



UTRA Winter 2013 Newsletter

UT RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

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Knoxville, TN 37996-4125

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"It's OK To Get Older As Long As You Refuse To Grow Up!"

-- Sam Venable Speaks to Record Crowd of UTRAS



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President's Corner

Bruce Wheeler

2012-2013 President



Earlier I reported to you that UTRA was trying to work with the administration on two issues that would be of interest and benefit our members: 1) to have a room in the new University Center designated as one where retirees could come and relax, converse, and/or store some things we wouldn't want to carry around while on campus, and 2) to increase the number of parking spaces for the handicapped.

On the University Center issue, a representative of Chancellor Cheek has been made aware of our request, has responded to our request, and has said that she will investigate the possibility of such a room. We will keep in contact with her on a regular basis as construction goes forward.

On the parking issue (thanks to Henry Fribourg), I have been in touch with the vice chancellor responsible for parking and will meet with him in the near future. Also, we have decided to join forces with the Student Committee on Disability Issues to press the matter. Since some of us were in college in the 1960s, I thought it best to promise that we had no intention of picketing Andy Holt Tower or engaging in other 1960s behavior. (Henry refused to promise that). This past semester, the student organization held a very well-attended Disabilities Week, to make the campus aware of important necessities. The student organization will hold its first spring meeting in mid-February, and we will get together after that. Thanks to Henry for providing the names of other UTRA members who might help out.

Finally, elsewhere in this newsletter is a piece on a Life Planning Seminar on Long Term Care. In my view, this is something well worth knowing about.

Have a healthy, enjoyable, active, and flu-free winter.

Bruce Wheeler, UTRA President

Mark Your Calendar for UTRA Events

February 21 - Winter Luncheon with
Charles Maynard
- Baptist Center West at 11:30 - 1:30

April 9 or 10 - Long-Term Care Insurance at University Center Auditorium

April 25 - Spring Luncheon and Garden Walk
Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum
- Bus from UT Visitors Center: 10:00 - 3:00. Lunch & speaker





Charles Maynard—avid hiker, historian, naturalist, storyteller, and amateur astronomer, will present “A Blue Ridge Quilt of Stories”.

Winter Luncheon to feature Charles Maynard

Our winter luncheon promises to be a truly memorable one because our speaker is an interesting and multi-talented person. The Rev. Charles Maynard, District Superintendent of the Maryville District of the United Methodist Holston Conference, is one of the most educational and entertaining storytellers of the southern mountains, according to the thousands who have enjoyed his talks. His presentation for us is titled “A Blue Ridge Quilt of Stories.”

Charles is a writer (28 books including 21 for children), has served as a pastor, was the founding executive director of Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and in his eight years in that position developed the Friends into an organization with an annual budget of over \$1.8 million. Later, he worked as Director of Advancement for the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, TN.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us.

Date: Thursday, February 21 from 11:30 to 1:30
Place: Baptist Center West, 7709 Westland Drive,
Knoxville 37919.

The 4-H Club will cater the affair, and the menu will be their famous chicken, rice, salad, fruit, bread, and beverage for **\$15.00**. As in the past, the 4H Club also will have half chickens available to take home for **\$5.00 each**. We will begin serving at 11:30. The deadline for reserving places and chicken is February 14.

Traditionally, the winter luncheon has been held in the Hollingsworth Auditorium on the Agriculture Campus. But parking problems have obliged us to move the location, at least for the near future.

REMEMBER: Payment due by 14 Feb. Send your check, made payable to UT Retirees' Association to Chuck Bryant, 115 Conference Center Building, Knoxville, TN

Holiday Open House, December 7, 2012

By Bruce Wheeler

Due to the major reconstruction of the University Center and the demolition of its parking garage, UTRA decided to move our holiday open house to the UT Visitors' Center (the former Faculty Club). A modest crowd enjoyed a finger-food buffet meant for twice that many (although everything was eaten) as UTRA members got reacquainted with long-time friends and co-workers and generally enjoyed the event. It is possible that spring-like weather that December day kept our numbers down, as many of us doubtless enjoyed what many thought would be one of the year's last warm and beautiful days.

