



# News

A KRTA ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION

**Kentucky Retired Teachers Association**  
*Serving Retired Teachers Since 1957*

*Express*



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## 2024 Convention Another Success Story

The Kentucky Retired Teachers Association welcomed close to 400 retired members and guests to the 2024 annual convention in April. The convention continued many of the same traditions as in the past but included a few new twists! The required meetings with District Presidents and the Executive Council were combined for the meeting and the luncheon. It proved to be a true time saver and the District Presidents felt that they were better informed by viewing (not voting) the Executive Council meeting. The Membership and Health & Insurance Workshops were informative and exciting!

The opening evening included a nice dinner, door prizes, and entertainment by the Noe Middle School (Louisville) choir directed by Russel Cooper.

An entertaining program on Tuesday was Game Show Parodies. Lisa Petrey-Kirk and Ellie Thompson organized the games and had fun-loving volunteers from across the state who participated to make it a roaring success! Gary Harbin, Executive Secretary for TRS, delivered TRS updates, which continues to be a main topic of interest within our organization. Mr. Harbin's presentation delivered very favorable news as it relates to the state budget and TRS investments. NEA Executive Director, Al Campos, spoke briefly, as well as Gary Adkins, AARP Kentucky State President. Highlights include honoring the winner of the Grandparent Essay and the Volunteer of the Year Award. The final speaker was Heather French Henry (former Miss America).

The General Assembly met with a full agenda which included electing Rick Tatum, Jefferson County, as the 2024-25 KRTA State President. Tim Abrams announced that he is retiring at the end of the year and applications for his position will be accepted immediately. Our organization has mixed feelings of happiness for Tim and Jan and sadness for us that he is leaving KRTA. We know that he and Jan will continue to support us in our goals.

Debby Murrell (the bunny) also announced that she is retiring from her position as Membership Chairperson. Debby will be missed but we know she will always be "hopping around" somewhere.

There were 134 evaluation responders. The results showed that Heather French Henry, Gary Harbin, and the Game Shows rated above average or excellent. There were some areas for improvement to include the temperature and crowded restrooms. KRTA staff are already working with the Holiday Inn to ensure that 2025 is an even bigger success; however, it is doubtful that more restrooms will be added to the facility and relocating would not be cost effective for us. Last year there were suggestions from attendees about the food and we heard you. Filling out the survey at the end of convention really does help guide us on how to make the convention better.

PowerPoint presentations, videos and pictures can all be found on the KRTA website under 2024 Convention. Just click [here](#) to access the website.



Heather French Henry presents Tim Abrams with a cape and places her Miss America crown on him!

### 2024-25 Officer Forms

#### Needed ASAP

- ▶ Click [here](#) for Local Officer Forms
- ▶ Click [here](#) for District Officer Forms

To distribute the 2024-25 Local President's Handbook in July, it is imperative that we have your updated officer forms. New forms must be submitted even if your association has the same officers as the previous year. Forms may be sent by mail or emailed to [info@krta.org](mailto:info@krta.org).



Grandparent Essay Winner Jameah Kirby



Game Show Fun! Official time-keeper Greg Roush, KRTA Deputy Director, is ready!