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The Future-Make it a Bright One



As I write this, it is the night before the inauguration of Governor Andy Beshear. Pundits are on PBS/KET and other tv stations talking about the what could be if the governor and the legislators find common ground on things like infrastructure - primarily roads, health care, and public education. Will they pull together for the good of the citizenry

of the Commonwealth taking needed concepts from presented ideas no matter who presented it? Or, will they head off in different tangents, each holding on to personal desires? My staunch hope is that the governor and the members of the General Assembly, take a deep breath and realize that Kentuckians need good leaders who recognize the potential this state possesses and make decisions based on the good of all.

We, the members of KEA-Retired can help this hope become a reality. We were active in the campaign of our newly elected governor. Now we must actively follow the bills that are introduced; determine how they impact public education, public pensions, healthcare, etc. then communicate our support of some points and our concerns about others. To this end, we have designed a training on how to write persuasive messages that convey our understanding of the issues. The training is hands-on, involving research of current educational issues and crafting messages that succinctly address the pros/cons of the issue. It works better in small groups and can be presented in the KEA office nearest your location. A NEA - Retired grant is funding this initiative. Our long careers have resulted in much educational expertise making your voices ones that need to be heard during debates.

Please make every effort to attend the 2020 KEA - Retired general meeting beginning with lunch at noon on April 1 at the Louisville Downtown Marriott Hotel. At this meeting business that impacts the functioning of our association will be conducted. The proposed constitution amendments that appeared in this newsletter will be presented for passage. New business items will be entertained. Leadership positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, a KEA Board member, a representative to the KEA Budget Committee and a representative to the KEA Teaching and Learning Committee) will be filled. A constitutional amendment creating the office of KEA Retired treasurer will be presented. Should this amendment pass, this position will also be filled. This meeting provides an opportunity for you to have direct input toward the functioning of KEA - Retired. Please RSVP to Kathy Whitlock, Kathryn. whitlock@kea.org no later than March 25 or you may call her at (502) 875-2889.

Brenda

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Marnel Moorman Remembered

On Monday, December 9, 2019, the Marnel C. Moorman School opened in Shelby County. This school is as unique as was our friend Marnel. It will serve students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade. With the advent of middle schools/junior high schools, this configuration is rarely seen.

The newly named principal - Donna Jones-Hocker - shared, "The school is named after him because of his beliefs. He embraced diversity. He loved kids. He held them to high expectations. Those are the same things we're going to do here at Marnel C. Moorman." (Reprint from WLKY news article.) What a fitting memorial to a great leader.

During his KEA presidency, Marnel led the move to revitalize KEA - Retired. Along with the help of the late Cheryl Hayes, a KEA board member from Warren County, he laid the foundation for this approximately 16,000 member association and set the tone for the work to be done by KEA-R members.

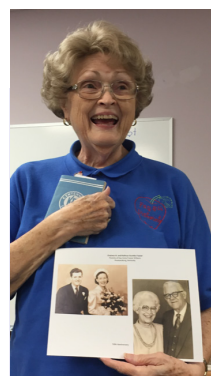
Many of us are proud to say Marnel was our friend. This leader understood the value of shared leadership, encouraging active involvement in the association. A pity he was taken from us too soon. Marnel Moorman still had much to teach and we still had much to learn.



The picture of the sign includes Montie Moorman, Marnel and Laura's son.



Marnel's wife Laura and his daughters Tolya Moorman Ellis and Elizabeth Moorman



Farewell, Joyce

On December 14, 2019 the KEA family lost a life long advocate for education. Joyce Dotson had served the association in many capacities: KEA President, member of the KEA Board of Directors, KEA staff member working as both a UniServ director and Government Relations Specialist, and president of KEA-Retired. At the time of her death, Joyce was representing the Fifth District Retirees on the KEA-Retired Board of Directors. Her leadership, her vocal nature, and her expertise will certainly be missed.

Districts: News & Notes

First District KEA retirees met in October to enjoy fellow member, professor emeritus and author of five books, Berry Craig, present a program on Kentucky Political Lore with an emphasis on western Kentucky. He told many hilarious, but factual, stories and also asked for participation from the attendees which kept everyone on their toes! Following the program a potato bar, complimentary of Logan's Steakhouse, was also enjoyed. A short business program with Arletta Kennedy presiding concluded the meeting. Business items on the agenda were the success of the political post card writing party prior to the November election and training for political activism during the General Assembly 2020 session. The latter will be discussed in more detail at the December Board meeting.

