



INTERLINK

CONNECTING ARKANSAS'S RETIRED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

Volume 62, Number 1 | Parkview Towers • 1200 Commerce Street Ste 103 • Little Rock, AR 72202 • 501-375-2958 | Fall 2019

CONVENTION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Form on Page 4

Address changes
and corrections:
office_arta@att.net
888-929-0955
501-375-2958

ATRS Benefit Payment Schedule

Checks Mailed
Direct Deposit Dates

September 26, 2019

October 28, 2019

November 27, 2019

December 23, 2019



Find and like us on
Facebook to see
upcoming events, travel
photos, member news
and important
announcements.

Annual ARTA State Convention Planned for October

All ARTA members are invited to attend the Annual ARTA State Convention on October 29, 2019 in Benton, Arkansas. Registration will open at 9:00 a.m. in the lobby of the Benton Event Center. The event center is located at 17322 I-30 behind the Fairfield Inn.

The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a general business session, followed by reports on the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, insurance, travel, and more. The program will also include an awards presentation, entertainment and other special guests.

Participants are encouraged to come prepared to bid on silent auction items as well as to gather information from colleagues and from select vendors and exhibitors.

Any changes or additions to the convention schedule will be posted on the ARTA web site at www.arta-now.com.

Registration for the convention is \$30, which includes lunch. Early registration is encouraged to ensure adequate planning. A registration form is located on page 4.

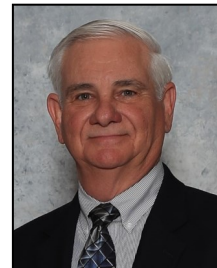
ARTA Leadership Advancements for 2019-2020



Lura Campbell
President



Emilie Monk
President-elect



David Cauldwell
Vice President



Mary Ann Hodges
Secretary

David Cauldwell began his term as ARTA vice president on July 1 2019.

Mr. Cauldwell is a graduate of Rogers High School and the University of Arkansas. His Bachelors degree in Public Administration led to a long career in public service prior to his becoming the business manager for Rogers Public Schools, where he retired in 2013.

While actively employed, David represented support staff personnel as a trustee on the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System board. Since retiring, he has represented Area VII on the ARTA board. He has also been instrumental in forming the Rogers Retired Teachers unit in

Benton County.

David has been recognized for his work on reforming school finance at both the district and state levels. He has also been inducted into the Mountaineer Athletic Hall of Fame and is a Rogers Public Education Foundation Wall of Distinction honoree.

David and his wife Betty live in Rogers and enjoy their retirement fishing, boating, traveling and babysitting eleven grandchildren.

He was nominated by Area VII in accordance with the ARTA constitution, which rotates the

Continued, page 7

Message from the President

Gifts for ARTA

“Use your gifts and together, we will.” This is my theme for the year. Some of you may be wondering, “What does this mean? I haven’t had any gifts delivered to my door.” The gifts that I am referring to are the gifts that you open each day and carry with you at all times. These are the gifts that arrived at the same moment that you entered the world. Some of you may think that you don’t have any gifts or that your gifts are not useful. Think again! We all have them. It is your job to determine what your gifts are and how your gifts may be useful in any given situation.



I asked our ARTA Board members to tell me about their gifts. Some of their responses included the gift of organization, patience, dedication, gab (we all have that one), communication, decisiveness, persuasion, encouragement, listening, involvement, motivation, humor, tenacity, compassion, creativity, support, resourcefulness, sensitivity, determination, learning, enthusiasm, practicality, multi-tasking, survival, caring, gathering information, surrounding yourself with the right people, kindness and the list goes on. Some of the gifts that were a little bit of a stretch were weed eating, spoiling grandchildren and pie making. Although, I do love a good pie!

