Financial Security for Future Retirees:
Kentucky Scores 6 out of 10

Kentucky like every state faces challenges to the financial security of future retirees. The state's 6 out of 10 score on the Financial Security Scorecard means that the next generation has a lower potential for financial insecurity in retirement than counterparts in many other states; however, there is still room for improvement. The scorecard considers: future income, key retiree costs, and labor markets for older workers. Even with its relatively high ranking, Kentucky still has an important role to play in fashioning financial security as workers age. Its retiree income and labor market scores were higher than average; however, workers need help to maintain their standard of living with an adequate income stream over their retirement years. Less than half of Kentucky workers participate in a retirement plan at work. Those who have saved for retirement in a defined contribution (DC) account have an average balance of $32,499; this means that workers have saved far less than the $48,500 average annual earnings of Kentucky workers in 2012. Financial industry experts recommend that workers by their 40s should have 2-3 times salary in retirement savings set aside. Increasing retirement plan coverage and savings for retirement is important; otherwise, the percentage of older Kentucky residents living in poverty in the future may exceed the 2012 level of 12.3 percent.

POTENTIAL FUTURE RETIREE INCOME SCORE: 6 OUT OF 10

The components of Kentucky's retirement income score were mixed and yielded an above-average score. With just 43 percent of private sector employees participating in an employer-sponsored retirement plan in 2012, Kentucky had the 13th lowest coverage rate in the nation. However, the $32,499 saved in the average DC account held by Kentucky workers was higher than the $30,345 in retirement savings nationally. In addition, Kentucky has a relatively low 2.24 percent marginal tax rate on pension income.

(Continued on page 14)
58 and Going Strong

As we turn the page on the calendar at the end of December to begin a new year, KRTA is 58 years old and going strong. As you read the articles in this issue of the KRTA News, check the information on our website or visit our Facebook page, it is obvious that this association is working on topics and issues that affect you, either directly or indirectly, in retirement.

In this continued difficult economic environment, we must be ready to defend and protect the benefits promised to Kentucky's retired and active teachers. We understand that at times the Governor and the General Assembly have difficult choices to make. However, we must make it clear that the decisions must not be on the backs of the persons who have given their time and talents to the state and earned a retirement (to which they contributed every payday) and health benefits as a part of their total compensation for that service.

Under Attack

Once we were part of a much needed, honored and respected profession—now, it seems, if you are to believe the new breed of politicians, we are the problem, not the solution. According to many of them, our pensions are too generous and our health insurance benefits are undeserved. To hear them, we and other public employees are the financial ruination of the nation's local, state and federal governments.

This new breed of politicians wants us to forget the fact that speculative investors, Hedge funds and our banks with their exotic financial pyramid investment schemes actually collapsed the world and national economy in 2008. As you know, the results of this reckless behavior were budget problems at the national, state and local levels. In Kentucky, we are still working our way out of these budget problems.

At the federal level, public pension plans are under attack by those who “advocate that pension plans like KTRS are not sustainable.” At the state and local levels, many public pension plans (e.g., KTRS) continue facing challenges in obtaining adequate contributions from state legislatures. Public pension plans are under relentless attacks by entities like the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. The press seems to pile on story after story about extravagant benefits.

Most information used to attack public pension plans is not representative of the industry as a whole, nor does it paint a fair picture. Many times the information is taken out of context or generated from analyses using extreme assumptions that are neither practical nor reasonable.

Although we face an uphill battle in dealing with attacks on public pension plans, it is “time to stand up and be counted.” Listen closely to what our elected federal and state legislators are saying about us. Support those who support us and work to replace those who attack us and disrespect our profession and our contributions.

2016 Kentucky General Assembly

The Kentucky Legislature is preparing for the 2016 legislative session that officially begins on Tuesday, January 5.

KRTA watches the legislative process carefully each year, ready to act if our pension and health care are threatened. We must anticipate the worst of times while we hope for the best. Through our advocacy efforts, we will provide a strong voice of what current retired teachers believe concerning retirement issues.

Politicians at the federal, state and local levels control our economic environment. This is an uncontrollable fact. We cannot expect others to expend the time and energy to become knowledgeable on our issues and then do the hard work to keep the legislators and governor educated on our issues. We must do it. You must do it.

Final Thoughts

Working on your behalf these past 13 years has been a most rewarding and humbling experience and one that I could not have envisioned when I began in 2002. As 2015 draws to a close, I leave you with the words that John Wooden, former UCLA basketball coach, shared with others on numerous occasions. I hope this message will have some relevancy in your continued “good work” in KRTA.

1. Be true to yourself
2. Help others
3. Make each day a masterpiece and yourself better
4. Make friendship a fine art
5. Drink deeply from good books
6. Build a shelter against a rainy day
7. Give thanks for our blessings everyday
**5 Helpful Hints for Driving in Winter Weather**

From Dennis Goebel, Vice President, Liberty Mutual Insurance

With cold weather comes the need to be extra careful on the road. Snow and ice on roads and reduced visibility from winter precipitation make driving potentially hazardous. Brush up on these winter driving safety tips to avoid trouble.

**Watch the weather.**
One way that drivers can limit their winter travel risk is to plan trips for relatively good weather. Stay up to date on changing weather and traffic reports to anticipate and avoid stormy roadways.

**Slow down.**
A little more caution makes a big difference when roads are slick. Slowing down by 5 mph or more will help limit your potential for damage in a collision. Keeping more car lengths between vehicles gives you more time for any sudden stops, too.

**Know your extra features.**
The biggest example is anti-lock brakes. Where tapping brakes works for controlling skid in traditional braking, pumping ABS can be dangerous. Road safety experts advise that anti-lock brakes and other features are no substitute for safe stopping distances and reasonable speeds. Some experts also warn against using cruise control on slick roads.

**Condition your vehicle for winter.**
If your state allows it, install tire chains or tire studs to add traction. No matter what state you’re in, it’s a good idea to keep tires at proper inflation. Also, be sure to remove troublesome ice from your windshield and windows, and big drifts of snow from the hood and roof.

**Stock a winter emergency kit.**
In case you have to pull over during a storm, be prepared with a winter emergency kit. Recommended items include: flashlight and batteries, hand-warmers, blankets, drinking water, shovel and ice scraper, jumper cables, and emergency lights or flares.

These helpful tips can assist drivers in keeping themselves and others safe this winter.

To learn more about Liberty Mutual Auto and Home Insurance or get a free, no-obligation quote, call David Farmer at 502-429-4504 ext. 51690 or visit www.libertymutual.com/ktra.

**Commonwealth Connection**

Take advantage of the Kentucky State Parks’ Commonwealth Connection program which offers you reduced rates on lodge rooms and cottages at eleven resort parks, plus cottages at John James Audubon State Park.

**Seniors Choice Group Retiree Health Plan**

What an exciting time for the KRTA members’ spouses and domestic partners with a choice for their Seniors Choice Group Retiree Health Plan!

**Choice—What does it really mean?**
In this discussion we will examine the Choice for the medical plan provision of the Seniors Choice Group Retiree Plan.

Many individuals have budgets they must work within. The Seniors Choice allows the individual to choose which deductible that meets their budget. Many plans look at the market as ‘one size fits all’ in their approach in providing a plan. The Seniors Choice Plan recognizes that ‘one size does not fit all’.

You have a Choice in selecting the coverage which best meets your current situation. There are 12 deductible options for the Seniors Choice Group Retiree Health Plan, ranging from a $0, $100, $150, $250, $500, $750, $1,000, $1,500, $2,000, $2,500, $3,000 and $4,000.

The Medical Plan coverage is the same, the only difference is your choice of the deductible. As the deductibles increase the cost decreases. Recommendation is to use a minimum deductible of $150 or higher.

The differences shown have a range to fit your budget. This is a personal decision each individual must weigh.

Remember the Seniors Choice Group Retiree Health Plan has No physician’s network or network of hospitals—members have the freedom to choose any physician or hospital that accepts Medicare Patients.

