



2018 Retirement Ceremony

On April 27, the campus community gathered to recognize and applaud this year's group of new retirees, a total of 66 retirees representing over 1,300 years of service! Dr. Ken Harmon congratulated the new retirees and offered encouraging words for their next life adventure. Amy Phillips, Acting Director of Human Resource Services, and Karen McDonnell, Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services, introduced each retiree and read a tribute noting each retiree's accomplishments while a powerpoint slide show with a special slide for each retiree was displayed overhead. Amy and Karen added to the festivities by inserting slides and commentary promoting happiness in retirement and encouraging retirees to pursue eight specific characteristics of happiness. Retirees were presented with a special photo memory book personalized for each person as a retirement gift.

Prior to the festivities, new retirees and a guest were invited to the Jolley Lodge for a luncheon and a time to visit and chat. Following the ceremony, the campus community was invited to a reception sponsored by the Retirees Association to congratulate each new retiree individually. *(cont'd p. 2)*

Upcoming Events

NO Steering Committee meetings over the summer.

Membership renewal—due by July 1 for the 2018-19 year. Letters will be mailed soon.

Saturday, June 30—Star-Spangled Spectacular Tailgate, 5:00pm, Fifth Third Bank Stadium Gold Lot

Watch for our August outing to be announced soon.

Sept. 14, 2018—Steering Committee Mtg., 10:00am, KSU Center 327



(Retirement Ceremony contd.)

In the fall, all new retirees and a guest, along with current retirees, will be invited to “Brunch on the Bricks,” an annual event at the Legacy Gazebo showcasing each retiree’s engraved brick and reminiscing about “the good ole days” at KSU. The date will be finalized once a new president is on board and a date can be cleared with his/her calendar. We are planning for a Friday in early October. Watch for more announcements.



In Memoriam

Scherer, Steve
5/28/2018

Wilson, Dewi
5/14/2018

Roper, Tom
1/3/2018

Arnold, Edna May
12/31/2017

Barber, Faye
11/18/2017

Stafford, Jr., Edward
11/12/2017



Retirees Hoot for the Lady Owls!!

On Feb. 10, retirees gathered to cheer on the Lady Owls basketball team in the last home game of the season.

A group of KSU retirees met for lunch at Hudson’s Grill before the game to enjoy good food as well as good company. More retirees joined the group at the Convocation Center for the KSU Women’s Basketball game. We cheered hard for the KSU women players, but, unfortunately, they lost. Halftime entertainment was provided by two rescue dogs who performed amazing tricks with their trainer, catching and retrieving Frisbees.

The group had fun at the game, and each retiree received gift cards for Chick-Fil-A restaurant sweet treats just for being seated on the prize-winning row in the bleachers!

Submitted by Janice Sanders



2018 Biennial Retirees Reunion

Several years ago the KSURA Steering Committee decided to hold a reunion every other year, and this was that year. On March 10, a group of over 60 retirees and guests enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day themed, fun-filled afternoon. Harry the Leprechaun flew over direct from Ireland to join us for some great (and some crazy) photo ops as well as some funny stories.

A KSU student jazz ensemble entertained us with some wonderful music both before and during lunch. Speaking of which, we had a delicious buffet specially created to meet the needs of every possible dietary restriction. Everyone agreed the food was yummy!

Potato bowling added to the festivities, with the participants agreeing it is not easy to knock down a bottles with a not-so-round potato.

Following lunch, we all played Irish Bingo which I guess was enjoyed by all because I didn't see anyone leave! In fact, they asked to continue playing!!! Lucky winners received some nice prizes donated by our sponsors. Many thanks to Challise & Co., Red Lobster, Three-13, Longhorns, Raffertys, Copelands, Credit Union of Georgia, Trackside Grill, OLLI, Bahama Breeze, Marlow's Tavern, California Dreaming, and the KSU Bookstore.

The "Pot o' Gold" display invited attendees to exchange a canned/package food item for the KSU CARES pantry in exchange for a chocolate gold coin. We collected over 60 items to donate to the pantry! Thanks, folks!

As the event came to a close, many great door prizes were won by some very lucky (note – Irish theme) folks!

It was truly a fun day and so good seeing everyone reconnect with old friends. We were very lucky to have Steve Scherer make the long trip down from his beautiful mountaintop home in Blue Ridge. You could hear by his recognizable laugh and see by his big smile that he was really enjoying being amongst his old friends. Little did we know that would be the last reunion he would be attending. This is why our get-togethers are so important to all of us. We hope to see everyone at our next reunion in 2020 and also at our many other events between now and then.

Submitted by Elaine Williams



GA-HERO Meeting at KSU

The Georgia Higher Education Retirees Organization (GA-HERO) held its spring semester meeting at Kennesaw State on May 2, hosted by the KSU Retirees Association. A total of 37 GA-HERO members gathered at the KSU Center to hear from Dr. Ken Harmon taking about happiness and Dr. Bill Custer from Georgia State reviewing trends in healthcare for seniors. The afternoon session covered updates from the USG Retirees Council and a review of “best practices” submitted by different retiree organizations around the state.

