



Summer 2021

Greetings to all you "Golden Owls!"

Approximately another six months has passed since our last newsletter. Although the Retirees Association has not been able to host many person-to-person events, I hope you have been able to participate in some of the Zoom offerings. Plans are now underway for many new and exciting events for fall 2021! I wanted to reach out and update you on some of the happenings regarding the KSU Retirees Association.

I realize that last year was difficult on everyone. However, as the KSURA moves forward to a more normal way of life, I hope each of you will be able to join in some, if not all, of the activities mentioned in this newsletter.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Kathy Rodgers

Retiree Associate

KSU Retirees Association



Upcoming Retirees Association Events

August 20, 10:00 am-11:30 am, KSU Center, Room 327, Steering Committee Meeting

September 10, 10:00 am-11:30 am, KSU Center, Room 327, Steering Committee Meeting

September 17, 8:30 am – 9:30 am KSU Gazebo - Gazebo Workday

September 24... (tentative), KSU University Rooms and KSU Gazebo, Retirement Ceremony and KSU Brunch on the Bricks for 2020 and 2021 retirees

October 8, 10:00-11:30 am, KSU Center, Room 327, Steering Committee Meeting

October 15-December 7 – Medicare Open Enrollment (TBA)

October 29-Nov 9, For pre-65 retirees, dental benefits/vision benefit changes, USG Open Enrollment (TBA)

November 12, 10:00 am-11:30 am, Steering Committee Meeting

December 10, Christmas Party (details to follow later)

Note: 2021 Speaker's Colloquium September 14, October 12, November 9



RETIREE RECOGNITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR KSU/SPSU Retirees for 2020 and 2021

Among the many disruptions of Covid-19 was the cancellation of celebrations to recognize KSU/SPSU retirees. Although we were not able to gather, all 2020 retirees were honored with an engraved brick. KSU retirees' bricks are located at the Legacy Gazebo and the SPSU retirees' bricks are located at the Marietta Campus Legacy Walk. These bricks honor each retiree's contribution to the KSU/SPSU story while also making each person a permanent part of KSU's/SPSU's future.

Plans are underway to celebrate all 2020 and 2021 retirees at a retiree ceremony tentatively scheduled for September 24, 2021, 8:30 am – 12 noon, at the KSU Legacy Gazebo. Further information will be distributed at a later date.

Congratulations from the Kennesaw State University Retirees Association (KSURA) on your retirement and **thank you** for your years of service and dedication to KSU/SPSU.

Please visit the KSURA website at retirees@kennesaw.edu for announcements..

KSU Retirees Association

2021 Speaker's Colloquium Schedule



The KSURA Speaker's Colloquiums are held in the KSU Center, Room 327, 3333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144. Go to the West Entrance and enter the Burruss Institute Suite. Parking is free.

Colloquiums are held on the second **Tuesday from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**

Everyone is welcome to attend any Speaker's Colloquium. Bring your lunch and we'll provide drinks and dessert. Please RSVP prior to the colloquium to retirees@kennesaw.edu or call 470-578-7984.

DATE	SPEAKER	TITLE
September 14, 2021	Laura Dabundo	"Jane Austen: Here, There, and Everywhere"
October 12, 2021	Earl Holliday	"Core Values Worth Knowing"
November 9, 2021	Gail Tverberg	"Our Fossil Fuel Energy Predicament"

Spotlight on Retirees

Dr. Dorothy Zinsmeister



Dr. Dorothy Zinsmeister, KSU Professor Emeritus of Biology

In her 30 years at KSU, Dorothy served as a faculty member and chair in the then Department of Biology and Physics, and later as Asst/Assoc Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the Board of Regents Office (on reassignment from KSU to the BOR for 11 years). But staying retired was not as easy as it looked. She went back to work part-time at KSU as the Executive Director of the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics, & Character, followed by a part-time stint as Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs with responsibility for coordinating the review of new academic programs.

Prior to leaving the System Office, Dr. Dave Ewert (GSU retiree) and she sent a proposal to then Chancellor Huckaby requesting the approval for the creation of a USG Retiree Council, a system-wide Council that makes recommendations to the System Office as they relate to USG retirees. She served as the inaugural chair of the Council, and currently serves as the KSU retiree representative to the Council. She also serves as the Council representative to the USG Retirement Advisory and Investment Committee, the USG Emeritus Task Force, and the Library Access for Retirees Committee. The Retiree Council provides an organized voice for retirees at the System Office, something that was lacking prior to 2016.

Dr. Zinsmeister is also active in the KSU Retiree Association (KSURA). She serves on its Steering Committee and organizes the Retirees Luncheon Colloquium. She is also an active member of GA-HERO (Georgia Association-Higher Education Retiree Organization) and sits on the Board of Directors for GYSTC (Georgia Youth Science & Technology Centers).

Entertainment in Dorothy's life includes playing bridge, participating in a book club, having lunch with friends, and attending daily water aerobics classes. Since retiring, she and her husband have traveled to France four times, Italy four times, Greece three times, Mexico three times, Spain and the Galapagos Islands. Her next trip will be in May 2021 when she and her husband fly to Mexico to meet her first grandchild, Alexander!

Her message to you: "Life is good. Enjoy it!"

Discount Tickets for KSU Retirees Association Members - Department of Athletics

Are You Ready for Some Football? Discount Tickets for 2021 Fall Football Games Offered to KSU Retirees Association Members

The most competitive schedule in program history!

See Schedule at

<https://ksuowls.com/sports/football/schedule>



The Department of Athletics is offering all **members** of the KSU Retirees Association the opportunity to purchase up to four (4) season football tickets at the faculty/staff **discounted rate**. IF you are not a member, please join us at retirees@kennesaw.edu and click "Membership."

There will be five (5) home games in 2021 as well as an away game with Georgia Tech. All season ticket(s) will include a ticket(s) to the Georgia Tech game.

- \$89 per season ticket (plus fees) will give you one reserved seat at all home games on the east side (visitor side) as well as a ticket to the Georgia Tech game (to be played at Georgia Tech on Sept. 11).
- \$99 per season ticket (plus fees) will give you one reserved seat at all home games on the west side (home side) as well as a ticket to the Georgia Tech game (to be played at Georgia Tech on Sept. 11).

To take advantage of this offer, please contact Alicia English at 470-578-4964 or aengli23@kennesaw.edu. This offer is not included on the Owls' "tickets" website.

NOTE: The faculty/staff rate will **also** be available for men's and women's basketball season tickets for **members** of the Retirees Association. Season ticket prices will be determined when their schedules are finalized.

Membership packets were recently mailed to all retirees on our current list. Join today! Either complete the packet and return in the postage-paid envelope or join online through our website. You must be a member to take advantage of this and other unique benefits for KSU retirees!

“Save the Date” flyer from KSU

SAVE THE DATE



**FOR KSU NIGHT
AT THE BRAVES!**

**TUESDAY • AUGUST 10, 2021 • 5:00 P.M.
IN THE HANK AARON TERRACE**



**More details and a link
to purchase tickets
COMING SOON!**



KSU Retirees Association Membership 2021-2022

New membership and renewal membership letters were mailed out May 14, 2021. If you joined or renewed since January 1, 2021, your membership is current until June 2022. If you have not joined or renewed since January 1, you can access the website at retirees.kennesaw.edu to join or renew. If you have moved, please contact Kathy Rodgers with your current address to ensure you receive communications from the KSURA.

To join or renew your membership online, go to retirees.kennesaw.edu and click on *Membership* and then *Join Now*. You will be able to pay online through the secure site managed by the Office of Development. You are always welcome to pay your membership in person at the Alumni House, 3207 Campus Loop Road, House #56, Kennesaw. If you would prefer to mail your membership check, please address your mail to Kennesaw State University, Office of Development, 1000 Chastain Road, MD 9102, Kennesaw, GA. 30144. Your check should be made payable to KSU Foundation.