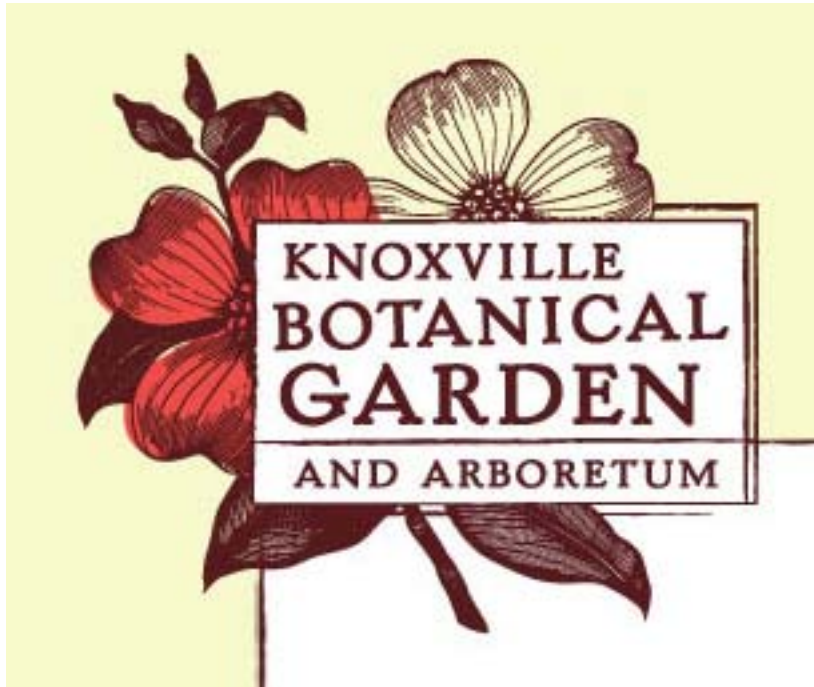


Fall Luncheon with Sam Venable, continued

Sam Venable, speaker



The fall luncheon on September 27 set a record for luncheon attendance. Held at the Knox County Baptist Association's headquarters, the featured speaker drew a record crowd of UTRA members, spouses, and friends to hear the well-known journalist, author, and speaker. Introduced by Diana Lopez, a high school classmate of Sam's, Sam was in great form as he made us laugh at ourselves –and at him –as we all reach our senior years. Sam's wife Mary Ann, a member of UTRA, also attended and was well known and greeted by all. All in all, it was a fine event.



Spring Luncheon and Garden Walk

April 25 from 10:00 am
– 3:00 pm

Speaker:
Keyes Williamson,
Executive Director

Meet us to walk the beautiful Knoxville Botanical Gardens and at lunch to hear about its mission and history from Executive Director, Keyes Williamson. This 44-acre “secret garden” in East Knoxville exists for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. The site has significance for the cultural and horticultural history of Knoxville based on Civil War and Native American activity on this property. Its Board sees the preservation and restoration of this site as a catalyst for the ongoing improvement and development of East Knoxville in addition to contributing to the revitalization of downtown Knoxville.

While enjoying a lunch by Luxe Catering with fellow retirees, election of new UTRA Board members will occur. Here is the day’s schedule departing and returning to the UT Visitors Center (former Faculty Club):

- Bus departs at 10:00 am & arrives at Knoxville Botanical Garden around 10:30 am
- Tour of the garden will take about 1 hour
- Buffet lunch
- Address by Director Keyes Williamson
- More time to walk around
- Bus departs the garden around 2:30 pm and arrives back at UT Visitors Center around 3 pm

The cost for this trip is really low: only **\$17.00**, including bus ride and buffet lunch. Do decide to join us for a spring fling during our dogwood season. It will be beautiful!

Lunch reservation and payment due by 18 April. Send your check, made payable to UT Retirees’ Association, to **Chuck Bryant 115 Conference Center Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-4115.**

BENEFITS PROGRAM: A representative for the State of TN Long-Term Care Insurance Plan will be visiting our campus as part of two Life Planning Seminar sessions:

**Tues., April 9, 2013, 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. OR
Wed., April 10, 2013, 10:15 - 11:30 a.m.
Carolyn P. Brown University Center, Auditorium**

Attend either session without a reservation

LTC-TN, the State of Tennessee Group Long-Term Care Insurance Program offered through MedAmerica Insurance Company, is available to UT retirees who are drawing a Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS) benefit or participate in an optional retirement plan.

