

ALABAMA RETIRED STATE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
ALABAMA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ADVOCACY LEAGUE

Advantage

AUGUST 2022 | VOLUME XVII, ISSUE III

42nd Annual Convention

September 21-22

Register Today!

(see p. 4)

Local Government Bonus Efforts

(see p. 8)



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AUGUST 2022



4

ARSEA/ APEAL 42nd Annual Convention

7

 11th Annual
FOREPAC
Fundraiser

8

 Local
Government
Bonus Effort In
Full Swing

11

 Welcome New
Members

13

Passing the Gavel



14

Meet your Newly Elected District Board Members

Advantage Magazine is the official publication of ARSEA/APEAL and is published bi-monthly by the association. The Association office is located at 450 S. Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104. Telephone (334) 834.9116 or (800) 844.7732. Locate us on the web at www.arsea.org. Any questions concerning this publication or the association can be directed to our office by calling the numbers above or emailing us at retire@arsea.org. Advertisements in the magazine are not endorsements of products and/or services by ARSEA/APEAL unless officially stated in the ad. We shall accept advertising on the same basis as other reputable publications: that is, we shall not knowingly permit a dishonest advertisement to appear in Advantage, but, at the same time, we will not undertake to guarantee the reliability of our advertisers.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

As this issue of the Advantage magazine goes to press, our 42nd Annual Convention is fast approaching. I

encourage all members to register and make plans to join us at RSA's Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at Capitol Hill in Prattville on September 21 - 22.

Our conventions are always informative and fun, however, conventions that take place during statewide election cycles, like this one, always have a bit more electricity and excitement surrounding them. FOREPAC's Meet the Candidates event attracts nominees for statewide offices from the top of the ballot to the bottom as they seek the votes of our members.

In addition to preparing for the convention, our staff has been traveling the state over the past several weeks and sharing information with members about the longevity bonuses that ARSEA/APEAL worked hard to pass during the most recent legislative session.

The bonuses were the direct result of meetings that ARSEA/APEAL held with legislative leadership prior to the session and the commitments that we secured from them. We worked hard this year to make sure the career contributions of state, local government, and education retirees were recognized by the Legislature and rewarded with bonuses.

Elected officials usually hear from constituents only when they have complaints or concerns, so it is important that you express thanks to your state legislators and to local officials in areas that have agreed to fund the bonus. A kind word today could easily result in other benefit increases down the road.

Our Friends of Retirees and Employees Political Action Committee (FOREPAC) has been very active in state, county and city elections taking place this year. There have been increasing numbers of members running for state and local elected offices. Our association is proud to claim several legislators, county commissioners, city council members, and mayors as dues-paying members of ARSEA/APEAL.

Members who seek public office not only support the issues important to you, but they also live those issues and share your concerns. We support our members who undertake the challenge of seeking elected office. As current and future state and local government retirees, we have a better understanding of the commitment and sacrifice public service requires.

In closing, I would like to offer special thanks on behalf of our membership to Ken Mays, a long-time member of ARSEA/APEAL who just completed his term as our state president. Because our members are rooted in the

Our conventions are always informative and fun, however, conventions that take place during statewide election cycles, like this one, always have a bit more electricity and excitement surrounding them. FOREPAC's Meet the Candidates event attracts nominees for statewide offices from the top of the ballot to the bottom as they seek the votes of our members.

belief of public service, ARSEA/APEAL has always been fortunate that when one leader steps down, another stands ready to take their place. We extend a warm welcome to Mike Gillespie, our new president who has stepped forward to take the reins of leadership. We look forward to working with Mike in our continuing effort to take ARSEA/APEAL to new heights and new successes.

Liane Kelly
Executive Director

ARSEA/APEAL 42ND ANNUAL CONVENTION

ARSEA/APEAL will hold its 42nd Annual Convention on September 21st and 22nd at RSA's Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at Capitol Hill in Prattville.

We want you to be a part of this year's event and join other members who will gather to discuss important issues, listen to news-making public figures, and hear about our plans to improve retirement benefits.

"Whether you are a first-time attendee or a regular participant, the 42nd Annual Convention promises to be fun, exciting, and memorable," said ARSEA/APEAL President Mike Gillespie. "In addition to focusing on issues that are important to current and future public retirees, our convention allows you to renew old friendships, while making new ones."

We look forward to seeing you and we don't want you to miss out on the fun. Don't forget:

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

We have secured a rate of \$125 plus tax per night for the impressive resort accommodations at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at Capitol Hill in Prattville. The

property has free and convenient on-site parking and of course, the Robert Trent Jones Golf Course.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Complete and return the registration form along with payment to ARSEA by September 13th.

EVENTS

The Foundation Health and Wellness Expo

The Health and Wellness Expo is back with healthcare service providers, organizations, businesses and state agencies offering services and benefits to current and future retirees. Several exhibitors will have door prizes and giveaways.

