Issues & Action” tab.

NEA-Retired grant to KEA-Retired provides funding to train retirees to make recruiting visits to schools, work sites

When the KEA-Retired District Presidents met in November 2017 much of their discussion centered on finding ways in which retirees could best assist KEA UniServ Directors in their work with Active KEA members. Because KEA’s Continuous Membership policy grants to all members of KEA full lifetime membership in KEA-Retired at no cost, the presidents decided that retirees could be most useful in helping UDs recruit new members to KEA.

At their suggestion Rosalind Bryant, the KEA UniServ Specialist who provides staff support to KEA-Retired, applied for and received a grant from NEA-Retired to fund training of KEA-Retired members to help with building visits and assist with recruitment of new members.

Bryant and a team of KEA staff members conducted the first three training sessions made possible by the grant in January in Elizabethtown, Paducah and Prestonsburg. The 21 retirees who completed the training will begin receiving building visit assignments from the UDs in their areas. After each assignment they will complete and return data sheets on their visits.

The KEA-Retired members who completed the training are: Gail Devine; Kathleen Bethge; Dale Warren; Nancy Reed; Doris Carter; Candace Foster; Marilyn Hazard; Barbara Reeves; Elizabeth Caples; Vicki Borden; Lana Blish; Sandy Anderson; Donna Whitfield; Patricia Carrico; Arletta Kennedy; Charlotte Benton; Brenda McCown; Hank Mutter; Pat Richardson; Nina McCoy; and Tom Denton.

The KEA staff trainers are UniServ Directors Dawn Lampley, Craig Carter, Brian Mingus and Dan Robinette, and Associate Candice Cole. They are available now to train other KEA-Retired members who wish to be part of this effort. For more information about the training—and getting trained yourself—contact Kathy Whitlock by email to Kathryn.whitlock@kea.org.

Meet retired ESP JoAnn Bright

I am honored to be the first ESP elected to the KEA Retired Board of Directors from Central District. I was an active member with FCESPA. I served as an elected officer in the position as Treasurer on their Executive Board since 2009.

I retired as Lead Custodian from Martin L. King Jr. Academy for Excellence in Lexington in December 2016. I did not join the Association early in my tenure, because no one ever asked! During a membership drive at MLK, I was approached by Monica Brown and she explained the importance and the benefits of being a member. I joined that day and immediately became involved. I attended my first KESPA pre-delegate caucus, KEA DA and NEA RA.

In May 2017 I was elected to the KEA-Retired Board of Directors. I also serve on the KEA-Retired Budget and Goals Committee. I have participated in meetings the Capitol.

I attended my first KEA-Retired meeting in January 2017 where I felt such warm welcome from my Retired family. It has been a pleasure to work with a group that works together as one! It take all of us working together to get things done. I understand the importance of being informed and staying involved in the future of public education. As a KEA-Retired Member, my goal is to continue to be an active voice for public education.

I understand the importance of being informed and taking an active role in ensuring that legislation that affects teachers, students, and public education is considered and acted upon. I am an active member of the KEA-RA Board of Directors and have served on numerous committees and task forces. I am a leader in the local and state education community and have been involved in advocacy efforts for many years.

Please use the “Issues & Action” tab on the KEA.org website to find information on legislation and current issues that affect public education.
Proposed amendments to the constitution of KEA-Retired

These seven amendments to the KEA-Retired constitution were proposed by the Constitution and Policies Committee, as part of an ongoing review of our association’s governance and policy documents initiated by President Tom Denton. Members who attend the 2018 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 8 at the Marriott Louisville Downtown will vote on these proposals.

AMENDMENT 1

In Article V Officers, section 1: Remove Ethnic Minority Representative(s) and ESP Director(s) at Large.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Association shall be President, Vice President, Senior Ethnic Minority Director, Ethnic Minority Representative(s), Senior ESP Director at Large, ESP Director(s) at large, members who serve on the KEA Board of Directors and any elected officer of NEA-Retired. These officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of KEA-Retired.

