

ETSURA Newsletter

Volume 29 Issue 2 June 2016



RETIREES ASSOCIATION

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

President's Message

Dear Fellow Retirees,

You may recall that I have been involved in on-the-job training as to what ETSURA is and does. I have learned that "Eat and Chat" was for many years called "Dutch Lunch" and held at Ryan's Family Steakhouse. Picnics were held at the Jonesborough home of Emeritus President Burgin E. Dossett and usually catered by Firehouse Restaurant.

In 1991 the (ETSU) Institute for Continuing Learning was started under Dr. Carol Anderson with programs aimed at the interests of retirees. It now continues as the Alliance for Continued Learning (ACL). A travel program was also started that year with the Eastern Caribbean Isles as its destination. Although that trip fell through, subsequent trips (Alaska, England, Canadian Rockies, the Caribbean) were apparently successful, as the booking agency donated \$600 to the Endowed Scholarship Fund.

In 1992 the ETSURA board established a life membership fee (in lieu of annual dues) that would be tax-deductible in the year of payment. The lump sum fee (\$100/person or \$150/couple) would be held in escrow, with the earnings used for ETSURA operational expenses. On the member's death, the sum would be transferred to the Scholarship Fund, making it tax-deductible. Annual dues, by contrast, are not deductible. The board felt the income generated would be adequate, even if a

significant number of members chose this option.

From ETSURA's inception in 1988 (when postage was 25 cents), annual dues have been \$5/person. Last year (when postage was 49 cents) the board increased dues to \$10/person, which has helped meet operational expenses. A major expense is the printing and postage costs of this newsletter and other brochures.

Activities that have occurred since the last newsletter include the Eat and Chat session with Dr. Fred Alsop, the ETSU Memorial Service, and the Service Project with the Women's Soccer team (see accompanying articles). Dr. Alsop's talk on the Eagle Nest Cam Project was very well-attended, in part because it was a timely topic (with hatchings only recently taking place) and in part because retirees, as everyone knows, are interested in watching over....nest eggs!

Our next event is the Annual Picnic to be held Friday, June 17th at 11 a.m. at the new Food City meeting room (see accompanying notice). The increase in annual dues, especially with donations from Eastman Credit Union and University Advancement, has allowed us to subsidize about 50% of the actual costs of the Picnic and Annual Banquet.

We will have Geoff Stunkard talk on the Carter RR Museum/ Heritage Days at our Sept. Eat and Chat (see notice). And, we will hold our Annual Banquet on Friday, Oct. 14 at 11 a.m. at the Johnson City Country

Club. It may be difficult, but we hope to match last year's program on the Tweetsie Trail, which was apparently very well received.

I've been chastised for being too verbose, so I'll stop here. However, there is still much to discuss, but I'll save it for the next installment. Keep in touch--otherwise, we're guessing as to how to better serve you--our extended ETSU family.

Mahalo,

Mike Miyamoto

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ETSU Memorial Service

by Mike Miyamoto

A memorial service was held in Brown Hall Auditorium on April 7, 2016 at 7 p.m. to commemorate members of the ETSU community who had passed away during the year. The event was moved from the Carillon Plaza because of inclement weather. The carillon was instead represented by a miniature replica on stage.

The ceremony began with an opening anthem sung by the University Choral. This was followed by presentation of the colors by members of the ROTC, and the pledge of allegiance. Names of the departed were alternately read by SGA President Alex Cassell, Faculty Senate President Dr. Virginia Foley, and Staff Senate President Josh Whitlock. The names included four students, six faculty/staff members, and--of interest to ETSURA--thirty-five retirees. The ceremony concluded with a closing anthem by the University Choral. Joe Sherlin (pictured), Vice President for Student Affairs, said he hoped this would become an annual event.



Dr. Fred Alsop discusses the Eagles' Nest Cam Project

and Bluff City.

The videos can be accessed online by clicking on the Eagle Cameras link in the blue section at the very bottom of the ETSU home web page. You can also access the videos through the Department of Biological Sciences website.

In formulating the project, visits were made to other Eagle Nest projects, one being that at Berry College in Rome, Georgia. The process is involved and includes getting permission from landowners, setting up the instrumentation, and acquiring sponsors.

Many businesses and agencies (credited on the ETSU Web site) were indispensable in getting the project going. Streaming fees alone cost \$2,500 per nesting season per nest. There is a link on the website where donations can be made, and some checks were written at the end of the presentation.

Residents of over 160 countries have viewed ETSU's camera videos with over 600,000 views of the Johnson City Camera (including 356,000 unique viewers). One useful feature of these cameras is the ability to zoom in and out, to cut down on the swaying effect when the wind is blowing. Dr. Alsop mentioned that over 250 pounds of sticks are used for each nest each year, resulting in nests that may potentially weigh over a ton.