So, back to my theme: “Use your gifts and together, we will.” Not “we can” but “we WILL!” Now you are probably thinking, “Together we will what?”. We will increase our membership. We will get the attention of our legislators. We will have great programs at our local meetings. We will travel together. We will be the voice of Arkansas’s retired school employees. Again, the list goes on. Together we are powerful. Together we will reach any goal that we aspire to attain. Together we have all of the gifts that we need.

Think about it. What is your gift? How can you use your gift to help ARTA? Unwrap those gifts so that we can get to work together. See you at the convention. I can’t wait to hear from you!

Lura Campbell
ARTA President



ARTA members from Area V working on convention decorations. The home area or unit of the ARTA president has historically been responsible for this task.

Important Contact Information

Arkansas Retired Teachers Association
Inside Pulaski County: 501-375-2958
Toll Free (Nationwide): 1-888-929-0955
Fax: 501-376-0955
E-mail: office_arta@att.net
www.artanow.com

**Arkansas Teacher Retirement System
Retirement Benefits and Checks**
Inside Pulaski County: 501-682-1517
Toll Free (Nationwide): 1-800-666-2877
E-mail: info@artsr.gov
www.artsr.gov

**Arkansas Employee Benefits Division
(Health and Life Insurance)**
Inside Pulaski County: 501-682-9656
Toll Free (Nationwide): 1-877-815-1017
E-mail: AskEBD@dfa.state.ar.us
www.arbenefits.org

Long Term Care Insurance Cancer/Heart/Stroke Dental & Vision Insurance Medicare Products

Mary Alice Hughes
Lisa Bamburg
501-988-2726
Email: info@ia-office.com
www.ia-office.com

Matt Hughes
479-967-1339
Email: matt@matthughesinsurance.com
www.matthughesinsurance.com

Delta Dental Insurance
501-988-2726
www.deltadentalar.com



The INTERLINK is published by
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1200 Commerce St Ste 103
Little Rock, AR 72202

Lura Campbell President
Emilie Monk President-elect
David Cauldwell Vice President
Mary Ann Hodges Secretary
Donna Morey Executive Director
Mary Huie Travel Manager
Tammy Gray Communications
Linda Powell Office Manager

Message from the Executive Director

Information is Power

The ARTA officers and members are continually learning from our members. One of the things we found at the area meetings this past spring was that there was a misunderstanding of the state-sponsored health coverage for **Medicare-eligible retirees**. Most of us have referred to this coverage as a “supplement” to Medicare. In reality, the correct wording is “secondary” to Medicare.

Medicare supplements are offered by insurance companies and are government standardized. ARBenefits is a “self-funded” group, not an insurance company. Therefore, it is not a true supplement and is not government standardized. As a “self-funded” plan, ARBenefits has the discretion to include or exclude services.

School retirees who are on Medicare and have this secondary coverage pay only \$100.78 a month for the plan. This premium is deducted from their ATRS check and is often substantially less than supplemental premiums.

All Medicare retirees are reminded to ask providers if they have checked with their secondary coverage before having any procedure. It is beneficial for the member to remind the provider if their coverage is “secondary” not a “supplement”.

The ARBenefits secondary plan also includes a hearing allowance (\$1400 per ear every three years) and all ARBenefits plans cover air ambulance service, provided it is medically necessary.

Contact information for EBD, which administers the ARBenefits plans, is listed in every issue of the INTERLINK. You may also want to call one of the ARTA sponsored insurance representatives. They are licensed and trained to answer any questions you may have about Medicare coverage. Their contact information is also listed in every copy of the INTERLINK.

In pension news, the Joint Legislative Committee on Retirement and Social Security Programs will be holding 10 meetings around the state in September and October. The directors of the five public state retirement systems will make presentations. If you live close to a meeting, it would be worth your time to go hear from the ATRS Director, Clint Rhoden, and to meet the legislators on the committee.

The dates and locations are available on the ARTA website at www.artanow.com/news-events. Local unit presidents have received this information directly.

The Annual ARTA State Convention will be Oct. 29th at the Benton Event Center. President Campbell is planning the program.

Start time is 10 a.m.