Rationale: Because this is referencing the Executive Committee, only the senior Ethnic Minority Director and Senior ESP Director at Large are included.

AMENDMENT 2

In Article V Officers – section 2: Under the duties of the President add sub-section i.

SECTION 2. The President shall
(a) Call regular and special meetings of the KEA-Retired Board of Directors.
(b) Preside at meetings of the KEA-Retired Delegate Assembly, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee.
(c) Appoint with the advice and consent of the KEA-Retired Board of Directors, members of all standing committees unless otherwise provided for.
(d) Serve as a member of all committees.
(e) Assist the District Directors and local association presidents in membership promotion and in the formation of and development of new local associations.
(f) Perform any other duties stipulated in the governance documents of the association and such as usually devolve on said office.
(g) Serve as a voting ex officio delegate to the KEA Delegate Assembly.
(h) Be an automatic delegate to both the NEA-Retired and NEA Active Representative Assembly.
(i) Serve as alternate to the KEA Board of Directors.

AMENDMENT 3

In Article V Officers – section 3 – Under the duties of the Vice President add sub-section f.

SECTION 3. The Vice President shall
(a) Chair the budget committee.
(b) Preside at the meetings in the absence of the President, and shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the President at that time.
(c) Succeed to the office of President at any time the office of President becomes vacant.
(d) Perform such duties as stipulated by the Constitution and Bylaws, or by the President.
(e) Serve as a voting ex officio delegate to the KEA Delegate Assembly.
(f) Serve as alternate to the KEA Board of Directors.

Rationale for 2 and 3: We currently do not have alternates for the two KEA Directors elected from KEA-Retired. This gives us alternates without another election being involved.

AMENDMENT 4

In Article V Officers, section 6 sub section c: add “KEA” before “Review Board.”

(c) If, after a due process hearing, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the KEA Review Board shall sustain the charge, the office shall become vacant. The officer may appeal the decision to the KEA Board of Directors, which shall also afford due process. A 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors is required to sustain the decision of the KEA Review Board.

Rationale: This addition clarifies which Review Board will hear appeals.

AMENDMENT 5

In Article X – Elections, section 1: add (s) to “Ethnic minority representative.”

SECTION 1. The officers, KEA-R member(s) to the KEA Board of Directors, Ethnic Minority Representative(s), ESP at-large member(s), and members to the KEA standing committees and their alternates shall be elected at the annual meeting. No member may hold more than one elected KEA-Retired office or serve as a representative or alternate on a KEA Standing Committee at the same time.

Rationale: This addition cleans up an omission.

AMENDMENT 6

In Article X – Elections, section 3: Change “Board” to “KEA-Retired member(s) to the KEA Board of Directors.”

SECTION 3. Elections for KEA-Retired officers, Board; KEA-Retired member(s) to the KEA Board of Directors. Ethnic Minority representative, ESP at-large member(s), and members of KEA standing committees and their alternates shall require a majority vote. The first ballot does not result in the necessary majority, a second ballot shall be taken on the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

Rationale: Clarify which “board” the passage refers to

AMENDMENT 7

Take off all revision dates except the most recent.

Adopted, April 6, 1994
Revised 4-99.
Revised 4-98.
Revised 4-97.
Revised 4-96.
Revised 4-95.
Revised 4-94.
Revised 5-10.
Revised 4-11.
Revised 4-12.
Revised 4-13.
Revised 4-14.
Revised 4-15.
Revised 4-16.
Revised 4-17.

Rationale: These are unnecessary. This action was suggested by the Parliamentarian at the 2017 Annual Meeting.
**Districts: News & Notes**

**FIRST DISTRICT:** First District Retired met November 20 with approximately 50 members in attendance. The program centered on the Governor’s and the Shared Responsibility pension proposals. A conference call was held with Senator Dorsey Ridley from the Fourth District to discuss these proposals and the possibility of a special session. Other legislators were unable to attend. President Charlotte Benton announced that transportation for people who want to go to Frankfort during the legislative session is being provided by McCracken County. She urged everyone to be ready for the call to attend.

