



Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel

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The Meadowlark

September 2019

KARSP LEADERS VISIT HALL OF FAME

Three KARSP leaders visited the Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame July 22 to view the renovated KARSP room. The KARSP Board of Directors had allocated funds for the installation of new lighting and cabinets.



President Priscilla Taggart, Executive Director Jerry Henn, and Past President Bob Grover were hosted by volunteer staff of the Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame: President Kathy Frederking; Redonda Baugh, President of the Southwest Kansas Area Association of Retired School Personnel (SWKAARSP); Mary Lou Doris, Hall of Fame Volunteer and Gift Shop Coordinator and SWKAARSP Vice President; and Teri Armstrong, SWKAARSP Secretary.

The Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame relies on volunteer help for its operation. Kathy Frederking noted the volunteer work of those noted above and added, “Pat Kolb, Dan Kolb, Dan Bolmer, Jerry Roetzer, and Hal Frederking keep the ‘grounds’ and the rest of the KTHOF looking great and running smoothly as well as all of the other volunteers that are worth more than can be expressed.”

The Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame, established in 1977, is the first state teachers’ hall of fame in the United States. Visit their website:
<http://teachershallfamedodgecityks.org>

KARSP’S MAJOR CHANGES SINCE 2000

Bob Grover

KARSP Past President

An organization must be aware of its history and willing to evolve. Former Executive Director Leo Lake provided a review of major changes in the organization during the early 2000s.

An important transformation occurred in 2001, when the Kansas Retired Teachers Association became the Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel. The transition was prompted by the desire to expand leadership because, as Leo said, “If the superintendent is gone, nobody knows. If the principal is gone, everybody’s glad. If the teacher’s gone, they get a substitute. If the secretary and cook and custodian are gone, all heck breaks loose.” Changing the name opened membership to all educators in the public schools and higher education.

Perhaps the greatest change came when the Board of Directors changed the organization’s tax status. In the early 2000s Legislative Committee Chair Harley Becker argued for a professional lobbyist, but this was not possible when the organization held 501(c)(3) status. In 2004 the Board of Directors made the decision to hire an attorney to change the organization’s tax status—a process that took about 18 months.

Story continued in the October Meadowlark

The KARSP board is in need of a treasurer. Please contact Jerry Henn or Priscilla Taggart if you can help the organization in this way.

LIFELONG LEARNING

Jerry Henn

KARSP Executive Director



It seems like every August I should be getting ready for the students to come back. I often wonder if I will ever get over that feeling. There was always so much energy in the building and in classrooms! I do know that this profession we all chose is a lifelong journey that never ends.

You see, learning is something we continue to do all of our lives. Technology has changed how quickly we must learn something if we want to keep up. Technology has changed how we learn, what we learn, and when we learn. Technology has changed so much in our lives. I do realize without technology learning seemed to be much easier, but the amount of knowledge we can now explore on our own is beyond comprehension. Let's take a look at one usage of technology that has made a major change, banking.

I know at my age many of the things that technology has taught me was to be cautious of using technology for banking. What I have found out is, technology has made my banking much easier. I can check my balance anytime I like. I can deposit a check via my phone. I can transfer money between accounts if necessary. I can pay my bills without using a stamp. Some banks can actually process loans for you if needed. All of this has made my interaction with the bank much easier, but the personal touch has declined. That is something I must have with my bank is interaction as well as trust. I still try to get into the bank about once a month just to say hello. As banking becomes much easier, I find my visits come much less often. As time moves on, I'm sure more technology will enter into more of our younger generation's lives. But for now, I'm just fine where I am!

The one area that concerns me as I get older is, how will the younger generations be able to socialize with other people? Technology has opened a whole new realm into what socialization is! Being social on technology is totally different than being social in person. I believe part of our job as we age is to keep our way of socialization alive. Face to face is just the way to be social, not behind a screen. This will be a big job, but as you have grandchildren, I would challenge you to make sure your grandchildren are not only placed behind a screen for their social time. I know it is a big challenge, but I believe we are up to this type of challenge.

*The Meadowlark is an official publication of the
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Learn About Your KARSP Endorsed Benefits at:

www.myAMBAbenefits.info/karsp

You can also call our benefits provider at:

800.258.7041



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New memberships or renewals are \$15.00 per year.
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mail, phone, or e-mail.