Opening Luncheon

The ARSEA Foundation will present its annual report and announce the 2022 charitable donation recipients. Guest speakers will share their unique perspectives on Alabama's newsmaking issues and your retirement benefits.

Meet the Candidates

An election year favorite, ARSEA/APEAL is bringing together candidates for statewide constitutional offices

"Whether you are a first-time attendee or a regular participant, the 42nd Annual Convention promises to be fun, exciting, and memorable," said ARSEA/APEAL President Mike Gillespie. "In addition to focusing on issues that are important to current and future public retirees, our convention allows you to renew old friendships, while making new ones."



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21

Registration/Exhibitors

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Health & Wellness Expo

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Opening Luncheon

12:00 p.m.

Meet the Candidates

2:00 p.m.

President's Reception & FOREPAC Dinner

5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 22

Awards Breakfast & Ceremony

8:00 a.m.

Annual Business Meeting

10:00 a.m.

Convention Adjournment

11:00 a.m.

MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION for September 21st no later than August 31st by calling (334) 290-1235 and ask to book a reservation under the ARSEA/APEAL group rate. To book your reservation online: a link will be sent to your e-mail address in Weekly Updates or request it by sending an e-mail to retire@arsea.org or visit our website www.arsea.org.

Complete and return the REGISTRATION form to the right by September 13th along with a check made payable to ARSEA, by Tuesday, September 13. To pay for registration with a credit or debit card, please call our office at 334-834-9116.

If you have any questions, please call us at 800-844-7732 or 334-834-9116.

42ND ANNUAL CONVENTION

Prattville

September 21-22, 2022

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Street Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

WEDNESDAY MORNING ACTIVITIES

of People _____ *\$30 per person
_____ Health & Wellness Expo
_____ Opening Luncheon

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES *\$40 per person
_____ FOREPAC Dinner

THURSDAY ACTIVITIES

of People _____ *\$20 per person
_____ Awards Breakfast
_____ Annual Business Meeting

Registration Total \$ _____

ADD FOREPAC TICKETS

- 1 ticket for \$5 20 tickets for \$60
 5 tickets for \$20 36 tickets for \$99
 10 tickets for \$35

Grand Total \$ _____

- I have special dietary and/or disability needs. Please contact me regarding special arrangements.

**includes meals, breaks & registration*

to discuss their platforms and address your concerns. Hear from candidates running for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state and others.

President's Reception and FOREPAC Dinner

A reception honoring President Mike Gillespie will kick off our evening event. The FOREPAC dinner features the opportunity to meet and mingle with state constitutional officers, legislators, city and county officials and representatives from RSA, SEIB, AMBA and other benefit and service providers. Todd Stacey, the host of Alabama Public Television's Capitol Journal and editor of the Alabama Daily News, will keynote this event. The jam-packed evening also includes to our Annual FOREPAC Fundraiser with \$1,000 in cash prizes.

Awards Breakfast

Members will gather to remember those leaders we will

miss and celebrate the successes of the year. Winners of this year's honors, including "Member of the Year," will be announced. Our meeting will include special recognition of association leaders who are making a difference in improving the lives of state and local government employees and retirees throughout Alabama.

Annual Business Meeting

Our yearly business meeting will include reports highlighting the past year, as well as a look ahead to the future and the prospects for returning to retiree COLAs. Our final activity will be a grand prize drawing which awards one lucky winner a \$250 cash prize.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding reservations or registration, please call us at 800-844-7732 or 334-834-9116 and we will gladly assist you.



Congratulations to our members who won their Republican nomination for Alabama House of Representatives, Bill Lamb (House District 62), Jennifer Fidler (House District 94), and Ron Bolton (House District 61) ARSEA/APEAL members who won their Alabama House primaries with FOREPAC support.

11TH ANNUAL FOREPAC FUNDRAISER

Win \$1,000 in CASH PRIZES!
**GET YOUR DRAW DOWN
RAFFLE TICKETS NOW!**

The Friends of Retirees and Employees Political Action Committee (FOREPAC) will hold its 11th annual fundraiser during the ARSEA/APEAL Convention on September 21st.

Proceeds will go directly toward electing officials who understand the issues facing current and future retirees and the importance of preserving our retirement benefits.



\$1,000 in cash prizes will be available for those who participate in the Draw-Down. A “draw down” is a reverse raffle in which drawn tickets are eliminated and the last remaining ticket wins the \$500 grand prize. In addition to the grand prize, five \$100 prizes will be randomly awarded during the Draw Down.

- Winners do not have to be present, so even if you are not attending our annual convention, you may still participate in this fundraiser and claim a prize.
- Tickets are \$5 each, or you may purchase ticket packages. 5 for \$20, 10 for \$35, 20 for \$60 or 36 for \$99.
- Tickets must be ordered by 5:00 p.m. on September 15th.
- Your lucky ticket numbers will be sent to you prior to the drawing.
- The winners not in attendance will be contacted by phone or email after the conclusion of the event.

