



Hello EVERYONE and Happy Summer!

Several exciting things have transpired since the last issue of the Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association (KKAA) Newsletter.

I am thrilled to tell you that our membership has climbed from 133 to 167 members. We are on our way to reaching our goal of 200 members before the end of 2016. Some of the credit for this increase is the result of YOU personally contacting former coworkers and asking them to join the Association. Thanks!

A number of you completed the Events and Activities Survey. Your comments are helping us plan future activities that will be of interest to you. Your responses indicate that you want to continue our “Gatherings”, and that a picnic would be a very welcomed event. As always, we want your feedback and suggestions.

Our Facebook group is growing! Facebook is another great way for us to stay in touch. There are currently 85 members in our group. It is easy to join. Look for us at Kennedy Krieger Alumni.

We had a successful and fun Spring Gathering in May. A request was made for members to bring in memorabilia from the years they worked at KKI. Dr. Ron Walcher (NDM) gave a presentation and Q and A session. Prizes were given for winning answers.

Does the name Lena Abrams ring a bell? Lena worked as the Kennedy Krieger Operator for many years. You may have never met her, but it is very likely you spoke with her at some point in time. Lena has joined our Membership Committee and plays an important role in helping to mail correspondence and contact members by phone.

We recently discovered that some members are not able to open attachments to Emails sent from webmaster@kkalumni.org. We have also heard from a few people who have not received all of our Emails. We are working to resolve this issue, as stated later in this newsletter. It is also very important that you keep us up to date with your address, phone number and Email address. We don't want to lose contact with you...

Take care and enjoy your summer.

Roni

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Help Us Reach Our Goal

We want to have 200 members by the end of 2016!

We have had some challenges locating former KKI colleagues and friends. Since leaving KKI some people have moved or changed their last name...but we're sure YOU can help us find some of them. Give a former coworker a call, or send an Email and ask them to join KKA.

It is easy to join!

Log on to the Association's website, kcalumni.org and complete the contact form;
Email us at webmaster@kcalumni.org;
or call 410-215-8972.

Remember...
there is no cost to join,
no dues and we are not
trying to raise money.

The purpose of
the KKA is to
stay connected
and have fun!

Here's the fun part,
we are having a membership drive...
with fabulous prizes!

200

The number of members the Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association would like to have by the end of 2016.

167

200

150

100

50



WHEN: From July 15, 2016 to August 31, 2016

WHAT DO I WIN?: The KKA member who signs up the most new members by August 31, 2016 will receive a \$25 gift card to dine at Chili's, Macaroni Grill, or Maggiano's in Little Italy.

***The KKA member who signs up the second highest number will receive a \$20 gift card to shop at a Giant Supermarket.*

THE RULES: To participate in our Membership Drive Email or call us with the name and contact information for the people that you recruit. We will let you know the date that they join and tally the results. The winners and results of the Drive will be announced by Email and published in the Fall/Winter issue of the KKA newsletter.

THE FINE PRINT: Remember, to be eligible to join the KKA, you must have worked at KKI for at least 4.5 years.

READY, SET, GO: Get started!

Help us meet our goal of 200 members, and put yourself in the running for a prize.

Thanks!

The KKA Membership Committee

KKAA Newsletter Spring / Summer 2016



PICNIC

A warm sunny day, a clear blue sky and lots of fun and laughter; that's what the Social Committee is looking forward to when they host the first KKAA picnic. Hot dogs, hamburgers, sodas, water and ice will be provided. Please feel free to bring your own picnic basket, blanket and folding chairs. There will be picnic tables for our use. Members are invited to bring a guest.

LOCATION: The Sparrows Point Country Club
919 Wise Ave. Baltimore, MD 21222

DATE & TIME: Saturday August 20, 2016 (Rain date Saturday, August 27, 2016.)
12:00 noon until 5:00 pm.

RSVP BY: Friday August 5, 2016
webmaster@kcalumni.org or call us at 410-215-8972

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES SURVEY

Thank you for completing the Events and Activities Survey. In addition to responding to the survey questions, some members made suggestions. Suggestions include having events that include family members and children, attending an Orioles baseball game with a social prior to the start of the game, and visiting restaurants with different themes (Greek, Egyptian, African etc.) We appreciate your input.

SPRING GATHERING 2016 was a lot of fun! We asked people to bring in items and photographs from the years they worked at KKI. Dr. Ron Walcher's presented a Q and A session and a "chat" about the history of KKI that was OUTSTANDING. We really taxed our memory with questions like: What year did the Institute open; when was the 6th floor added to 707; who was the first outpatient Nurse; and did you know we had a Dental Clinic?