Many of the KRTA members’ spouses are located throughout the United States and want a true access to the physicians, hospitals and facilities without the worry if these entities are in a “network”.

**Lodge Room - $49.95**
 One Bedroom Cottage - $74.95
 Two Bedroom Cottage - $89.95
 Three Bedroom Cottage - $99.95

Add just $5 to the above rates to enjoy a getaway to Barren River Lake, Cumberland Falls, Kentucky Dam Village, Lake Barkley, Lake Cumberland or Natural Bridge State Resort Parks.

Discount available November 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. Use promo code CC14 when booking online. If booking by phone, be sure to mention the Commonwealth Connection to receive special rate.

Proof of government employment, past or present, may be required at check-in. Subject to availability. May exclude park special event weekends and holidays. For leisure travel only. Not to be combined with other offers. Applicable taxes apply.

**Kentucky State Government Employee Leisure Rate is 15%**

Discount subject to availability. Must present valid Kentucky Government ID at check in. Discount applies to active state employees only. One accommodation at discounted rate per state employee.

Leisure travel only, applicable for cottages as well as lodge rooms. Discount does not apply to state park campgrounds.

**Liberty Mutual Insurance**

Dennis Goebel, Vice President, Liberty Mutual Insurance

©2014 Liberty Mutual Insurance

Street, Boston, MA 02116.

Liberty Mutual Insurance

Reprinted with permission from Liberty Mutual. ©2014 Liberty Mutual Insurance

**Kentucky State Employees**

**Commonwealth Connection**

Take advantage of the Kentucky State Parks’ Commonwealth Connection program which offers you reduced rates on lodge rooms and cottages at eleven resort parks, plus cottages at John James Audubon State Park.

KentuckyRetiredTeachersAssociation

Email: randall_childers@me.com

Visit the KRTA Web site: www.KRTA.org and click on Seniors Choice.

F. Randall Childers, Jr., CFC

Phone: (502) 643-8739

Email: randall_childers@me.com

Visit the KRTA Web site: www.KRTA.org and click on Seniors Choice.

F. Randall Childers, Jr., CFC

Phone: (502) 643-8739

Email: randall_childers@me.com

Visit the KRTA Web site: www.KRTA.org and click on Seniors Choice.
Financial Planning: Helping You See the Big Picture

Do you picture yourself owning a new home, starting a business, or retiring comfortably? These are a few of the financial goals that may be important to you, and each comes with a price tag attached.

That's where financial planning comes in. Financial planning is a process that can help you target your goals by evaluating your whole financial picture, then outlining strategies that are tailored to your individual needs and available resources.

Why is financial planning important?
A comprehensive financial plan serves as a framework for organizing the pieces of your financial picture. With a financial plan in place, you'll be better able to focus on your goals and understand what it will take to reach them.

One of the main benefits of having a financial plan is that it can help you balance competing financial priorities. A financial plan will clearly show you how your financial goals are related—for example, how saving for your children's college education might impact your ability to save for retirement. Then you can use the information you've gleaned to decide how to prioritize your goals, implement specific strategies, and choose suitable products or services.

Best of all, you'll know that your financial life is headed in the right direction.

The financial planning process.
Creating and implementing a comprehensive financial plan generally involves working with financial professionals to:

- Develop a clear picture of your current financial situation by reviewing your income, assets, and liabilities, and evaluating your insurance coverage, your investment portfolio, your tax exposure, and your estate plan.
- Establish and prioritize financial goals and time frames for achieving these goals.
- Implement strategies that address your current financial weaknesses and build on your financial strengths.

Choose specific products and services that are tailored to help meet your financial objectives.

Monitor your plan, making adjustments as your goals, time frames, or circumstances change.

Some members of the team.
The financial planning process can involve a number of professionals.

- Financial planners typically play a central role in the process, focusing on your overall financial plan, and often coordinating the activities of other professionals who have expertise in specific areas.
- Accountants or tax attorneys provide advice on federal and state tax issues.
- Estate planning attorneys help you plan your estate and give advice on transferring and managing your assets before and after your death.
- Insurance professionals evaluate insurance needs and recommend appropriate products and strategies.
- Investment advisors provide advice about investment options and asset allocation, and can help you plan a strategy to manage your investment portfolio.

The most important member of the team, however, is you. Your needs and objectives drive the team, and once you've carefully considered any recommendations, all decisions lie in your hands.

Why can't I do it myself? You can, if you have enough time and knowledge, but developing a comprehensive financial plan may require expertise in several areas. A financial professional can give you objective information and help you weigh your alternatives, saving you time and ensuring that all angles of your financial picture are covered.

Staying on track.
The financial planning process doesn't end once your initial plan has been created. Your plan should generally be reviewed at least once a year to make sure that it's up-to-date. It's also possible that you'll need to modify your plan due to changes in your personal circumstances or the economy. Here are some of the events that might trigger a review of your financial plan:

- Your goals or time horizons change.
- You experience a life-changing event such as marriage, the birth of a child, health problems, or a job loss.
- You have a specific or immediate financial planning need (e.g., drafting a will, managing a distribution from a retirement account, paying long-term care expenses).
- Your income or expenses substantially increase or decrease.
- Your portfolio hasn't performed as expected.
- You're affected by changes to the economy or tax laws.

Common questions about financial planning.

What if I'm too busy? Don't wait until you're in the midst of a financial crisis before beginning the planning process. The sooner you start, the more options you may have.

Is the financial planning process complicated? Each financial plan is tailored to the needs of the individual, so how complicated the process will be depends on your individual circumstances. But no matter what type of help you need, a financial professional will work hard to make the process as easy as possible, and will gladly answer all of your questions.

What if my spouse and I disagree? A financial professional is trained to listen to your concerns, identify any underlying issues, and help you find common ground.

Can I still control my own finances? Financial planning professionals make recommendations, not decisions. You retain control over your finances. Recommendations will be based on your needs, values, goals, and time frames. You decide which recommendations to follow, then work with a financial professional to implement them.

This information, developed by an independent third party, has been obtained from sources considered to be reliable, but Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. does not guarantee that the foregoing material is accurate or complete. This information is not a complete summary or statement of all available data necessary for making an investment decision and does not constitute a recommendation. The information contained in this report does not purport to be a complete description of the securities, markets, or developments referred to in this material. This information is not intended as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell any security referred to herein. Investments mentioned may not be suitable for all investors. The material is general in nature. Past performance may not be indicative of future results. Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. does not provide advice on tax, legal or mortgage issues.

This material should be discussed with the appropriate professional. Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC, an independent broker/dealer; and are not insured by FDIC, NCUA or any other government agency, are not deposits or obligations of the financial institution, are not guaranteed by the financial institution, and are subject to risks, including the possible loss of principal.
KRTA and AARP Working Together
Cebert Gilbert, AARP/KRTA Liaison

Cebert encouraged everyone to join AARP and also become a member of NRTA by checking the NRTA box on the AARP membership form. By doing so, retired teachers are supporting the partnership of KRTA and AARP who work together on issues with which they agree:

- Retirement Security
- Grandparent Essay Contest
- National Day of Service—September 11
- School Supply Drive
- Financial Security
- Caregiving/Prepare to Care
- Drive to End Hunger/Yes, We Can Feed Kentucky
- Fraud Watch Network
- Voter Engagement

Grandparent Essay Contest

- Honors the role of grandparents
- Brings attention to number of students being reared by grandparents
- Educates principals and teachers about the challenges of these students and grandparents.
- Gains community service credit for participation.
- Open to all 5th grade public school students
- Deadlines: School winners December 15, 2015
  - County winners January 31, 2016
  - District winners March 1, 2016
- State winner will be announced at the KRTA Convention in April 2016.
- Visit www.aarp.org/grandparents for more information or call 1-888-687-2277

School Supply Drive/Drive to End Hunger/Yes, We Can Feed Kentucky!

Many Retired Teacher Associations are collecting school supplies each year to help schools make sure each child has supplies. Locals are collecting canned goods to help end hunger. These are great opportunities for your group to make a difference.

