



## President's Report

### Inside This Issue

- 1| President's Report
- 2| Board of Directors and Officers
- 3| Condolences
- 3| Eat and Chat
- 4| Scholarship Donations
- 5| New Retirees
- 5| Important Dates
- 6| Membership
- 7| Luncheon Invitation

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[www.etsu.edu/hr/etsura](http://www.etsu.edu/hr/etsura)

2017 is almost half over and ETSURA members have been quite busy. On April 5<sup>th</sup>, approximately one dozen retirees came to Eat and Chat and heard Dr. Ron Roach (Chair of ETSU Appalachian Studies) review the variety of unique educational opportunities which that department provides our students. Join us for our next Eat and Chat on September 21<sup>st</sup> at Golden Corral when ETSU Acting Chief Operating Officer, Jeremy Ross, will update us on the major building programs on campus.

We continue to have volunteer service opportunities for ETSURA members at Second Harvest Food Bank of NE Tennessee (1020 Jericho Rd., Kingsport) on the second Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. -noon. This past month, six of us packed healthy foods including oatmeal, raisin bran, low sodium spaghetti sauce/pasta in 20-pound boxes for food bank deliveries. Second Harvest is a non-profit agency that for more than 20 years has been dedicated to feeding the food insecure in our eight county Upper East Tennessee region. Food, which is donated or purchased, is distributed by Second Harvest to community agencies and area food pantries with the help of community volunteers. In 2016, Second Harvest provided nearly 9 million meals to 43,000 of our neighbors through local food banks or direct services. Those of us who have volunteered are familiar with their Food for

Kids Backpack program, which provides a full bag of healthy food/snacks for youngsters to take home in their backpacks. Last year, 5,000 children were identified by school nurses or counselors and serviced by this program. During summer vacation, the Summer Food Service fills the gap providing nearly 32,000 meals at 44 sites for over 1,500 area children. Food insecurity is not limited to families with young children. Many of our seniors struggle to balance food purchases versus the cost of prescription drugs. Last year, Second Harvest with its' mobile food pantry provided food for 11,000 of our seniors. Pitch in and join us as we help out at Second Harvest each month.

Another service opportunity for our members is Move-In-Day at ETSU. Join ETSURA volunteers on Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup> to help the Department of Housing at Governor's Hall greet incoming students and assist them with dorm registration (no lifting required). If you are interested in volunteering for 1-2 hours between 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m., please let Jack Rhoton ([rhotonj@etsu.edu](mailto:rhotonj@etsu.edu)) know your time preferences.

Mark your calendars now for our spring picnic and our fall luncheon/banquet. Both are underwritten by generous support of Eastman Credit Union and ETSU's University Advancement allowing us to subsidize about half the cost of these events. Please send in your registration now for our picnic by Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Like last year, it will be in the community room of the new Food City (920 State of Franklin Rd). We have an extensive menu of picnic items, sides, beverages and desserts for \$7. Our guest speaker will be Anita DeAn-

gelis, Director of the Mary B. Martin School of the Arts at ETSU. This is a well-attended event and this year we have added some door prizes. Our fall luncheon will be on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at JC Country Club and will feature Grant Summers, President of Summers Taylor Co., who will update us on the model mill renovations. There will be more details on fall programs in our next newsletter.

If there are service activities you would like to see developed or speakers you would like to hear, please feel free to drop me a line ([kalwinds@etsu.edu](mailto:kalwinds@etsu.edu)) or speak to any of your ETSURA board members so that we can better serve your needs.

Remember to consider a contribution to the ETSURA Scholarship Fund. Currently we provide fifteen students each year with \$500 scholarships and with your additional financial support that number can grow.

See you at the picnic and have a good summer.