To purchase tickets:

- Mail the attached form with your payment to: FOREPAC, 450 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.
- Call our office at 334-834-9116 and complete a transaction over the phone.
- Email retire@arsea.org and request online ordering options.

FOREPAC DRAWDOWN FORM

Name: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- 1 ticket for \$5 5 tickets for \$20 10 tickets for \$35 20 tickets for \$60 36 tickets for \$99

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BONUS EFFORT IN FULL SWING

ARSEA/APEAL is continuing its intensive, grassroots lobbying effort to convince cities, counties, and public boards across Alabama to authorize and fund longevity bonuses for our local government retiree members before the August 31st deadline.

With just a month remaining, roughly one-third of the almost 900 eligible local government entities have approved the retiree bonus which ARSEA/APEAL convinced the Legislature to pass during its 2022 regular session. However, much work is left to be done in the short time available.

As part of our efforts, we have been holding meetings to inform our members how to make these much needed bonuses a reality. Many of our members have already appeared at city council and county commission meetings to make public requests for the bonus, and

scores more have contacted local elected officials via phone, letter, email, text, and direct contact.

As the deadline approaches, we encourage all members to take part in this effort. ARSEA/APEAL is always strongest when our members stand together. Please help us secure the bonus for as many local government retirees as possible before August 31st .

If you have information regarding local governments that have not approved the bonus or if you need more information about how you can help, contact our office at 800-844-7732 or 334-834-9116 or e-mail retire@arsea.org

As of July 29th the following eligible local government entities have not yet approved the retiree longevity bonus and need to be convinced of its necessity:

COUNTIES

Autauga
Chilton
Clay
Cleburne
Coffee
Colbert
Coosa
Dale
Dallas
Escambia
Geneva
Greene
Hale
Henry
Jackson
Lamar
Lawrence
Madison
Marengo
Monroe
Pickens
Randolph

Talladega

Walker
Washington
Winston

CITIES/TOWNS

Abbeville
Adamsville
Albertville
Alexander
Andalusia
Anniston
Arab
Argo
Arley
Athens
Atmore
Auburn
Bay
Bayou La Batre
Bear
Berry
Bessemer

Blountsville
Bridgeport
Brilliant
Brookwood
Butler
Camden
Carbon Hill
Carrollton
Cedar Bluff
Chelsea
Cherokee
Chickasaw
Childersburg
Clayton
Cleveland
Coaling
Coffeeville
Columbia
Columbiana
Coosada
Cordova
Courtland
Cowarts

Creola
Cuba
Dadeville
Daleville
Dauphin Island
Decatur
Dothan
Douglas
East
Elba
Enterprise
Eufaula
Evergreen
Excel
Fairfield
Fairhope
Falkville
Flomaton
Fort Deposit
Frisco City
Gilbertown
Gordo
Graysville

Greensboro
Grove Hill
Guin
Gulf Shores
Gurley
Hackleburg
Harpersville
Hartford
Hartselle
Hayneville
Henagar
Hokes Bluff
Holly Pond
Hollywood
Homewood
Hueytown
Huntsville
Irontdale
Jackson
Jackson's Gap
Jasper
Jemison
Kinsey

Lafayette
Level Plains
Linden
Lineville
Livingston
Luverne
Lynn
Madison
Malvern
Margaret
Marion
McIntosh
Mentone
Midfield
Mobile
Montevallo
Moody
Mt. Vernon
Mountain Brook
Munford
Myrtlewood
Nectar
New Hope

Oakman	Pine Hill	Smith's Station	Thomaston	Columbiana Housing Authority
Ohatchee	Pleasant Grove	Snead	Thorsby	Columbiana Water Works
Oneonta	Rainsville	Spanish Fort	Triana	Concord Fire District
Opelika	Red Bay	St. Florian	Tuskegee	Conecuh County E-911
Orange Beach	Riverside	Steele	Valley Head	Cook Springs Water Authority
Ozark	Russellville	Stevenson	Vance	Coosa Valley Youth Services
Parrish	Samson	Sulligent	Vernon	Cordova Water Works & Gas
Pennington	Selma	Sumiton	Vincent	Covington County Water Authority
Phenix City	Sheffield	Sylacauga	Webb	Crenshaw County E-911
Phil Campbell	Shorter	Sylvania	Wetumpka	Cullman County Center For the Disabled
Piedmont	Silverhill	Tarrant	Wilton	Cullman Power Board
Pike	Slocomb	Taylor	York	Cumberland Mountain Water & Fire