Volunteer Opportunities, Speakers, and More

Website: www.aarp.org/ky Email: aarpyk@aarp.org Phone: 1-866-295-7275

Cebert ended his presentation at each workshop by thanking RTA Presidents for their support of AARP Kentucky and our joint community service efforts.

Health, Insurance & Wellness
Co-Chair Don Pace

The health, insurance, and wellness benefits offered by membership in KRTA are certainly something to celebrate! Don described these to the workshop attendees, emphasizing that all pertinent information could be found on The FACT Sheet (green sheet) in the workshop packet and available from the KRTA office.

- North American Life Plans
  - Long Term Care Insurance
  - LifeLock (Id Theft Protection)
  - Life Insurance
- Liberty Mutual
  - Auto Insurance—Save 15%
  - Home Insurance—Save 5%
- Avesis Vision Plan
- Delta Dental Plans
- HEAR in America
- Comfort Keepers (Senior Care Resource & Solution)
- Home Instead (Senior Care)
- Bay Alarm Medical
- First Choice Protection Home Security System
- Air, Land, Sea Travel

Thanks, Don, for keeping members up to date!

(Continued on page 6)
Moore, Debi Newman, and Becky Niece updated issues with KTRS investment performance and governance. KTRS was established by the General Assembly in 1938 and funded in 1940. A Defined Benefit Group Retirement Plan was established to provide retirement benefits for local school districts and other public educational agencies in the state. Contributions from the active teacher plus the employer match lasts six years. After that, the retiree’s annuity is paid from investments. Due to the outstanding investment practices of KTRS, retirees will draw their annuity for the remainder of their lives. The number of members over 100 years old still drawing annuities increases each year.

The national atmosphere of pension plans is putting our Defined Benefit Plan under attack. It has worked successfully for us for 70 years and with our positive financial investment record, it should not be changed.

SYSTEM STATISTICS Field of Membership. There are 69,961 active educators, 14,991 of which were eligible to retire (27+ years). As of June 30, 2014, the system has more than 157,434 members. During June and July of 2015, there were 1,491 new retirees. (Over 6,507 retirees are over 80 years of age, including 54 who are over 100—one of the reasons we should be thankful for the defined benefit plan). Slightly over one in four teachers are eligible to retire.

Impact. The sole reason KTRS exists is to provide monthly checks for its 49,500 retirees and their beneficiaries and survivors. This means $150 million goes into Kentucky’s economy each month. The positive impact—for school districts, for members, and for state and local economies—cannot be overemphasized. KTRS distributed $1.9 billion in 2014—what amounts over the last three years to $371 million or 9,275 retirees age 80 and above are single and eighty-five percent of retirees age 80 and above are single.

KTRS has been experiencing a negative cash flow since 2008. Selling assets hurts investment performance because it limits investment options. Additional funding will help stabilize this deteriorating situation.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

• **Pension Oversight Board** assists the General Assembly with its review, analysis, and oversight of the administration, benefits, investments, funding, laws and administrative regulations, and legislation pertaining to Kentucky Retirement Systems.

• **House Bill 4** is an act relating to funding for KTRS and making an appropriation. Introduced in the 2015 General Assembly which would have provided a long-term funding solution for KTRS pension fund. The bill passed through the House by a supermajority. The Senate approved its own version of the bill. Legislators couldn’t agree on a compromise, funding was not available. HB4 has brought awareness to the KTRS funding issue.

• KTRS Funding Work Group. In an effort to strengthen the solvency of the KTRS, Gov. Steve Beshear by executive order has created a 23-member work group made up of state officials, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, professional consultants and education leaders. The full report is due by December 1, 2015.

• **2016-18 Budget Needs.** KTRS will request, beyond salary related contributions, additional funding of almost $1 billion. We may have more opportunity for a solution in the 2016 year since it is a budget year.

KTRS has proven good management, Structural problems are NOT the issue. The facts are simple. . . KTRS has $18.7 billion in assets compared to $30 billion in liabilities. As the state’s liability grows, the Commonwealth’s credit rating will decrease . . . which will result in higher interest rates for the state. If bonding is proposed, it would provide needed cash flow to pay retired teachers’ pensions and thereby stop the liquidation of investment assets at an inopportune time. Interest rates continue to be at historic lows. The need for funding is great and cannot wait. It’s the tipping point—something must be done.

RETIREE HEALTH CARE. We are fortunate that Jane Gilbert and her staff were able to present this portion at all workshop locations. She explained the steps toward “Shared Responsibility.”

• **The Board, as fiduciary, directs actuary to provide options**

• **Protect pension plan and the security of its members**

• **Education community develops solution from options**

• **Shared Responsibility plan becomes HB 540**

• **Legislature & Governor approve HB 540**

• **Implements plan of shared responsibility funding developed by Kentucky’s education community**

• **Establishes technical provisions necessary to comply with IRS code**

• **Preserves medical benefit into the future for today’s active teachers**

• **Protects retirees under age 65 from paying full cost for health care and over 65 from paying more for health care**

• **Allows teachers to retire in normal fashion saving districts $200 - $350 million per year and the state $26 - $46 million per year**

• **Reduces request from general fund this biennium by $61 million**

• **Reduces the unfunded liability by $2.8 billion**

If this HB 540 had not passed we would not have a long-term solution to fund retiree health care. The medical benefit for retired teachers under age 65 would have gone away and teachers upon retiring would have to pay the full cost of health care (in addition to the Medicare Part B premium at age 65). Under **Shared Responsibility**, active members will have medical benefits available when they retire. As is clearly evident, without medical benefits, retirement security is uncertain. The likely outcome would be that teachers would need to work much longer (closer to age 65) to make up for the loss of this benefit. **Shared Responsibility** means teachers will be able to retire at a time of their choice, with greater retirement security.

Retirees under age 65, regardless of retirement date, who receive medical benefits through the Kentucky Employees’ Health Plan, began contributing an additional amount to the Medical Insurance Fund effective July 1, 2010. This amount is based on the standard Medicare Part B premium that is currently paid by retirees age 65 and over.

**AGE 65 AND OVER ONLY.** Implementation of United Healthcare has been successful! Shanna Van Den Elzen is a UnitedHealthcare Medicare and Retirement Customer Advocate who specializes in servicing the retiree health care needs of employer groups. You can speak with her by calling the KTRS office at 800-618-1687. Shanna is a key member of the account management team, providing communication and leadership while taking ownership of customer care results. Her responsibilities include end to end service on issue resolution for the clients and reports of call center statistics.

**What Are the Enhancements for 2016?**

The KTRS MEHP Part D Prescription Drug Plan bid was awarded once again to Express Scripts for 2016. Remaining with Express Scripts allows KTRS to continue
as a member of the Know Your Rx Coalition with access to six pharmacists and the ability to leverage the Coalition for future drug pricing.

The KTRS MEHP Medicare Advantage plan was awarded to United Healthcare (UHC) for 2016. UHC is a nationally-recognized company with offices in Louisville and Lexington that employs 700 UHC employees. In addition, UHC will provide a full-time UHC employee to be located in the KTRS Frankfort office.

KTRS projects to save $13 million in 2015 compared to 2014 with a guaranteed, not-to-exceed premium for 2016 and 2017. Saving money will help sustain the Medical Insurance Fund and, as a result, will allow KTRS to continue to provide meaningful health insurance for retired teachers.

The United Healthcare Medicare Advantage plan been effective since January 1, 2015. Similar to the current Medicare Advantage plan, it will be a national, passive Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan.

What does not change:

• No medical provider network required. Visit any provider that accepts Medicare and agrees to bill UHC
• No change in co-payments, some co-payments reduced
• No change in deductible.
• No change in coinsurance.
• No change in out-of-pocket annual maximum.
• Participants are still in the Medicare program.
• Participants will still have the same Medicare rights and protections.
• No change in plan design elements

What are the enhancements for 2016?