Many thanks to Elaine Williams who coordinated the lunch and retirees Becky Frame, Janice Sanders, Linda Stanley, Julia Perkins and Kathy Rodgers who assisted with setup, cleanup, and general organization for the meeting.

More information on GA-HERO can be found at ga-hero.org.



Personnel Changes in the Development Office

Our wonderful liaison, Natalie Baker, has taken a position at Georgia State working for a previous boss. She is excited, but we are sad to lose her. She has been a great supporter and friend. Also, Melisa Baldwin, Associate Vice President for University Development and the Interim Vice President since Mike Harders resigned, is leaving to become the Vice President for Advancement at the University of Denver. Melisa has also been a strong supporter and friend, and she will be greatly missed.

Our liaison for the interim is Kit Trench. Kit joined the Development team from Southern Poly with the consolidation. She has already attended a Steering Committee meeting to get to know us, and is working with us on hiring a new part-time Administrative Associate to fill Janice’s position. We are thankful to have Kit joining us, and look forward to working with her.



Summer Safety for Seniors



As summer rapidly approaches, people over 50 need to take additional precautions to avoid dehydration and other summer health problems.

When the temperature soars above 90 (which it frequently does here!), remember these safety tips:

1. **Stay out of the sun** as much as possible. Limit outdoor time to early morning or later in the evening.
2. **Stay hydrated.** Drink plenty of water, juice or other fluids that do not contain alcohol or caffeine.
3. **Dress appropriately.** Wear loose, light-colored clothing, and top it off with a broad-brimmed hat to stay cooler.
4. **Avoid sunburn.** Use broad-spectrum sunscreen with a high SPF factor.
5. **Cool off.** If you feel too hot, take a tepid shower or put wet washcloths on your wrists, ankles, armpits and neck.
6. **Apply bug repellent.** Older folks are particularly susceptible to West Nile Virus which is carried by mosquitoes.
7. **Protect your eyes.** Too much exposure to the sun can irritate your eyes and even cause damage. Wear sunglasses that block UV rays.

University System of Georgia Retiree Council (USGRC) Meeting on April 6, 2018

Missy Cody, outgoing president of the USGRC, explained that the Council has been working with the USG HR office to develop a pre-retirement brochure. It should be available by mid-summer at the latest. This will provide, in uniform fashion, information on benefits provided by the USG statewide. The brochure being developed will provide the same information to all institutions.

Missy explained that the Total Rewards Steering Committee (TRSC) makes recommendations to the Chancellor and the Board of Regents (BOR) regarding benefits and compensation. Most recently, retirees have been given the opportunity to have representation on three subcommittees of the TRSC.

- * The Retirement Committee that looks at the ORP program.
- * The Communications Committee that is charged with looking at communications going out to retirees and making recommendations for the kinds of communications that need to go out to retirees.
- * The Well-Being Committee - focusing on how to make our campuses less stressful and improve the health of active employees and retirees.

Missy also reported that the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) will be launching an inaugural INNOVATION AWARD at their conference in October in order to highlight the creative programs, events, and activities of its member organizations. According to AROHE's January, 2018 newsletter, these awards are designed to encourage recognition, advancement, and growth of retirement organizations in higher education by

- * Creating recognition at the campus, community, national and international level;
- * Demonstrating effective practices of higher education retiree organizations;
- * Contributing to the body of knowledge about higher education retirement organizations.

Missy explained that Dorothy Zinsmeister had submitted an application for this award, focusing on the significance of the creation of the USGRC as an example of the kind of coordination and collaboration that is possible among retiree organizations and the governing board of the institutions with which they are affiliated. Editorial note: Although the USGRC was not selected to receive an award, we were invited to submit a proposal for presentation at the conference in October 2018.

Submitted by Dorothy Zinsmeister

Annual Retirees Association Membership Renewal

You will soon be receiving your annual Retirees Association membership renewal request. Our membership year is from July 1 to June 30. For your new or renewed membership, you receive free parking in the visitor lots on either campus, access to Library services and check-out, access to the Employee Fitness Center with your card, and discounts at many local businesses—not to mention all the great programs and activities coordinated by your Retirees Association! All of the activities in this newsletter are just a taste of the great ways that we stay connected to each other and the University. Join or renew today and stay connected! If you have joined in the last few months, you do not have to renew at this time; you are active until July 2019.

Retirees Tour the New Mercedes-Benz Stadium

If you have not seen the new Mercedes-Benz Stadium, home of the Atlanta Falcons football team and the Atlanta United soccer team, you really should find time to take a tour. On May 5, a large group of retirees met at the stadium to enjoy a 2-hour behind-the-scenes guided tour that went from Arthur Blank's private suite to the Falcon and United locker rooms, with stops at many interesting and fascinating spots along the way. The roof wasn't open that day, but other than that we saw just about everything the new stadium has to offer. Our tour guide obviously loved his job and was so excited to show us around and tell us his many stories about the building and the outstanding features. We even know which parts of the stadium we could rent for a private event—not that we would ever have the budget to do that!