The State of Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance has certified LTC-TN as a Tennessee Long-Term Care Partnership policy. This means if you buy the appropriate "inflation benefit" for your age, you can protect assets equal to the benefits paid out if you ever have to apply for Medicaid/TennCare to pay for long-term care services.

Report from the Eighth Annual Meeting of Tennessee Higher Education Retiree's Association

By Michael Betz

Michael Betz represented UTRA at this November meeting of the Tennessee Higher Education Retirees Associations (THERA). A state committee was created to report back next year on possible alternatives to the present "Dental Insurance Plans" for retirees of public employees of TN higher educational institutions. This committee is to report back to our state association meeting next year at Fall Creek Falls. In addition to working with Bill Fisher, the chair of this committee is James (Jim) Clemmer of Austin Peay State University and Dr. Jerry Gehre of East TN State University is serving with him. They are seeking members from the other public universities in the state. The UTRA Board plans to appoint a representative to this committee.

UT Retirees Association Scholarships Awarded

Scholars in FY 2012 were:

Jonathan Edwards - Graduated December 2011, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Meredith Goodfellow - Senior, Child and Family Studies

The new scholars for FY 2013 are:

Samantha Curtis - Senior, Accounting
Keegan Martin - Senior, Finance

The annual scholarship amount is \$1500 per scholar.

UTRA Membership Dues

Please renew your UTRA membership! The fiscal year for the association runs from May 1 through April 30. It is the policy for UTRA not to send individual invoices for annual dues renewal. Instead, a reminder and a membership application are published here in the *UTRA Newsletter*, and it is up to YOU to remit dues. Most members are life members! However, if you currently pay annual dues, please consider becoming a lifetime member. It is so easy! Just complete the application form on this page.

Help us to encourage all new retirees to join and participate in UTRA. Every member needs to promote our organization to friends and former colleagues now retired from UT.

PLEASE remember to let us know if your address, email address, and/or telephone number changes.

New retirees receive the Newsletter and invitations to all social events for their first year of retirement.

Email or Snail Mail?



Please call 974-6506 or email UTRA@utk.edu to change the way you receive the *UTRA Newsletter*.

VOLUNTEER AS A STAFFER! We need volunteers for our office at 232 UT Conference Center Bldg. Duties are varied, so your talents will help. Call 974-6506 to sign up!

UT Retirees' Association

utra@utk.edu

Application for Membership

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Send my newsletter via email: yes / no

Telephone: () _____

Cell phone: () _____

Retirement date: _____

Department: _____

Talents you are willing to share:

Payment included:

_____ Annual Membership (\$5.00)

_____ Life Membership (40.00) includes spouse

Please complete the form and submit it with your check, made payable to:

UT Retirees' Association

Send to:

**115 Conference Center Building
 Knoxville, TN 37996-4115**

Congratulations to New UT Retirees!

August - December, 2012

Paul G. Ashdown	Journalism	12/31/2012
Gary Lee Baldwin		10/2/2012
Elizabeth C. Barret	Nursing Administration	8/1/2012
Linda Lee Basford	Dean of Enrollment Serv.	11/1/2012
Ernest Grady Bogue	Educational Leadership &	8/1/2012
Robert Allen Bohm	Economics	12/31/2012
Vera Ellen Franklin Bremseth	McClung Museum	10/1/2012
Ernest W. Brewer	Educational Leadership &	8/1/2012
Palmira J. Brewer	Arts & Sciences Admin	8/1/2012
Tracy D. Bush	West Tenn Research & Educ	10/1/2012
Susan Sylvia Simpson Cannon	Financial Aid	11/16/2012
Sharon McCoy Cassell	Vice Chan-Student Affairs	12/20/2012
Estella Camille Wright Clark	Office of the Chancellor	11/3/2012
Tommy Olen Clark	Prev Maint-Residnce Halls	11/7/2012
George Harvey Click	Building Services	9/1/2012
Jonnie Virginia Morrison Conner	North Carrick Hall	11/28/2012
Betsey B. Creekmore	Sr Assoc VC-Finance & Adm	9/6/2012
Ronald J. Darden	MTAS	10/23/2012
Rex Duane DeVoe	Univ Housing Maintenance	10/1/2012
Donna L. Downen	Family & Consumer Science	8/1/2012
Henry C. Dye	VP-Public & Govt Relation	10/4/2012
Martha J. Gleason	HR - Total Rewards	12/8/2012
Janet Anne Pope Hails	Law Enforcement Innov Ctr	9/28/2012
Patricia Lynn Sanders Hamilton	Central Region Office	9/1/2012

Carol Christine Hewlett		12/20/2012
Ersa Louise Higman	Radio Center	9/1/2012
Linda Sue Buck Hopkins	Laurel Apartments	11/1/2012
John Robert Horner	Theatre	9/1/2012
Rodney Jackson	Care of Grounds	11/1/2012
Alex Spence Johnson	Building Services	12/1/2012
Martha Lee	Financial Aid	10/1/2012
Alfred M. Legendre	Small Animal Clinical Sci	12/31/2012
Carol I. Martin	Ctr for Literacy Studies	10/1/2012
Gregg Dennis McAlister	Law Enforcement Innov Ctr	9/18/2012
Sharon Lee McClain	Extension-Admin	8/1/2012
Tina Marie Tolley McConnell	UT Research Foundation	11/1/2012
Carl J. McHargue	Ctr for Mtrls Processing	12/31/2012
Cynthia Lynn Teffeteller Moore	Veterinary Medicine-Admin	9/1/2012
Lorena Morgan	Hamilton County	10/1/2012
Patricia A. Ogle	Parking & Transit Svcs	12/31/2012
David Myron Ostermeier	Forestry, Wildlife & Fish	12/31/2012
William Humphrey Ownby, Jr.	Carpentry Services	8/1/2012
Janice Peavler	English	8/1/2012
Deborah Ann Phillips Perry	Police Control	8/1/2012
Kelly R. Robbins	Animal Science-Exp Sta	12/1/2012
Scott E. Roney	History	8/1/2012
Robert E. Shettler, Jr.	County Tech Asst Service	12/31/2012
Margaret Anna Schou		8/31/2012
Donna W. Sherwood	Civil & Envir. Eng.	9/1/2012
Karen Jean Lundy Simerly	Ctr for Transportation Re	10/1/2012
Richard Kennedy Smith	Morris Hall	9/1/2012

Judy Kay Snow	Construction Res Analysis	11/1/2012
William A. Stetar	Center for Industrial Ser	9/13/2012
Karen Elizabeth Keck Swander	Psychology	8/1/2012
Eugene Jerome Swinger, Jr.	Univ Housing Maintenance	11/8/2012
Charlotte Ann Tampas	Financial Aid	11/17/2012
Bobby E. Terry	East Tenn Research & Educ	8/16/2012
Cheryl Williams Treece	Mech, Aero & Biomed Engr	10/2/2012
Tse-Wei Wang	Chemical Engineering	12/31/2012
Sandra Gail White	Disability Services	8/1/2012
John Carl Whitlock	Research Center	8/17/2012
James Matthew York	Preventive Maintenance	12/1/2012

Congratulations to our 62 new UT Retirees. We hope each of you will become UTRA members and join us in lots of activities.

Don't fret, this page is blank.

WORKING FOR YOU

UTRA BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Wheeler, President (wwheele1@utk.edu)

Aubrey Mitchell, Past President
(amitchel6706@charter.net)

Diana Lopez, Secretary (dlopez@utk.edu)

Caroline Buckner, Treasurer

Michael Betz, Board Member (mbetz@utk.edu)

Jami Cox, Board Member (jamicox@utk.edu)

Bobbie Julian, Board Member
(<mailto:bjulian08@comcast.net>)

Chuck Bryant, HR liaison (jbryan26@utk.edu)

Jon Gushen, HR liaison (jgushen@utk.edu)

UTRA COMMITTEES

Debbie Schriver, Program Committee (dschriver@utk.edu)

Pauline Bayne, Newsletter editor (paulinebayne@comcast.net)

Tom Hood, UTRA photographer (<mailto:tomhood5@comcast.net>)

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