Dave Kalwinsky, M.D.  
ETSURA President

**2017 Board of Directors**

Ms. Gail Burleson	3 years left in tenure*
Mr. Donald Carter	2 years left in tenure**
Dr. Jerry Gehre	1 year left in tenure
Ms. Georgia Greer	1 year left in tenure
Mr. Tod Jablonski	2 years left in tenure
Dr. David Kalwinsky	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Mike Miyamoto	2 years left in tenure
Dr. Priscilla Ramsey	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Jack Rhoton	3 years left in tenure*
Ms. Judith Story	2 years left in tenure
Dr. Jeff Wardeska	3 years left in tenure*

\*Elected at the Organizational Meeting on October 14, 2016.  
\*\*Filling a vacated two year Board appointment.

**2017 Officers**

Dr. David Kalwinsky	President
Mr. Donald Carter	President-Elect
Dr. Priscilla Ramsey	Secretary
Ms. Georgia Greer	Treasurer
Dr. Mike Miyamoto	Past-President



**We need your fundraising ideas! If you have a good fundraising idea please contact Dr. Dave Kalwinsky**

## Our Condolences

**Jo Ruth Counts-Hughes** passed away on April 12. She retired from the library and is survived by her husband, Lester; three brothers; two step-sons; and several nieces and nephews.

**Robert D. LaPella** passed away on April 13. He retired after 35 years as a professor in the music department and was a life member of ETSURA. He is survived by wife, Jane; his children and their spouses.

**Dr. Martha Collins** passed away on April 3. Dr. Collins retired as a professor from the College of Education. She is survived by her two children, Courtney and Collin; and four granddaughters.

**Gene Morgan** passed away on November 12, 2016. He retired after serving as a custodian. He is survived by his wife, Sarah; three children; and two brothers.

**Dr. Charles Edwards** passed away on March 6. Dr. Edwards retired from the College of Education. He was preceded in death by his wife, Delores, and survived by his two brothers and special friend and caregiver, Lori. Dr. Edwards was a current ETSURA Board Member.

**Thelma Kate Teague** passed away on May 14. She retired as a custodian after more than twenty years of service. She is survived by her daughter, Kyleen, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great-grandchildren.

## Eat and Chat

The Spring Eat and Chat was held at 11:45 a.m. on April 5th at the Golden Corral. Fourteen people showed up to hear Dr. Ron Roach, Professor and Chair of the Department of Appalachian Studies at ETSU.

Dr. Roach is a relative newcomer, having joined the university in 2013. He was formerly Professor of Communication Studies and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Young Harris College in north Georgia. While there, he was actively recruited by Dr. Roberta Herrin, ETSU's outgoing departmental chair. Ron said the chance to come to ETSU was a no-brainer, as it had what was regarded as the gold standard of academic programs in Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music.

Ron distributed folders that described the breadth of the department's programs, including Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies, Environmental Studies (minor), Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music Studies, Appalachian Studies (minor), Graduate Certificate, Masters in Appalachian Studies, and Studies Abroad. He mentioned several graduates who had gone on to great success, including Kenny Chesney, Barry Bales, Tim Stafford, and Jennifer



McCarter. He also distributed free, autographed copies of the ETSU Bluegrass Pride Band's CD "Did you Hear Me Say Goodbye" (now aren't you sorry you didn't attend?).

Although the department was established in 2008, the program in Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music itself was started in 1982. The department is one component of the Center of Excellence for Appalachian Studies & Services. Other components include the Archives of Appalachia, the Reece Museum, the Appalachian Teaching Project, the Governor's School, and the Appalachian Magazine *Now & Then*.

I told Ron that I noticed Ed Snoderly was an adjunct faculty member in his department. He said yes, and that Ed's class on Music Writing always fills up very quickly. I mentioned that Ed provided the entertainment for us last year at our Annual Meeting/Banquet. All in all, this was one time the Golden Corral didn't object to having a "Roach" in their restaurant.