Eileen Atkins (Physical Therapy), Susan Harryman (Director of Physical Therapy), Alvoina Allen (Lobby Care Center), Novella Ragins (Family Center) and Roni Gross brought in some interesting memorabilia including certificates, publications, and an employee badge (with a photo taken on Roni's first day of employment!). Some items that were brought in were from when KKI was called The Children's Rehabilitation Institute, The John F. Kennedy Institute for the Habilitation of the Mentally and Physically Handicapped Child and The Kennedy Institute.

Dr. Lynn Speedie (Director of Neuropsychology) traveled the farthest, coming to the event from Lancaster PA.



MEMBER NEWS

What are our members doing with their time? Has something exciting happened in their lives? See what they are up to and also, **SHARE** your “news” with us in the next edition, Fall/Winter 2016, by Emailing Jean at smootjean@yahoo.com

Dr. Marge Fessler worked at KKI in the Center for Development and Learning as a Special Educator. She and her husband spent the last two winters in Florida. They are now proud grandparents of Jacob Warren Fessler, born on May 24, 2016 weighing 7 pounds 5 ounces. He and his parents Dave and Jen Fessler will be moving to the DC area from Cambridge, Massachusetts October 1, 2016. Marge and her husband will happily be staying in the Northeast this winter in order to spend time with Jacob and his parents.

Jean Smoot worked as a Nurse Case Manager at KKI. She and her husband Charlie celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in June.

Alvonia Allen worked in a number of departments at KKI. Prior to her retirement she was a Care Center Specialist at 801 North Broadway. She has been keeping really busy traveling and volunteering at the Church. She and her husband are planning a number of trips including a cruise and a weekend in Boston.

Crystal Claire Guengrich was a Nurse on the inpatient unit. This spring she participated in the Ride for the Feast. Ride for the Feast is a 2-day, 140-mile Maryland bike ride from Ocean City to Baltimore City.

The event raises money for Moveable Feast, the only Maryland nonprofit that delivers healthy meals to people living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. Their services are provided in Baltimore City, the 5 surrounding counties and on the Eastern Shore, all at no cost to their clients. Last year, Moveable Feast delivered 847,680 life-saving meals to 5,721 Marylanders.



KENNEDY KRIEGER NEWS

*An interview with Raymond Short,
Director of Human Resources regarding the Summer Works Program.*

The **Kennedy Krieger Institute Summer Works Program** is a community outreach program to help youth gain a positive, work-based learning experience. The Institute is committed to, cares about, and is taking an active part in helping its community's youth become responsible, skilled, motivated, career-ready adults.

Kennedy Krieger Institute partners with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development's Hire One Youth program and local City leaders to hire high school or undergraduate college students seeking real life experience related to their career interests. This creates a pool of motivated, experienced individuals who are familiar with our mission, culture, and Service Excellence philosophy from which we can recruit for future employment opportunities.

KKAA: This is a great program. I knew about it in the years I worked at KKI. Can you give us a bit more detail? How many years has the program been in existence?

Short: Almost 20 years but in the last 5 years we have defined it with more structure.

KKAA: How many students have participated?

Short: About 25 kids participated each summer over the last decade. When the program first started 20 years ago there were about 5.

KKAA: What areas are they working in at Kennedy Krieger?

Short: They work in Behavior Psych, Health Information Systems, Spine, HR, Compliance, Child Life and Patient Accounting.

KKAA: What is a day like for one of these students?

Short: Normally 30 hours a week with varying scheduled.

KKAA: Have you met or worked with any personally?

Short: We have a great student now in HR who is a junior in college at Virginia Tech.

KKAA: Do you have a success story to share?

Short: Dr. Edward Trusty was a summer works college student who became a teacher at Gilman and then the principal at The Calvert School. He is now the Director of a school in Houston.

KKAA: What are your thoughts about the success of the program?

Short: I think this is a great program. It introduces students to different careers in Health Care that they may not have known about or considered before. It also gives some of them a chance to see if the field they are pursuing is what they really want to do. Over the years a number of students have chosen to come to work at KKI after they finished school.

MEMBER PROFILE

Dr. Peter Fanning The Women's Sports Museum

Dr. Fanning was the Executive Senior Vice President for Clinical, Community and Educational Programs at KKI from 1984 to 1992. In 1992 he became the CEO/President of the Marcus Institute at Emory University. In 1997-1998, when KKI merged with Marcus he assumed the position of Senior Vice President of the Marcus Institute with KKI until his retirement in June 2006.

