

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

# Advantage

DECEMBER 2023 | VOLUME XIX, ISSUE IV

ARSEA/APEAL

## Christmas Open House and Silent Auction

Wednesday, December 13  
1pm to 6pm

Convention Highlights • End of Year Giving

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## DECEMBER 2023



**4** Christmas Open House and Silent Auction



**6** The ARSEA Foundation

**8** State Health Insurance Increase



**7** Medicare Open Enrollment

**11** Convention Highlights

**15** Second Chance Bonuses

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](http://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](mailto: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

We are currently preparing for the upcoming 2024 regular session of the Legislature, which is scheduled to convene in February. Let it be

clear that our agenda consists of one major objective - passing ARSEA/APEAL's legislation that allows the state to return to regular, recurring COLA-style payments to retirees without adversely affecting the finances of the Retirement Systems of Alabama.

Our COLA plan is a pay-as-you-go system requiring the Legislature to fund each year's payments before they are awarded. The proposal does not increase the unfunded liability of the RSA or subject the pension plan to any long-term financial commitments.

For the past six consecutive years, state employees have received cost-of-living raises from the Legislature in addition to their regular merit and performance raises, and while we certainly do not begrudge those hard-earned raises, it leads us to question why Alabama's record-breaking economy has not resulted in COLAs for retirees, as well.

As employees, you were told that "You will have a good retirement benefit that will keep you current with the cost of living." Now it is time for the lawmakers we elect to keep that promise. With legislators home for the holidays and the session starting soon, it is the perfect opportunity to remind your senator and house member of your public service. Let them know that we have been patient and understanding, but with inflation eating away at the value of retirement benefits faster than ever before, it is time to demand immediate action.

Many of Alabama's retirees are suffering while retirees in neighboring states are receiving COLAs again. In Mississippi, retirees receive a "thirteenth check," and retirees in Georgia are given a one-and-a-half percent COLA twice annually. The last COLA for Alabama retirees was awarded 17 years ago, in 2006.

Phone calls, letters, emails, and personal, one-on-one contacts when you see them in public are effective methods of conveying our message. In all cases, it is important to be polite, concise, and appreciative when communicating with lawmakers. Stay on point, and do not confuse the matter by mentioning other issues that have nothing to do with our retiree COLA.

ARSEA/APEAL was founded 43 years ago to protect and improve retiree benefits, and it remains our supreme and overriding mission to this day.

Many thanks to all of our members for supporting us so we can continue advocating for your retirement benefits. We wish all of you a joyous Christmas and a happy holiday season.

ARSEA/APEAL was founded 43 years ago to protect and improve retiree benefits, and it remains our supreme and overriding mission to this day.

# Silent Auction Items

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1. The Grand Hotel Resort & Spa* (2 nights) .....                   | Value \$988  |
| 2. Renaissance Battle House Hotel & Spa in Mobile* (2 nights) ..... | Value \$608  |
| 3. Auburn Marriott Opelika at Grand National* (2 nights) .....      | Value \$528  |
| 4. Alabama State Parks* (2 nights) .....                            | Value \$475  |
| 5. Renaissance Battle House Mobile* (1 night) .....                 | Value \$230  |
| 6. Wind Creek Wetumpka* (1 night) .....                             | Value \$275  |
| 7. Renaissance Riverview Plaza Mobile* (1 night) .....              | Value \$230  |
| 8. Marriott Prattville Capitol Hill* (1 night) .....                | Value \$225  |
| 9. IP Casino Resort Spa Biloxi* (1 night) .....                     | Value \$225  |
| 10. Jamey Reed Fine Art Family Portrait .....                       | Value \$1000 |
| 11. Harriott II Riverboat Cruise for Two, Montgomery .....          | Value \$140  |
| 12. Skullcandy Bluetooth Headphones .....                           | Value \$135  |
| 13. Ancestry DNA Genetic Test Kit .....                             | Value \$100  |
| 14. Montgomery Whitewater Day Passes (2) .....                      | Value \$80   |
| 15. Bee Kind Gift Basket .....                                      | Value \$70   |
| 16. Dak's Spice Collection .....                                    | Value \$60   |
| 17. JBL Waterproof Bluetooth Speaker .....                          | Value \$50   |
| 18. Christmas Angel Book .....                                      | Value \$35   |
| 19. Motif Essential Pour Over Style Coffee Brewer .....             | Value \$179  |
| 20. Autumn Road print by James Morris, Jr. ....                     | Value \$175  |
| 21. Pleasant Hill print by James Morris, Jr. ....                   | Value \$175  |
| 22. Break in the Storm print by James Morris, Jr. ....              | Value \$150  |
| 23. Bellingrath Gardens Magic Christmas in Lights (4 Tickets) ..... | Value \$80   |
| 24. Tuscaloosa Swag Basket .....                                    | Value \$100  |

