

# TODAY/TOMORROW

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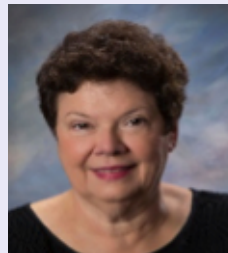
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## KEA-R 2022 Annual Meeting It's a Wrap!

For the first time in 2 years, we were able to conduct our meeting in person. Attendees actually got to see their friends in person rather than a small rectangle on a computer monitor. Some attendees wore masks; some did not but all appeared to enjoy being together. Being able to communicate face-to-face added to the professional atmosphere of our gathering.

Program: Jane Cheshire Gilbert-TRS Director of Retiree Health Care and Dora Moore-TRS Senior Benefits Counselor brought greetings from the Teachers Retirement System of Kentucky. Together they shared health benefits available through the Medicare Eligible Health Plan and the Kentucky Employee Health plan. Both retired classified employees and retired certified employees receive health services from the KEHP. Medicare eligible certified employees receive health care from Medicare managed by United Health Care. Medicare eligible retirees who were formerly classified employees have Medicare managed by Humana. (More details about the Humana managed policy appear elsewhere in this newsletter.)

KEA-Retired Friend of Education Award: Jim Sproul, one of KEA-R's members of the KEA Board presented our Friend of Education Award to KY Senator, C. B. Embry, Jr. Senator Embry (R) is a long-term member of the KY General Assembly having served both in the House and the Senate. Senator Embry comes from a long line of educators and is a retired educator himself. His experience in the public schools of Butler County led him to stand strong, voting for legislation to improve teaching and learning in our Commonwealth in spite of pressure from others. Due to failing health, Senator Embry was unable to attend our annual meeting. His award will be presented to him at his Frankfort office prior to the end of the 2022 KY General Assembly.

Thanks to the KEA-Retired Friend of Education Committee for your work continuing to select such deserving persons.

Tom Denton Memorial/KEA-Retired Scholarship: Nicholas Quest Adkins, a student at Morehead State University, is the recipient of the Tom Denton Memorial/KEA-Retired Scholarship. He received \$1,000 to further his study of special needs education. Both his mother and grandmother are retired teachers and members of KEA. This well deserving scholarship recipient plans to teach in Kentucky.

Part of Nicholas's essay read: "I grew up with so many special needs cousins, I was taught early to love and understand these individuals. I have to say, when you hear the words special education or special needs, I want you to know it's not what you expect. People can learn no matter their disability. My cousins have gone to school, made friends, participated in Special Olympics, learned to microwave food, etc. The bring a lot of joy to our family and some have the best sense of humor and will make you laugh on your worst day."

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## KEA-Retired Board of Directors

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The scholarship began in 2006 with a sizable donation from Fred and Patti Hester. After the passing of then KEA-R president, Tom Denton, the scholarship was re-named as a memorial to Tom. Donations are received throughout the year with the largest amount collected during the annual meeting. This year \$705 was donated to the scholarship fund, making the fund total stand at \$13,744.74.

The service of the Tom Denton Memorial/KEA-Retired Scholarship committee is deeply appreciated as they work to help college students achieve their dreams.

2022 KY General Assembly: Michael Wilson, KEA Government Relations Director, shared information about the functioning of the 2022 KY General Assembly. Unfortunately, many of the stances taken by the majority of the legislators were not to our liking. At the time of this writing there are 2 days left in the session. Governor Beshear has vetoed many of the bills KEA found onerous. Mr. Wilson encouraged those present to contact their state senator and representative asking them to sustain the various vetoes.

Financial Report: Vice President Lisa Petrey-Kirk presented the 2020-21 financial report. It showed income of \$185,021.90 (2% of all dues collected by KEA), receipt of NEA Grant \$7,000, a \$990.90 return from IRS, and earned interest \$2,901.06. This totaled \$185,021.08. Expenditures totaled \$65,410.24, leaving a balance of \$119,610.84. This large remaining balance is due to few in-person meetings (lobbying, board meetings, annual meeting, etc.) being allowed during this financial year. This balance combined with carryover from 2019-20 produced a year-end bank balance of \$369,150.94. VP Lisa also presented a to-date report for 2021-22 (through March 29, 2022) showing September – March dues \$99,304.43, interest earned \$974.17, and NEA grant \$9,287.00. As of 3/29/2022 income totaled \$109,565.60. Expenses for the same period totaled \$42,965.21. A more detailed report will follow once the fiscal year ends 8/31/2022. Currently, KEA-Retired membership stands at 17,444.

