We’re Back! KRTA 2022 Convention a Success

By Greg Roush, Deputy Executive Director

The Kentucky Retired Teachers Association welcomed over 300 of our retired members to the 2022 Annual Convention in April. After two years of cancellations due to Covid-19, KRTA was finally able to have our members back in person. The convention continued many of the same traditions as in the past to include the Master's Men Choir, TRS, and the required meetings with District Presidents, the Executive Council, and the Delegate Assembly. An exciting program this year was One Hundred Years of Education Through Fashion. Lisa Petrey-Kirk and Ellie Thompson approached KRTA Staff in October with the idea, and six months later the show included over 40 retirees presenting historical facts, music and fashion by decade dating back to the 1900’s. The show even included a live performance from former Kentucky Department of Education Commissioner, Dr. John Stephenson. Outstanding; Very informative; and A fun way to review our history were just a few comments on the convention evaluation.

Gary Harbin, Executive Secretary for TRS, delivered TRS updates which continued to be a main topic of interest within our organization. Mr. Harbin's presentation delivered very favorable news as it relates to the state budget and TRS investments. Thank God for the team at TRS and Lots of good information we can use to help recruit new members were two of the many positive comments related to Mr. Harbin's presentation.

The final session before going into the Delegate Assembly was Kathy O'Nan, the Mayor of Mayfield and a KRTA member. Mayor O’Nan wowed the conference attendees with her personal testimony of how she lived through and responded to the Western Kentucky tornados that devastated her town and many others. Mayor O’Nan attributed many of her skills used to survive this nightmare to some of the skills she learned being a classroom teacher for over 30 years. Mayor O’Nan received nothing short of a standing ovation and shed tears as she concluded her speech to the audience.

Overall, the KRTA 2022 Convention was a success. While attendance was smaller than the earlier convention in 2019, the smiling faces and conversations were a breath of fresh air. The overall evaluation results for Mr. Harbin and the fashion show at 88% above average or excellent and Mayor O’Nan at 95% above average or excellent. There were some areas for improvement to include the temperature and crowded restrooms. KRTA staff are already working with the Holiday Inn to ensure that 2023 is an even bigger success. PowerPoint presentations, videos and pictures can all be found on the KRTA website under 2022 Convention, or you may click on the blue links at the right.

2022-23 Officer Forms Needed ASAP

› Click here for Local Officer Forms
› Click here for District Officer Forms

In order to distribute the 2022-23 Local President’s Handbook in July, it is imperative that we have your updated officer forms. New forms need to be submitted even if your association has the same officers as the previous year. Forms may be sent by mail or emailed to info@krta.org.