He resides in Sarasota, FL with his wife Dina Lareau. Dina worked at Marcus during this time and is also KKAA member.

Peter has always had a love of baseball, and sports in general. In addition, he has four daughters who benefitted tremendously from their participation in interscholastic and collegiate sports programs. One day Peter heard about Sue Parsons Zipay and her story, and he was hooked.

Sue is 81 years old and played in the American Professional Girls Baseball League (AAPGBL) in 1953 and 1954 for the Rockford Peaches. In addition, Sue is an accomplished tennis player and is co-owner of the Englewood Tennis Club. Sue also had a cameo role in the Tom Hanks/Gina Davis movie, *A League of Their Own*.

Sue heard that there was talk of building a stand-alone museum for women's baseball at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, the site where there is an exhibit honoring the AAPGBL.

Sue said, "I started thinking, what about a museum for all women athletes. We have so many now. Everybody wants their place in history."

"From Babe Didrikson (Zaharias) through the women's soccer team that won the World Cup, there is so much history that can be told. I thought it would be great to have a sports museum showing past, present and future. I got on the telephone and began making phone calls."

Peter's first reaction to hearing Sue's story was, "SERIOUSLY? There's not a place in the whole nation devoted solely to women's sports?" There is a room in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY where the women, surrounded by the achievements of men, have some moments and memorabilia, but no place just for women.

Peter and Sue joined forces and quickly set out to create a non-profit. (This is actually a part of Peter's new avocation, helping people create and get a non-profit up and running – but that is a story for another day.) They decided early on that they would recognize all aspects of women's sports, the athletes as well as all those women who devoted their working lives to sports related business and careers. This includes announcers, referees, trainers, coaches, agents, lawyers, architects, administrative assistants as well as those who worked their way up through the ranks to be CFO's or CEO's of women and men's sports businesses.

They have created a wonderful website www.womenssportsmuseum.org. You will be amazed at the information they have already gathered.

For you Oriole fans who love Camden Yards be assured the Women's Sports Museum will definitely have space to recognize people like Janet Marie Smith. Janet is the architectural consultant for Camden Yards who advised the ownership to turn down the then modern design suggested and go with the first "retro-fit stadium". Don't you just love that right field warehouse wall? That is thanks to Janet!

The Women's Sports Museum will be in Sarasota, FL. They are planning a Kick Off Gala on October 22, 2016 which will be in conjunction with the AAPGBL's annual meeting.

The support and enthusiasm expressed by so many people has made this an endeavor that is keeping Peter busy for up to 12-14 hours a day. Peter states he loves the challenge. He also says it sure beats fishing, playing golf and sitting around with other retirees telling war stories! He says he is creating new war stories to tell when he finally does retire. He credits Kennedy Krieger and his co-workers for much of his expertise and knowledge, as well as the inspiration to love helping others.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

As mentioned earlier, some members have had trouble opening Email attachments, so we have decided to MAIL the newsletter, and other important information and event news. We will still send this information by Email, but don't want miss anyone who is having problems receiving it electronically.

The KKAA Newsletter is published twice a year. It will always contain committee updates, but we also want to hear from YOU. Remember, OUR newsletter is a fun way for US to stay connected.

Be sure to keep us up to date with any changes in your Email address, your mailing address or phone number.

HOW YOU CAN STAY IN TOUCH

Join our Facebook group, Kennedy Krieger Alumni

Check out our Website, kkalumni.org

We keep it simple; we have one main Email address...

Email the Alumni at webmaster@kcalumni.org

President Roni Gross at webmaster@kcalumni.org

Vice President Jean Smoot at webmaster@kcalumni.org

Social Committee Delores Moore at
webmaster@kcalumni.org

Membership Committee at webmaster@kcalumni.org

To reach us by phone: 410-215-8972

KKAA Newsletter smootjean@yahoo.com

SPECIAL THANKS

*To Nichole Reimers
for the fantastic job
she has done with the layout
and graphics of our newsletter.*

Roni and Jean

THE KKAA NEWSLETTER

I hope you enjoyed the Spring/Summer edition of the KKAA Newsletter. I am looking forward to hearing from you with your ideas and contributions to the Fall/Winter edition.

Contact me at smootjean@yahoo.com and tell me about your travels, activities and news.

Let's stay connected!

Jean





**Kennedy Krieger
Alumni Association
Spring Gathering
2016**



Kennedy Krieger
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*Spring Gathering
May 14th*

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