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or visit us at www.karsp.org



Better... Together



2019 tours:

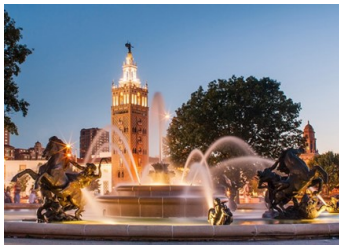
Kansas City/New Theater, \$298, Sept 5-6, 2019
 Historic America, \$2,389, Sept 9-22, 2019
 Flint Hills Day Trip, \$98, Sept 25, 2019
 New England Fall Foliage, \$2,827, October 1-15, 2019
 October Mystery, \$829, Oct 17-21, 2019
 Fall Colors in Arkansas, \$1,049, Oct 30 – Nov 4, 2019
 Branson Christmas, \$759, Nov 18-21, 2019
 San Antonio Christmas, \$829, December 3-7, 2019
 Christmas in Kentucky, \$989, Dec 10-14, 2019

Highlighted 2020 tours:

Australia/New Zealand, \$6,999, Feb 25-Mar 10, 2020
 Alaska, TBD, July 17-13, 2020
 Oberammergau Passion Play, \$5,234, Aug 18 – 27, 2020

*prices are per person based on double-occupancy

Call or email for a catalog with more details or visit our website:
www.heritageoursofyoder.com. Email:
heritagetours@heritagetoursofyoder.com
 Heritage Tours, Yoder KS, 1-800-364-2320



Kansas City-New Theatre, Sept 5-6, 2019:

See the musical “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” Based on the Biblical story in Genesis about Joseph’s

coat of many colors, this upbeat musical is filled with a cornucopia of styles, from Country-western to calypso to bubblegum pop & rock ’n roll, this Old Testament tale merges both timely and timeless. It has a family-friendly storyline and universal themes. We also take a fountain tour and visit the Steamboat Arabia Museum.

Historic America, September 9-22, 2019:

Join us on an historic trip to Colonial Williamsburg, 4 days in and around our nation’s capital, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. Highlights include Monticello, Mt Vernon, Smithsonian Museums, Arlington National Cemetery, the new Museum of the Bible, Ft McHenry, 9/11 Memorial, Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, Gettysburg Battlefield and more!



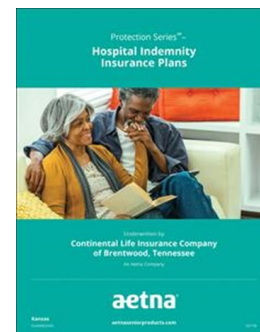
THOUGHTS FROM ERNIE CLAUDEL

I feel there is an interesting situation developing regarding KPERS and our governor. Some of my analysis includes:

1. As a senator Governor Kelly never supported COLA.
2. When Senate Bill 9 passed, while the governor did not want to sign it, she had to in order to satisfy the public employees who helped get her elected.
 - The bill contained 51 million dollars and was passed by the House and Senate. Governor Kelly vetoed that, but her veto was overridden
3. Her attempts to re-amortize KPERS failed.
 - Re-amortization outcomes would have removed fiduciary responsibility from the KPERS board. It would have extended the amortization by 12 years and increased the cost of the debt to KPERS

All of this is why KCPR and KPERS have always recommended that you question candidates and your legislators regarding their stand on KPERS and whether they support proper funding for COLA and KPERS. Have you contacted your legislator recently? Do it today!

HOSPITAL INDEMNITY PLAN NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH AETNA



- Do you have a \$0 Monthly Premium for your supplement?
- Do you have a hospital co-pay or deductible?
- Do you have money set aside for out-of-pocket costs?

Then a hospital Indemnity Plan may be a good fit for you.

Email or call Kell Smalley for more information.

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Cell: 913.912.2157

September 2019

SCHOLARSHIPS

The September Meadowlark has traditionally highlighted scholarships but this year we have been featuring them each month. Thanks to all of the units who support future educators and share that information with the Meadowlark.

The Wichita Area Retired School Personnel awarded two \$1,000 scholarship in 2019 to students during their student teaching semesters. This year's winners were Mason Biehler, a Friends University physical education major and Tyler Morgan, a history major at Wichita State University. Thank you to Retha Hund for providing the information and the picture.



Falon Kickhaefer has been selected to receive the 2019 \$500 Dickinson County School Personnel scholarship. Kickhaefer is enrolled in the School of Education at Kansas State University and plans to be an agriculture educator. This information was provided by Renee Kerbs, scholarship chair.

Coming soon to a community near you. April 22: Earth Day/KARSP Statewide Activity Day. What will your unit be doing?