• For covered spouses and retirees not eligible for the full KTRS contribution, the monthly MEHP premium will be $250.
• Coverage for a routine hearing exam every 12 months at a $0 co-pay.
• A $500 hearing aid allowance every 36 months (This benefit can coordinate with KRTA’s Hear in America Program).
• Some routine podiatry coverage.
• hi HealthInnovations Hearing Aids Discounts.
• Member Rewards Program.
• HouseCalls (in home assessment program).
• Solutions for Caregivers (provides care planning and care coordination services designed to relieve some of the burden and stress of caregiving and supports the overall well-being of the person receiving care).
• My Path to Health.
• $125 Outpatient Surgery Co-payment removed.
• $250 Inpatient Hospital Co-payment reduced to $200, but now applied at every admittance.
• KTRS On-site UHC Retiree Advocate to answer calls and meet face to face with KTRS visitors.
• QuitPower.

What changed in 2015?

If you had an annual Wellness Visit or Physical with your doctor and completed it by the dates below, you are entitled to free gift cards.

- June 30 = $75 gift card
- July 1 - Sept 30 = $50 gift card
- Oct 1 - Dec 31 = $25 gift card

Gift card choices are Applebee’s, Kohl’s, Amazon, Starbucks, and Subway. Contact UHC at 1-855-901-1011 to acknowledge that your Wellness Visit or Physical has been completed and to receive your first card. Claim gift card reward by January 20, 2016.

HouseCalls is a home visit with a UHC nurse or physician. If you complete a visit, you receive a $25 Target gift card.

If you are turning age 65 in the future and you are currently covered through the Kentucky Employees’ Health Plan, you will receive a KTRS MEHP enrollment packet that must be completed and submitted to KTRS approximately 30 days before turning 65.

Know Your Rx Coalition Pharm-Assist

In addition to purchasing power, Know Your Rx Coalition offers member institutions clinical resources to help further manage Rx spend.

• Free counseling service via live pharmacists.
• Identification of lower cost prescription alternatives.
• Contacting physician to facilitate seeking authorization for lower cost alternative therapies.
• Liaison for retirees/physicians for issues with Rx benefit including prior authorization, step therapy, and other programs.
• Educational resources for retirees—adverse effects, drug interactions and general medication information.

Call at Rx Coalition at 1-855-218-5979.

Edumedics—Our Solution

We offer face-to-face clinical guidance and support to help you manage your current health conditions.

If you have diabetes and/or high blood pressure and high cholesterol, we can provide the guidance you need to help you achieve a more enjoyable lifestyle. You will have personal, one-on-one clinical visits with a knowledgeable and friendly Edumedics Nurse Practitioner who will guide you to better health. Call Edumedics for more information 1-855-210-8514.

Healthways SilverSneakers Fitness

Over 3,500 or 14% of the MEHP enrollees are actively participating in this free or reduced opportunity to visit a gym.

AGE UNDER 65 ONLY.

By now you have either elected or waived your Kentucky Employees’ Health Plan insurance coverage. The KEP had new medical and prescription vendors for plan year 2015. The medical vendor is Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield (Anthem) and the prescription vendor is CVS Caremark.

KEHP remains a self-insured plan with benefits designed in-house. We will continue to have Humana Vitality as our wellness vendor, and Compass SmartShopper as our transparency vendor. WageWorks is the COBRA/HRA vendor.

Effective May 4, 2015, the pilot program with the KTRS under 65 retirees on the KEHP and the Know Your Rx Coalition began. This means that if you get prescription drug calls from under 65 KTRS retirees on the KEHP concerning their CVS/Caremark drug coverage, then you may refer them to the Know Your Rx Coalition pharmacists just like we do now for retirees on the MEHP with Express Scripts drug coverage. We are very glad to be offering this much needed consultation program to our under 65 retirees!

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield (Anthem)

is the medical plan administrator. Anthem has operated in Kentucky for more than 75 years, and is the largest carrier in the Commonwealth. Anthem offers an even bigger network of providers, excellent service and technology, and significant opportunities to help hold down costs.

CVS/Caremark is the pharmacy benefits manager. The CVS/Caremark network includes more than 67,000 pharmacies nationwide, including chain pharmacies and 20,000 independent pharmacies. It is important to know that you do not have to use a CVS pharmacy and may continue to use your existing retail, grocery store, and independent pharmacy if they participate in the CVS/Caremark network of pharmacies.

WageWorks is the administrator for Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) and Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs). They will also provide COBRA administration services. WageWorks makes benefits programs easier to understand and use so that everyone can take advantage of pre-tax savings and focus on what matters most. They currently work with more than 29,000 employers to help more than 3.2 million people save money.

Out-of-pocket Maximums. The LivingWell PPO and the Standard PPO plan options have a pharmacy out-of-pocket maximum as well as a medical out-of-pocket maximum. Your pharmacy costs are capped where previously your pharmacy co-pays continued to be your responsibility, even if you had met your medical out-of-pocket maximum.

FSA Carryover. Up to $500 of your Healthcare FSA funds remaining in your account at the end of the 2015 calendar year will carry over to the 2016 plan year. You should carefully plan the amount to contribute. Anything over $500 remaining at the end of the plan year run-out period will be forfeited.

Compass Healthcare Advisors LLC points you in the right direction to lower healthcare costs. You can shop by website, phone or call center. It is easy to use and provides choice rewards and cost-effective decisions for procedures like mammograms, bone density, colonoscopies, MRI and CT scans and surgeries. Call 1-855-869-2133.

Humana Vitality has rewards for you! Set your goals—Earn points—Get rewarded. Your Vitality Points and Vitality Bucks will expire when your Humana Vitality membership terminates at the end of your KEHP membership; make sure to redeem your Humana Vitality Bucks before you reach age 65 and/or your plan ends!
As KRTA members work to preserve the Kentucky Teachers’ Retirement System (KTRS), these points are important to consider:

1. Retired teachers are not covered by Social Security. There is no financial safety net for Kentucky’s retired teachers.
2. KTRS was established in 1938 because Kentucky’s retired teachers were not permitted by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to participate in the Social Security program.
3. Approximately 49,500 retired teachers, beneficiaries and survivors receive annuity payments each month.
4. Over $1.97 billion in annuity payments are distributed monthly providing a significant positive economic impact on all of Kentucky’s local communities. Ninety-two percent of KTRS retirees live in Kentucky.

Historically, approximately 70 percent of the retirement allowance distributed annually comes from KTRS’ diverse, conservative investment earnings.

Legislative Areas of Major Emphasis
Support Legislation that would improve the Actuarial Soundness of KTRS. KTRS must be operated in a manner that assures earned benefits are paid in a timely manner. Both present and future retirees must be considered in any and all decisions relating to benefits to be paid, the funding of these benefits and the investment of the system’s resources. Possibilities include increased appropriations by the General Assembly and floating bonds.

Keep the Governance of KTRS as it is presently constituted. The elected Board of Trustees, acting as a semi-independent state agency, has a record of 75 years of successful management that is unsurpassed in state government. The present trustee election process has served the best interest of Kentucky’s public school teachers and retirees for many years with marked success. It is critical to keep political influence at a minimum level and keep KTRS operating in a professional manner.

Maintain KTRS as a Defined Benefit Group Retirement Plan for all Kentucky Public School Teachers. A retiree cannot outlive his/her pension under a Defined Benefit (DB) Group Retirement Plan, unlike a Defined Contribution (DC) Individual Savings account even with a Social Security safety net. Since Kentucky’s retired teachers do not have a Social Security safety net, it is vital that our DB group retirement plan continue. Also, research shows that DC plans are as much as 46 percent more costly than DB plans.

Promote Full Funding of KTRS and maintain the Medical Insurance Fund. Full funding in a timely manner is required to keep the annuity fund in sound fiscal condition, as is maintaining the medical insurance fund per HB 540 passed by the 2010 General Assembly *(Shared Responsibility). Legislation requirements is essential to the financial well being of our members. KTRS members are meeting their Shared Responsibility (HB 540) obligations. Full ARC Funding allows for more growth through a sound conservative investment strategy.

