



The Apple Corps

Fall 2020

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KNEA-Retired and
KNEA
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Kansas National
Education Association
Retired

President's Perspective

Greetings, KNEA - Retirees!

Hard to believe that 2020 is quickly coming to an end. What a year it has been. We'll look back and mark time with before the pandemic, during the pandemic, and after the pandemic. Normal routines have been upended and forever changed. We just lost a strong supporter's voice - U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. We can continue to see that her wisdom carries on by taking up her fight for justice.



The 2021 Kansas legislative session will begin soon, and we must stay ever vigilant. Many in the legislature will do the bidding of those who have the money. We may not have the money they do, but we have our stories to tell, and tell them we will.



Judy Loganbill, KNEA-R President

KNEA RA - NEA-R/NEA Election Information

KNEA-Retired will hold two elections in the coming months. Included in this edition of the Apple Corps are two nomination forms. Both are to be returned to KNEA President Mark Farr at 715 S.W. 10th, Topeka, KS, 66612.

The first nomination form is for sending delegates to the KNEA RA, April 16-18, 2021, in Topeka. We have 9 delegates. Please put forth your name! Ballots will arrive by mail mid-November and will be due back to us the first part of December. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you are in the habit of mailing your ballot with your spouse or roommate, please don't do that. Only one ballot per envelope. The second nomination form is for electing delegates for the NEA-Retired RA/NEA RA which will be held in Denver, June 29-July 6, 2021. The election for this will be handled electronically by KNEA, February 15-March 31, 2021.

KNEA / KPAC
RECOMMENDED
CANDIDATES



Download a list of candidates selected by
educators for their support of public education

PLAN YOUR 2020 VOTE!

The 2020 election is the most important election ever. After years of doing lesson plans, many organizations are promoting "PLAN YOUR VOTE." As retired educators, this should be easy. KPAC endorsed candidates are at www.underthedomeks.org/edvotesks/. Check your voter registration at www.ksvotes.org where you can also apply for an advance mail ballot and see a sample ballot. Will you vote by mail, advance in person (check with your county) or at your polling place? You will need your driver's license for whichever method you choose but **make your PLAN**. Get family and friends to join you and VOTE! Research candidates and issues. Most counties are also in need of poll workers. Please consider this!

- Eleanor Browning, KPAC Retired



Apple Bites



The Executive Committee of KNEA-R is working to update the membership list of KNEA-R with correct home addresses and personal emails of all current retired members. It is our wish to be in closer contact with all

KNEA-R members.

Also, future KNEA-R elections will be held by email. We would like to keep all members informed of updated information from KNEA-R, and to help them get the full benefits from KNEA-R as well as NEA-R. We realize that it is important to keep in touch with all members and hope to hear from them with their activities and achievements. Please contact me with any changes in addresses, emails or phone numbers so that the Executive Committee may be in closer contact with you. Also, please let me know if you've had a change in your status from Active Professional to Retired and if you know of a Retired member who is recently deceased. You can email me at dottsd@peoplestelecom.net

- Dian Dotts, KNEA-R Membership Chair

Local Chapter Activities

Because of the uncertain times we live in, our nine local chapters have not been very active over the summer and early fall months. Sunflower East has held one meeting by Zoom, and CARE had a socially distanced meeting to work on decorations for the Christmas tree they sponsor each year. Other locals are still in some stage of planning what they can do virtually at this time. KNEA-R members are invited to join a local association if there is one in your area. *Usually*, chapters gather for lunches, short programs, book clubs, tours of local attractions, or just for coffee and fellowship. Local dues are usually very minimal, like \$10 a

year. It's just a chance to reconnect with longtime friends and KNEA colleagues and to keep abreast of legislative and education developments. See the contacts for local chapters on the address page of this edition of *The Apple Corps*.

Introducing Your KNEA-Retired Leadership

Continuing officers include President Judy Loganbill, Vice President Bob Thesman, Secretary/Treasurer Sherry Turnbull, and Chris Huntsman, Past President. They and the following appointed members make up the Executive Committee: Dian Dotts, Membership Chair, Eleanor Browning, KPAC, and Shelia Blume, Apple Corps Chair. New to the Coordinating Council for 2020-2021 are Mary Masters (Capital), Glenda Bruner (Southeast) and Claire Bolton (Wyandotte United). Rolling Hills is still vacant.

Please join us in thanking Debi Ellis (Ark Valley/UD114), Dian Dotts (Rolling Hills), Jannette Luthi (Southeast), Larry Brayton (Capital), Shelley Dunham (Konza) and Shelia Blume (Wyandotte United) for their past service!!

KNEA-Retired Facebook Guidelines



The Coordinating Council approved the following guidelines at their July 20 meeting:

- Only NEA members on any level and in any location will be approved as members of the page, which is public.
- Only products and services endorsed by or directly supporting an NEA affiliate will be allowed to advertise on the page.
- The list of NEA/KNEA recommended candidates for political office will be posted, but no other political posts will be allowed.
- Posts awaiting approval that are questionable in tone or content must be discussed and approved by two of the administrators before being approved for posting. The current administrators are Judy Loganbill, Bob Thesman, Chris Huntsman, and Sherry Turnbull.