I am personally asking that all ARTA area meetings also start at 10 a.m. in the future. This way most members will not have to leave home before dawn to get to meetings or drive during rush hour in larger cities. Hope to see you in Benton.

Information is power! This is a great reason for each of you to be active in your local units, as well as your ARTA area. The ARTA staff is happy to visit your local units to share the information we have gleaned through the years. If you call the office and we don't know the answer, we will find out the right answer for you. Misinformation and rumors kill much of what we assume to be true.

Please stay informed and always ask questions, even if you think you know the proper answer. ARTA is here to help our members enjoy their retirement from educating the citizens of Arkansas.

Donna Morey

ARTA Executive Director



“I don't like to give advice. I like to give people information because everyone's life is different, and everyone's journey is different.”

~ Dolly Parton



An ARTA traveler reads about the First Nation Totem Poles in Stanley Park, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Silent Auction Items Sought

The Annual ARTA State Convention will include a silent auction. Individuals, local units and area councils are encouraged to donate items for the auction. Suggested items include:

- Accessories: scarves, hats, jewelry
- Home décor: candles, wreaths, wall art
- Hand-crafted items and homemade goodies
- University-themed items
- Themed gift baskets
- Unique, one-of-a-kind items

Items may be sent with an ARTA board member prior to the convention, or turned in prior to the start of the convention on the morning of October 28, 2019. Donor's name and approximate value should accompany all items.

The auction will run during the morning of the convention. All items should be paid for and taken on the day of the convention. Proceeds from the auction will be credited to the Parsons-Burnett Scholarship Fund.

Questions about the convention, silent auction, or scholarship program should be directed to the ARTA office at 501-375-2958 or tammy_arta@att.net.

Why YOU Need the ARTA Endorsed Cancer Plan

A diagnosis of cancer can be costly. Those not on Medicare have co-pays, deductibles and/or co-insurance. Medicare recipients have prescription co-pays for expensive oral chemo drugs.

And what if you want to try an experimental treatment?

Your ARTA endorsed cancer plan benefits include:

- Policy pays LUMP SUM, tax-free benefit upon diagnosis of only one, internal, malignant cancer cell.
- Benefits available to members of ARTA and family members.
- Benefits range from \$5,000 lump-sum to \$50,000 lump sum.
- Benefits available if (a) you have never been diagnosed with cancer or (b) have been treatment free for at least 10 years.
- Simple claims process!!
- Rates range from \$12 - \$60 a month for individual. Discounts available if member and spouse are covered.

For questions or to apply, contact:

If you live in these counties: Baxter, Boone, Conway, Crawford, Franklin, Garland, Howard, Johnson, Logan, Marion, Montgomery, Newton, Perry, Pike, Polk, Pope, Scott, Sebastian, Sevier or Yell:

Matt Hughes Insurance Agency
479-967-1339
matt@matthughesinsurance.com

All Other Counties:

Insurance Advantage & LMA Financial Services
501-988-2726
info@ia-office.com

Annual ARTA State Convention

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019 * Benton Event Center, Benton AR

Mail to: ARTA Convention, 1200 Commerce Street Suite 103, Little Rock, AR 72202

If you are registering multiple members, please send a list with the following information for each attendee:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ County _____
Phone _____ Email _____

CONVENTION REGISTRATION POLICY

- Registration forms with payment should be sent to ARTA by October 15, 2019.
- Luncheon reservations after October 15, 2019 will be assessed a \$10 late fee.
- **NO** luncheon reservations will be accepted after October 22, 2019.
- Paid registrations cancelled by October 22, 2019 may be refunded on request.

Business Meeting Only N/C _____
Luncheon \$30 x _____
Late Registration Fee \$10 _____
Total Due \$ _____

ARTA News

ARTA Awards Parsons-Burnett Grants for 2019

ARTA is pleased to have awarded eight Parsons-Burnett Scholarship Grants for 2019. These scholarships are given each year to support the educational advancement of practicing educators in Arkansas's public schools.

