



**EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

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**ETSU Retirees Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 25, 2009**

Board members present: Dave Benner, Judith Bragg, Bill Fisher, Ethel Garrity, Jerry Gehre, Ted Hughes, Dan Johnson, Betty Moore, Nancy Stevenson, Betty Tester.

Staff from the Office of Human Resources: Debi Frakes until 4:30, then Diana McClay.  
Guests: Brunhilde Tober-Meyer, Ken Herd

Judith Bragg called the meeting to order at 3:29 p.m.

**Presentation:** Brunhilde Tober-Meyer and Ken Herd described a Portable Health Profile Flash Drive that can be used to store a variety of records required by physicians or emergency medical personnel. Local Emergency Medical Services and Johnson City Medical Center (including the Emergency Room) are accepting data stored this way. Brunhilde and Ken proposed that ETSURA consider purchasing these devices in bulk at a cost of \$15 each, and then re-selling them to members for \$20. A motion to buy 50 jump drives for that fund-raising purpose passed. {Diana McClay subsequently informed the Board that a new fund-raising project would require approval. Jerry Gehre volunteered to acquire the approval, and Betty Tester agreed to take care of submitting the necessary sales taxes from the proceeds.}

**Minutes** of the July meeting were approved.

**Executive Committee:** Judith Bragg, chair

Having decided to initiate a new fund-raising project (above), we voted not to participate in Magical Night of Giving this year.

Judy provided a brief overview of JC Senior Synergy, including an account of her participation in a radio broadcast about the program on Friday, 21 August.

**Membership Committee:** Ethel Garrity, chair.

The 2009 membership is now 346, the same as in July, and 14 fewer than at this time last year. Some spouses have not renewed membership this year.

**Finance Committee:** Betty Tester, chair

The ETSURA Financial Statement for August 2009, reflecting final accounting for the fiscal year, shows: Operating Fund, \$2,664; Life Membership, \$15,240; Scholarship Endowment Investment, \$133,162; Endowment Interest Income, \$13,086; and a new account set up to handle donations for benches and other Special Projects: \$385. It appears that scholarships for Fall 2009 were taken from the Scholarship Endowment Investment Account when they should have been taken from Endowment Interest Income. Betty will check on that and try to correct the error.

**Program Committee:** Jerry Gehre, chair

Jerry described a JC Senior Synergy event scheduled for Wednesday, 9 September, at 9:30 a.m. at the Johnson City Senior Center. Wilsie Bishop (Vice President for Health Affairs) will represent ETSU, Judy Bragg will represent ETSURA, and Dan Johnson will present door prizes. Media, politicians, and members of ETSURA, ACL, and JCSC are invited to attend. Dan Johnson agreed to organize a display featuring ETSURA programs that might be of interest to those attending this event. Jerry asked that we arrange to provide links to ACL and JCSC web sites on the ETSURA web site.

The next Eat & Chat event will be on Tuesday, 15 September, at *Golden Corral*. The program will be the Center for Healthy Aging and Retirement in the Mountain South (CHARMS).

The Annual Luncheon Meeting will be Friday, 6 November. The program will be a description of Portable Health Profile Flash Drives by Brunhilde Tober-Meyer and Ken Herd.

**Communications Committee:** Nancy Stevenson, chair

Notifications for Eat & Chat and for the Annual Luncheon Meeting are going out. The deadline for receiving material for the next *ETSURA Newsletter* is 25 August.

**University/Community Service Committee:** Betty Moore, chair

ETSURA volunteers helped to staff 15 Orientation sessions this summer, and several more will help during Move-in Day (28 August).

**Liaison Committee:** Bill Fisher, chair

Johnson City Senior Center will provide a location for an ETSURA-sponsored program on Medicare Part D on Tuesday, 10 November from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Stand-alone Part D plans should average \$30/month for 2010 according to a press release by U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, dated 13 August 2009.

Bill distributed a list of Tennessee Insurance Committee members.

Bill predicted that restructuring of Tennessee higher education governance will be "boiling" in 2010.

**Additional Comments/Reports:**

Judy Bragg asked Dave Benner to chair the Nominating Committee, and he agreed to do so.

Ted Hughes has purchased a new easy-to-read lock for the ETSURA/Faculty Senate Office.

**Adjournment:**

Judith Bragg adjourned the meeting at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan M. Johnson