\*Blackout dates may apply

## Proxy Bid Sheet

Place your maximum bids next to the corresponding item number and we will place your bids in \$10 increments up to the amount that you have authorized. **Please return your bid sheet no later than December 10th** to ARSEA Foundation, 450 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL. You may also email your bids to [retire@arsea.org](mailto:retire@arsea.org) or call our office at 334-834-9116 to place your bids over the phone. You may also follow us on our Facebook page @ARSEAAPEAL for the most current list of updated items.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

|                                       |   |   |  |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| <b>1. \$</b> _____<br>Grand Hotel     | <b>2. \$</b> _____<br>Battle House 2 nights | <b>3. \$</b> _____<br>Mariott Opelika         | <b>4. \$</b> _____<br>AL State Parks               | <b>5. \$</b> _____<br>Battle House 1 night   | <b>6. \$</b> _____<br>Wind Creek              |
| <b>7. \$</b> _____<br>Riverview Plaza | <b>8. \$</b> _____<br>Marriott Prattville   | <b>9. \$</b> _____<br>IP Casino Resort        | <b>10. \$</b> _____<br>Family Portrait             | <b>11. \$</b> _____<br>Harriott II Riverboat | <b>12. \$</b> _____<br>Headphones             |
| <b>13. \$</b> _____<br>Ancestry Kit   | <b>14. \$</b> _____<br>Whitewater           | <b>15. \$</b> _____<br>Bee Kind Gift Basket   | <b>16. \$</b> _____<br>Dak's Spice                 | <b>17. \$</b> _____<br>Speaker               | <b>18. \$</b> _____<br>Angel Book             |
| <b>19. \$</b> _____<br>Coffee Brewer  | <b>20. \$</b> _____<br>Autumn Road - Morris | <b>21. \$</b> _____<br>Pleasant Hill - Morris | <b>22. \$</b> _____<br>Break in the Storm - Morris | <b>23. \$</b> _____<br>Bellingrath Gardens   | <b>24. \$</b> _____<br>Tuscaloosa Swag Basket |

*New items may be added later! Please email [retire@arsea.org](mailto:retire@arsea.org) or call 334-834-9116, 800-844-7732 for an updated bid sheet.*

# CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE & FOUNDATION SILENT AUCTION

You are invited to attend our annual Christmas Open House and Silent Auction benefiting the ARSEA Foundation, which is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, December 13th from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the ARSEA office, located at 450 South Union Street in Montgomery.

Finger foods, holiday sweets, and refreshments will be available to all who come to share fellowship with our staff, board members, elected officials, and dignitaries. Staff from the Retirement Systems of Alabama, State Employees Insurance Board, AMBA, and UnitedHealth Care join us for the event along with many other benefit and service providers.

An impressive number of quality items, including hotel and travel packages, will be offered in the Silent Auction, which is the major fundraiser for our Foundation, and we encourage everyone to bid. This is a great opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts or to treat yourself while also supporting the ARSEA Foundation.