PUBLIC BOARDS

Auburn University Cooperative Extension Service	Blountsville Utility	Columbiana Housing Authority
Abbeville Water Works	Boldo Water & Fire Protection Authority	Columbiana Water Works
Alabama Historic Ironworks Commission	Boston Housing Authority	Concord Fire District
Alabama Municipal Electric Authority	Brantley Housing Authority	Conecuh County E-911
Alabama Rural Water Association	Brent Housing Authority	Cook Springs Water Authority
Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission	Brewton Housing Authority	Coosa Valley Youth Services
Alabama Sports Hall Of Fame	Bridgeport Housing Authority	Cordova Water Works & Gas
Alabama Tombigbee Regional Commission	Bridgeport Utilities	Covington County Water Authority
Alabaster Water	Butler County E-911	Crenshaw County E-911
Albertville Housing Authority	Cahaba Center For Mental Health & Retardation	Cullman County Center For the Disabled
Alexander City Housing Authority	Calhoun County 911 District	Cullman Power Board
AltaPointe Health Systems Incorporated	Calhoun County Community Punishment Council	Cumberland Mountain Water & Fire
Andalusia Housing Authority	Calhoun County Economic Development	Curry Water Authority
Andalusia Utilities	Carbon Hill Utilities	Dadeville Housing Authority
Anniston & Calhoun County Public Library	Carl Elliott Regional Library	Dadeville Water Supply & Gas
Anniston Housing Authority	Cedar Bluff Utilities	Dadeville Water Works & Sewage
Anniston Water Works & Sewer	Center Point Fire District	Dale County Water Authority
Arab Housing Authority	Central Alabama Aging Consortium	Daleville Housing Authority
Ashland Housing Authority	Central Ala Regional Planning & Development Commission	Dallas County Water & Sewer Authority
Ashland Water Works & Sewer	Chambers County Development Authority	Dauphin Island Water & Sewer
Athens Library Board	Chambers County E-911	Dekalb County Economic Development Authority
Athens Utilities	Chambers County Library Board	Dekalb County E-911
Atmore Housing Authority	Cherokee County Water & Sewer Authority	Demopolis Water Works & Sewer
Attalla Water Works	Childersburg Water, Sewer, & Gas	Dora Gas & Water
Auburn Water Works	Chilton Clanton Public Library	Dothan Houston County Intellectual Disabilities
Autauga County E-911	Chilton County Soil & Water	Double Springs Water & Sewer
B B Comer Memorial Library	Chilton Water Authority	Douglas Water Authority
Bakerhill Water Authority	Choctaw County E-911	East Alabama Mental Heath Mental Retardation Board
Baldwin County Soil & Water	Cindy Haber Center Incorporated	East Alabama Water District
Bayou La Batre Utilities	Citizenship Trust American Village	East Brewton Waterworks & Sewer
Bear Creek Development Authority	Clanton Housing Authority	East Central Alabama Gas District
Beauregard Water Authority	Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District	East Central Baldwin County Water & Fire
Bibb County E-911	Clay County Water Authority	East Lauderdale County Water & Fire
Birmingham Racing Commission	Coaling Water Authority	Elba Water & Electric
Birmingham Regional Planning Commission	Coffee County Water Authority	Elmore County Emergency Communications District
Black Warrior Solid Waste Disposal	Coker Water Authority	Elmore Water & Sewer Authority
Blount County Communications District	Colbert County Tourism & Convention Bureau	Enterprise Housing Authority
Blount County Water Authority	Collinsville Water Works	Enterprise Water Works
		Etowah County Communications District
		Etowah County Community Corrections
		Eufaula Water Works & Sewer
		Fairhope Public Library
		Fayette County Water & Fire
		Fayette Gas Board
		Fayette Housing Authority
		Fayette Water Works
		Fayetteville Water Authority
		Florence Housing Authority
		Florence Lauderdale Tour Board
		Fosters Ralph Water Authority
		Franklin County Soil & Water
		Franklin County Water Service Authority

Fultondale Gas Board
 Gadsden Water Works & Sewer
 Geneva County E-911 Board
 Incorporated
 Geneva Water Works
 Georgiana Housing Authority
 Governmental Utilities Services
 Corporation
 Graysville Public Library
 Greene County Ambulance Service
 Greene County Hospital & Nursing
 Home
 Greene County Housing Authority
 Greene County Industrial Development
 Authority
 Greene County Racing Commission
 Greensboro Housing Authority
 Greenville Water Works & Sewer
 Guin Housing Authority
 Guin Water Works & Sewer
 Gulf Shores Utilities
 Guntersville Electric
 Guntersville Housing Authority
 Hackleburg Housing Authority
 Hackleburg Water
 Hale County Emergency Medical
 Services
 Hamilton Housing Authority
 Hartselle Housing Authority
 Harvest - Monrovia Water Authority
 Heflin Water Works & Sewer
 Helena Utilities
 Henry County Water Authority
 Incorporated
 Highland Health Systems
 Highland Water Authority
 Historic Blakeley Authority
 Hokes Bluff Water Works
 Horseshoe Bend Regional Library
 Housing Authority of Opelika
 Houston County Water Authority
 Houston Love Memorial Library
 Huguley Water Sewer & Fire
 Huntsville - Madison County Marina &
 Port Authority
 Huntsville Madison Airport Authority
 Huntsville Madison County Convention
 & Visitor's Bureau
 Indian Pines Recreation Authority
 Indian Rivers Mental Health Center
 International Motorsports Hall Of Fame
 Jackson County Economic Development
 Authority
 Jackson's Gap Water Authority
 Jacksonville Housing Authority
 Jefferson County Department Of Health
 Jefferson County Housing Authority

