



# News

A KRTA ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION

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



VOLUME IX

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

MAY 2025

## Convention 2025



The Kentucky Retired Teachers Association welcomed over 350 retired members and guests to the 2025 annual convention in April. The convention (April 21-22, 2025) was held at the Holiday Inn East in Louisville, Kentucky. The District Presidents and the Executive Council met on Monday with both having summaries of the past year and plans for the coming year. The Membership and Health & Insurance Workshops were both informative and exciting! Dora Moore from TRS presented the Health & Insurance Workshop. Dora is well informed and ready to share her knowledge with all TRS members. The Membership Workshop was made possible by Greg Roush, Mike Caudill, Beth Dowdell, and Janet Sogar, along with the participants from the Northern District who presented the *Top Ten Reasons to Join KRTA*. The opening evening included a nice dinner, door prizes, and entertainment by the South Oldham High School Choir.

Gary Harbin, Executive Secretary for the Teachers' Retirement System of Kentucky, 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. Kentucky Commissioner of Education, Dr. Robbie Fletcher, discussed Vibrant Learning and gave examples from across the state. He urges schools in Kentucky to grow their programs to include curriculum that focuses on relevant, authentic, and joyful learning opportunities where learning culminates in the application of knowledge and skills demonstrated through personalized products.

The KRTA Volunteer of the Year Award was presented by President Elect, Ann Porter, to Past President, Golden Hale. We were happy to welcome our former Executive Director, Tim Abrams, to the stage as our new KRTA/AARP Specialist. He introduced AARP Kentucky President, Gary Adkins. President Adkins introduced the winner of the Grandparent Essay Contest, P J Brock, Jr., from Bell County in Upper Cumberland District. P J and his teacher were recipients of \$500 each. P J also received a plaque in recognition of his achievement.

After lunch Vice President, Charlotte Benton, presented the legendary "big check" of volunteers' hours worth \$17,778,061.08. The afternoon entertainment, *The Traveling Grannies*, proved to be a huge success with the audience. Everyone enjoyed hearing the traveling experiences of the ladies in their 80s going around the world in 80 days! Lisa Petrey-Kirk and Ellie Thompson organized skits, and fun-loving volunteers from across the state participated to make it a roaring success! PowerPoint presentations, videos, and pictures can all be found on the KRTA website under 2025 Convention. Just click [here](#) to access the website.

Membership Workshop  
The Northern District



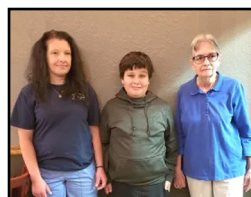
### 2025-26 Officer Forms

#### Needed ASAP



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

To make possible the distribution of the 2025-26 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@krtat.org](mailto:info@krtat.org).



Grandparent Essay  
Winner P J Brock with  
his mother,  
Ashley Beeler,  
and grandmother,  
Sue Beeler



Ellen Hambie & Sandy Hazelip  
"The Traveling Grannies"



Dr. Robbie Fletcher  
Commissioner of  
Education



"Looking for a Sub" Skit