## **If you are unable to attend in person, you can still participate by proxy bidding.**

Bid sheets will detail items in the auction and allow you to designate the maximum amount that you would be willing to bid on an item. Once we have received your bid sheet, our staff will bid for you (in \$10 increments) up to the maximum amount that you authorize. Winners who are not present will be notified by phone.

## **Item descriptions and bidding instructions**

A variety of vacation packages, art prints, electronics, housewares, home decor, and unique, "Made in Alabama" gift items and baskets are available for bidding and new items will continue to be added to the list (see previous page). To request an updated bid sheet, call us at 334-834-9116 or e-mail [retire@arsea.org](mailto:retire@arsea.org).

Support the Silent Auction by donating an item or making a "Shop for Me" monetary donation. If you would like to further support the work of the Foundation, members are invited to donate items to the auction with a minimum retail value of \$75. Or, if you would like us to carefully select an item on your behalf, you can make checks payable to the ARSEA Foundation and mail them to:  
450 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104  
(include "Silent Auction" on the memo line). All donations to the Silent Auction are tax deductible under IRS regulations.

**Follow us on our Facebook page @ARSEAAPEAL or scan this QR code to view more information on items up for bid on our website.**



## Thank you to our donors thus far:

Retirement Systems of Alabama  
Alabama State Parks  
Renaissance and Marriott  
Properties  
Porch Creek Indians  
IP Casino  
Jamey Reed Fine Art  
DAK's  
Montgomery Whitewater and  
Harriott II

Glitter and Glam with Connie  
Sharon's Stones  
Doodah's Doodads  
Shop for Me donors  
Dr. James E. Morris, Jr  
(posthumously)  
Peggy Harris  
Ken and Mary Helen Mahan

**Please look for more items advertised on our updated bid sheets. If you would like more information or to place a bid on one of these items, please take note of the item number and call our office at 334-834-9116.**

# THE ARSEA FOUNDATION



As the year-end deadline to make tax-deductible contributions fast approaches, we encourage you to make the ARSEA Foundation a recipient of your generosity this year.

Founded in 1997, the ARSEA Foundation is the charitable arm of ARSEA/APEAL, and it financially supports programs and initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for older Alabamians.

We are proud to provide financial assistance to organizations such as the Alabama Department of Senior Services, the Area Agencies on Aging, the Alabama Silver Haired Legislature, the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, and other worthy organizations. However, to continue providing support to these important programs, we need your help.

The ARSEA Foundation is a certified 501c (3) charitable organization, and your donations are tax-deductible as per IRS regulations. Monetary donations will be acknowledged through a letter which can be used for tax purposes.

There are various ways to support the ARSEA Foundation and we hope you will find one or more of the following options suitable for you:

**General Donations** – We appreciate any donation, no matter how big or small. Every contribution helps! The generosity of our members allows us to achieve our mission more effectively.

**Silent Auction-Shop for Me** – You can donate unique or popular items such as electronics, home accessories, themed gift baskets, power tools or Christmas items for our Annual Silent Auction. Or, you can make a monetary donation, and we will purchase items for the auction on your behalf. For more information, please see page \_\_\_\_.

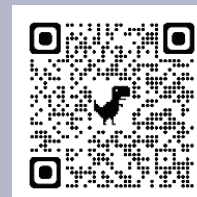
**End-of-Year Giving** – For the 2023 tax year, taxpayers can deduct charitable contributions if they itemize their tax deductions using Schedule A of Form 1040. Charitable contribution deductions for cash contributions to charities and foundations are limited to up to 60% of a taxpayer's adjusted gross income. Donating cash from the sale of depreciated securities, offsetting capital gains tax, and satisfying an IRA-required minimum distribution are good financial strategies for end-of-year giving.

**In Remembrance** – Many families request donations to a favorite cause or charity “in lieu of flowers” after a loved one passes. If you donate in memory of someone, their family will receive a card notifying them of your gift of remembrance.

**Honor Someone** – Donating in someone's name is a unique and meaningful way to honor an extraordinary person or commemorate a special occasion. An honorarium is also a great gift idea for the person who has everything or a simple “thank you” to someone special. The honoree will receive a card notifying them of your gift.

