

2017 Silver-Haired Legislature Candidates

(Profiles of 10 candidates listed alphabetically by last name.)

1. Jeanie Adkins-Peine - Overland Park

Occupation/Former Occupation Retired owner/operator of touring agency in Jalisco, Mexico.

Personal Interests Elderly living on low incomes. Pursuing military widows Bill HR 1594 “elimination of deductions”. Honoring our veterans, alive and in memorial services.

Volunteer Activities I have volunteered as a Spanish interpreter for Hope Chest Church, evening care for mentally challenged adults at church, visiting and sending cards to veterans in rehab centers, mentor 4th grade at Shawnee Mission School District for the MVP program, Patriot Guard at military funerals, and VFW Legion Riders, escorting coffins and funding events for veterans.

Hobbies Volunteering, riding motorcycle, reading, crafts

Special Talents I work well with the elderly and mentally challenged adults. I am tenacious when fighting for a cause. I am healthy, vivacious, open-minded, and a good listener. I dance and sing with the Side by Side entertainment group. We entertain at rehab and nursing homes as well as at community centers.

Remarks I am very interested in working for the elderly living alone with low incomes. The Silver Haired Legislators did not gain my attention until a few months ago. They are working for changes in a political capacity which I have been trying to do on my own. Also there is only one woman on the board. I think it would be more efficient with another woman’s input.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

As a Military Widow, I lost my income, my home and security. This experience awakened me to the plight of low income elderly. The majority of elderly citizens have worked until retirement, served our country, voted and lived in valor. They are IMPORTANT! We need to pursue solutions for all their needs. At present, there are few programs in place for expensive dental, vision or hearing issues. I am healthy, energetic, tenacious and identify with the low-income elders. As a KSHL member I will use these qualities to pursue solutions for my fellow elders.

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2. Louis G. Bornman, Jr. - Shawnee

Occupation/Former Occupation Retired LTC U.S. Army – Engineer, Operating Research Analyst – Dept. of the Army

Personal Interests Grandchildren's school, sports and scout activities, staying current on politics and science and technology.

Volunteer Activities Volunteer on properties committee and fellowship and service committee – Community Covenant Church. NARFE Legislative Chair

Hobbies Hobbies are collecting glass insulators, wood working, and rockets.

Special Talents Fairly technologically literate.

Remarks Six year advocate for senior health and pension benefits.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

As a member of the Silver Haired Legislature I will advocate tirelessly for the policies and programs that benefit the well-being of senior citizens. I have spent 38 years in federal service both as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army and as a civilian federal employee of the Department of the Army. For the past 6 years I have served as the National Legislative Chair for the Kansas Federation of Chapters of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association. As such I have been heavily involved in advocacy for federal employee and retiree pay and benefits.

3. Scott Gregory - Roeland Park

Occupation/Former Occupation Active certified public accountant. Retired adjunct professor.

Volunteer Activities Volunteer on Roeland Park City Council (12 years) and Roeland Park Planning Commission. Treasurer for two 501c3 organizations and three churches.

Commissioner – Cherokee Nation Tax Commission and Cherokee Housing Authority.

Personal Interests/Hobbies cycling, hiking desert southwest, competitive trivia, politics.

Special Talents A lifetime of teaching, consulting, and analyzing numbers and tax effects have given me the ability to get to the heart of the matter and to communicate my findings.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

The first three of the KSHL Agenda items leap out at me. I see the effects of irresponsible tax policy on everyday working and retired citizens. Many business owners would gladly pay tax, while seniors in care facilities pay Kansas tax, even though medical expenses exceed gross income. I am a CPA with over 50 years' experience in public and private sectors. I have conducted my own practice for the last 25 years. I served for 12 years on the Roeland Park City Council. My practice and my public positions give me a picture of the needs of our seniors.

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4. William R. “Will” Haworth, Sr. – Gardner

Occupation/Former Occupation Chaplain - Good Shepherd Hospice

Personal Interests/Hobbies Woodworking, turning wood pens on the lathe

Volunteer Activities Sunday School Teacher - sub

Special Talents Speak Spanish. Play the harp.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

As a Silver Haired Legislator, I would like to educate seniors on State government to bring about positive legislative action. I have served on the Epilepsy Kansas Board of Directors, the School Board for Uruguayan Americans, on the Advisory Board for a maternity home and as President of the Mission Council for 26 years. I have served as a pastor and missionary for the Church of the Nazarene in Kansas, Mexico and Uruguay and other missions to Brazil, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Kenya and Ethiopia.

