



## Retirement Ceremony 2017

New retirees were honored at a special ceremony on Friday, April 21, in the Social Sciences auditorium. Amy Phillips from Human Resources served as Mistress of Ceremonies. President Sam Olens and Provost Ken Harmon offered special congratulations to all the new retirees and reflected on the changes at Kennesaw State University during their working years. This year's total of 53 retirees accounted for 975 years of service! Seven of these retirees had worked at KSU for over 30 years, and two of them—R.C. Paul and Walt Collier—were just a few months shy of 40 years. Of this year's retirees, 24 were able to attend the ceremony. Each retiree received special recognition including a PPT slide created by the department recognizing the retiree's accomplishments and a photo memory book of their time at KSU. Each retiree will also have a brick imprinted with the retiree's name placed at either the Legacy Gazebo on the Kennesaw campus or the Legacy Walk on the Marietta campus.

Following the ceremony, retirees and guests attended a luncheon at the Jolley Lodge where they were greeted by current retirees and enjoyed a time of celebration and reflection on their years at KSU and their plans for enjoying retirement. You can find more photos of the event on our website under "News and Events/Photo Gallery."

### Upcoming Events

*May 12—Steering Comm. Mtg.  
10:00-11:30am, KSU Ctr 327*

*July 1—Star-Spangled Spectacular  
KSURA fundraising event  
5:00-8:00pm, Campus Green*

*Sept. 15—Steering Comm. Mtg.  
10:00-11:30am, KSU Ctr 327*

*Sept. 16—Fall Potluck Social and Arts & Crafts Show  
11:30am—2:30pm, KSU Ctr 327*

*Sept. 29—Legacy Gazebo Workday, 8:30am*

*Oct. 6—Brunch on the Bricks  
9:30am-12:30pm, Legacy Gazebo & Student Center Leadership Room*

*Oct. 21—First Annual Retirees Tailgate Party, Fifth Third Bank Stadium parking lot (details TBA)*

*Dec. 2—Fundraising Concert (tentative), KSU Center 400*

*Dec. 8—Holiday Social (tentative), 10:30am, KSU Ctr 327*



(more photos from the Retirement Ceremony)



James W. Bannerman  
Industrial Engineering—SPSU  
Feb. 8, 2017

Bobbi G. Beheler  
Public Safety  
July 2, 2016

James R. Brown  
Physical Plant—SPSU  
Oct. 24, 2016

Mildred Broyles  
Bookstore—SPSU  
Jan 22, 2017

Richard Eaves  
Procurement—SPSU  
Dec. 28, 2016

Calvin Hammock  
Physical Plant—SPSU  
May 12, 2016

Charles Hofer  
Management & Entrepreneurship  
March 28, 2017

Warren V. "Rhubarb" Jones  
Advancement & Development  
(not retired)  
April 2, 2017

Terry Luther Lucas  
Economics, Finance & Quantitative Analysis  
March 19, 2016

Betty Robertson Matson  
Enterprise Information Mgmt.  
March 23, 2016

James W. Potter  
Plant Operations  
June 13, 2016

James T. "Tom" Studdard  
Plant Operations  
October 2, 2016

## First Annual Retirees Tailgate Party



You won't want to miss this one! The Retirees Association is sponsoring our first-ever Football Tailgate Party on Saturday, October 21, at the Homecoming Game. More details will be announced as we finalize plans, but mark your calendar to join us for an afternoon of fun, food and cheering for our Owls as they take on Gardner-Webb.

## Basketball Outing

On February 23, a group of retirees gathered at the Convocation Center to cheer on the KSU Owls men's basketball team against Lipscomb University. The OWLS fought hard but came up short by a score of 74 to 85. We had a great time anyway!! The Spirit Band added to the fun, and Scrappy stopped by for some photos. If you missed this one, hope you can join us next time.