The recipients were Perla Andrade, Little Rock School District; Liseth Arana, North Little Rock School District; Meagan Daley, DeQueen Public Schools; Adam Eckard, Jonesboro Public Schools; Jon Newman, Jonesboro Public Schools; Keith Pringle, Jonesboro Public Schools; Rose Schmidt Riley, Jonesboro Public Schools; and Emily Smeltzer, Lake Hamilton School District.

The scholarships were presented to the recipients at local school board meetings by ARTA board members. Photos of the presentations can be viewed on the ARTA Facebook page.

The Parsons-Burnett Scholarship Grant Program was expanded to eight awards of \$2,000 each in 2018-19 under the leadership of Bob Thompson. To date, \$145,200 have been awarded through the program, which is funded by memorials and donations from ARTA members. Donations to the fund can be made at any time.



Welcome New Life Members

Baxter County

Nancy Easterling
Judith Ann Nail
Melanie Paden

Benton County

Paula Debusk
Diana Eikenberry
Rachel A. Ferguson
Douglas Ray Keller
Donna McKellar
Danny Paskiewicz
Lynn B. Paskiewicz
Brenda J. Smith
Martha C. White
Robert E. White
Deborah P. Woehr

Boone County

Paulette M. Jech
Elizabeth L. Johnson

Bradley County

Shirley S. Parnell
Beverly Reep
Gladys E. Young

Clark County

Karen Phillips
Pam Runyan

Clay County

Lisa Manchester

Cleburne County

Rosa Lee Spinks

Cleveland County

Susan M. Hogan

Columbia County

Paula D. Metcalf

Craighead County

Rose Marie Dale
Jackie Hale
Brenda Harbison
Roselyn Horner
John A. Masterson
Emily McNair

Crittenden County

Linda Maples

Desha County

Judy Box
Tammy Healey

Faulkner County

James Kelley
Luanne Woods Lewis
Kathi Sweere
Ted C. Whittington

Garland County

Cynthia K. McGrew
Mary Ann Sixta

Grant County

Vickie L. Nelson

Greene County

Judy C. Knight

Hempstead County

Cheryl Gamble

Hot Spring County

Catherine Mackey

Independence County

Rebecca H. Crossett
Pamela A. Dover

Jefferson County

Shirley Faye Biley

Little River County

Jan Ueckert

Logan County

Rebekah Roberts

Lonoke County

Karen Banks
Rebecca J. Perkins
Phyllis J. Stewart

Miller County

Jacque S. Smith
Lori Tibbit

Mississippi County

Carol L. Deaton

Ouachita County

James S. Brooks
Francella Sanders

Phillips County

Sanetta Davis
Ruby J. Morrow

Pike County

Susan Henderson

Pope County

Pamela Ann Jones
Sharon Keener
Ruby Mathews
Janet Winn

Pulaski County

Mary A. Green
Bruce J. Harkey
Bettye J. Lowe
Dorothy Malone
Carolyn S. Mueller
Marva D. Pearson
Yana H. Scott
Elizabeth Moore Peatross
Katherine Snyder
Connie M. Toney
Esther R. Walker-Settles
Gail Washington
Larry E. Wooldridge

Randolph County

Rena A. Graddy

Saline County

Tracye Bullock
Steve Griffith
Mary Riggins

Sebastian County

Linda Childers
Constance D. Copley

Sebastian County, cont.

Susan Echols
Elois Jean Fitting
Peggy Walter

St. Francis County

Donald Williams
Gracie Williams

Union County

Max Rowland, Jr.

Washington County

Michael Courtney
Ruth B. Gerrard
Linda Lee Haney
Eula R. Lichty
Kathy Morledge
Kathleen Riggs
Regina Rowland
William D. Rowland, Jr.