John Paul Jones Hospital
 Lauderdale Co Community Corrections
 Lee - Russell Council Of Governments
 Leeds Housing Authority
 Leeds Water Works
 Leighton Water & Sewer Board
 Lineville Water & Sewer
 Livingston Housing Authority
 Loachapoka Water Authority
 Macon County Racing Commission
 Maplesville Water Works & Gas
 Marengo County E-911
 Marion County E-911
 Marion County Public Water Authority
 Marion Housing Authority
 Marshall County Community Punishment
 Marshall Jackson Mental Retardation
 Authority
 McAdory Area Fire District
 Middle Alabama Area Agency On Aging
 Mildred B. Harrison Library
 Millport Housing Authority
 Mobile Airport Authority
 Mobile County Health Department
 Mobile County Housing Authority
 Mobile County Personnel Board
 Mobile County Racing Commission
 Mobile County Water, Gas, & Fire
 Mobile Public Library
 Monroeville Housing Authority
 Montevallo Water Works & Sewer
 Montgomery Area Mental Health
 Authority
 Montgomery County Soil & Water
 Conservation District
 Montgomery Water Works
 Mountain Brook Library Board
 Mountain Brook Park & Recreation Board
 Muscle Shoals Electric Board
 Muscle Shoals Utilities
 NCA 310
 Northeast Alabama Mental Retardation
 North Alabama Gas District
 North Central Alabama Regional Council
 Of Governments
 North Dallas County Water Authority
 North Marshall Utilities
 North Shelby County Fire & Emergency
 Medical District
 Northeast Morgan County Water & Fire
 Northport Housing Authority
 Northwest Alabama Council Of Local
 Governments
 Northwest Alabama Mental Health
 Center
 Northwest Alabama Regional Airport
 Oakman Utilities

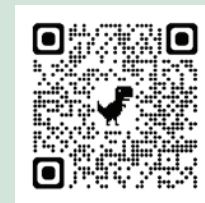
Odenville Utilities
 Oneonta Utilities
 Opelika Utilities
 Orange Beach Utilities
 Parrish Water Works & Sewer
 Pell City Housing Authority
 Pennington Utilities
 Perdido Bay Utilities
 Phenix City Utilities
 Phil Cambell Water Works & Sewer
 Pickens County Water Authority
 Pike County Soil & Water
 Pike County Water Authority
 Prattville Housing Authority
 Prattville Water Works Board
 Prichard Housing Authority
 Ragland Water Works Board
 Red Bay Housing Authority
 Red Bay Water & Gas
 Reform Housing Authority
 Regional Housing Authority Of LCM
 Remlap Pine Mountain Water Authority
 Riviera Utilities
 Roanoke Utilities Board
 Rocky Ridge Fire District
 Russellville Gas
 Russellville Housing Authority
 Russellville Waterworks & Sewer
 SCOPE 310 Authority
 Scottsboro Public Park & Recreation
 Board
 Scottsboro Water Works, Sewer, & Gas
 Selma Housing Authority
 Selma Waterworks & Sewer
 Sheffield Utilities
 Shelby County Corrections
 Shoals Economic Development Authority
 Shoals Solid Waste Disposal Authority
 Slocomb Water Works & Sewer
 South Alabama Gas District
 South Alabama Regional Planning
 Commission
 South Central Alabama Development
 Commission
 South Central Alabama Mental Health
 Board
 South Crenshaw County Water Authority
 Southeast Alabama Solid Waste Disposal
 Authority
 Southeast Alabama Youth Services
 Southern Alabama Regional Council On
 Aging
 Southside Water & Sewer
 Southwest Al Water Authority
 Spectracare
 St Clair County Soil & Water
 Conservation District