# KSU's Annual Star-Spangled Spectacular



Kick off your Independence Day holiday at Kennesaw State University's 10th Annual *Star-Spangled Spectacular* to be held on Saturday, July 1, 2017, on the Campus Green in the heart of KSU's Kennesaw Campus. This free, annual event features a patriotic concert featuring performances by the KSU Big Band and KSU Summer Orchestra followed by a spectacular fireworks finale. In addition to the concert, be sure to arrive early to enjoy the Family Fun Festival featuring pre-concert activities including games, inflatables, face painting, balloon artists, food trucks, vendors and exhibits from the KSU community and beyond, and more.

The Retirees Association will again be participating in the activities with a booth selling popcorn, drinks and glow-in-the-dark items. The money raised from this event will benefit our scholarship funds. In past years, we have been able to raise nearly \$1,000 with this event. We hope to make this year's effort even more successful.

**We need volunteers** to help with set-up, working at the booth selling items and collecting money, and clean-up afterwards. If you would be willing to help, please contact our office to let us know when you can work.

## Fall Potluck Social & Arts & Crafts Show

Do you... paint? draw? sculpt? do photography? make interesting crafts? have other creative talents? Start gathering your best works to display at the Retirees Association Fall Potluck Social and Arts & Crafts Show.

On Saturday, September 16, retirees are invited to gather at KSU Center room 327 at 11:30am to enjoy a Welcome Back potluck lunch and social time. Please plan to bring a dish to share, while the Retirees Association will provide meat, drinks and paperware.

If you have a craft or talent that you would like to display, we will have tables set up around the room for your items. This is not a sale, just a chance to show off the unique and wonderful talents of so many of our retirees.

We will be sending a sign-up sheet via email a little later in the summer to get an idea of the number of places to set. Please let us know you are coming!

## Retirees Visit Gibbs Gardens

A lively group of retirees visited Gibbs Gardens on March 23 to see the daffodils and hear Jessica Glasener talk about early bloomers in the Gardens. Several retirees had never been to the Gardens before and delighted in the variety of plants and sculptures as well as the beautiful Manor House gardens. The early spring weather had caused the daffodils to bloom several weeks early, so we missed the most spectacular daffodil displays, but there were still plenty of blooms to enjoy. Lunch at the Garden Café rounded out a thoroughly enjoyable day.



## President Olens Speaks to Retirees

The Retirees Association invited KSU President Sam Olens to speak to retirees on April 7 in KSU Center. A good crowd attended to hear Pres. Olens update us on plans for changes at both campuses and his vision for the future of KSU. President Olens shared some interesting and progressive ideas about new initiatives, needed construction, and ways to maximize student enrollment. He is especially interested in supporting collaborative programs between departments, programs to support students both academically and financially, and increasing publicity for the many outstanding programs available at KSU. He encouraged retirees to continue to serve the University as mentors to new faculty and to students, and to serve as Ambassadors for KSU in the community.

Following the presentation, attendees enjoyed a reception where they had a chance to catch up with friends and meet colleagues from both campuses.

## We Would Love to Hear from YOU

We welcome your suggestions for programs and activities for the Retirees Association, particularly for the Marietta campus. Please let us know what you would like your Association to be doing for the coming year.

Call us at 470-578-7984, email us at [retirees@kennesaw.edu](mailto:retirees@kennesaw.edu) or drop by the office between 9:00 and 2:00 Tuesday through Friday. We are located in KSU Center in the Burruss Institute suite, room 327.

## 2017 Brunch on the Bricks Set For October 6



The annual “Brunch on the Bricks” ceremony will be held on Friday, October 6, starting at 9:30 am at the Legacy Gazebo on the Kennesaw campus. The program is an opportunity for new retirees to locate their bricks on the patio and to meet current Retirees Association members. The program includes a time of remembrance for retirees and active employees who have passed away in the past year. Following the program, the group will enjoy a brunch and a guest speaker in the Student Center, Activities Room A. Be watching for your invitation coming in early September.

## HealthTrails Challenge!

Dessi Tzankova, Director of the Employee Fitness Center, sends a special invitation to retirees to participate in the USG *HealthTrails Challenge*. This is an 8-week program that pits USG schools against each other to accumulate the most points for their team. We can form a special retirees team and work together for fun and better health! HealthTrails offers a fun way to log healthy habits such as steps, sleep and self-compassion. You do not have to attend regular meetings or join a walking group, this can all be done on your phone, tablet or computer.