Your \$20.00 membership fee supports many programs and activities, but it also gives you some benefits - free parking in the visitor lots on both campuses, discounted rates for athletic season tickets, access to library services on both campuses, the same discounts as active employees at campus stores and local businesses, and access to the Employee Fitness Center (EFC) once you sign up with the EFC.

We hope you will support the Kennesaw State University Retirees Association by joining or renewing your membership today.

Retiree Association Legacy Scholarships

The deadline for applying for the KSURA scholarships has been **extended!!**

The online scholarship applications have already closed. However, if you would like to submit a student's name for the KSU Retirees Association scholarship, please send the name of the student, their ID number, the name and relationship to the retiree to Kathy Rodgers at: (krodgers@kennesaw.edu) and she will forward the information to the Scholarship Office.

Direct descendants (children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren) of KSU retirees who attend Kennesaw State University are eligible to apply for the Retiree Legacy Scholarships. The retiree must have worked at KSU and/or SPSU for at least ten years and be officially retired.

The student may be undergraduate or graduate level, must have a 2.75 GPA or higher and have reached at least the sophomore level.

ZOOM Basics

The KSU Retirees Association is hoping to utilize Zoom more often so our fellow retired staff and faculty from far away can join us for future events virtually via Zoom. We hope to do this even after the pandemic subsides and physical distancing is no longer necessary for health reasons.

Please see below for information to successfully use Zoom.

1. **HOW-TO VIDEO for the basics**

This how-to video (LINK is below) is only 6 minutes long, basic and easy to understand, covers only the few essential things a participant needs to know in order to participate in a Zoom meeting. Some might not like the soft background piano music in this video. It is worth tolerating for the clear guidance this video gives. After checking a lot of training videos about Zoom, none does as good a job at addressing the essential basics as this one, especially for someone who just wants to handle the basic skills in order to attend a Zoom gathering.

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6fIYWnfTc5o>

2. **VIDEO for those who wish to HOST**

This video (LINK is below) presents helpful info mostly for those who wish to HOST Zoom meetings. The narrator has a British accent. This video lasts only 12 minutes. Here and there it provides what participants need to know as a guest but MOST of this video is for those who wish to HOST. The narrator does a good job of stating if an action being demonstrated is for the participant or for the HOST.

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>

3. **Wanna look good on Zoom?**

Camera angle

If people can see your ceiling, your device is too low. Raise it up so that the screen is straight up and down and aiming directly at your head and shoulders. That way, the camera will be capturing you at “eye level,” a more normal angle for conversation. Try to avoid what some have called the “nostril tour,” i.e., your device’s camera is down low and is aiming straight up into your nostrils. Or that look that says, “I’m way up here and you’re way down there.”

Avoid the “extreme close-up”

Your distance from the device should be far enough that people can see you from the top of your head to your shoulders. Filling your screen with just your face is too close.

Lighting

Have the illumination coming from in front of you, such as a desk lamp or a window. If a bright light is behind you, like a window, you become dark like a silhouette or look mysterious against a bright background.

ZOOM Basics continued:

Motion can be distracting

Eating or other frequent motions like walking around or moving your device around a lot is very distracting. Consider not doing those activities or else mute your video when you do perform those actions.

Acoustics

If you have a choice of location, use a room with curtains and carpeting to eliminate sound bouncing off hard surfaces like hardwood floors, which makes it sound like you are in a cave or an echo chamber.

Defensive Driving Course for Retirees and Spouses



The KSU Office of Insurance and Risk Management offers a free defensive driving course which may qualify you for an insurance discount. The Defensive Driving class is offered for retirees and their spouses at no charge.