Second District celebration meeting for November had to be canceled due to snow and ice. Thank you to Brenda McGowen and Kayne Ishmael for understanding. Joy Gray attended SDEA Christmas Party to hear the active information. She also presented our GREAT staff with personalized libation cups. Here's to a fabulous New Year with new state administration for Governor Beashear and Lt Governor Coleman!

Fourth District Retired – Nominations are being accepted for the officer positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. The nomination period will begin on February 17, 2020 and ends on February 28, 2020 at 4 p.m. You may nominate yourself or another member. Please email your name and the officer position you would like to be nominated to terri.masterson@kea.org. If two or more members are nominated in any officer position then an election will be held in May. If only one member is nominated that member will be elected. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2020. If you should need additional information about our meetings, please email President Bill Wooldridge at bill933@windstream.net.

NKEA's guest speaker for our last meeting was Courtney Manigone from TRS healthcare. She reviewed our benefits and talked about next year's cost changes. We are very proud of Northern Kentucky's role in helping to elect Andy Beshear Governor. Two of our counties flipped from Red to Blue. We are collecting school supplies this year as our Outreach program. We have distributed the supplies to schools in need. NKEA-R has been sponsoring seminars concerning GPO/WEP. We will be having our last two this winter. In February, we will again have our Read Across America event at Florence Mall. NKEA-R was saddened by the news that long-time member and political advocate Louise Steidel, lost her husband, Stan Steidel in November. Northern Kentucky sports will truly miss him.

Middle Cumberland Education Association Retired lost two dedicated members this summer and fall, Norma Durham and Nita Faye Perdew. We kept busy with the election with phone calls, door-to-door canvassing, and sent out 630 post-cards to MCEA-R retired members listing the endorsed KEPAC candidates for 2019. We received our third Read Across America grant with the last one for Spring 2020. Charlotte Johnson, Jill Vaught, and Nancy Cox (not pictured) wrote the grant.

The Eastern KY Education Association – Retired met on Monday, December 30th, 2019 at Reno's in Morehead. We welcomed two new retirees to our meeting. Paul Goodman gave a report on the Inauguration activities he attended. KEA-Retired board members presented information from their December 11th meeting. The KEA-R Day of Learning will be Thursday, February 13th while the KEA-R delegate meeting will be Tuesday, March 31st.

Each EKEA-R member present received a copy of the constitution with several recommendations for revision. Discussed when and where to have our all member spring meeting. We would like for folks to suggest topics they would want covered at the April or early May meeting. Nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will be accepted a couple of weeks prior to the meeting as well as at the meeting. Electronic voting for officers and constitutional changes will commence soon thereafter. Officers will begin their duties on June 15th. We will share all information on the EKEA-Retired Facebook page. If you have not done so, please make sure to call the Grayson or Prestonsburg office to update your address, email and/or phone number(s).

**KEA-Retired
District Presidents
2018-2019**

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(270) 519-2128(c)

Second District – Joy Gray
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(270) 684-4323
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Third District – Vacant

Fourth District – Bill Wooldridge
Wooldridge8903@comcast.net
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Fifth District – Lisa Petrey-Kirk
lisakpk@gmail.com
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CENTRAL – Gayle Greer
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EKEA – LuAnn Asbury
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(606) 564-0478

JCTA – Dennis Wiseman
Dennis.sinnedagain@yahoo.com
(502) 380-9060
(502) 533-8989 (c)

MCEA – Pat Richardson
pbrichardson@windstream.net
(606) 348-0500
(606) 875-6890 (c)

NKEA – Janet Jackson
Janetjackson2@juno.com
(859) 240-0447

UCEA – Patricia Bingham
fsdir@hotmail.com
(606) 337-5990

UKREA – Juanita Spangler
juanitaspangler1962@gmail.com
(606) 634-87671

DEDICATION IN BLOCK 31

Artie Marx

Seven books were all they had; all they could save. If they were caught with the books it was certain death. They knew the consequences for their actions, yet they continued to use the books. A 14-year-old librarian named Dita was in charge of securing the books when the guards entered for inspection. They were teachers by trade, but they had no idea where they would be each minute of the day. This was the case in a city in Poland, Oswiecim, the location of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Block 13 was the so-called family camp where adults were permitted to live with their families only if they could work or labor at the whim of the Nazi officers dressed in black. “Achtung” altered the adults that their daily assignments were about to be announced. They were forced to do hard labor, serving the Reich. Block 31 was atypical, an anomaly in the life destroying factory called Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Alfred Hirsch established a school in this environment. Hirsch believed that each time someone stops to tell a story and children listen, a school has been established.

Hirsch enlisted teachers who had taught before they were imprisoned in the torturous concentration camp. They came from various schools in their home cities and taught various subject areas. The one thing they all had was the true dedication for educating kids.

You can visit any modern-day school and see dedicated teachers and staff members whose main concern/goal is to lead kids to success no matter the challenges and barriers.

I have visited the camp in southern Poland. I saw Block 31. It reminded me of all those educators through the years who have been dedicated to this same goal. They were heroes.

Auschwitz was liberated by Allied forces on January 27, 1945----seventy -five years ago.

Comments or questions: wildcat860@aol.com

GPO/WEP Highlight

On January 3, 2019 Rep. Rodney Davis, R-Illinois-district 13 introduced H.R. 141—the Social Security Fairness Act which would repeal both the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). The bill was referred to the US House Subcommittee on Social Security January 31, 2019 and has remained there with no action taken.

Together, GPO and WEP deprive 2.5 million hard working Americans of the Social Security benefits they have earned—educators, police officers, firefighters, and other employees of state and local governments who dedicate their lives to public service.

Many Kentucky retired teachers are impacted by this Social Security provision. If you have experienced loss of Social Security benefits due to these actions, SHARE YOUR STORY! KEA President-Eddie Campbell, KEA Vice President-Joel Wolford, and NEA Board members-Jo McKim, Robin Brown, and Matthew Powell frequently lobby the KY Congressional delegation. Having your stories to share make their lobbying attempts more authentic and provide a personal connection between the bill and their KY constituents.

Please contact your Congressman asking that he work with Rep. Davis to move H.R. 141 out of committee and ultimately pass the House and the Senate. Phone numbers and mailing addresses may be found at this website, house.gov.

Proposed Amendments to the KEA-Retired Constitution

The KEA-Retired constitution can only be amended at the annual meeting of the membership of KEA-Retired. A two-thirds majority of those KEA-Retired members present and voting is required for adoption of amendments. Article XIII-Amendments and Revisions, Section 2 states: Proposed amendments or revisions to the KEA-Retired constitution must be . . . sent to the members at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Following is a list of the proposed amendments, the action that will change, and the article(s) impacted. The full text of the constitution as it would appear if all amendments are passed is also provided.

Revisions printed in **red** are proposed by the KEA-Retired Constitution and Policies committee. Those printed in **green** are offered to ensure compliance with the KEA Constitution.

- Amendment 1** will change the word “Association” to KEA-Retired throughout the document, defining which association is being referenced.
- Amendment 2** will better define who can become a member of KEA-Retired—**Article III, Section 1**
- Amendment 3** defines how a former KEA active member who retired before continuous membership can become a member of KEA-Retired—**Article III, subsection new b**
- Amendment 4** adds information on verifying retirement date, allows retired KEA/NEA employees who become KEA-Retired members to hold office, changes KTRS to TRS--**Article III, Section 2**
- Amendment 5** defines conduct which could subject member to censure, suspension, or expulsion and specifies who will hear any appeals of the KEA-Retired Review Board—**Article III, section 5 a, b**
- Amendment 6** Constitution and Policies Committee alone with KEA-Retired Board of Directors recommend creating an elected officer to serve as Treasurer—**Article V, section 1**
- Amendment 7** Changes the length of term of officers from 2 years to 3 years—**Article V, section 1 and Article VII, section 2**
- Amendment 8** President must approve treasurer vouchers—**Article V section 2 new j**
- Amendment 9** Outlines duties of Treasurer---**Article V new sub section j**
- Amendment 10** grammatical correction—**Article V section 6/7**
- Amendment 11** clarifies which code of ethics KEA-Retired follows—**Article V section 6/7 subsection a**
- Amendment 12** Places impeachment procedure responsibility on KEA-Retired rather than KEA—**Article V section 6/7 sub section b**
- Amendment 13** Satisfy due process standard--**Article V section 6/7 new sub section d**
- Amendment 14** Returns previously omitted ESP Director(s) at Large –**Article VI section 1**
- Amendment 15** Provides representation on KEA-Board of Directors for retired ESP members, retired ethnic minority members, and retired supervisory/non-supervisory members should the presence of such members on the KEA-Retired Board of Directors be disproportionate to the membership of each group in KEA-Retired.—**Article VI section 1 and new Section 4**
- Amendment 16** inserts the word “retired” between state and offices to make the phrase state retired offices—**Article VI section 2 sub section a**
- Amendment 17** Adds KEA-Retired Constitution and Policies Committee to oversight of KEA-Retired investments—**Article VI section 2 sub section c**
- Amendment 18** Deletes term of office and how number of ethnic minority/ESP are determined as appears elsewhere (Article VI new section 4). Adds process for providing representation on the KEA-Retired Board of Directors for districts having under 600 retired members.—**Article VII section 1**
- Amendment 19** Defines term of office for district directors and allows for election of an alternate by the district—**Article VII section II**
- Amendment 20** Provides direction for handling unexpired term in the event of resignation or death of district director---**Article VII new section 3**

- Amendment 21** Clarifies that delegates being allocated to KEA DA and the NEA RA are KEA-Retired members—**Article IX sections 1 and 2**
- Amendment 22** Both (RED and GREEN) Defines how elections are held, outcomes are determined and how run-off election ballots are created—**Article X section 3**
- Amendment 23** Allows election by acclamation when number of candidates equals number of positions—**Article X section 4**
- Amendment 24** Defines who can vote in elections—**Article X section 5**
- Amendment 25** Adds Treasurer to list of officers and takes out District Directors as Article 6 section 3 contains process for filling vacant terms in Article 6 Section 3—**Article X section 7**
- Amendment 26** Mirrors KEA constitution, election challenges spelled out completely in KEA-Retired handbook— **Article X section 8**
- Amendment 27** Clarifies that the membership of KEA-Retired are those who attend and vote at annual meeting—**Article XI sections 1,2,and 4 and Article XII sections 1, 2, and 4**
- Amendment 28** renumber sections of KEA-Retired constitution to reflect changes made as a result of these amendments---**all articles**

General meeting attendees will receive a copy of the KEA-Retired constitution showing the appropriate insertion of these changes. If you are not attending the general meeting, you may request a copy of the amended constitution by emailing Brenda at bmcgown@twc.com or Kathy at Kathryn.whitlock@kea.org.

Highlights of KEA-Retired Board Meeting held December 11, 2019

- Celebrated the impact Retired members had on the election of Gov. Andy Beshear.
- President Eddie Campbell and Vice President Joel Wolford shared remarks.
- Approved the moving of KEA-Retired bank accounts from Westbanco to Traditional Bank which should result in better customer service and reduced bank charges. (VP Lisa Petrey-Kirk)
- Revised proposed constitutional amendments and forwarded to general meeting for adoption. These amendments were primarily offered to bring the KEA-R constitution into compliance with those of NEA and KEA. One amendment calls for the creation of an executive office of treasurer. (Dennis Wiseman)
- Jane Gilbert, TRS, presented the insurance policies that will be available to certified retirees beginning January 1 and answered questions from members. (Brenda McGown)
- Connie Pettyjohn, KRS, presented the insurance policies that will be available to classified retirees beginning January 1 and answered questions from members. (Brenda McGown)
- All KEA delegate positions were filled in the recent election. There are a very few alternates. (Kathy Whitlock)
- The training funded by the NEA-Retired grant is under development. It will include specifics of educational funding, school safety legislation, recruitment/retention of teachers, and pension funding. The PAL committee will meet Jan. 3 to field test the training.
- The KEA-Retired Day of Learning will occur Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020. Attendees are encouraged to review the various education issues and then make appointments to lobby their legislators both at home and on the actual day of learning.
- The next KEA Board meeting will be held at the KEA headquarters, Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020. Lunch will be served at noon with the meeting to begin at 1 PM.

KEA-Retired Board of Directors Nominations are due May 1

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.

The directors from Second, Third, JCTA (Joyce Redd and Dale Warren), MCEA, NKEA (Louise Steidel) 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, 2020 through June 14, 2022.

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.

All nomination forms are due by May 1, 2020.

NOMINATION FORM – KEA-Retired BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Nomination: is for which KEA-Retired district? _____

Biographical statement (not to exceed 30 words): _____

Signature of nominee: _____



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www.kea.org

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members of KEA-Retired*



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KEA-Retired

TODAY/TOMORROW

Reminder.....

*The KEA-Retired
Annual Meeting
will be held
Wednesday, April 1,
2020, noon at the
Downtown Marriott
in Louisville. Mark
your calendar.
Officers will be
elected as well
as a KEA Board
Member. More
info in the
next
newsletter.*