Other business concerned fiscal needs and volunteers for Read Across America as presented by Dale Workman and Skylar Nunnley. A motion was approved to donate fifty dollars to each. The next meeting will be held in February.

**FOURTH DISTRICT:** Members met on November 16, 2017. KEA-R President Tom Denton was in attendance. Discussion concerning the Special Session and pensions was a hot topic. Tom spoke about the Involved Shared Responsibility plan. There was extensive discussion concerning why KEA-R does not have a yearly budget and the need for one. Bill Wooldridge discussed KEAPAC process of supporting a candidate for state elections.

Fourth District is accepting nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer for a two (2) year term. If you would like to place your name or another 4th District member in nomination for one of the officer positions email Terri Masterson at terri.masterson@kea.org or by phone 270.769.1351. The deadline for accepting nominations is 4 p.m. on February 28, 2018. If only one nomination is received for each officer position those individuals will be elected. Election for those contested officer positions will be held in April 2018 on the KEA website.

**FIFTH DISTRICT:** The Spring meeting will be held at the KEA Fifth District Office (St. Mathews) on Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Elections will be conducted for President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, (1) KEA-Retired Board of Directors position, (1) KEA-FDEA Board Representative & Alternates for both Board Positions. Nominations are due by May 1st. The new officers will start their term on June 15, 2018. An amendment to the FDEA-Retired constitution has been proposed and will be presented for a vote. Plans for an upcoming “day out with members” will be shared as well. RSVP by calling (502) 893-3205. Please leave your name, email address and the school district from which you retired.

**CENTRAL DISTRICT:** KEA-Retired/Central District meeting scheduled for January 11th, was cancelled so that members could attend the Senate Education Committee in Frankfort.

While there, we met with our State Senator, Reggie Thomas. (He’s at left in the picture at right, with JoAnn Bright, Janet Cartmel, Fred Tilsley, Gayle Greer and David Allen.) At our on Wednesday, January 24th meeting, KEA-Retired president and lobbyist Tom Denton gave an informative update on the legislature. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 10, 2018, 1:00 p.m. at the KEA Lexington office. Lunch will be provided. Linda Porter will give a presentation on Monarch Waystations. Make plans to attend KEA-Retired Day of Learning Thursday February 15th. We will meet at the KEA building at 9 a.m. then go to the Capitol Annex to monitor the Senate Education Committee. A very important part of the day will be to meet with legislators. Read Across America is scheduled for March 3, at Fayette Mall in Lexington.

Please continue to contact your legislators with the message to save defined-benefit pensions and find funding.

**MIDDLE CUMBERLAND:** On December 20, members of the MCEA-Retired group and their guests met at Beaumont Inn in Harrodsburg for their annual Christmas luncheon. (See the picture at right.)

Lou Ann Flanagan, UniServ Director, shared the Days of Learning dates in Frankfort, the training for retired membership recruitment dates and locations, and the KEA Delegate Assembly dates. Three of our members plan to attend the training in Prestonsburg.

MCEA-Retired received a $400 grant from Read Across America. Six members plan to read at the Walker Early Learning Center in Monticello, KY, on March 2-2, and give out books that have been ordered with the grant. Members of the Monticello Women’s Club will be reading with us also.

**NORTHERN KENTUCKY:** NKEA-R’s last meeting was held in November 2017. Our first guest speaker was Kathy Will from the USO at the Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky Airport. She gave a brief history of the USO and discussed how to become a volunteer. Our second guest was Jonathan Gray from KEA’s Attorney Referral Program. Mr. Gray explained how the program works and then took questions from members. We are now planning our Pre-Retirement Workshop. TRS is making available a webcast to explain the retirement process and sending counselors to hold individual consultations for members within three years of retiring. Response has been tremendous. In November 2017 NKEA-R members attended NKEA’s Pension Reform Rally at Dixie Heights High School. Several local legislators spoke along with local school administrators. The rally was well attended.