Second Harvest Food Bank

by Ethel Garrity

On Thursday April 14, ETSURA members (Ted Hughes, Dave Kalwinsky, Mike and Janis Miyamoto, and Ethel Garrity) and

April Eat and Chat

by Ethel Garrity

About 30 people attended this event at the Golden Corral Restaurant, where Dr. Fred Alsop of ETSU's Department of Biological Sciences spoke on his Eagles' Nest Cam Project. This project provides live, as well as historical, videos of two American bald eagle nests in Johnson City



Retirees and ETSU Women's Soccer Team volunteers at the Second Harvest Food Bank.

23 members of the ETSU Women's Soccer Team (about half from other nations) volunteered from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at Second Harvest Food Bank. The team was accompanied by two graduate assistants, and all worked very hard.

Of particular note was the fact that the retirees thought they were done at 6 p.m.! We had to work feverishly to keep up with the team. At the end of the two hours, The Food Bank said we had packed 1,100 supply bags for "Back Packs for Kids." We worked without supervision, and team members kept feeding the production line. One of the GA's used the hand fork lift to remove all the boxes for recycling.

A good time was had by all, and I believe Coach Sayers said he hopes to make this an annual event. I had the opportunity to visit with both GA's and some of the team members.

Recent Retirees

Dr. David Arnall, Professor, Physical Therapy

Ms. Tracey Behrer, Secretary, Pharmacy

Ms. Beverly Brown, Custodian, Facilities Management

Ms. Tinya Bullington, Office Coordinator, Financial Services

Ms. Bonnie Chandley, Office Manager, Finance and Administration

Ms. Fran Gaby, Executive Aide, Environmental Health

Dr. Kathleen McGowen, Professor/Associate Dean, Psychiatry

Ms. Teresa Vanhoy, Housekeeper, Facilities Management

Passings

Herbert C. Armentrout passed away on April 12. He retired as an Assistant Professor in Curriculum & Instruction. He was a life member of ETSURA. He is survived by his wife, Betty.

Lorene Arrowood passed away on March 10. She retired as an

Admissions Secretary. She is survived by her husband, Gene; and, by her daughters and their families.

Eleanor Bicknell passed away on March 22. She retired as a Library Assistant in the Sherrod Library. She is survived by her children and grandchildren.

William Joyner passed away March 14. He was a current Professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and the past Chair of the Department of Physiology. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; and, his children and grandchildren.

Royal Chesla Sharp passed away on March 3. He retired as a Professor in the English Department. He is survived by his wife, Ruth.

Mary Frances Whitaker passed away on March 28. She retired as an Account Clerk from the University Bookstore. She is survived by her son and his family.

Scholarship Donations

Individuals are encouraged to express their sympathy to the family of a deceased retiree or spouse by making a contribution to the ETSURA Scholarship Fund. The deceased's family will be notified by card of the memorial. Make checks payable to: East Tennessee State University and mail to: ETSURA Office of Human Resources, Campus Box 70564, Johnson City, TN 37614-1707

Perks Card

ETSU has 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 and click 'Register Now!'. Enter **ETSU16** 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, click Benefits on the ETSURA webpage.

www.etsu.edu/humanres/etsura/

2016 Officers

Dr. Mike Miyamoto	President
Dr. David Kalwinsky	President-Elect
Mrs. Ethel Garrity	Secretary
Mr. Charles Moore	Treasurer
Mrs. Ethel Garrity	Past-President

2106 Board Members

Mrs. Ethel Garrity	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Jerry Gehre	2 years left in tenure
Ms. Georgia Greer	2 years left in tenure**
Mr. Ted Hughes	1 year left in tenure
Mr. Tod Jablonski	3 years left in tenure*
Dr. David Kalwinsky	2 years left in tenure
Dr. Kenneth Mijeski	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Mike Miyamoto	3 years left in tenure*
Mr. Charles Moore	1 year left in tenure
Dr. Priscilla Ramsey	2 years left in tenure
Ms. Candy Stieler	3 years left in tenure*
Ms. Judith Story	3 years left in tenure*
<i>*Elected at the Organizational Meeting on October 30, 2015.</i>	
<i>**Filling a vacated two year Board appointment.</i>	

Calendar

Picnic - June 17, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - See the enclosed invitation.

Eat and Chat - September 15, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Golden Corral (3104 Browns Mill Road behind Logan's Roadhouse). Our speaker will be Geoff Stunkard who will be discussing the Carter Railroad Museum and Heritage Days. Geoff is the volunteer coordinator and representative of the Carter Railroad Museum.

Annual Meeting - Save the date for October 14 and the Johnson City Country Club. Exciting plans are underway!