White County

Katherine M. Bridges
Belinda Burns
Pam Carpenter
Glenda Faith
Juanita H. King
Connie Kinman

Yell County

Jullie Ann Campbell

Out of State

Shirley M. Cherry
Debbie King

Area News

Area II

Area II hosted a leadership training in Batesville in August. Area leaders met to discuss ways to motivate and support the local units that make up this largely rural area.

Area III

The Craighead County RTA awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Kayla Harp. A graduate of Westside High school, Ms. Williams is attending Williams Baptist College this fall. She is pictured below with Bettye Gibson, CCRTA Scholarship Chair, her mother Melodie Vardell Harp, and Emilie Statler, CCRTA President.



St. Francis County RTA awarded a scholarship to Jasmine Morrow of Forrest City. Ms. Morrow is attending the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where she is planning to major in Elementary Education. She is pictured below with members of the St. Francis County RTA.



Area IV

Area IV hosted a leadership training in Hope in August. Participants use this annual meeting to share idea and prepare for the new membership year.

Area V

Members of the Jefferson County RTA enjoy reading to children in their local schools. As seen in the picture below, the children enjoy it as well.



Area VI

Emilie Smeltzer was awarded the first Parsons-Burnett Scholarship Grant of 2019. She is pictured here with Lura Campbell, ARTA President, Donnie Watts, Area VI Board Member, Donna Morey, ARTA Executive Director, Emilie Monk, ARTA Vice President, and Bob Thompson, Immediate Past President. Ms. Smeltzer used the scholarship to support her completion of the English for Speakers of Other Languages Academy.



Area News

Area VIII

Members of the North Little Rock School District REA attended the July NLRSD school board meeting to support Liseth Arana, a teacher in the NLRSD. Ms. Arana was a recipient of a Parsons-Burnett Scholarship Grant, which she will use to pursue a Master of Science in Professional School Counseling. Also pictured are Bobby Aclin, NLRSD Superintendent, Anita Bell, ATRS Trustee and ARTA member, and Lura Campbell, ARTA President.



Peral Andrade, a teacher in the Little Rock School District, also received a Parsons-Burnett Scholarship Grant. She is pictured above with Donna Morey, ARTA Executive Director and Michael Poore, LRSD. Also pictured are Ella Walker-Rolfe, Rita Bledsoe and Sandra McFadden, ARTA members and members of the local Little Rock Retired Teachers unit.

PLEASE NOTE: Photos of all Parsons-Burnett scholarship recipients were not available by press time. You can view them on our Facebook page.

ARTA Leadership, *continued*

ARTA leadership between membership areas. His nomination will be presented to the full membership for approval at the state convention in October.

Also in accordance with the constitution, **Lura Campbell** has advanced to the office of president, and Emilie Monk has advanced to the office of president-elect.

Ms. Campbell is a Pine Bluff native and current resident of White Hall. She is a graduate of Pine Bluff High School. She graduated from Arkansas State Teachers College, now UCA, with a BSE in Mathematics and from Auburn University with an M.Ed. She taught mathematics for 31 years in the Pine Bluff School District, retiring in 1998.

Lura has one daughter, Suzanne Bergeron who is married to Tony Bergeron. They are the parents of triplets Max, Sydney and Zack.

Lura is a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Pine Bluff. She has served as membership chairperson for the Jefferson County RTA, as ARTA Area V Co-Director and Director and as ARTA Vice President and President-elect.

Emilie Monk, ARTA President-elect, retired in 2006 after 36 years of teaching. She spent her last 23 years at Bryant Public Schools. She holds a lifetime Arkansas Teaching Certificate.

Emilie served as president of the Saline County RTA for four years and first joined the ARTA board as an at-large member.

Emilie is also a member of numerous other organizations, including the Garland County Master Gardeners Association, the Arkansas Native Plant Society and the Audubon Society. Among her favorite pastimes is volunteering for numerous jobs at Garvan Woodland Gardens.

She has two daughters living in Bryant and three granddaughters whom she adores.