St. Clair County Industrial Development Board
 Star Mindingall Water & Fire Protection Stevenson Utilities
 Stewartville Water Authority
 Sulligent Housing Authority
 Sumiton Housing Authority
 Sumter County Water Authority
 Sylacauga Parks & Recreation Department
 Sylacauga Utilities
 Talladega County E-911
 Tarrant AI Housing Authority
 Tarrant Electric Department
 Top Of AI Regional Council Of Governments
 Trico Agency For Intellectual District
 Troy Housing Authority
 Turnerville Water & Fire Protection District
 Tuscaloosa County Commission
 Corrections
 Tuscaloosa County Parking & Transit Authority

Tuscaloosa County Parks & Recreation Authority
 Tuscaloosa County Public Defender
 Tuscaloosa Housing Authority
 Tuscaloosa Industrial Development Authority
 Tuscaloosa Public Library
 Tuskegee Utilities
 Union Grove Utilities
 Union Springs Utilities
 Uniontown Housing Authority
 USS Alabama Battleship Commission
 Valley Head Water Works
 Valley Housing Authority
 Von Braun Civic Center
 Wall Street Water Authority
 Walnut Hill Water Authority
 Warrior River Water Authority
 Washington County Soil & Water
 Wellstone, Incorporated
 West Autauga Water Authority
 West Escambia Utilities, Incorporated
 West Etowah County Water Authority
 West Lauderdale County Water & Fire

Protection Authority
 West Morgan - East Lawrence Water & Sewer Authority
 Wetumpka Water & Sewer
 Wilcox County E-911
 Wilcox County Gas District
 York Housing Authority

Note: This list was dated July 29th. For an updated list of local governments that have committed to fund the bonus, see the next issue of the Weekly Update e-mailed to you on Fridays, go to our website (try the QR code below) or call our office at 334-834-9116.



2021-2022 MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS DUE

Each year our association recognizes an individual member, nominated by their peers, to be named as our Member of the Year.

If you know a fellow member who deserves recognition and would like to request a nomination form or have questions, contact Sara Phillips at 800-844-7732 or 334-834-9116 or email sphillips@arsea.org.

Nominations are due by September 1st.

Each nomination will be carefully reviewed, and a recipient will be selected. Our Member of the Year will be announced on Thursday, September 22nd during the Annual Convention. It is a wonderful moment where we all celebrate the volunteerism, leadership, and comradery of the special people who make ARSEA/APEAL what it is.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AUTAUGA COUNTY

John Brown Jr
 Linda Miller
 Thomas Miller

Samuel Moss
 Margaret Owens

Edward Packard
 Thomas Reinhart Jr
BALDWIN COUNTY
 Maria Anderson

Liana Barnett
 David Fagan
 Dan Hellmich
 Margaret Hellmich
 Sarah Langston
 Sharon Minton
 Linda Monley
 Arthur Stapleton
 Sue Todd
 Jennifer Williams

BARBOUR COUNTY

John Helms
 Richard Robinson
 Michael Warr

BLOUNT COUNTY

Mary Atwell
 Michael Frachiseur
 Patricia Frachiseur
 Debra Morton
 Tammie Noland

Danna Standridge

David Standridge
BULLOCK COUNTY

Brenda Austin
BUTLER COUNTY

Yona Henderson
CALHOUN COUNTY

Gail Blankenship
 Dorothy Burleigh
 Shirley Conaway

Michael Green
 Rebecca Sue Green
CHILTON COUNTY
 Pam Callaghan
 Derrick Price
CHOCTAW COUNTY
 Linda Keeton
 Fannie Leverett
CLARKE COUNTY
 Douglas Clarke

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

COFFEE COUNTY

Brent Boozer
Carolyn Boozer
Joyce Purvis
Luwander Smith

COLBERT COUNTY

Howard Chappell
Ricky Williams

COVINGTON COUNTY

Dorothy Scott

CRENSHAW COUNTY

Charles Folmar
Loretta Folmar

CULLMAN COUNTY

Kevin Creel
Michelle Creel
Cynthia Hill
Phyllis Little

DALE COUNTY

Ronald Nelson
Charles Ward
Salzna Ward

DALLAS COUNTY

Clara Atkins
Debra Buchannon
Dorothy Vasser

DEKALB COUNTY

Robert Crye
Chaunda Greathouse

ELMORE COUNTY

Peggy Adams
Linda Bracks
Kathy Brantley
Cynthia Dobyne
Ellen Hamady
Richard Hamady
Mary Henninger
Richard Henninger
Joey Kreauter III
Melanie Martin
Robert Martin
Libbie Presley
Carolyn Smith
Martha Taylor
Jeffie Ward
Joy Williamson