Where do we go legislatively from this day forward? The key is, “one on one” work with legislators. Always find out who is running for House/Senate in your district. Meet with current legislators and legislative candidates. Seek their support on our major issues and find out what questions or concerns they have and get back to them with a response. Remember: All politics is local.

Keep informed as to the political landscape of public pensions at both the State and National levels through KRTA publications, KTRS publications, and the news media.

Legislative Co-Chairs
Ray Roundtree & Don Hines

Memberships Co-Chairs
Betty Hester, Debby Murrell & Ernie Trosper

According to the Membership Committee, the way to grow membership is through planning. Yogi Berra said, “If you don't know where you're going, chances are you'll end up somewhere else.” Here's a plan for your local:

I. Implementation. Divide your Membership Team into 2 groups—Local and State. Then plan your strategy and assemble materials. Sort the state “inactives” by school or office from which they retired. Ask a retiree from each school to oversee the recruitment for that school.

II. Why KRTA? We need to keep telling this story:

› KRTA is the only organization in the state that has as its main purpose to look out for the welfare of retired educators. Members KNOW where to go for answers to retiree questions and concerns.
› The KRTA Legislative Program is aimed at soliciting support for and commitment to the Association’s priorities.
› KRTA has a clear direction and a good map! No one else is doing it!

III. Materials.
Display boards, Automatic Dues Deduction (ADD) or white cards, green sheets, pink sheets, and Telephone Reference Cards are all excellent tools.

IV. Wrap up and celebrate.
Get your Recognition forms in and win—Gold, Silver, Bronze . . . who knows!

Make your plan work! Stop trying to do everything yourself. Be careful. . . Don't leave out someone because they didn't join last year. GO for the GOLD!

There is opportunity all around us to build membership. Keep the names of new retirees sent to local presidents at the end of every month.

Honor those retirees at a retirement reception/dinner. If possible solicit help from the superintendent's office or the local board of education. Gain access to active teachers through faculty meetings. Support your district leadership at State Pre-Retirement Seminars. Use mail, email, social media (i.e., Facebook) phone and personal contacts. One method works for some retirees; another method, for other retirees.

Have someone in charge of recruitment activities. Go the extra mile because membership is everybody's business! The sky's the limit—this year's goal is 30,616+ members.

KRTA MEMBERSHIP
LOCAL & DISTRICT RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Added Category: Virginia Shaw Award (District Award)
10 Points each for qualification for the “Yes We Did” and “Top Hat” Awards Changed threshold from 85% to 80%.

“Yes We Did” Award – To Local & District Associations for reaching the goal set at the beginning of the membership year

“Top Hat” Award—To Local & District Associations for number of members gained: Local—Top 10 Districts—Top 5

Debby Murrell
Betty Hester
Ernie Trosper

Ray Roundtree
Don Hines

KRTA NEWS
December 2015

Betty Hester
Business Partners Participating in the Workshops!

Sara Lawson  Tiffany Grit  Ashley Briscoe  Jane Gilbert  Debi Newman  Becky Niece
Leann Uebel  Nazma Haq  Courtney Maggenoni  Camille Burgess  Dora Moore

North American Life Plans

Steve Turpin & Jeff Johnson  Beth Roark  Shannon Ledbetter

North American Life Plans

Chris Tyler, Shannon Van Den Elzen and Lynn Groff
United Healthcare

Lea Goggin, R.Ph. Clinical Staff
Lucy Wells, R.Ph. Clinical Director
Amy Griesser & Allison Russell R.Ph. Clinical Staff
Travis Albrecht, R.Ph. Clinical Staff

Ian Graham

Cindy Block Hayden

Henry Hensley

Chris Maddox

EDUMEDICS
FINANCE & INVESTMENT LINE

Liberty Mutual Insurance

KRTA NEWS PAGE 9

DECEMBER 2015
Thanks to Legislators Participating in the Workshops!

Sen. Ralph Alvarado
District 28

Rep. Linda Belcher
District 49

Sen. Joe Bowen
District 8

Rep. Mike Denham
District 70

Rep. Myron Dossett
District 9

Rep. Jim Dupleiss
District 25

Rep. Joe Fischer
District 68

District 12

Rep. Derrick Graham
District 57

Rep. David Hale
District 74

Rep. Mike Harmon
District 54

Rep. Richard Heath
District 2

Sen. Jimmy Higdon
District 14

Rep. James Kay
District 56

Rep. Martha Jane King
District 16

Rep. Adam Koenig
District 69

Rep. Brian Linder
District 61

Sen. Christian McDaniel
District 23

Rep. Suzanne Miles
District 7

Rep. Jerry Miller
District 36

Rep. Brad Montell
District 58

Rep. Tim Moore
District 18

Rep. Rick Nelson
District 87

Sen. Dennis Parrett
District 10

Rep. Tanya Pullen
District 98

Rep. Rick Rand
District 47

Rep. Steve Rudy
District 1

Rep. Sal Santoro
District 60

Sen. John Schickle
District 11

Rep. Jonathan Shell
District 71
KRTA Member Participation: Contacting Your Legislators

It is important that KRTA members help keep their legislators informed. Legislators need to know your thinking on those issues upon which decisions will be made, and the facts on which such thinking and conclusions are based. As a KRTA member, you can help insure good legislation concerning retired teacher issues on state and national levels by communicating with your elected representatives at the proper time. Personal contacts can be a meaningful way to influence a legislator.

Points to remember when approaching an elected official:

1. **Build a relationship** with your state elected officials and their aides; this takes time (attend fund raisers, town meetings, etc.)
2. **Be brief and be prepared**—take the time to read all available background material
3. **Know the issues**—pros and cons
4. **Be honest**—the primary goal of your visit is to express your concern over a particular bill or issue
5. **Be polite and specific** (we all need to agree to disagree) it is generally advisable not to get into arguments; don't demand a commitment before the facts are in
6. **Be constructive**—give reasons for your position, explain how the issue would affect you, your family, or profession, or the effect on your community, on our state; if you want to suggest amendments to a bill that has been introduced, it is important that you have:
   a) a clear idea of what you want to be included or deleted;
   b) the reasons to justify the proposed change; and
   c) good, strong facts to back up your position before you contact your Legislator.
7. **Limit handouts** unless you are asked for more information—do not “overkill,” stick to the issues that you came to discuss; don’t wander into other issues
8. **Work with staff**—No legislator can be an expert on everything.
9. **Praise past efforts and listen** to their issues without interrupting—they often have input from many resources to which you may not have access
10. **Follow up a visit with a note** thanking them for their time and for listening to your point of view and for his/her vote.

**Presidents of the 14 KRTA Districts**

- **FIRST DISTRICT**
  - Sandra Rudolph
- **SECOND DISTRICT**
  - Harold Wilson
- **THIRD DISTRICT**
  - Clarence Gamble
- **FOURTH DISTRICT**
  - Bill Kelley
- **FIFTH DISTRICT**
  - Allen Schuler
- **JEFFERSON**
  - Rick Tatum
- **CENTRAL KY EAST**
  - Thelma Blair
- **CENTRAL KY WEST**
  - Parthenia Wells
- **MIDDLE CUMBERLAND**
  - Shirley Dick Wolf
- **NORTHERN KY DISTRICT**
  - Lori Flerlage
- **UPPER CUMBERLAND**
  - Maggie Napier
- **UPPER KY RIVER DISTRICT**
  - Charlotte Ditty
- **BIG SANDY DISTRICT**
  - Darrell Clark
- **EASTERN DISTRICT**
  - Ann Porter
AROUND THE STATE...  

Allen Co RTA  
ACRTA recently donated $100 to the Allen County Schools Family Resource Center (FRC) for its Backpack Food Program. The program makes sure children have enough food to eat over the weekend. Making the presentation last Thursday in front of the Allen County Intermediate Center’s Family Resource Center was, from left: Verna Williams, Kelly Wanta, ACRTA President Julie Dinwiddie, FRC’s April Hogue, Rhonda Kircher, Angel Clark and Lindsay Gammons.  