Mike Miyamoto



# Scholarship Donations

As one of our service projects, the East Tennessee State University Retirees Association provides scholarships for deserving students like Samantha Berner, who wrote:

*"To the East Tennessee State University Retirees Association:*

*Thank you for honoring me as a recipient of the Dr. Mack P. Davis Scholarship.*

*With your financial assistance, I will become a Digital Media major at ETSU, with the hopes of becoming a video game designer after I graduate from college, and helping those silently suffering with mental illnesses and personality disorders using my video games as a sort of interactive medium.*

*My family and I are from Long Island, New York. It was challenging for my mom to raise me on her own, since my dad left us when I was young and New York is a very expensive place to live in anyway. We constantly moved from apartment to apartment whenever rent would become too high.*

*My mom was a photographer at the time working for the Olan Mills company. When I was nine years old, she was promised to be promoted to district manager only if we moved to Florida; so we did, and we left the rest of our family behind.*

*We lived in Florida for three years, and although we could go to the beach every day if we wanted to, Florida was by far the worst place I have ever lived in. I was bullied constantly and every night after school I would pray that we could move somewhere far away from there.*

*In 2012, my prayers were answered. My mom had received yet another promotion within the photography company, this time we moved here to Tennessee. Things were going very*

*well for us for our first couple of years here: my mom and one of her old boyfriends from high school reconnected, married, and had my two younger siblings together. We also had much more money to spend (not too much but definitely more than what we had); however, everything quickly changed when my mom lost her job once Olan Mills was bought out by Lifetouch. Lifetouch "let go" of my mom and other fantastic and hardworking employees of Olan Mills. My mom for a long time had been out of a job, and at the same time, my step-father did not have a job either. It was rough, to say the least.*

*Eventually my mother got a new job and was promoted to be a manager recently, and my step-father became a high-ranking security officer at Dollywood. Financially, we are no longer struggling, but we are still having trouble paying off debts, let alone leaving money aside to pay for college.*

*Thank you again for helping me. Your kindness is deeply appreciated."*

We encourage all ETSURA members and friends to contribute to the scholarship fund; as a memorial to a loved one, to honor a special person in your life, or to provide opportunities for deserving students. Donations are tax deductible of course.

Donations are especially encouraged in the upcoming months so the fund may grow to benefit students entering the university this fall. If you would like to make a donation, please fill out the form below and return to Human Resources.

## ETSURA Scholarship Endowment current balance as of May 2017:

Investment	\$ 202,222.72
Interest Income	\$ 16,910.18

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## CONTRIBUTION FORM ETSURA SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

NAME OF MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: (Street) \_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial To or In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTIFY OF THIS GIFT: \_\_\_\_\_

Investment Account: Banner 653110/2552/550

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:

**East Tennessee State University**  
**ETSURA, Human Resources**  
**Box 70564**  
**Johnson City, TN 37614-1707**  
(Your check will be your receipt)

## Congratulations To Our Recent Retirees

**Ms. Diane Taylor** - Office of Sponsored Programs, Family Services Counselor

**Dr. Joy Wachs** - University Honors Program, Director/Professor

**Ms. Joyce Willocks** - Personnel, Benefits Manager

**Ms. Denise Schmid** - Pathology, Research Specialist

**Ms. Rita Minor** - Office of Practice, Patient Care Specialist

**Dr. Selman Welt** - OB GYN, Professor

**Dr. Robert Wondergem** - Biomedical Sciences, Professor

**Ms. Carol Fox** - University Relations, Coordinator

**Mr. John Smith** - Safety Security, Public Safety Officer

**September 21th, from Noon– 2 p.m.**

Jeremy Ross, Acting Chief Operations Officer, will discuss the Culp Center renovation and ground breaking for the new Performing Arts Building.

Golden Corral (3104 Browns Mill Road, Behind Logan's Roadhouse).

**The ETSURA Annual Meeting** will be held November 3rd. Grant Summers will be speaking about the renovations being made to the Old Mill.

**ETSU Human Resources Announces a New "PERK"**



ETSU has recently joined the Perks Network, which provides a wide range of discounts to ETSU employees, retirees and family members. The Perks Network not only offers discounts at businesses local to ETSU, but nationwide at restaurants, service and retail businesses and many others. Use your membership to buy gift cards and receive discounts and cash at Walmart, Target, restaurants, hotels.... places you already shop.