Most insurance companies offer a discount for their clients who have completed a Defensive Driving class, but you should inquire directly with your insurance company if these discounts are offered.

Below is a list of the classes that are available through the end of this year. If you are interested in taking a class, you may sign up by emailing Billie Hunter Barron (*Insurance & Claims Analyst/Office of Insurance & Risk Management*) directly at: bhunterb@kennesaw.edu. She will be able to set you up for a class.

The class is a six-hour one day class. Upon completion of the course, certificates are mailed the following week, via USPS, to the home address of each participant

Space is limited and registration is required. Billie will need to know ahead of time, so she can adjust the class accordingly. These classes are subject to cancellation as academic classes take precedence.

Schedule for Free Defensive Driving Course

Date/Time	Instructor	Location
Friday, June 11, 8:45 AM	Billie Hunter Barron	KSU Center 462
Friday, July 9, 4:00 PM	Billie Hunter Barron	KSU Center 462
Friday, August 13, 4:00 PM	Billie Hunter Barron	KSU Center 462
Friday, September 10, 4:00 PM	Jeffrey Bernard	KSU Center 462
Monday, October 11, 4:00 PM	Janet Nash	KSU Center 462
Friday, November 19, 4:00 PM	Janet Nash	KSU Center 462



The KSU Retirees Association supports the CARE (Campus Awareness, Resource & Empowerment) Services at Kennesaw State University. CARE provides support to KSU students who have experienced food insecurity, homelessness, and other supportive services to foster students' realization of a healthy, stable, and dignified life academically and professionally. <https://care.kennesaw.edu/index.php>

Recently, Kroger's Atlanta Division partnered with Kennesaw State to increase the scope and capacity of the University's two campus pantries, donating \$50,000 for items including double-wide freezers, refrigerator, shelving units and a mobile kiosk, as well as design assistance. Operated by KSU CARES, the expanded pantries are located in the Carmichael Student Center on the Kennesaw Campus and the Wilson Student Center on the Marietta Campus. On average, KSU CARES distributes more than 11,000 pounds of food annually. All food and supplies are donated to the pantries and are available to students as long as supplies are continually received. During the COVID-19 pandemic, CARE Services programs have assessed or assisted more than 650 student requests for emergency hardship and more than 160 students for housing and/or food insecurity needs. Since resuming in-person shopping, more than 60 students have visited the KSU CARES pantries.

Please check out the below Amazon website where you can contribute to the KSU Campus Pantry needs: <https://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/13Z1Z5N67DC90/guest-view> **OR** Visit a Kroger store for support of KSU CARE.

Well-being Virtual Classes for June

Please find below a list of virtual events from the KSU Human Resources-Employee Well-Being Coordinator that retirees are welcome to participate in for the month of June.

<https://employeewellness.kennesaw.edu/June%20Virtual%20Well%20Being%20Events%20FINAL.pdf>



Book Nook

Summary by: Chuck Aust

If getting better organized is on your to-do list, this book can help. *What's A Disorganized Person To Do* by Stacey Platt offers us hundreds of strategies that cover all rooms in the house as well as the basement, garage, and even the car.

Some are quick, systematic day-to-day methods that are easy to apply, like going through our mail or how and where to place our keys and cell phones for easy retrieval. Others can be done in an hour or less, like organizing files or learning how to make PDFs (portable document format), many are "once-and-done," like organizing tools in the garage. All her ideas are meant to bring more order and ease to our relationship with the objects in our homes.

This is an easy read. Each topic is short, most just one page, with colorful photos and helpful illustrations. The reader can dip in and out anywhere. No need to read in sequence. Amazingly, I've seen organizing how-to books that are poorly organized, do not include an index, and have no illustrations, which contradicts the whole purpose of such a book. Not so with this one. It is designed for quick and easy guidance, is visually attractive, and yes, IT HAS AN INDEX!

This book would make a great gift for just about anyone transitioning from one residence to another, like grads and newlyweds.

Platt shows an awareness of our tendency to put off some household tasks, thinking they would take too long or get us bogged down in a big project that we just don't have time for. Getting better organized in the kitchen or with our paperwork, for example. Her writing makes such tasks less daunting and more manageable. It is clear, practical, and succinct.

Platt has credibility about this topic. She runs DwellWell, an organizing and coaching company. She is a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers and has an M.B.A. from New York University's Stern School of Business.



KSU Retirees Association Survey Results are in!

Thank you to every one who participated in the KSURA Survey! Your input was valuable and helpful to the Steering Committee.

The following is a list of survey responses as well as recommendations made in response by the KSURA Steering Committee:

KSURA SURVEY RESULTS:

- Approximately 480 surveys distributed, and 240 responses received.
- Respondents by position while working: 65.41% Faculty/Administrative Staff and 34.59% Staff/Administrative Staff
- Preferred communication from KSURA - Respondents (66.90% or 194) preferred email notification while 50 or 17.24% preferred using the KSURA website to receive their information

The following is a list of survey responses and recommendations from the KSURA Steering Committee:

- Forty-one (41) respondents answered **yes** to leading a workshop or giving a presentation.
(IF you were one of these respondents, please contact Kathy Rodgers by email at retirees@kennesaw.edu)
- Offer more virtual opportunities - 101 responders want informational workshops, i.e. technology, benefits, instructional, travel, guest lectures, etc.
(KSURA Office has emailed information about virtual opportunities)
- There were 360 responses about preferred activities that the KSURA should offer post pandemic. Activities are being planned beginning in the Fall of 2021.

Social events (lunches, dinners, movies, etc.)	11.08%	76
Art events	9.48%	65
Bi-annual Reunion	10.35%	71
Information workshops (technology, benefits, instructional, travel, guest lectures, etc.)	14.72%	101
Volunteer	6.85%	47

- Transportation – Respondents (32.80%) denoted it as an issue (The KSURA Steering Committee is researching means of transportation, i.e. vans, bus, etc. Carpool has been the mode of travel thus far.)
 - Membership in KSURA – 78.72% of respondents were members
(Note: A membership invitation was mailed to all retirees in May 2021 to invite retirees to join the KSURA.)
 - Perks and Privileges of being a member of the KSURA – respondents wanted explanation of benefits and advantages along with well-defined information regarding the KSU Retirees Association (The KSURA is formulating an informational packet, brochure, etc. to enhance and distribute information regarding purpose, perks, privileges, etc. when joining the association.)
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Retirees: Looking for summer activities for your grandchildren or greatgrandchildren?

KIDCAM Camps may be your answer!



Summer Camp for Kids: June 07-July 30, 2021

The Department of Sports and Recreation is excited to share some exciting changes. We are working with a group – Kidcam Camps, that specializes in Summer Day Camp. Joining with Kidcam Camps provides more resources to our camp program and enables additional features such as before-care and after-care and a greater variety of activities. For campers entering Kindergarten through age 13, the Spirit of Summer comes to life through the power of Kidcam Camp at Kennesaw State University's Department of Sports and Recreation.

Kidcam's unique "Kid's Choice" curriculum keeps our Rockstars (campers) fully engaged in daily activities & programs they choose. Kidcam's Mission, through the Spirit of Summer, is designed to build a powerful summer camp experience that will inspire greatness, bring smiles to faces, and ensure personal preference with a mix of Kid's Choice curriculum, sports, arts, movement, swimming, and long-standing traditions that create memorable moments and lasting relationships.

We hope this will be a huge benefit to offer KSURA families and children in the surrounding community. More information about Kidcam Camp can be found via their [website](#).

<https://sportsrec.kennesaw.edu/programs/camps.php>

KSU Retirees Association

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retirees@kennesaw.edu

<https://retirees.kennesaw.edu>

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