Following the tour, the group enjoyed lunch at Molly B's, the primary restaurant in the stadium, named for Arthur Blank's mother. There is a picture of his mother in the restaurant that is carefully situated so that she looks out over the entire stadium and seems to be watching you wherever you are, but especially watching her son's private box across the stadium from the restaurant. And that's only one example of how every little detail has been carefully considered and planned to create a unique fan experience. If you visit the stadium, as about the chandelier in Arthur Blank's suite; there's something very special about the design.

Plan to join us on our next great adventure, or suggest an adventure that would be of interest to you. We love hearing from our retirees!



KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS



**2018
Star-Spangled
SPECTACULAR**

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018
FIFTH THIRD BANK STADIUM
5pm - Family Fun Festival
8pm - Free Concert and Fireworks

StarSpangledKSU.com

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Retirees at the 2018 Star Spangled Spectacular

Join your Retirees Association on June 30 for a delightful evening of "tailgating" and enjoying the festival and fireworks show. We will have a table set up in the GOLD parking lot beginning at 5:00pm for you to drop by, or bring your lawn chair and enjoy the fireworks from our spot. We will have snacks and drinks available, or you can cross the street to the stadium and take advantage of the many vendors who will be selling food and other items there. The event is free and open to the public. Parking will be available in all the surrounding stadium lots.

For more information, check out <http://starspangled.kennesaw.edu> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/204734873644477/>

Smith-Gilbert Gardens: A Hidden Treasure In Our Own Backyard

On June 8, a group of retirees gathered at Smith-Gilbert Gardens for a guided tour through this wonderful local treasure. Many native plants as well as plants imported by the original garden developers cover the 16 acres on Pine Mountain Road in Kennesaw. Over 30 sculptures are interspersed among the plants along shady paths crisscrossing the garden. A bonsai garden, butterfly house, Japanese garden and children's garden add to the interesting sites to visit. Our wonderful tour guide was more than willing to answer questions and interject interesting stories about the plants and sculptures as well as the development of the garden on the grounds of an estate that once stretched to McCollum Parkway. We enjoyed a warm but pleasant hour strolling the paths and listening to the birds.

Following the tour, the group moved to the new Bernie's restaurant on Main Street in Acworth for a lively visit, a delicious lunch and a chance to cool off! We will be having more events like this in July and August. Watch for announcements by email and on our facebook page and website.



Welcome Kathy Rodgers!

The search is finally done, and we are excited to have Kathy Rodgers coming to the Retirees Association office as the other half of the Administrative Associate position. Kathy is well-known to our Steering Committee, having served for the past two years, and she is a frequent volunteer at our events. Kathy retired from the School of Nursing two years ago, so she is familiar with many of the processes and procedures that we have to follow. She will be a welcome addition as we work together to coordinate and promote events and activities to keep retirees connected to the University and each other. Please welcome Kathy the next time you see her!



Ninth Biennial AROHE Conference

October 7-9, 2018

Emory Conference Center Hotel

Re-Creating Retirement: Connect / Serve / Celebrate

Join us at Emory University in Atlanta as we consider the many ways Retirement Organizations provide a gateway to a future of collegial relationships, intellectual engagement, and productive endeavor that benefits both retirees and the colleges and universities that are their homes.

Early registration ends August 1.

You can find more information at

<https://arohe2018.org/>

Join the Retirees Association

If you have not done so already, we invite you to become a member of the Retirees Association and maintain your connection with the University. Benefits of membership include free parking on campus, Library check-out and Interlibrary Loan (ILL) benefits, access to the Employee Fitness Center on request, and discounts at the KSU Bookstore as well as many local businesses. To join the Retirees Association, visit retirees.kennesaw.edu and click on “Membership.” To learn more about the Retirees Association, check out our website or “like” us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kennesaw.retirees.

Donate to the Retirees Association Legacy Scholarship Funds

Donations, including memorial donations, may be made to the Retirees Legacy Scholarship annual and endowment funds with checks made payable to KSU Foundation, 3391 Town Point Dr., NW, Suite 4000, MD 9102, Kennesaw, GA 30144 and identifying the scholarship fund. Or you may make a donation online at <https://community.kennesaw.edu/development/---giving-retirees-association>. Select the Retiree Annual or Endowed Legacy Scholarship from the menu. Families of memorials will receive a notification of the memorial gift donation.

KSU Retirees Association: Connecting retirees to the University and each other.

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Burruss Institute, Room 313
3333 Busbee Pkwy.
Kennesaw, GA

PARKING NOTE: If you plan to park in visitor parking on either campus, please remember to copy your retiree ID card and place the copy on the dash of your car for free parking.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE