



Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel

Volume 57, Issue 5

The Meadowlark

May 2022

CONVENTION 2022

The KARSP Convention will be June 15-17 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Junction City. The registration form is on page 4 of this issue and is due by May 31. It is important that you get this filled out and in as soon as possible so plans can be finalized. The schedule has been in the last two Meadowlarks, but here are the highlights. For details, check the March and April editions.

Wednesday will begin with the KARSP board meeting at 10:00 a.m. Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. At 5:00 p.m. we will have our barbeque and Foundation auction. The barbeque is free, but we need to know how many will be there through the registrations. Units, please remember to bring items for the auction. The money will be split between the Foundation and the KARSP treasury. The Foundation uses this money to fund grants for current educators.

Thursday will be the opening session, and our guest speaker will be Bill Snyder, former coach at Kansas State. We will follow that with a business meeting and the Foundation luncheon. There is a tour in the afternoon. There will be a dinner with entertainment from the Church Ladies.

Friday will begin with the Memorial breakfast followed by the presentation of awards for the year. Members will then meet with their districts for some time to share ideas. We will end with the luncheon.

After scheduled events of the day, there is always an opportunity to socialize, play some games, and catch up with friends.

Board members are reminded to bring cookies for the hospitality area...always a popular spot. Everyone is reminded to bring a sweater or jacket because sometimes the meeting rooms are a bit chilly.

NOTE

The Meadowlark is emphasizing the convention because it is an important part of who we are. Next month we will return to “regular” reporting and articles. However, if you check out our executive director’s article on page 2, you will find a mini Meadowlark, which highlights items of interest for the group. Also, if your unit did an Earth Day activity, please send those to the Meadowlark. We will start you off with Johnson County’s on page 3.

KARSP UPDATE

Jerry Henn

*KARSP Executive
Director*



This article will be all over the place. I kind of want to touch on several areas that could mean something to someone.

Although the legislative session is not technically over, it looks like our fight to get a COLA may be on shaky ground. For the first time in my four years as being your executive director, I heard from many legislators about the contacts they received from our members. That is a positive sign. For our retired teachers to receive a COLA we must continue to call, email, and write letters to them and to continue to express our dissatisfaction of the treatment of our retirees. The failures of the legislators have caused many of the issues of not receiving a COLA. Mr. Claudel has worked tirelessly to gain support for some type of COLA.

Your organization is going through many changes. Membership is looking at adding members in many ways. There is one district that has become a test area to see if what your board has discussed can work. They will try a few different ways to gain members, and if successful, the board plans to expand many of these ideas.

I know everyone is excited for the convention this summer. I know Karen has worked hard to get this convention to be one of the best. Her team members are proud of

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STRENGTH IN UNITY

the work, and they should be. The speaker at the convention will be one of the best. The speaker has already been announced, but I will not list 'him' here so you can find out who it is. Should not be hard! We are in Junction City and what college is close by?

The Board is currently looking for a treasurer. Mr. Alstrom has been an excellent treasurer but needs to step down. If you are interested or know someone for me to contact, please let me know. The job is about being organized. You get to work with some excellent educators at our meetings as well.

Now that illness seems to be slowing a bit, travel opportunities could be an option. We stopped advertising in the Meadowlark about travel since it was risky for us to do so. We hope to start advertising travel opportunities in the US with this issue. Keeping to the US hopefully will make our members feel comfortable to travel. We will start advertising travel to foreign countries later. You can always contact Collette Travel or Heritage Travel as you like.

Please take the time to get to know your Board. They are here for you. In each issue, you have an opportunity to learn more about each member. Your President, Mike Isom, presented us with this task, and I feel it is an excellent idea for everyone to at least put some history behind your members on the board.

As always, stay safe and continue to enjoy your retirement.

EARTH DAY



It is estimated that 7,150 bags are thrown away every minute. Members of Johnson County Association of Retired School Personnel had been collecting plastic bags at their previous two meetings. Then our members gathered to learn a new way to recycle plastic shopping bags and do something productive with what could otherwise turn into trash.

Members learned the process for cutting bags into strips and joining sections into a strand of plastic termed "plarn" or plastic yarn. The plarn was wound into balls that resemble balls of yarn. The plarn balls created were given to Asbury UMC where we hold our meetings. Church members will crochet the plarn into sleeping mats for the homeless. It takes approximately 750 bags to make one mat.

This project included a new way to recycle, and members had a great time socializing while taking part in a unique Earth Day effort to give plastic bags a second life and help those experiencing homelessness.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION
70th KARSP CONVENTION ...June 15, 16 and 17, 2022
Courtyard by Marriott
310 Hammons Drive, Junction City Kansas 66441
1-785-210-1500

All members are urged to attend and are eligible to vote at the annual convention. Spouses are welcome to attend any session with paid registrations.

You must make reservations through the Courtyard by Marriott, 1-785-210-1500, to receive the \$89 . (plus, tax rate). The cutoff date for reservations is May 31, 2022 to receive the quoted rate. After cutoff date, no guarantee of availability of rooms. When making reservation mention KARSP. If special needs are required, please indicate to the hotel at the time of placing your room reservation.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

DESCRIPTION	#	AMOUNT	TOTAL
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (DEADLINE May 31) \$15.00		(\$15.00)	=
Regular Registration \$20.00		or (\$20.00)	=
Wednesday – Barbeque (must be registered to participate) Foundation Auction Following		No Fee	No Fee
Thursday Breakfast – Breakfast On Your Own		----	----
Thursday Luncheon		\$15.00	=
Thursday Evening Dinner		\$25.00	=
Friday Breakfast		\$11.00	=
Friday Luncheon		\$15.00	=
TOTAL			\$

Free Tour – Hildebrand Farms – Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Please circle 1 2 if attending.
Loading at 1:00 p.m.

Make check payable to: KARSP Convention Fund Mail to: Jay Brown, Registrar 511 East 24th, Hutchinson, KS 67502 E-mail bengal@southwind.net	Make your own reservations at: Courtyard by Marriott Junction City, Kansas 66441 Reservations: 1-785-210-1500 Group Rate: \$89.00 + tax
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