NEA-Retired RA, NEA RA & KNEA RA Report

Judy Loganbill, Judy Johnson, and Bob Thesman were the KNEA-R delegates elected to attend the NEA-RA and Retired annual meeting in Atlanta. The NEA-Retired meeting was held by Zoom and there were many candidate speeches and discussion of a legislative and election update. There was no new business. Officers were elected and Sarah Borgman was re-elected as president. The NEA RA meetings, due to COVID-19, were changed to Zoom and held over the course of several days. No new business items were passed but the budget was discussed for several hours and passed. The delegates listened to hours of candidate speeches and elections for new officers were held by paper ballots after the RA. Becky Pringle is the new NEA president, Princess Moss is the new vice president and Noel Candelaria from Texas is the new secretary-treasurer. Tabatha Rosproy, National Teacher of the Year from Winfield, Kansas, gave her speech over Zoom. An email request was sent to KNEA-Retired members prior to the RA asking for a contribution to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. The suggested contribution was \$20.20 in honor of this election year. Our members contributed about \$1600 to the NEA Fund. This was in addition to the contributions retired members already give monthly through electronic funds transfers.

The KNEA RA was not held in April due to the pandemic. The KNEA Board of Directors met and referred the only NBI submitted to the Executive Committee. It concerned KNEA funding for higher education activities and was ruled out of order because it was in violation of the KNEA constitution, bylaws, and policies. The board approved the KNEA budget and everything else was put on hold. Hopefully the KNEA RA will be in person in 2021. Rex Hull, KNEA Retired staff liaison, commented that a Higher Ed symposium sponsored by KNEA was held this past year and was quite successful.

KNEA Board Report

I'm guessing that, in this time of overall weirdness with no one on the national level seemingly able to agree with anyone about anything, one thing is clear: This has certainly been a year that none of KNEA-Retired would want to repeat. KNEA leadership and active members would most likely agree.

The KNEA board of directors has had five virtual meetings with business as usual as much as possible. We discuss, debate, listen and learn. The 2020 KNEA Representative Assembly, also virtual, was not as usual. Because virtual debate with approximately 400 delegates was not possible, the amendments to the constitution and bylaws and resolutions were referred to the 2021 KNEA RA. All but one new business item were referred to the KNEA Executive Committee. The new business item that was set aside was then ruled out of order because it violated KNEA's constitution, bylaws and policies. Reports by President Mark Farr, Executive Director Kevin Riemann and the NEA Directors are posted on edCommunities.

KNEA leadership and active members were very involved and considered valuable resources in the development of "Navigating Change," the Kansas instructional and operational plan used in the reopening of schools this fall. As we enter this final quarter of 2020 let's all make an effort to seek out an active member and thank them for their work. Thank them for their flexibility, their persistence, and their ability to inspire their students by providing a sense of normalcy.

**Submitted by
Judy Johnson,
KNEA-Retired
representative, KNEA
Board of Directors**



2020-21 KNEA-R Executive Committee

President • Judy Loganbill

judithloganbill@msn.com

Vice President • Bob Thesman

bobthesman@gmail.com

Secretary-Treasurer • Sherry Turnbull

sturnbull100@gmail.com

KNEA Board Member • Judy Johnson

jjohnson68@yahoo.com

Past President • Chris Huntsman

chrishuntsman4532@gmail.com

Membership Chair • Dian Dotts

dottsd@peoplestelecom.net

Apple Corps Chair • Shelia Blume

booklady13492@gmail.com

KPAC Representative • Eleanor Browning

elebrown42@gmail.com

KNEA Staff Liaison • Rex Hull

rex.hull@knea.org

KNEA Staff Administrative Assistant

tammy.wagoner@knea.org

KNEA-Retired Local Presidents

Sunflower West (Kansas City Area):

Claire Bolton (816) 589-4678

wveerclaire@hotmail.com

Heartland (Wichita area):

Larry Landwehr (316) 305-4232

larry_landwehr@yahoo.com

Prairie Grass (Hutchinson area):

Debi Ellis (620) 727-1605

dellis48@cox.net

Santa Fe Trail (Larned area):

Susan Young (620) 786-4640

susanmyoung1967@gmail.com

NW Prairie Winds (Hays/Colby):

Jerry Blank (785) 282-6194

omhjab@ruraltel.net

C.A.R.E. (Shawnee County):

Jenny Prichard (785) 633-4590

jprichard@cox.net

Flint Hills (Junction City area):

Shelley Dunham (620) 327-7358

saveksschools@gmail.com

SE Pioneers (Pittsburg area):

Sherry Turnbull (620) 249-7788

sturnbull100@gmail.com

Sunflower East (Kansas City area):

Ruth Goff (913) 709-2522

ruthe.goff.forkansas@gmail.com

Paula Dix (913) 780-7540

pad61954@gmail.com

In This Issue:
NEA-Retired RA &
KNEA RA
Delegate Nomination
forms
KNEA-Retired Facebook
Guidelines
Reports from the
NEA-Retired and NEA
Virtual RAs



Kansas National
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Kansas NEA Retired
715 S.W. 10th Ave.
Topeka, Kansas 66612

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