To sign up, visit [www.perksconnect.com](http://www.perksconnect.com) and click 'Register Now!' Enter **ETSU17** as your Group Code to get your ETSU discount benefits. You are ready to save instantly on online purchases. Click 'Printable Card' from your home page to print your Perks Connect card to show or scan at local businesses. To scan from your smart phone, download the PerksConnect app at the App Store or Google Play.

For more information, visit the ETSURA home page at [www.etsu.edu/humanres/etsura](http://www.etsu.edu/humanres/etsura) and click the PerksConnect image.



## Save the Date

### 2nd Harvest Food Bank Volunteer Days

June 14th, July 12th, August 9th  
9 a.m.– 12p.m.  
1020 Jericho Rd,  
Exit 63 off I-81  
Bring a friend!



### Move-In Day

ETSURA members can help our new students get registered and get their dorm rooms assigned (No physical lifting).

August 24th from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Contact Jerry Gehre, [gehrej@aol.com](mailto:gehrej@aol.com), if you would like to be a volunteer.

# Join ETSURA

**2 ways to join!**

ETSURA's final membership count for the 2016 calendar year is 368. All retired ETSU employees and their spouses, and spouses of deceased ETSU employees are eligible for membership. In addition, other persons employed by ETSU for five years or more who are retired from other institutions or corporations are also eligible for membership with their spouses.

- Membership is \$10 per person per calendar year, or
- \$100 Lifetime membership, or
- \$150 Joint lifetime membership for retirees and spouses

For further information or to check the status of your membership, please call 423-439-5825

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM ETSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION

NAME: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (MI) \_\_\_\_\_ (Title) \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (MI) \_\_\_\_\_ (Title) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

FORMER STATUS WITH ETSU:  FACULTY  STAFF

AMOUNT PAID (\$10 PER PERSON):  \$10  \$20

ACCOUNT NO: FUND 821350, ORG 79998, Banner Account: 29300

PROGRAM 999; CHART: E

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:  
**East Tennessee State University**  
**ETSURA, Human Resources**  
**Box 70564**  
**Johnson City, TN 37614-1707**  
(Your check will be your receipt)

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION FORM

Enclosed is the applicable life membership fee. It is understood that this is a nonrefundable deferred gift to the ETSURA Endowed Scholarship Fund in the ETSU Foundation. The funds will be invested by the university with the income being used for current expenses of the association until my (our) death at which time it (one half if husband or wife) will be transferred to the Endowed Scholarship Fund. It is understood that any benefit received from ETSURA, the university or its foundation or this contribution will be of nominal value and it is fully deductible for tax purposes in the year paid.

NAME OF MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_

(State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER:  \$100

HUSBAND & WIFE:  \$150

ACCOUNT NO: FUND 821410, ORG 79998, Banner Account: 29300;

PROGRAM 999; CHART: E

Make check payable to ETSU and mail to:  
**East Tennessee State University**  
**ETSURA, Human Resources**  
**Box 70564**  
**Johnson City, TN 37614-1707**  
(Your check will be your receipt)

# LET'S DO LUNCH



## 30th Annual ETSU

# Retirees Association Summer



**When:** June 16, 2017, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (lunch served at 11:45)

**Where:** The Depot at Franklin Commons (2nd Floor of Food City), 920 North State of Franklin, Johnson City

**Menu:** classic burger bar, hot dogs, smoked pulled chicken, macaroni salad, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans and a variety of desserts

**Guest Speaker:** Anita DeAngelis, Director of the Mary B. Martin School for the Arts at ETSU

Please return the form below to prepay and reserve your seat. For questions, contact ETSU Human Resources (423) 439-5825.

**Cost:** \$7 per person



### 30th Annual ETSURA Summer Luncheon

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable (\$7/person) to ETSU and mail by June 9, 2017 to:  
East Tennessee State University, Financial Services  
Box 70732, Johnson City, TN 37614-1710