Mary Ann Hodges was elected by the ARTA board of directors to serve as board secretary. She is a graduate of Trumann High School. She has BSE and MSE degrees from Arkansas State University. Her teaching career included three years in her home town of Trumann and 34 years in Jonesboro Public Schools. She enjoyed her years of teaching and the students and co-workers.

She has previously served as the Craighead County RTA President and as Area III Director. She serves to keep herself and her area ARTA members informed about educational issues.

She also serve as a volunteer with the Helping Neighbors Food Pantry of Craighead County. She sings in her church choir at Central Baptist Church. She is enjoying retirement, participating in tai chi as well as walking and exercising at the NEA Wellness Center. She loves to travel and does so often.

Mary Ann is married with a son, a daughter, and two wonderful grandsons.

Watch for Details

Watch for more information about these travel opportunities at www.artanow.com/travel and in the next issue of the INTERLINK:

British Landscapes—July 2020

Treasures of Europe—August 2020

Heritage of America—November 2020

ARTA members and their families are invited to join us for fun and exciting trips of a lifetime!

ARTA trips are customized for our members. Guests are welcome but must travel with an ARTA member. Whenever possible, ARTA trips are escorted by the ARTA Travel Manager or the ARTA Executive Director.

BOOK EARLY—Airline seats are limited. Early booking with deposit will help ensure your airline seat and a price reduction. Reservations made after ARTA's reserve of seats are booked, or after the early booking date has passed, are based upon availability and the price reduction no longer applies.

Alternate airline gateways, other than Little Rock, such as Northwest AR, Fort Smith and Memphis are available if you prefer to depart from there (usually at no additional cost). Travelers would join the group at the trip destination.

For pricing and additional information, availability or to have a detailed brochure mailed to you, call Mary Huie, ARTA Travel Manager, at 501-993-3767 or 501-843-6190.

Links to more trip information are also available on our web site, www.artanow.com/travel.

Suggestions for future ARTA trips are always welcome so let us hear from you regarding your dream destination.

Some of the world's best people travel with ARTA!!

Happy Travels,

Mary Huie, ARTA Travel Manager

2020 Travel Opportunities

Exploring New Zealand—

Featuring the North & South Islands

February 22 – March 11, 2020

Cross the International Dateline and begin the adventure of a lifetime by skipping a day ahead. Your tour begins in Auckland, the “City of Sails.” On this exciting journey you will cruise through the Bay of Islands’ famous “Hole in the Rock”; visit spectacular Mt. Cook National Park, seeing permanent ice fields and glaciers blanketing the ragged peaks; visit a working, family-owned sheep farm and learn about daily life in New Zealand’s high country. Must-see inclusions are exploring Te Puia, a Maori cultural and geothermal experience; enjoying wine tastings in the famous Marlborough wine region and relishing a breathtaking cruise through Milford Sound fjord. Other highlights include Wellington, New Zealand’s capital city; Christchurch; Queenstown; Dunedin; Blenheim and Picton. **Early booking date has passed—please call for availability and updated pricing information**

Classical Greece

March 1 – 10, 2020

Learn the storied history of Greece as you explore the ancient and modern sites of Athens, Meteora, Delphi, Olympia and Corinth. Discover the beauty and timeless wonder found only in Greece. Your tour begins in the capital city of Athens. In Athens see the Temple of Zeus, the Royal Palace, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Olympic Stadium. In Meteora enjoy guided tours of two remote monasteries situated on limestone rock “towers” that extend nearly 900 feet into the air built by Byzantine monks over 600 years ago. Travel to Delphi, one of Greece’s most important religious centers during Classical times. Other highlights include: The Sanctuary of Apollo, the Doric Temple, Delphi Museum, the Olympic Stadium – where the first Olympic Games were held in 776 B.C.; a Mediterranean cooking class, a Greek Dance Class, Mycenae and Nafplio. **Early booking date has passed—please call for availability and updated pricing information**