NKEA-R is also gearing up to participate in NKEA’s Read Across America event at the Florence Mall the last Saturday of February. Our next meeting will be held on March 20, 2018 at the NKEA office. We will be preparing for the KEA DA in April.
UPPER CUMBERLAND: The Upper Cumberland Education Association-Retired met on September 26, 2017 for their annual meeting. KEA-Retired President Tom Denton encouraged members to meet with our state representatives and senators now not later! He was glad that the UCEA-Retired was already addressing this issue. He also encouraged ALL members to check out the KEA-Retired facebook page. UCEA Uniserv Director, Sharon Oxendine addressed pensions, funding issues and the UCEA facebook page. Jim Sproul, KEA-R Executive Committee reminded members that money MUST go into the pension system, that young people may not want to go into teaching if not, and that young people are the future of our education profession.

Mark your calendars: Our pre-delegate Caucus and Legislative Update will be held Tuesday March 6, 2018 at noon at Davids Steaks in Corbin. Lunch will be provided at 11:30am. Members please schedule phone parties (1-800-372-7181) to address education issues with your State Representative and State Senator. Additional information available from UCEA-Retired President Pat Bingham, by email to fsdir@hotmail.com.

The following districts are due to elect new representatives for the KEA-Retired Board of Directors:

- First, Second, Third, Fifth, Central, JCTA (2), MCEA, NKEA (2) and UCEA.
- Third District will elect an additional director due to growth.
- The directors from FIRST, CENTRAL (Charles Fegan only), JCTA (Joyce Childress Redd and Dale Warren only), MCEA, NKEA (Janet Jackson only) and UCEA are eligible for re-election.
- Directors elected by District KEA-Retired members serve a two-year term on the KEA-Retired Board and are limited to two (2) consecutive terms. Directors elected will serve from June 15, 2018 through June 14, 2020.

The KEA-Retired Board meets at least five times a year, usually at KEA Headquarters in Frankfort. District directors are expected to help organize district meetings and political activities, serve on committees, promote active and retired membership and report district news for use in the KEA-Retired newsletter.

If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else, please fill out the form below and submit it to KEA headquarters, at 401 Capitol Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601, in care of Kathryn Whitlock. Once received, they will be processed and dated, then sent back to your district for final processing.

KEA-Retired Board of Directors
Official Nomination Form

Name__________________________________________SSN# (last 4)__________________

Address__________________________________________

KEA-Retired District__________________________________________

Biographical Statement (30-word maximum)__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Signature of Nominee________________________
Phishing is serious, dangerous business

No, I did not spell it incorrectly. Phishing is the attempt to obtain sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details, often for malicious reasons, by disguising as a trustworthy entity in an email or other electronic communication.

Phishing is typically carried out by email spoofing or instant messaging and it often directs the user to enter personal information at a fake website that looks and feels like a legitimate website.

These communications might be from social web sites, auction sites, banks, online payment processors, etc. Phishing emails may contain links to websites that distribute malware (malicious software).

There are many dialogues on the social media that ask you seemingly harmless questions such as your favorite pet, your favorite color and other personal information. These questions are designed to elicit answers that can lead to a hacker gaining information as to passwords and other favorite areas to research for information.

Other areas include bogus friend requests from someone who is already your friend on Facebook or possibly you have no idea who they are. No response and delete is best here.

If it at all possible contact the person or business personally to find out if what you see is legit. Do not give out anything personal to others. At times they use a genuine logo to fool you.

Political posts are now leading to potential information stealing. The hacker will see posts and try to infiltrate your information through your posts, such as asking for personal information to get your money or card information.

The cyber world is constantly being scanned for valuable information to steal. To stay safe when you go online, you must be cautious. You must be choosy about what you click, and what information you give out.

I welcome any questions or comments, and I welcome personal stories to share with others. Email me at wildcat860@aol.com.