Central KY West District RTA  
Retired principal from Nicholas County, Charlie Wilson, was the speaker at the Oct. 20, 2015 meeting of KRTA-Central Kentucky West. 89 year old Charlie was one of the first to set foot on Normandy Beach on D-Day 71 years ago, along with 150,000 allied soldiers when he was only 18 years old. He is talking and what a story he has to tell! Cheryl Rawlings (President of Nicholas County retired teachers) introduced Charlie to the group. She is a former student and taught for Mr. Wilson. Cheryl is now his neighbor.  

Campbell County RTA  
L - R: Joshua Snapp Principal Terry Lightfoot CCRTA President Molly Wesley Family Resource Center Coordinator  
The Campbell County Retired Teachers Association recently presented hand sanitizers to Newport Elementary School. The staff was thankful to get enough sanitizers to place a large bottle in each of its 21 classrooms.  

Casey County RTA  
L - R: Tishana Cundiff, CCRTA president, with Jennifer Godbey representing East Casey Youth Service Center, and Shelly Wesley representing West Casey County Youth Service Center  
Members of CCRTA donated $170, a Walmart gift card and a variety of school supplies such as backpacks, colored pencils, paper, notebooks, binder and crayons to be shared with student in need during the school. They hosted the Apple Festival Spelling Bee on Friday, September 25 where winners from grades 1-8 representing all local public schools and The Gallilean School competed for the honor of placing first, second, or third.  

Central KY West District RTA  
Charlie Wilson & Cheryl Rawlings  

Edmonson County RTA  
ECRTA donated school supplies to students at Edmonson County 5/6 Resource Center  
L - R: Lynette Saling and Lisa Whobrey (5/6 Resource Center; Nancy Sanders, ECRTA President; Elaine Ashley, Secretary/Treasurer of ECRTA  

Harlan County RTA  
On September 22, 2015, seven members of HCRTA attended the KRTAFall Workshop held at Pine Mountain State Park. Representing Harlan County were Polly McLain, Mary Lynn Pace, Patsy Howard, Elizabeth Roe-Sergent, Connie Brock, Georganne Lovely and Charles Lovely.  

Eastern District RTA  
L - R: Arnold Stacy, Treasurer Debbie Highly, Secretary Ginnie McKenzie, Ada June Thompson, members and Tate Adams, President of the Bath County retired teachers really enjoyed the District meeting at Carter Caves State Park.  

Kenton County RTA  
KCRTA teachers gathered at the Gardens of Park Hill on October 13 to hear Janie Caslowe speak on important issues concerning KTRS.  

Kenton County RTA  
Janie Caslowe, KRTA Deputy Executive Director, and J. B. Losey, KCRTA President  

Lynette Saling and Lisa Whobrey (5/6 Resource Center; Nancy Sanders, ECRTA President; Elaine Ashley, Secretary/Treasurer of ECRTA  

Edmonson County RTA  

Woodford Co. RTA  

Northern KY RTA  
Debby Murrell, KRTA Membership Co-chair, conducted a special membership meeting for the Northern District on October 8, 2014.  

Woodford Co. RTA  
Members of the WCRTA attended the forum on KTRS Funding Work Group on October 23 in Frankfort.  

Fifth District RTA  
Gwinn Hahn was selected as the Volunteer of the Year by Fifth District. The majority of her volunteer hours were devoted to the Bowman Valley Schoolhouse Project. She gave an update of the progress to save and renovate the last African-American schoolhouse in the county. It is now located next to the Bullitt County Board of Education office.  

Eastern District RTA  
L - R: Arnold Stacy, Treasurer Debbie Highly, Secretary Ginnie McKenzie, Ada June Thompson, members and Tate Adams, President of the Bath County retired teachers really enjoyed the District meeting at Carter Caves State Park.  

Kenton County RTA  
KCRTA teachers gathered at the Gardens of Park Hill on October 13 to hear Janie Caslowe speak on important issues concerning KTRS.
Menifee County RTA

The MCRTA met August 11 at the Menifee Wellness Center, in Frenchburg. Guest speaker, 74th District State Representative David Hale and his wife, Sheila, were among the 14 in attendance. Rep. Hale reported on the 2015 General Assembly and outcomes of HB4 relating to funding for the Teachers' Retirement System. He fielded questions about steps that will need to be taken to protect teachers' retirement during the 2016 General Assembly.

Mercer County RTA

The Mercer County Retired Teachers Association hosted a booth at the Mercer County Schools Opening Day Vendor Fair to inform active teachers about the mission and benefits of belonging to KRTA. Marsha Durr, President, spoke to the district staff to brief them on what KRTA is doing to promote the "Teachers Pension Refinancing Plan," and what active teachers can do to help get legislation passed in the 2016 General Assembly. In the picture at the right, Marsha Durr is explaining the Automatic Dues Deduction (ADD) card to active teacher, Carmen Souder.

Pike County RTA

In September, State Representatives Chris Harris, Leslie Combs, John Short and State Senator Ray S. Jones III came to speak at the regular meeting of the Pike County Retired Teachers. They gave a legislative update and concerns of the unfunded liability. These legislators offered their full support and committed to help with the teacher pension plan any way that they could. Other topics were covered in a question and answer session.

Webster County RTA

The WCRTA presented Webster County Schools Superintendent Rachel Yarbrough with a check for $1,100 to be donated to the Webster County Kids to College Fund. The fund will allow any future Webster Co. graduate to attend Henderson or Madisonville Community College.

Whitley Area RTA

WARTA met at Williamsburg City Hall in September to hear Matt Bevin's plans for retiree pensions. All active teachers and young people preparing for the classroom must keep up with pension issues.

Why I'm a Member of KRTA

For several years after Ann and I had retired, I went on teaching part time at NKU and AP classes at two local high schools. I did not really miss my colleagues because I was seeing students and other teachers daily. Ann and I had been in the Covington, Fort Thomas, and Bellevue systems through the years; so when my friend Ron McCormick of the county school system called us, he urged us to join the KRTA. We did. WOW! What a great group it is. There are many of our regular colleagues and others whom we have not known before. It didn't take us long to realize all we had been missing. Now we look forward to every meeting. These meetings are not only professional in demeanor, but fun too. Every meeting is now very important to us; we'd not miss one for almost any reason.

As you undoubtedly agree, reminiscing is something we educators truly enjoy. Together before, during, and after lunch we share tales of classroom experiences—serious and humorous. Oh yes, we mention "Common Core" and other panaceas we have endured from people who have never taught but think they have answers to any and all educational problems—real or imagined! Then we sometimes remember the humorous things that happened in our schools and classrooms. I really love to tell the tale of young lady who suddenly stood up in my senior English class at Highlands holding her throat. I said, "What's the matter, Kaye?" She replied, "I have swallowed my contact lens!" (She survived.) What great memories we have of the "kids" who have passed through our classrooms, the colleagues with whom we have served, those who have left us, and so many other memories all of us have.

Then we have programs of almost any topic—current events, sometimes a singing group from a local school district, speakers who tell us of pertinent legislation in Frankfort, and other such topics. You can see the smiles on our faces when we are leaving. All of us obviously show it has been time well spent.

The membership has been consistently led by others who have "been there and done that," as the cliché goes. We again realize we are with others who have touched the lives of thousands of young people through the years. Yes, just being with these others who have done this is truly a fulfilling experience.

All of us hope others will become a part of our group and know how pleasant it is to be among those who have seen our young people reach maturity and success. What grand memories we have! Join your local association!

Spotlight on John Deering

Why I'm a Member of KRTA

For several years after Ann and I had retired, I went on teaching part time at NKU and AP classes at two local high schools. I did not really miss my colleagues because I was seeing students and other teachers daily. Ann and I had been in the Covington, Fort Thomas, and Bellevue systems through the years; so when my friend Ron McCormick of the county school system called us, he urged us to join the KRTA. We did. WOW! What a great group it is. There are many of our regular colleagues and others whom we have not known before. It didn't take us long to realize all we had been missing. Now we look forward to every meeting. These meetings are not only professional in demeanor, but fun too. Every meeting is now very important to us; we'd not miss one for almost any reason.