Southern Charm

April 25 – May 1, 2020

Embrace the leisurely pace and charming allure of America’s southeast as you explore cobblestone streets, historic homes and unspoiled coastline. Come to know its rich history and deep traditions highlighted by stays in Jekyll Island, Savannah and Charleston. See St. Simons Island’s 106 ft. tall lighthouse and enjoy a trolley tour of Savannah’s Historic District. Other highlights include: the 19th-century Andrew Low House and Gardens, a cooking demonstration and dinner of regional specialties in Savannah, shopping at City Market, one of the oldest public markets in America and the epicenter of Gullah sweetgrass basketry and a “choice on tour” of either Boone Hall Plantation or Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum. **Book before Oct 18, 2019**

Tuscany & The Italian Riviera

May 22 – 29, 2020

From the rolling hills of Tuscany to the sun-soaked coast of the Italian Riviera, a romantic rendezvous awaits. Experience a guided tour including a visit to the beautiful Cathedral of San Martino. Spend three nights in a beautiful Tuscan estate. Journey to Florence for a tour of the "Cradle of the Italian Renaissance" and explore the medieval city of Siena. Stop in the medieval city of Lucca, encircled by 16th-century walls, then continue to Italian Riviera for a three-night stay. Other highlights include: Cinque Terre, a boat ride to Portofino, a day exploring the colorful cliff-side villages of the Cinque Terre with a local guide and a rail travel tour to take in the picturesque, rugged coastline dotted with terraced vineyards. **Save \$300 pp—Book before Nov 15, 2019**

Islands of New England

June 18 – 25, 2020

The Atlantic coast is calling! Explore New England's majestic seaboards, from Rhode Island to Cape Cod. See Plymouth Rock and step back in time in the town where the Pilgrims landed in 1620. "Eat like a Pilgrim" by sampling recipes from that era and enjoy a Thanksgiving feast. Visit a working New England cranberry bog, a thriving crop of Cape Cod. Experience the charming, once-famous whaling port - "the Vineyard." Travel along Newport's breathtaking Ocean Drive past the sprawling mansions of Bellevue Avenue. In historic Boston, view iconic landmarks including Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Explore the idyllic island of Nantucket, including picturesque beaches and lighthouses. Celebrate the taste of Cape Cod with a traditional New England seafood and lobster dinner. **Save \$100 pp—Book before December 11, 2019**

Spectacular South Africa— Culture and Nature in Harmony

September 3 - 16, 2020

Experience a harmony of intriguing cultures, stunning wildlife, lush winelands, and elaborate history. Ponder the past during a visit to the Apartheid Museum. Seek out the "Big Five" on two open-air safari game drives. Travel the lush Garden Route between the mountains and the balmy Indian Ocean. Visit the Featherbed Nature Reserve for a cruise in the lagoon. Relax during a leisurely stay in the breathtaking city of Cape Town. A land on the edge of the world, South Africa awaits. Other highlights include: Johannesburg, Soweto, Panoramic Route, Kruger National Park, Safari Game Drives, Garden Route, Knysna, Featherbed Nature Reserve, Choice on Tour, Stellenbosch, Wine Tasting & Dinner, Cape Town, Table Mountain. **Save \$200 pp—Book before January 31, 2019**

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

October 7 – 12, 2020

Up, up, and away! Witness one of the world's most spectacular airborne events and be enriched by the diverse cultures of New Mexico. Visit a true "land of enchantment" as you explore Albuquerque and Santa Fe, a rich blend of multiculturalism, natural beauty and profound history. Highlights include: Santa Fe open-air tram tour, Loretto Chapel, Santa Fe School of Cooking, Old Town Albuquerque, National Museum of Nuclear Science & History, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, a drive along the eclectic Route 66 and the main event of watching hundreds of balloons launch during the Mass Ascension – one of the most spectacular displays of sound and color in all of aviation. **Book before March 31, 2020**