**Plaza of Memories** – You can leave a lasting legacy by purchasing an engraved brick in the “Plaza of Memories” as a permanent part of the landscape at our office complex in Montgomery. These bricks are a lasting memorial to honor those who have contributed to the growth and development of ARSEA/APEAL. The cost per brick is \$125.

1. To donate, you can use the form on the following page or visit our secure website. You can access the website by scanning the QR code below with your phone or by visiting <https://www.arsea.org/index.php/foundation/foundation-donation>
2. Please make checks payable to The ARSEA Foundation and mail it to 450 South Union, Montgomery, AL 36104.
3. For other payment options or if you need more information, please email us at [retire@arsea.org](mailto:retire@arsea.org) or call us at 334-834-9116 or 800-844-7732.





- ☐ General Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Silent Auction "Shop for Me" \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ End of Year Giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \*In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \*Plaza of Memories \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 125.00

*\*An "Additional Information Needed Form" will be sent once we receive your donation.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Medicare Open Enrollment season is upon us, which means your mailbox gets bombarded with advertisements and your television is filled with commercials about Medicare Advantage plans. For most Medicare retirees, October 15th – Dec. 7th is, by far, the most confusing time of year, but ARSEA/APEAL stands ready to assist you through this period.

Medicare enrollees receive an Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) letter from their insurance companies each September to advise what changes may affect their plan for the following year. Premiums can increase; benefits may change and there may also be changes in prescription drug coverage. Since plans change every year, it is important to compare the benefits and out-of-pocket costs and determine the plan that is best suited for you.

**State retirees covered under the State Employees Insurance Plan (SEIB) and local government retirees covered under the Local Government Health Insurance Plan (LGHIP) - No action is necessary on your part.**

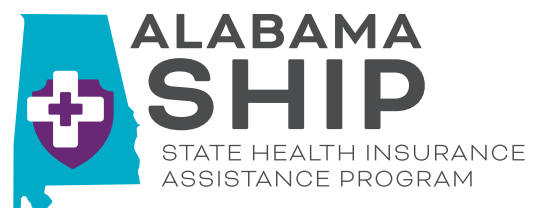
Your Medicare coverage is managed by the SEIB or LGHIB under a group plan. They have selected UnitedHealthcare (UHC) to offer a custom UnitedHealthcare Group Medicare Advantage (PPO) plan for all eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents. If you have questions, please call SEIB at 866-836-9737 or LGHIB at 866-836-9137,

and they will provide the necessary answers.

For all others on Medicare, **we strongly advise** you to consult with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and **review your current Medicare plan** during this time to make an informed choice.

SHIP provides insurance counselors, many of whom face the same issues you do. The counselors are not affiliated with any insurance companies and will not attempt to sell you insurance. All Medicare retirees are eligible and there is no cost for this service. SHIP is a partnership with the Centers for Medicare, the Alabama Department of Senior Services, and the Area Agencies on Aging.

If you need further assistance, please contact the SHIP in your area through your local Area Agency on Aging or by calling the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 1-800-AGE-LINE (243-5463).



# STATE HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASE FORCED BY INSUFFICIENT LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION

During the 2023 regular legislative session the State Employees’ Insurance Board (SEIB) requested an appropriation amount that would prevent any increases in out-of-pocket costs to plan participants. While lawmakers did increase the overall allocation from the previous year, they did not fully meet the amount requested by SEIB. As a result, the insurance board was forced to make some difficult decisions this year to keep the health insurance plan financially sound by implementing a series of benefit adjustments.

While it is too late to adjust the current appropriation, we encourage all members to contact their House and Senate members and insist that they provide **FULL FUNDING** for our state insurance benefits for 2024.

“With inflation continuing to escalate the costs of goods, services, and necessities nationwide, the additional insurance fees and co-pays place an unfair and unnecessary burden on state retirees living on fixed incomes, especially without a COLA to offset the increases,” ARSEA President Thomas Moore said. “We must remind our legislators that we are watching their actions in Montgomery closely, and we expect them to keep our insurance affordable.”