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Betty Daw

ETOWAH COUNTY

Phillip Carr
Celetha Cunningham
Tim Ramsey

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Wanda Peppers

GREENE COUNTY

Faye Davis
Floyzelle Summerville

HALE COUNTY

James Jemison
Sheree Johnson

HOUSTON COUNTY

Mary Phillips
Patricia Stanley
Jewonia White

JACKSON COUNTY

Donna Barksdale
Cathy Cowley
James Wadkins
Gayle West

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Patricia Alexander
James Alexander Jr
Agee Baldwin
Cynthia Baldwin
Felicia Bowie
Nettie Carson Mullins
Carolyn Culpepper
E.M. Culpepper
Francene Donald
Sharon Finklea
Nancy Gaskin
Thomas Gaskin
Janice Hamilton
Gwendolyn Horn
Mohammed Huda
Joe Johnson Sr
Deshelah Latham
Jane Lee
Donald Miller Jr
Barry Page
Barbara Rancher
Jane Russell
Kimberly Sanders

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Debra Bevis
Lisa Crumbley
John Crumley
Wanda Killen
Sandra Morris

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Mae Deloney
Lee County
Janice Brown
Robert Brown
Jimmy Davis
Kimberly Davis
Dale Downing

Jan Gunter
Veronica Harris
Deanna Holley
Robert Holley
Kimberly Price
Anne Sewell
John Sewell
Sandra Webster

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Linda Alexander
Pamela Carter
Harry Cornett
Treva Cornett
Jeffrey Gordon
Kaye Gordon

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Valeri Betterton
Gerrienne Boatright
John Boatright
Elizabeth Clayton
Hershel Clayton
Theresa Cornelius
Brenda Johnson
Larry Smith

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Bobby Powe
Elouise Pugh

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OUT OF STATE
Shirley Chitwood
Gnilmarg Jones
Brenda Miller
Maria Nail
Paul Nail
Jerry Pruitt Sr
Mary Reese
Tina Robertson



Immediate Past President Ken Mays (left) with President Mike Gillespie at the June board meeting

PASSING THE GAVEL

Ken Mays, a retired state trooper from Hamilton, ended his term as president of ARSEA/APEAL in June but his positive impact will be felt by our members for years to come.

Under his leadership ARSEA/APEAL had a very successful year, which included the passage of a retiree longevity bonus and positive discussions with the legislative leadership regarding a return to retiree COLAs. He also placed an emphasis on membership recruitment.

Mays has been an active member of ARSEA/APEAL for 25 years and served on the association's board

of directors from 2001 to 2008. He returned to the board in 2014 and was later elected Vice President North prior to being elected President.

Mays was the first retiree from the Alabama Department of Public Safety to serve as state president in the 42-year history of ARSEA/APEAL. He retired from the agency in 1996 with 26 years of service as a state trooper. He earned several awards during his career for saving lives and was selected as "Trooper of the Year" in 1979 and again in 1986.

He was elected to one term as mayor of Hamilton in 1996 and worked in the 25th Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office on a part-time basis for several years.

Mays displayed an unselfish willingness to serve and an optimistic

outlook that touched everyone he encountered. "Ken Mays always answered the call to duty and worked tirelessly on behalf of his fellow retirees over the past year," ARSEA/APEAL Executive Director Liane Kelly said. "A kind and thoughtful individual who always puts others first, Ken has served our association well and will continue to be a valued resource for many years to come."

Incoming president Mike Gillespie of Huntsville took his oath of office at the quarterly board meeting last month

Under his leadership ARSEA/APEAL had a very successful year, which included the passage of a retiree longevity bonus and positive discussions with the legislative leadership regarding a return to retiree COLAs. He also placed an emphasis on membership recruitment.

and will wield the gavel at the 42nd Annual ARSEA/APEAL Convention scheduled for September 21 -22 in Prattville.

“With Mike [Gillespie], you’ve got a good one,” Ken Mays said. “He’s going to make a good president. He’s smart and sharp. He’ll do well, but we all need to pitch in and help him when we can.”

Gillespie was elected as chairman of the Madison County Commission in 1980 and served in that position for 32 years until his retirement in 2012.

He has held a seat on our board of directors since 2014 and served as chairman of the association’s Friends of Retirees and Employees Political Action Committee board for five years.

Gillespie chairs Alabama’s Local Government Health Insurance Board, which oversees the health insurance program participating cities and counties provide to their active and retired employees and last year he was elected as the Local Government At-Large representative on the



Pictured left to right. Newly installed Officers President Mike Gillespie, Vice President South Central Norris Green and President-Elect Thomas Moore.

Employees’ Retirement System (ERS) Board of Control.

“As the long-serving commission chairman for one of Alabama’s most populated and fastest-growing counties, Mike Gillespie proved himself to be a strong leader and able administrator,” Executive Director Kelly said. “We are happy that he has continued serving others even in his retirement and look forward to his service as our state president over the next year.”

MEET YOUR NEWLY ELECTED DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS

DISTRICT 1 – PAT WISE

Pat Wise retired from the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) in 2012 with 31 years of service as the Buyer-Fleet Manager for the General Services Department. She has held numerous offices in the JCDH Chapter of ARSEA, and currently serves as chapter president. She is beginning her second term on the ARSEA Board of Directors representing the members of District 1. Wise works part-time for the City of Pinson as an assistant to the City Clerk.