The Challenge starts Monday, June 19, so get your name in today! To join our team, go to <http://usgwellbeing.healthtrails.com/> or drop by the Employee Fitness Center before June 19.

## February Passports & Pastimes

We were thrilled to have Jim Fleming join us on February 17 to share pictures and stories from his trip to South Africa. Jim traveled extensively in South Africa with a congenial tour group and had many entertaining incidents to share with us. His pictures showed both the modern development in that country as well as the more primitive conditions outside the main cities. The scenery was fantastic and made many of us wish that we could visit that area of the world.

# University System of Georgia Retiree Council (USGRC) Meeting

April 7, 2017

*Below is a brief summary of the University System of Georgia Retiree Council (USGRC) Meeting held on April 7, 2017.*

*Submitted by Dorothy Zinsmeister.*

Marion Fedrick presented information on a new billing process for USG retiree benefits that the USG is implementing beginning this summer. She stressed that, especially for retirees, this system, known as **OneUSG**, is a change in procedure **ONLY** and not a change in benefits or costs. It will also not affect your Aon Retiree Health Exchange coverage.

Karin Elliott explained that the OneUSG initiative includes the transfer of payroll and benefits enrollment options to one system for all active employees and retirees. This includes Dental, Vision, and Supplemental Insurance. Most campus HR departments are very engaged with this now. One USG will be implemented on June 26, 2017. **Benefits themselves are not changing, but there will be new ways to access and manage benefits.**

Marion Fedrick noted that everyone will have to put their banking information into the new system because laws prohibit an automatic transfer of information from the old system.

In response to questions concerning data security, Karin noted that the server has encryption and a secure firewall.

Chancellor Steve Wrigley addressed the council. **First**, he reported on projects the University System is working on: Graduating more students; Ensuring affordability; Generating more efficiencies.

**Second**, he addressed the recently adjourned legislative session: The Budget for the University System was improved, best in recent years; The Campus Carry bill was passed. (The University System has serious issues with this law and has communicated with Governor Deal the System's concerns.

**Third**, he addressed health insurance: Health insurance costs are running around \$500 million per year; Last year the Legislature did not fund the employer's share of health insurance. This year they did; Health insurance for USG employees should not be combined with health insurance for other state employees.

Elections for officers were held. Next year's chair will be Missy Cody. The chair-elect will be Ron Bohlander, and the secretary will be Ray Chambers.

## Coming Soon—Annual KSURA Membership Renewal

At the May meeting, the Steering Committee voted to define the annual membership period as July 1 to June 30 each year. Any retiree who has joined or renewed since January 1, 2017, will be considered a current member for the July 2017-June 2018 year.

Membership renewal letters will be mailed to all retirees after July 1. New members who pay the minimum \$20 donation will receive a Retiree I.D. card, which provides access to many benefits including free parking on both campuses. Renewing members may continue to use the same I.D. card. Watch for your letter in July!

# ***OneUSG Connect - Benefits*** **Coming Soon: Improving Our Service to You**



**Even though you will soon have two new ways to access your benefits, your benefits themselves are not changing.**

## **YOUR BENEFITS THROUGH THE AON RETIREE HEALTH EXCHANGE WILL NOT CHANGE.**

On June 26, 2017, USG will introduce two new ways to access your **USG benefits** (retiree dental, vision, life insurance or pre-65 healthcare coverage):

- **OneUSG Connect - Benefits:** This secure website will provide you with 24/7 access to your health and group benefits.
- **OneUSG Connect Benefits Call Center:** You'll be able to get expert help through the convenience of a toll-free telephone number. You can talk to a benefits representative from 8 – 5pm Eastern time Monday – Friday.

Please **do not prepay** for USG coverage that extends beyond June 30, 2017.

- If you have already paid, you will receive a refund.
- Any unpaid balances up to June 30 must be paid in order to keep your coverage.

Soon after June 26, you will receive a bill from USG for your JULY and AUGUST coverage.

Your payment for July and August coverage will be due August 1. Going forward, payment will be due on the 1st of each month for the current month of coverage.

### **Plan to provide your banking information between June 26 and July 9.**

Your July and August payment will then be made by direct debit from your account on August 1. Going forward, your premium will be paid by direct debit on the first of each month.

### **Your direct debit information must be on file with USG by November 30 or you will lose your coverage.**

More information will be mailed to retirees in June. Watch for important notices and follow the instructions in order to maintain your dental, vision, life insurance and pre-65 medical coverage.



As an additional resource, consider signing up for the free *GeorgiaCares* newsletter. *GeorgiaCares* is a division of Georgia's Division of Aging Services. The newsletter focuses on information on Medicare.

To sign up, go to <http://eepurl.com/cpIPID> or go to <http://www.mygeorgiacares.org> and click on the "Sign up for our newsletter" link.

## Retirees Raise Funds at the Spring Arts Festival

One of the primary missions of the Retirees Association is to raise funds for our scholarships that are available to children and grandchildren of retirees. The Spring Arts Festival on campus provided another opportunity for retirees to raise money and enjoy a good time on a warm spring afternoon. Several retirees volunteered to work at the table to sell cold drinks and popcorn to festival attendees. Thanks to Linda Stanley and Becky Frame who joined Carol and Janice and raised almost \$100 for scholarships. We also got to sample some deep-fried oreos from another food vendor...yum!

## GA-HERO and AROHE

The Georgia Higher Education Retirees Organization (GA-HERO) held its spring meeting on the campus of Clayton State College in the new Georgia Archives building on May 5. The theme of the program, *Aging Well*, featured speakers from Georgia Tech who teach, have private practices, and conduct research on memory and aging. Dr. Christopher Hertzog and Dr. Ann Pearman offered interesting and enlightening information on how our memory changes as we get older. Dr. Pearman focused on the clinical aspects of memory loss, including dementia and Alzheimers, while Dr. Hertzog focused on practical methods of improving memory. Attendees agreed that the information was interesting and helpful.

Dr. Gray Crouse, Director of the Emory Emeritus College, reported that the 2018 AROHE (Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education) conference will be held at Emory University Conference Center and Hotel on October 7-9, 2018. This will be a fantastic opportunity for many of our members to participate in the conference, either as attendees or as volunteers. As plans are still developing, we will keep you posted on opportunities for our retirees to be involved.

## You've Got (E)Mail!

KSU retirees can keep or re-claim their KSU email address following retirement, according to Christina Coronado of University Information Technology Services. Upon retirement, employees are asked if they wish to keep the KSU email address active. Your NetID remains active, but the number of things that you can access will be reduced, like Owl Express or the Library databases. You will also need to reset your NetID password once a year. Reminder emails are sent for approximately a month prior to the password expiration date.

If you did not retain your email when you retired, you can be re-activated but with no guarantee that the email address will be the same. In order to re-activate your email, contact the Service Desk at [sevice@kennesaw.edu](mailto:sevice@kennesaw.edu) or 470-578-6999.

PLEASE NOTE: For those who retired from SPSU, your email address will now be *(NetID)@kennesaw.edu*.

*This space is reserved for creative work submitted by retirees.*

*Do you have a great photo, craft, cartoon, essay, poem, drawing, etc. that you would like to share? Please submit to [retirees@kennesaw.edu](mailto:retirees@kennesaw.edu) or bring it by the office and we'll scan/copy it for you.*

*The newsletter is published twice a year—at the end of fall semester and spring semester.*

## 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](http://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](http://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.**

**Kennesaw State University**  
**Retirees Association**  
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## Contact Us

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[www.facebook.com/  
kennesaw.retirees](http://www.facebook.com/kennesaw.retirees)

Office location:

KSU Center (west entrance)

Burruss Institute, Room 313

3333 Busbee Pkwy.

Kennesaw, GA

**PARKING NOTE: If you plan to park 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