As you undoubtedly agree, reminiscing is something we educators truly enjoy. Together before, during, and after lunch we share tales of classroom experiences—serious and humorous. Oh yes, we mention "Common Core" and other panaceas we have endured from people who have never taught but think they have answers to any and all educational problems—real or imagined! Then we sometimes remember the humorous things that happened in our schools and classrooms. I really love to tell the tale of young lady who suddenly stood up in my senior English class at Highlands holding her throat. I said, "What's the matter, Kaye?" She replied, "I have swallowed my contact lens!" (She survived.) What great memories we have of the "kids" who have passed through our classrooms, the colleagues with whom we have served, those who have left us, and so many other memories all of us have.

Then we have programs of almost any topic—current events, sometimes a singing group from a local school district, speakers who tell us of pertinent legislation in Frankfort, and other such topics. You can see the smiles on our faces when we are leaving. All of us obviously show it has been time well spent.

The membership has been consistently led by others who have "been there and done that," as the cliché goes. We again realize we are with others who have touched the lives of thousands of young people through the years. Yes, just being with these others who have done this is truly a fulfilling experience.

All of us hope others will become a part of our group and know how pleasant it is to be among those who have seen our young people reach maturity and success. What grand memories we have! Join your local association!

L - R: Paul Falin, Carolyn Falin, Aretta Moses, President Ronnie Partin, Maria Harrison, Nanny Hayes, Roddy Harrison, Mayor.

L - R: John Mayer, Dennis Davis, State Representative David Hale, Elaine Brown, Ruth Bryant.
Membership: Involvement Is The Key
by Jim Cole

How many members of KRTA do you know that try the involvement key of leaving it up to the other member(s) when it comes to recruiting new members?

Oh, sure, we pay our dues and occasionally participate in some social, civic and /or leadership project but that's usually about as far as it goes. Some of us (KRTA members) recognize the importance of keeping KRTA strong through continually increasing its membership, but apparently many members of KRTA do not.

Today, there are slightly over 30,000 individuals that are actual members of KRTA. Yet, this membership total stands for below the total figure of possible individuals that could become members.

The greatest difficulty we face in bolstering our membership is the failure of each of us as KRTA members. Whenever an eligible retired teacher is asked why s/he hasn't joined KRTA, the answer almost invariably will be that s/he hasn't ever been asked. Often just explaining to the retiree what we are and what we stand for will produce results. It's staggering when you consider how many retirees are out there just waiting to be asked to join KRTA today!

Another factor which has hurt the KRTA image over the years is widespread public misconception and misinformation as to what KRTA represents.

Involved KRTA members are gradually dispelling such myths through our extensive community service projects and activities efforts and with state and national programs as: feed the hungry, ringing the bell, collecting personal items, collecting socks and underwear and a Christmas social, just to name a few of the civic projects in which we involve ourselves. But despite this, not everyone has yet gotten the word and that's where personal involvement really comes into play.

Too many KRTA members take it for granted that what they read in the state newspaper is common knowledge to other KRTA members when, in fact, it is not. It is important, too, that you take part in your district and state meetings when possible.

KRTA needs to involve more of the current members in our community-oriented activities, not just KRTA members, and show everyone in the local community what we're doing, how we're organized and the things for which we stand. The KEY to getting out the word lies at the grassroots level (the KRTA local organization members). Local KRTA members are going to have to spread the word throughout their own communities.

Contrary to popular opinion, KRTA is progressive and visible, receptive to new ideas and seeks out the younger members to help fulfill positions within the ranks. Older members of KRTA always welcome their new retiree counterparts into the organization and place the new members in leadership roles. It's happening again today in KRTA.

Any member of KRTA today recognizes the need for recruiting new retiree KRTA members as the key to the continual growth that we must have. We must recognize the fact as older KRTA members become increasingly worn out, we will have to replace those KRTA members. The leadership which they represented will have to come from the younger membership.

The need for increasing KRTA membership grows each day; it is the responsibility of every level of KRTA to see to it that the job gets done.

Jim Cole is the Vice-President of the Woodford County RTA. Any questions or comments should be directed to Jim.

Kentucky received a relatively high score in cost of living for retirees. This was due largely to the state's rank as the state with the 9th lowest housing cost burden for older households, with just 27 percent of older households paying 30 percent or more of their income towards housing costs. However, Kentucky ranked relatively low in Medicaid generosity with average payments of $14,665 for older beneficiaries. Retirees in the state had a higher than average Medicare cost-sharing liability of $1,789 in out-of-pocket costs for enrollees.

Older Adult Labor Market Score: 5 out of 10

In 2012, Kentucky had an average older adult labor market score. The state had a relatively low unemployment rate for older workers, at 4.5 percent, versus 5.3 percent nationally. However, the state had a relatively low median wage for older workers, at $14.30 per hour, versus $14.76 nationally.

About the Financial Security Scorecard

The Financial Security Scorecard measures three key areas of retirement security: potential future income, major retiree costs and the labor market for older Americans. This Scorecard assesses Kentucky relative to the other states on these dimensions of retirement security. Nationally, private sector participation and savings in retirement plans are particularly inadequate. Reflecting an overall downward trend, even the highest-ranking state for workplace retirement plan participation had just 54% of private sector workers age 21-64 enrolled in a pension or 401 (k) style retirement plan. Furthermore, existing savings levels in 2012 generated account values that are lower than a year's income and below levels that financial industry experts recommend as targets for most ages. Thus, regardless of relative scores, all states have their work cut out for them when it comes to creating absolute financial security for aging populations.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Score</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement Income Score</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement Plan Participation (Private Sector)</td>
<td>49.00%</td>
<td>47.40%</td>
<td>43.14%</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average DC Account Balance</td>
<td>$18,458</td>
<td>$30,389</td>
<td>$32,499</td>
<td>$30,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginal Tax Rate on Pension Income</td>
<td>1.63%</td>
<td>2.09%</td>
<td>2.24%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Out of Pocket Cost per Enrollee</td>
<td>$1,558</td>
<td>$1,673</td>
<td>$1,789</td>
<td>$1,745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid Payments for Older Beneficiaries</td>
<td>$13,889</td>
<td>$13,359</td>
<td>$14,665</td>
<td>$16,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Households Paying 30% or More for Housing</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Market Score</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Worker Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Hourly Wage for Older Workers</td>
<td>$13.12</td>
<td>$13.39</td>
<td>$14.30</td>
<td>$14.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All dollar figures are in 2012 dollars.

Sources: National Institute on Retirement Security. For more information visit www.nirsonline.org

States were ranked based on eight measures of financial security fix future retirees including: percentage of private sector workers participating in a retirement plan at work; average defined contribution account balance; marginal tax rate on pension income; average out-of-pocket expenditures for Medicare patients; average Medicaid spending per elderly patient; percent of older households spending 30 percent or more of income on housing costs; unemployment rate of people 55 and older; and median hourly earnings of workers 55 and older. Rankings were scored both overall and within three key categories on a scale of 1 to 10, with higher scores indicating better performance for the years 2000, 2007 and 2012.
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

KRTA OFFICE
1.800.551.7979 ~ 502.231.5802 ~ 502.231.0686 (fax)
info@krta.org (e-mail) www.krta.org (website)

KRTA LEGALINE
1.800.231.1090
Rebecca Murrell ~ Louisville, Kentucky

KRTA FINANCE & INVESTMENT INFO
Hank Hensley 1.800.927.0030

DELA DENTAL INSURANCE
1.866.480.4872 or www.deltadentalky.com

AVESIS KRTA VISION PLAN
Enrollment 1.800.466.5182 ~ Provider Questions 1.800.828.9341
www.avesis.com

BAY ALARM MEDICAL
For Information 1.877.522.9633 www.bayalarmmedical.com/krta

FIRST CHOICE PROTECTION
Home Protection ~ Authorized ADT Dealer
Burglary ~ Fire ~ Carbon Monoxide ~ Closed Circuit TV
For Information 502.709.5645 www.1stchoiceprotection.com