Constitutional Amendments: The annual meeting dealt with 2 constitutional amendments. Amendment 1 called for the creation of an executive officer position—a treasurer—and described the duties of this position. Amendment 2 changed the ratio of 1 district director for each 600 members to 1 director for each 800 members. Both amendments passed, surprisingly with the exact same vote range, 65 yes or 80.2% of the vote, 16 no or 19.8% of the vote. Constitutional amendments are in effect immediately upon passage.

Elections: Numerous elections for executive officers and standing committee members were held during the 2021 Annual Meeting. Only one election was required this year, that of a KEA-Retired director on the KEA Board of Directors. Jim Sproul was re-elected to this position.

Part of this meeting was set aside for the KEA-Retired pre delegate caucus. KEA Vice President Joel Wolford shared details of the KEA budget to be presented for adoption during the KEA Delegate Assembly. There were no amendments to the KEA Constitution to be considered at the KEA Delegate Assembly. Current President Eddie Campbell and Vice President Joel Wolford are unopposed candidates for their positions with their continuance in office confirmed at the KEA DA.

Those attending the meeting donated \$620 to the Marnel Moorman Scholarship fund and \$315 to the Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund. The Moorman Scholarship fund goes to a deserving Kentuckian studying to become a teacher. The Kinnaman Scholarships go to multiple pre service teachers across the nation.

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**KEA-Retired  
District Presidents  
2021-2022**

**First District – Charlotte Benton**  
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**Fourth District – Vacant**

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## Districts: News & Notes

**First District News** - First district Retired was represented at Galt House, Louisville, KY at KEA Delegate Assembly April 6-8 by Charlotte Benton, Kathy Hobbs and Janice Gream. Kathy Hobbs and Charlotte Benton were elected as Delegates to NEA Representative Assembly and NEA Retired meeting to be held in Chicago, IL., June 29-July 6, 2022.

First District KEA RETIRED will meet in person, Monday, May 16, 2022 12 noon at the KEA Office. Lunch will be served by Culinary Department. Reservation must be made by contacting Charlotte Benton at 2701-462-3406 by May 12<sup>th</sup>.

**NKEA-R District News** has been busy this spring. We held our last meeting of the 2021-2022 year on Tuesday March 8. Our speaker was M. Kay Lawler from MKL Tours, We learned many interesting travel facts and details. We also discussed the KEA Retired Annual Meeting as well as the KEA Delegate Assembly.

On March 16 NKEA Retired and NKEA co-hosted a presentation from NEA Member Benefits about the Student Loan Forgiveness Program. We attended in person, but Susan presented by ZOOM. This is one of NEA Member Benefits most requested programs.

On April 20 NKEA Retired and NKEA will co-host KEA President Eddie Campbell who will present a program on social security offsets. Better known as GPO/WEP. The meeting will be in person at the NKEA office in Florence.

Also this spring the KEA Retired Annual Meeting and KEA Delegate Assembly was live and in person at the Galt House in Louisville. NKEA Retired was well represented by Patti and Fred Hester, Janet Jackson and Cindy Williams. It was wonderful having an in person meeting after two years of ZOOMing.

**JCTA-R District News** has been very active this Spring! To start, we've conducted our Steering Committee Spring Elections. We offer congratulations to Senora Weathers for being elected the new JCTA-R Secretary and to Marilyn Hazard for taking Seat C. We also welcome new JCTA-R members Mary Thurman in Seat D and Pam Jones in KEA -R Seat C! They will begin their terms on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

The JCTA-R Steering Committee went to the NEA-R Summit in Baltimore. Everyone was energized by the sessions attended and came home with lots of ideas and plans! Among the other highlights were being able to hang out with KEA-R VP Lisa Petry Kirk, KEA Staffer Kathy Whitlock, and NEA President Becky Pringle!

April brought the KEA Delegate Assembly. It was great to be back in person with everyone to conduct the business of the Association, coupled with fellowship and fundraising!

On April 21<sup>st</sup> JCTA-R organized a Spring Outing to Cincinnati to visit the National Underground Freedom Center and Hard Rock Casino. All seats were full, but watch the JCTA Retired website for our next outing—we are excited to have as many members as possible participate! Also keep your eye on the website for upcoming surveys regarding ways to get involved! We encourage YOU to be an active part of JCTA-R!

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The 2023 KEA-R annual meeting is scheduled at the Galt House, Louisville, April 12, 2023. KEA-Retired's major policy making occurs at this meeting. To be a strong, vibrant association we need you and your great ideas. Please make every effort to attend the 2023 KEA-Retired Annual Meeting.

Stay safe,  
Brenda

## Downsizing Retirement

By Guy Kendal-Freas, NEA Member Benefits Specialist

Most retirees are hesitant to downsize. A study by the Society of Actuaries shows that nearly 64% of retirees wish to remain in their current home throughout retirement, while 44% of pre-retirees agree. It's comfortable, it's yours, and it's *home*.

But staying in a large family home into retirement becomes costly and makes it difficult to age in place. Nearly 30% of retired homeowner expenditures are housing-related, which includes taxes, insurance, upkeep, and utilities.

If you do make a tidy sum with the sale of your home, talk with a financial advisor who can offer some options based on your needs and interest. To find your local NEA Retirement Specialist, go to <https://www.nearetirementprogram.com/nearep> or call 1-800-632-8258.

It might be easy for homeowners who've been out of the real-estate game for years to underestimate how costly it can be to sell. Agent commissions are obvious but other outlays aren't. Some other fees sellers may not consider include having the home professionally cleaned; professional staging; paying a photographer; having a professional gardener give the yard an overhaul; and making minor repairs to get the home into marketable condition.

Condos are justly popular for downsizing retirees who want a few amenities or someone else to take care of the yard. But the perks can get costly. Be sure to consider whether amenities like a gym or pool are ones you'll use. It might be that space for a garden, or a crafting room is more important to you, and you'll end up paying hefty fees for things you don't use.

And of course, if you do decide to downsize your home, you'll likely need to downsize what goes in your home. You probably have more stuff than you realize—the average American household has 300,000 things. It takes hours on end to go through everything you've been piling up for decades.

### Here's how to purge your closets, junk drawers, and garage to downsize everything you own.



- Lay everything out in front of you and sort through it one by one. Yes, it takes forever... that's why we're telling you to start now! Start with clothes, books, papers, miscellaneous items, and end with sentimental items. Hold every belonging in your hands to see if it "sparks joy". If it does, it's worth keeping.
- **What to do with your kids' stuff, old furniture, dishes, collectibles and other items in your home, attic or basement.**

Now's your opportunity to give your favorite furniture and treasured items to your children, family members, or friends with bigger homes.

- **Upload pictures, videos, and irreplaceable mementos to a hard drive or cloud storage.**
- **Have a garage or estate sale for items in good condition that you no longer need.**
- **Donate leftover items to Goodwill.**

If the task of downsizing items is too daunting, consider renting a temporary storage unit to store items until you can thoughtfully consider keeping, selling, or donating items.

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But downsizing for retirement is not the only way to save money on housing. Get Creative: If you like your current lifestyle, you might want to explore renting out a room in your existing home.

VRBO and Airbnb are really easy ways to turn your home into income. In fact, NEA Member Benefits can help you to become an Airbnb host with one-on-one coaching with Airbnb Superhosts and webinars to help you set up a successful listing and welcome guests. You can learn more at [www.neamb.com/hosting](http://www.neamb.com/hosting).

If you want to stay in your existing home, but need to improve your finances, a reverse mortgage may be a good option for you. You can learn more about reverse mortgages here: <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/reverse-mortgages>



The decision to relocate for retirement can be an emotional roller coaster, hugely exciting and a massive financial event. Slow down, take some time and make a plan. After all, it took many years to acquire all that you have, and it makes sense to downsize in slow and deliberate steps, ensuring that you get the maximum enjoyment from your retirement.



## ANNOUNCING A CHANGE . . .

### IN HOW KEA-RETIRED BOARD SEATS ARE SELECTED!

KEA-Retired members in attendance at the April 6, 2022 approved a constitutional amendment that changed the ratio by which the number of district directors per district is determined. The ratio is now, 1 director per 800 retired members. This action reduced the number of directors from 1<sup>st</sup> district, 3<sup>rd</sup> district, Central district, Jefferson County, and UCEA.

Due to this change, the make up of the board will be as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> , 1 seat	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2 seats	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1 seat	4 <sup>th</sup> , 2 seats	5 <sup>th</sup> , 1 seat	Central, 3 seats
EKEA, 3 seats	JCTA, 3 seats	MCEA, 1 seat	NKEA, 2 seats	UCEA, 1 seat	UKREA, 1

By June 15<sup>th</sup>, the following districts will need to hold election(s) for directors:

2 <sup>nd</sup> – 1 seat,	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 seat,	5 <sup>th</sup> – 1 seat,	JCTA – 1 seat,	MCEA – 1 seat,	NKEA - 2 seats
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The self-nomination form appeared in the last 2 newsletters and must be returned to Kathy Whitlock by May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you need a form, please contact Kathy at [Kathryn.Whitlock@kea.org](mailto:Kathryn.Whitlock@kea.org).



## *The 150<sup>th</sup> KEA Delegate Assembly. . . .*

### *A Summary of the Celebration*

The 150th KEA Delegate Assembly was called to order by President Eddie Campbell, 8:00 PM EDT, on Wednesday, April 6th. Opening ceremony included the Pledge of Allegiance, the Star Bangled Banner and My Old Kentucky Home sung by the KEA choir directed by Chad Davidson, a member of the McCracken County Education Association. The KEA Vision, Mission, and Values were read and the members of the head table introduced.

Luke English, Chair, Constitution and Compliance Committee ultimately announced that 347 delegates out of a possible 559 had registered.

Noraa Ransey, Chair of the Diversity Committee, had the honor of presenting the 2022 Smith Wilson award. This award recognizes a person or organization that has made notable contributions in any of the following areas: encouraging and supporting minorities to enter the teaching profession; advancing opportunities especially education opportunities for youth of color; initiating or continuing impactful work in the areas of human and civil rights; or leading in the field of innovation, creative, and equitable education for all students. Sharon Porter Robinson is the 2022 recipient of the Smith Wilson Award for Human and Civil Rights. Robinson's career has taken her from a classroom in Fayette County, to the NEA, on to the US Department of Education, finally working for the Educational Testing Service as president of its Educational Policy Leadership Institute. Sharon is now serving as a member of the Kentucky Board of Education.

Two Marnel Moorman Scholarship was presented this year. The recipients were Leah Rinehard-Northern KY University and Emily Roberts-Spencer Co. High School. The winners of the Marvin Dodson Scholarships were Alyssa Bunch-Campbellsville University, Hannah McCrady-Western KY University, Nicholas Adkins-Morehead State University, and Preston Hill-Murray State University.

Michael Johnson, Boone County Schools, was named ESP of the Year. He is head custodian at the Ignite Institute. Michael will represent Kentucky in the NEA ESP of the Year competition.

The 2021 KEA Teacher of the Year is Lisa Hanson, Scott County Schools. She is a 4th grade teacher at Northern Elementary. Lisa will represent Kentucky in the NEA Teacher of the Year competition.

Neither President Campbell nor Vice President Wolford had opposition in their elections. They were elected by the body to continue their service to KEA.

Governor Andy Beshear addressed the delegation, sharing his belief in public education and promising his support for teaching and learning. This support led to his vetoing the negative education bills that had been passed by the general assembly. Unfortunately, the Republican super majority is overriding these as this summary is being typed.

As chair of the Constitution and Compliance Committee, Luke English led the discussion of 14 new business items. These addressed developing support for Aspiring Educators, promoting academic freedom, studying the possible inclusion of ESP members in districts currently serving only certified members, advocating for a more equitable funding system for public education, and development of training for school board members and local association leaders.

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Michael Wilson, KEA Government Relations Specialist, presented the legislative update.

Cyndi Skellie, Chair of the Government Relations Committee moved the 2022 -23 KEA Legislative Program. After much discussion this program was adopted.

Joel Wolford, KEA VP, presented the 2021-2022 KEA Budget. This passed without modification.

Throughout the meeting, the NEA Directors- Robin Brown, and Tyler Murphy-ran an auction to raise funds for the NEA Fund. This event raised over \$16,00 for The Fund. Once again, KEA-R led the charge by contributing \$4,008. JCTA placed 2nd with \$2,082. KEA-Central raised \$1,803 to place 3rd in the District Challenge.

If you would like more information on any of these items, please contact the person listed or send a request to me, [bmcgown@twc.com](mailto:bmcgown@twc.com).

## **KEA-RETIRED DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE 2022 NEA RA**

KEA-Retired will be represented at the NEA-Retired Annual meeting and the NEA Representative Assembly by 18 delegates and/or alternates. Delegate participation at all sessions of both meetings is expected. The meeting will be held in Chicago, IL with additional logistics for the meeting will be provided at a later date. Elected delegates are unable to attend, should notify Kathy Whitlock at [Kathryn.whitlock@kea.org](mailto:Kathryn.whitlock@kea.org) or call (800) 231-4532 as soon as possible to allow an alternate to be notified.

**The NEA-Retired meeting will begin on June 29 and conclude on June 30; the NEA RA will begin July 2 and conclude on July 6.**

Elections for the following positions will be held during the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting: Vice President, 2 seats on the Executive Committee, 2 NEA Board Members, 2 NEA Board Alternates, and 6 Resolutions Committee members. Any retired member interested in these positions, must file candidacy by Mary 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Delegates

1. Brenda McGown
2. Jim Sproul
3. Margaret Tilsley
4. Fred Tilsley
5. Fred Hester
6. Patti Hester
7. Lisa Petrey-Kirk
8. Linda A. Wilson
9. June Tompkins
10. Joy Gray
11. Kathy Hobbs
12. Patricia Bingham
13. Sondra Baker
14. Jerri Moody
15. Beverly Martin
16. Paul Goodman
17. Charlotte Benton
18. Cindy Williams

### Alternates

1. Candace Foster
2. Joann Bright
3. Jone Goodman
4. Gail DeVine
5. Janet Jackson
6. Dale Warren
7. Merry Berry
8. Karen A. Hall
9. Karen Hammons
10. Debbie Wooton
11. Penny Robinson
12. Dennis Wiseman
13. Royce Whitman
14. Joyce Childress Redd
15. Senora Weathers
16. Pamela Jones
17. Marilyn Hazard
18. Joann C. Williams
19. Juanita Spangler

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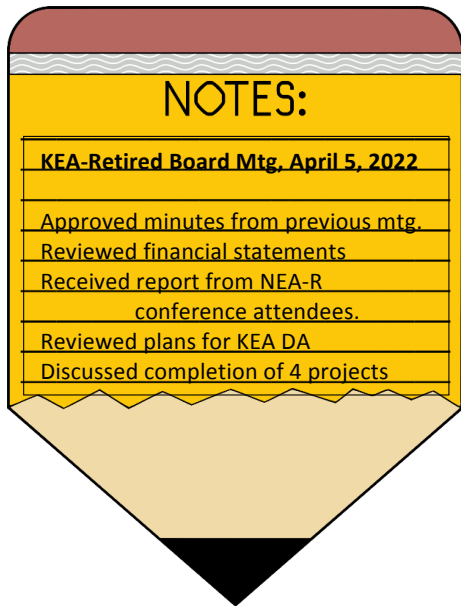
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*A Quarterly Publication for  
members of KEA-Retired*



**KEA-Retired**

# TODAY/TOMORROW



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