Fortunately, the contract with United Healthcare will continue to provide basic health coverage **with no increased costs** for Medicare retirees until the end of 2024. Beginning in January, however, Medicare retirees enrolled in SEIB’s supplemental dental plan will see premiums increase by \$7.00 a month for singles and \$9.00 for families.

Employees and retirees under 65 years of age who do not yet qualify for Medicare will face additional coverage changes, and a list of those adjustments may be found by visiting <https://www.alseib.org/Information/Contact.aspx> or calling SEIB at 866-836-9737.

## CHANGES FOR THE 2024 PLAN YEAR

The SEIB is thankful to have received \$40 million in ARPA funds to help cover the cost of COVID-19 claims, which certainly helped bridge the funding gap we faced for 2024. However, the SEIB did not receive the requested funding level that would have allowed your out-of-pocket expenses and benefits to remain the same. This means the Board had to make some difficult decisions this year to keep the plan financially sound. The Board worked diligently to lessen the financial impact on any one member. The changes made to premiums and benefits for the 2024 plan year are as follows:

| Premiums   | Current | New   | Increase |
|--|---------|-------|----------|
| Spousal Surcharge*   |         |       |          |
| Without Waiver   | \$50    | \$50  | \$0      |
| With Waiver  | \$0     | \$25  | \$25     |
| Dental   |         |       |          |
| Single   | \$8     | \$15  | \$7      |
| Family   | \$15    | \$24  | \$9      |
| Vision & Cancer  |         |       |          |
| Single   | \$12    | \$15  | \$3      |
| Non-Tobacco User Discount  | \$60    | \$65  | \$5      |
| *New spousal surcharge rates apply to active and non-Medicare spouses. Medicare spousal surcharge remains \$50 without waiver and \$0 with waiver. |         |       |          |
| Medical Plan   | Current | New   | Increase |
| Hospital Deductible  | \$200   | \$250 | \$50     |
| Nurse Practitioner Visit   | \$20    | \$35  | \$15     |
| Urgent Care Visit  | \$50    | \$75  | \$25     |
| Mental Health Visit**  | \$14    | \$35  | \$21     |
| ER & Surgical Facility   | \$150   | \$250 | \$100    |

\*\*In compliance with the Mental Health Parity Act, the SEHIP changed the mental health copays, deductibles, and medical guidelines to mirror medical benefits.





# THE ALABAMA SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE

During the first week of October, members of the Alabama Silver-Haired Legislature (ASHL) convened in the House Chamber of the Alabama State House to discuss issues important to Alabamians. The ASHL approved five resolutions it will send to Governor Kay Ivey and the Alabama Legislature along with a recommendation that each is enacted into law. The resolutions include:

- Allowing Alabama residents to vote on legalizing a state-operated lottery with proceeds benefiting the state's General Fund, Education Trust Fund, and Area Agencies on Aging.
- Earmarking .005 percent of annual revenues from a state lottery to the Alabama Department of Senior Services.
- Legislation abolishing predatory lending businesses.
- Adopting the Medicaid expansion opportunity offered by the federal government.
- Increasing legal protections for senior citizens and enacting harsher penalties for the criminals who prey on them.

ASHL has submitted resolutions in previous sessions, some of which have led to the creation of laws such as the Silver Alert notification system for missing seniors, the statewide ban on texting while driving, the Elder Abuse Statute, and stronger nursing home regulations.

Several members of our association participate as representatives in the

ASHL, and Steve Griffin, the husband of FOREPAC Chair Jane Griffin, announced it would be his last session after serving six years as Speaker and presiding officer. We thank and congratulate him for his service.

ASHL is comprised of 105 members, who are selected from legislative districts, just like the Alabama House of Representatives. But unlike the Legislature, the body is unicameral, which means it has only one chamber instead of two and is non-partisan. Elections for the ASHL are conducted by the 13 Area Agencies on Aging in May of each election cycle, and to be eligible, a representative must be a registered voter who is 60 years old or older and resides in the district they represent.

If you want to learn more about the Alabama Silver Haired Legislature or if you are interested in serving in the body, you can contact your local Area Agency on Aging by calling 1-800-AGE-LINE (243-5463).



*Pictured Left to Right: Louise Grant, Sandra Kent, Ella Jones, Jane Griffin, ASHL Speaker Steve Griffin and Barbara Wheeler*

# LONGTIME LEADERS INDUCTED INTO THE SENIOR CITIZENS HALL OF FAME

Peggy Harris of Cullman and Carolyn Middleton of Montgomery were among the 10 Alabamians recently inducted into the state's prestigious Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

Harris joined ARSEA/APEAL in 1996 soon after retiring from the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service as a county agent with 31 years of service, and she currently sits on the ARSEA Board of Directors as Vice President North.

Deeply involved in charitable and community causes, Harris, a past president of the Pilot Club and her local Women's Club, currently serves as secretary of Cullman's Pilot Light Board. She is also active in the United Way and Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce.

Middleton retired as State Budget Officer in 2013 but has been a member of ARSEA/APEAL since 1997. She is currently serving as the elected retiree representative for Place 1 on the State Employees' Insurance Board and also holds a seat on the ARSEA/APEAL Board of Directors.

Since her retirement, she has continued to serve others by volunteering her time to Medical Outreach Ministries in Montgomery and to Frazer Free Methodist Church.

ARSEA offers our congratulations to both of these outstanding leaders for their recognition by the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

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# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 43RD ANNUAL CONVENTION

President Thomas Moore presided over the 43rd ARSEA/APEAL Convention held at RSA's Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel in Mobile. Among the highlights of the two-day meeting were:

- The Legislative Reception and Opening Dinner, which was hosted by our Friends of Retirees and Employees Political Action Committee and sponsored by United Healthcare, attracted several area legislators and local government officials. Former State Rep. Mike Ball, a member of ARSEA/APEAL, provided our entertainment with "Pickin', Politicin', and Pontificatin", a musical presentation about his life and career as a "reformed politician." The evening ended with the annual FOREPAC Raffle, which raised \$3,456 and awarded \$1,000 in cash prizes.
- The ARSEA Foundation Benefits Fair sponsored by Investor Protection Trust Grant provided convention attendees the opportunity to visit with vendors, benefit providers, and others who promoted products and provided information on the services they offer.
- The Annual Business Meeting sponsored by the Alabama State Employees Credit Union featured remarks from ARSEA/APEAL President Thomas Moore on his plans for the coming year. The audience also heard reports on association finances, membership, FOREPAC, and a legislative update from Executive Director Liane Kelly. Governor Kay Ivey keynoted the business meeting and provided our members with a "State of the State" overview as she discussed current issues.
- The President's Luncheon sponsored by PCI included a charitable contribution presentation from ARSEA Foundation President Jerry Fielding to the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) administered by the Alabama Department of Senior Services. James Robeson, a regional coordinator of SHIP, gave the keynote address educating attendees about the agency's efforts to assist seniors in making informed choices about their Medicare options.



*Jerry Fielding, ARSEA Foundation President presented a contribution to James Roberson SHIP Coordinator and the Agency on Aging Director Julie McGee during the luncheon program.*



*Former State Representative Mike Ball*



*Charlie Jo and  
2023-24 President  
Thomas Moore*



Vice President Mike Sparks and Sheila Sparks



Kyle Callaghan of Mobile with Cecil and Chris McElvaine of Tallassee



Some of our members from District 16 with FOREPAC DAC Stan Skipworth

Thank You for supporting the 2023ARSEA/APEAL Convention

## SPONSORS



## EXHIBITORS

AARP Alabama  
Alabama State Employees' Insurance Board (SEIB)  
Alabama State Health Insurance Program (SHIP)  
Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA)  
Better Business Bureau  
Humana Medicare