AUTOMOBILE & HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company
1.888.504.0156 ext. 51690
502.429.4504 ext. 51690

HEARING INSTRUMENT PLAN—HEAR IN AMERICA
1.800.286.6149 or www.hearinamerica.com

KY TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM
1.800.618.1687 or www.ktrs.ky.gov

COMMONWEALTH CREDIT UNION
1.800.228.6420 / 502-564-4775 or www.ccuky.org

COMFORT KEEPERS
1.877.257.KRTA or www.comfortkeepers.com

HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE
1.888.886.6831 or www.seniorcarelouisville.net

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE PLANS including LifeLock
1.888.362.1214 or 502-553-7630
www.krtabenefits.com

TRAVEL
Air Land Sea Travel LLC. 502.873-5610 or email Carol Pullen at
pullen5222@bellsouth.net
Bluegrass Tours 1.800.755.6956

HEALTH INSURANCE
65+ (MEHP) United Healthcare 1-844-866-5834
Express Scripts 1-877-866-5834 or www.uchcetreeee.com/KTRS
KYRx Coalition 1-855-218-5979 Edumedics 1-855-210-8514
Silver Sneakers for MEHP 1-888-423-4632

Under 65 (KEHP) Anthem BCBS 1-844-402-KEHP
CVA Caremark 1-866-601-6934

MISCELLANEOUS INFO

YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW
Submit information about your local RTA activities to brenda.meredith@krta.org
All photographs must be electronic or originals.

The deadline for the March issue is January 14

N. O. KIMBLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND INC.
Treasurer’s Report - June 30, 2015

Scholarships Paid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community College</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashland</td>
<td>Mark Ratliff</td>
<td>$1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Sandy</td>
<td>Makayla Jones</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluegrass</td>
<td>Shelby Galg</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling Green</td>
<td>Ann Decker</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabethtown</td>
<td>Melissa French</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway</td>
<td>Erica Fannin</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard</td>
<td>Victoria Boggs</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson</td>
<td>Laci Davis</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hopkinsville</td>
<td>Olivia Bloodworth</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>Joshua Gonzalez</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madisonville</td>
<td>Sierra Carlton</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maysville</td>
<td>Mariah Henry</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owensboro</td>
<td>George Casey</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>Shelly McBride</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>Anna Jo Creech</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Kentucky</td>
<td>Noah Cox</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$24,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CURRENT INVESTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C. D. Amount</th>
<th>Maturity Date</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
<th>Annual Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>7/21/2015</td>
<td>.45%</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,349.16</td>
<td>10/872.59</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
<td>$---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Money Market

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
<th>Annual Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raymond James</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
<td>$2,49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNC Bank</td>
<td>0.01%</td>
<td>$2,49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated Earnings on $22,221.75          $47.49
Total Contributions (FY2015)           $26,639.25
Received from KRTA (FY2015)             (18,400.00)
Local/District/Individual Contributions (FY2015)    $8,239.25
Interest Received (FY2015)               $116.08
Total Contributions/Interest Received (FY2015) $8,355.33
KRTA Contributions (FY2015)              $18,400.00
Beginning Balance - Jul 1, 2014           $2,837.40
Total Funds Available (FY20145)          $29,592.73
Contributions (FY2015) Invested in Mutual Funds - Jun 2015 (1,790.28)
Fund Balance - Jun 30, 2015               $2,801.33
Contributions (FY2015) to be Invested in 2015-16 Scholarships $2,837.40
Contrib./Int. (FY2014) to be Used for 2015-16 Scholarships $1,790.28

Mutual Fund Investments (Cost)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$77,358.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Assets
$167,953.00

Signed: Bob Wagoner, Executive Director
Date: October 27, 2015
Deceased Retired Teachers

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2015

“...these immortal dead who live again in minds made better by their presence...”

ADAIR CO
Pamela Geisselhardt
Mildred Sandusky

ANDERSON CO
Alberta High
J Jenkins

BARREN CO
William Delk
Nora Galloway
Jerry Smith

BELL CO
Eloise Davis
Alice Lester
Ralph Robbins Jr

BOONE CO
Betty Barrett
Robert Huey
Theodore Revack

BOURBON CO
Ruby McCoy

BOYLE CO
Carolyn Barnard
Michael Lally
Wanda Medaris
Audra Smith

BRECKINRIDGE CO
Sarah Wardrip
Hal Lankpins
Lucy Lilly
Donna Marby
Ruth McDafender

CARTER CO
Mavis Kegley
William Murphy

CHRISTIAN CO
Susan Covington

CLARK CO
Juanita Rogers

CLINTON CO
Robert Shelley
Betty Shelton
Jimmie Sloan

DAVIESS CO
Alma Martin
Eurania Stearsman

EKURA
Joseph Biesinger
Frances Hindsman
Elizabeth Jeffries
Virginia Wright

ESTILL CO
Patsy Puckett

FAYETTE CO
Barbara Brunley
Mildred Cole
Mary Doty
Mary Falmer
Robert Good
Gloria Griffith
John Hallum Jr
Anabel Jarrells
Jackie Kirn
Ethy Partin
Carl Phillips
Doris Radcliffe
Carol Thomas
Kathleen Wilson

FRANKLIN CO
Edward Bossett
Rebecca Hulette

HENDERSON CO
Barbara Briansley

HOPKINS CO
John Camp
Shelby Caudill
Linda Hargis
Patsy Higdon

JEFFERSON CO
Pauline Bryant

HUNTER CO
Doris Arnold

JESSAMINE CO
Stella Turner
Waren Watson

JOHNSON CO
Clyde Castle
Thelma White

KENTON CO
Hellyn Daley

KNOX CO
Ruth Combs

KNOXVILLE
Irene Roberts

LAKE CO
Willa Patton

LELCHER CO
Glenna Campbell

LINCOLN CO
William Napier

LOGAN CO
Gerald Sinclair

MADISON CO
Willa Adkins
Brenda Foley

MARSHALL CO
James Goheen
Dorothy Steury

MASON CO
Kenneth Jeff Jr

MC CLEAF CO
Donald Bock

MCDREARY CO
Bernard Dalton

MCLEAN CO
Becky Blair

MEADE CO
Mary Boyken
Soil Goodman

MERCER CO
Peggy Cornelius

MUHLENBERG CO
Evelyn Byers

MONROE CO
Charlotte Hundley

MUHLLENBERG CO
Evelyn Byers
Mary Campbell
Jocelyn Mason
Janette Tinsley

NELSON CO
Marlee Crowe
Gary Goodlett

OHIO CO
Ann Nance

OLDHAM CO
Dellazine Moran

OWEN CO
Evelyn Bourne

PENDLETON CO
Linda Thornton

PIKE CO
T Colley
Myrtle Easterling
Reo Johns
Rheba Johnson

ROWAN CO
Alma Daugherty
Paul Davis

SCOTT CO
Sally Kitchen

SPENCER CO
Irene Roberts

TAYLOR CO
Naomi Curry
Alta Levigne

TRIMBLE CO
Ila Allen

UNION CO
Connie Allen
Rebecca Clark

WARREN CO
Ann Clayton

WOWOOD CO
Caroly Sparks
Mary Stevens

KRTA OFFICE STAFF
Dr. Robert Wagoner
Executive Director

Jamie Caslowe
Deputy Executive Director

Frank Hatfield
Executive Director Emeritus

Carla Hahn
Secretary

Charlotte Lindley
Receptionist

Betty Hester,
Technical Assistant

Mary Wagoner
Special Events Coordinator

KRTA NEWS
(Published quarterly)
Brenda Meredith, Editor
brenda.meredith@krta.org

KRTA OFFICERS
Patsy Rainey, president
Cathy Gullett, president-elect
Romana Johnson, vice-president
Faye Heishan, past president

Kentucky Retired Teachers Assn.
7505 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40291-3234
502-231-5802
1-800-551-7979
502-231-0686 (fax)
info@krta.org (e-mail)
www.krta.org (WEB site)

OFFICE HOURS
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

DECEMBER 2015