Spotlight on New York Holiday

December 2 - 6, 2020

Rock around the (Rockefeller) Christmas tree. From Radio City Music Hall to Times Square, see the Big Apple dressed in its holiday best. Your New York City getaway is filled with shopping, sight-seeing, endless entertainment and holiday cheer. Spend four nights in the heart of midtown close to Times Square. Enjoy an optional excursion to the NYC Garment District Showroom for shopping. Take your seat and watch the curtain rise for two exciting Broadway shows, one being the famous Radio City Hall Rockettes' Christmas Spectacular. Other highlights include: 9/11 Memorial, 9/11 Museum, Statue of Liberty, Greenwich Village, Wall Street and Ellis Island. **Save \$200 pp—Book before May 26, 2020**



Book Now for 2021

Exploring Australia

January 23 – February 9, 2021

The adventure of a lifetime awaits. Cross the International Date-line, skipping a day ahead as you set out to see Australia's vibrant cities, coastal gems, captivating Outback, and so much more! Come to know the Walpiri Aboriginal people during a "Dreamtime Tour". Delight in a bush dinner in the Australian Outback and enjoy the sights during a dinner cruise of Sydney Harbor. Other highlights include: Melbourne, Barossa Valley, Hutton Vale Farm and Winery, Alice Springs, Uluru, Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Sydney and Sydney Opera House. **Save \$500 pp—Book before July 17, 2020**

In Memoriam

“These immortal dead who live again in minds made better by their presence”

Arkansas County

Audrey J. Campbell
John T. Conrad
Linda R. Vaughn

Baxter County

Lindel D. Anthony
Faith C. Durbin

Benton County

Michelle R. Brolliar
Jackee L. Brown
Larry V. Carney
Tommy V. Lester
Richard J. Perrodin
Betty L. Pettit
Dorothy L. Richey
Helen E. Sheffield
Twila J. Smith
John J. Thomas

Boone County

Ronald W. Lowery

Bradley County

Raymond H. Brown

Carroll County

Larry H. Miller

Chicot County

Bertha S. Creath
Charles E. Hicks
Edward Patton

Clark County

Kathleen A. Helms

Clay County

Joanna G. Young

Cleburne County

William L. Bennett
Cynthia L. Mendenhall
Keith Watson

Cleveland County

Herman D. Leopard

Columbia County

Louis J. Blanchard
Don R. McMahan
Larry D. Pearce

Conway County

Claude W. Davis
Ernest L. Stobaugh

Craighead County

Sue Bode
Ova W. Case
Juanita Cothrine
Betty J. Douglas
Patricia A. Jester
Troy H. Kerr
Reba L. Malone
James G. McInturff
Martha A. Neal
Thomas A. Robert
Linda D. Walker

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Buddy Belt
Joan A. Cadorette
James T. Faught
John R. Harrison
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Crittenden County

Willie E. Taylor

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Freda B. Cossey

Drew County

Patricia B. Akin
Martha P. Oxner

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Michael E. Aeilts
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James L. Beard, Jr.
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David W. Ketchum
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Sandra K. Willcockson

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Shirley M. Maxiell
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Betty D. McKenzie
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These generous gifts from individuals and local organizations, for whatever reason, are a meaningful and substantive part of funding the Parsons—Burnett Scholarship Grants and are greatly appreciated. These scholarships are given each year to support the educational advancement of practicing educators in Arkansas's public schools.

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Area V

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Darlene Coxsey

Clark County RTA

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In Memory of:

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White County RTA

Parsons-Burnett Fund

Bob Thompson

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In Memoriam, *continued*

Union County

Willie M. Aycock

Gayle M. Williams

Washington County

Sheila A. Efurd

Jack S. Mathis

Rachel M. Taylor

Melissa L. Welch

White County

James E. Bradley

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(1) ___ I elect to have \$2 per month deducted from my benefit checks for ARTA dues.

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(2) ___ Annual Membership (\$36 check enclosed).

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Address _____ Telephone _____

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Email _____ Date _____

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