DISTRICT 2 – ELLA JONES

Ella Stubbs-Jones retired in December 2008 after 30 years of service in state government. She worked almost four years for the Alabama Department of Pensions and Security and more than 26 years in the Alabama Department of Revenue, retiring as a revenue manager.



She attended Troy University, the University of South Alabama and Auburn University-Montgomery, where she became a Certified Public Manager. Stubbs-Jones has been involved in her local ARSEA chapter since 2009. She is now beginning a second term on the ARSEA Board representing the members of District 2.

DISTRICT 6 – REBEKAH CORNELISON

Rebekah Cornelison retired from the Department of Labor as an employment service representative in 2017 and joined ARSEA/APEAL before retirement. During her state service, Cornelison conducted workshops and

represented the Career Center at job fairs. In 2017, she was appointed to fill an unexpired term as the District 6 board representative. She is now beginning her second term on the board.

DISTRICT 8 – CLARENCE “BUBBA” BLUE III

Clarence “Bubba” Blue of Union Springs retired from the Alabama Department of Public Safety in 1994 following 26 years of service. He worked on the executive security detail for four years and was once named Eufaula Post’s “Trooper of the Year.” He is currently employed as the part-time E-911 coordinator for Bullock County. He was vice-president of the Alabama State Troopers’ Association for eight years. Blue has been a member of ARSEA for 20 years. He and his wife, Kathy Barfoot Blue, raised 2 children, Matthew (deceased) and Katie Griffin.

DISTRICT 10 – JACKIE PEAKE

Jackie Peake was the assistant executive director of the Selma Housing Authority and was appointed to the Selma Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, where she served for ten years. Since her retirement in 2011, she has been active in working with ARSEA/APEAL to secure funding for the Selma Housing Authority retiree bonus. This will be her second term on the ARSEA Board representing the members of District 10.

DISTRICT 12 – CAMILLIA RATLIFF-EATMAN

Camilla Ratliff-Eatman retired as the county coordinator for the Alabama Tombigbee Regional Commission in 2012 where she was responsible for creating programs benefiting senior citizens and providing adult education opportunities. She graduated from U.S. Jones High School and earned a BA in Business Administration from Stillman College. She is a director at Friends of Theo Ratliff Activity Center in Demopolis, past president of Mothers of Professional Basketball Players organization, and is a member of the Stillman College Women’s Organization.

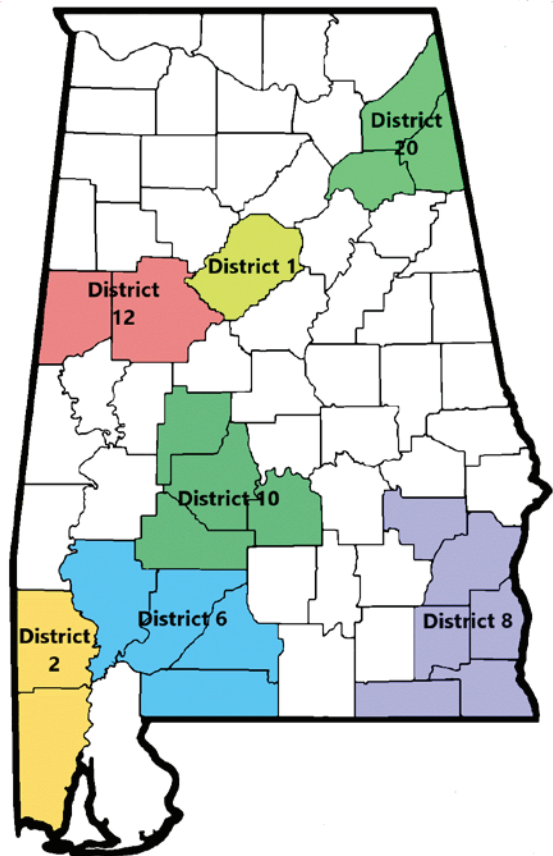
DISTRICT 20 – JOHNNY GRANT

Johnny M. Grant retired from the Etowah County Commission in 2013. He began his service in 1975 with the Altoona Police Department and later became an



Pictured left to right: District 2 Ella Jones, District 1 Pat Wise, District 6 Rebekah Cornelison, District 20 Johnny Grant, and District 8 Bubba Blue

Etowah County Deputy Sheriff. After retirement, he was elected to the Etowah County Commission and currently serves as the presiding officer. Grant was presented the Medal of Valor and was commended by the Alabama House and Senate for his actions following the 2011 tornados. In November of 2021, he was inducted into the Patriot’s Hall of Honor and was recognized on Patriots Day in Etowah County. Grant is the current president of the Etowah County Chapter of ARSEA.





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