Local Government Health Insurance Board (LGHIB)  
Retirement Systems of Alabama  
Social Security  
Southern Cancer Center  
Vascular Associates of South Alabama  
Wind Creek





*Past Presidents (L to R Front) Gene Brown, Jane Griffin and Clyde Sellers, (L to R Back) Ronald Griffith, James Fibbe, Jerry Fielding*



*Governor Kay Ivey with President Thomas Moore*

"During your respective careers of public service whether to the state, county, or city government - or in some cases all three levels - you have each contributed to Alabama's successful growth," Ivey said. "As a former state employee, myself, and someone who has dedicated nearly my entire working career to advancing the quality of life in Alabama, I truly appreciate the positive impact of our current and retired government workers."

"Folks, I truly believe Alabama is on the right track, and you deserve a share of the credit," Ivey said. "Your hard work for the people of Alabama has laid the foundation upon which we are building a bright future for our state."





*Executive Director Liane Kelly AMBA Representatives*



*Barbara Wheeler, Representative Chris Pringle, and Executive Director Liane Kelly*



*President Thomas Moore presents grand prize to Willie Horton*



*District 14 Board Member Cookie Adair makes contribution to the Foundation*



*Wind Creek joined exhibitors for our Benefits Fair Breakfast*



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT “SECOND CHANCE” BONUSES

During the 2023 regular session, ARSEA/APEAL drafted and convinced the Legislature to enact our “Second Chance Bonus Bill,” which allowed local governments that failed to award their retirees the 2022 bonus another chance to reconsider.

Unlike state retiree bonuses, which are funded through the passage of a single bill, local bonuses demand a two-step process - passage of statewide legislation and approval from each local government to fund them.

Passing the “Second Chance Bonus Bill” allowed us to target our lobbying efforts and place more pressure on those areas that denied their retirees a much-needed financial boost.

We are proud to report that 23,100 local government retirees received approximately \$13.2 million in bonuses as a direct result of our legislative and lobbying efforts over the past two years.

We are also grateful to our members who made contacts, attended city council and county commission meetings, and provided other assistance in this effort.

Eligible retirees from the following Local Governments that approved the 2023 “Second Chance” Bonus will receive their much-awaited longevity bonuses in December.

**63 Counties, 196 Cities  
283 Public Boards**

**23,100** local government retirees  
received the bonus

**MORE THAN \$13 MILLION** funded  
by local governments

## COUNTIES

Chilton  
Cleburne  
Greene  
Madison  
Marengo

Harpersville

Hokes Bluff

Irondale

Montevallo

Pine Hill

Sumiton

Snead

Smiths Station

Thomaston

Triana

Wilton

## CITIES

Anniston  
Bear Creek  
Camden  
Chelsea  
Dadeville  
Fairhope  
Flomaton  
Gulf Shores  
Greensboro  
Grove Hill

## PUBLIC BOARDS

Andalusia Housing Authority  
Clayton Water & Sewer Board  
Covington County Water Authority  
Collinsville Water Works Board  
Enterprise Housing Authority  
Gulf Shores Utilities Board  
Brantley Housing Authority  
Ashland Housing Authority  
Historic Blakeley Authority  
Horseshoe Bend Regional Library  
Chambers County Industrial  
Development Authority  
Jackson County Economic  
Development Authority  
John Paul Jones Hospital  
Lee-Russell Council Of Governments  
Leeds Water Works Board  
Leeds Housing Authority

Mobile Water Service  
Macon County Racing Commission  
Mobile County Personnel Board  
Marshall County Community Corrections  
Orange Beach Water, Sewer & Fire  
Opelika Housing Authority  
Pell City Housing Authority  
Russell County Soil Water  
Conservation District  
St. Clair County Hospital  
St. Clair County Industrial  
Development Board  
South Central Mental Health Center  
Talladega County E-911  
Tri-County MR/DD Board  
West Etowah County Water Authority  
Wilcox County Gas District  
Wetumpka Water & Sewer Board



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