My wife of 52 years and I have 4 sons and 9 grandchildren. She passed in 2016.

I am a chaplain for Good Shepherd Hospice.

5. Katherine “Katy” Hoffman - Lenexa

Occupation/Former Occupation Former Admin. Assistant to Johnson County District Judge.

Personal Interests Personal interests in advocating for seniors and helping to make the community better for senior needs.

Hobbies Reading, crafts, gardening, and making wreaths.

Volunteer Activities Volunteer with church activities, fundraising for individuals and groups, and serving on the Commission on Aging.

Remarks I want to promote activities to keep seniors involved, to support their needs, and make their lives easier and happier whenever I can.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature My desire is to promote our organization (SHL) to various communities who may be unaware of our existence, that we are a statewide organization, and that we advocate for seniors. Another desire is to promote the Johnson County Area Agency on Aging, which provides wonderful opportunities for local assistance. I will work to help others know of these programs. Promote and encourage seniors to become active for themselves and other seniors and let their voice be heard. We are not alone in our ideas and opinions. Lots of us believe the same. There is power in numbers. Our organization prepares seniors’ issues and provides that information to our Kansas Legislators. One goal is to convince the legislators that the senior needs now will be the needs that will be important to them in the future. I am a current member of the SHL and the Johnson County Commission on Aging and wish to continue to support you and other seniors in ways I can. I want to hear your ideas and how to initiate them. Seniors count!

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6. Gerald D. Ireland - Lenexa

Occupation/Former Occupation Retired U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer, Hospital Business Manager, Tricare at Fort Leavenworth

Personal Interests Personal interests include 4 children and 12 grandchildren, and care for the elderly.

Hobby golf

Volunteer Activities Volunteer with Silver Haired Legislature and need to continue visiting senior centers and trying to find ways to keep seniors in the home.

Special Talents Extensive knowledge of the medical system and how it works; a strong interest in what is necessary to protect the Medicare system and needs of the elderly community. I have observed the health care system in other countries, particularly England and can relate to their experiences.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature If reelected to the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature I will continue to use my experience and knowledge to be an advocate for the elderly. I am retired from the U.S. Navy and worked as a Hospital Business Office Manager after retirement. In the past I have helped my brother and sister look after our parents – they lived in Topeka and at least once a week I went to Topeka where my brother and I took our mother out to lunch. While both of my parents have passed, the experience will be with me forever. In addition, I have been blessed to be married to a Registered Nurse who specialized in eldercare. She has enhanced my awareness of the problems caused by elder abuse which often is a result of ignorance, frustration, or greed. Also I have learned through my wife and the experiences of my parents, the value of home care, and the need to maintain the dignity of the elderly. Another area of great concern to me is the rights of grandparents should something happen to the parents of the grandchildren. I know that if something like an auto accident would leave my grandchildren with need of adult supervision, that grandparents should have the first right to look after them. I know if that was to occur and my granddaughter called and said “Popeye would you come and get me?” that I will immediately leave the house and get her. In addition, my experience in the U.S. Navy has given me an insight of how various foreign nations have dealt with healthcare problems; and while we have some problems, we do want to mess with our current Medicare system.

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7. Ronald D. McVeigh - Olathe

Occupation/Former Occupation State Auditor II with the Kansas Department of Corrections, Army veteran

Personal Interests Politics

Hobbies Computing and reading

Special Talents Auditing and technology

Remarks Army veteran, Graduate of Mid-America Nazarene College (now University), Recipient of EPA Citizen Excellence in Community Involvement Award (2012), Recipient of EPA Region 7 Leading Environmentalism and Forwarding Sustainability (LEAFS) Award (2012), Recipient of Olathe's Community Pride Award (2013)

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

As a Kansas Department of Corrections Auditor, I perform fiscal, quality assurance, and policy audits which require detail-oriented, analytical thinking. Audits require me to articulate the difference between what is and what should be. As co-chair of the Chemical Commodities, Inc. (CCI) Concerned Citizens Group, I have worked with the Environmental Protection Agency, and state and local governments to turn the CCI Superfund site in Olathe into a pollinator habitat garden. Perseverance was necessary to accomplish this over-a-decade project. I am detail-orientated, analytical, articulate, perseverant, and I work well with others. These are qualities I would bring to the Silver Haired Legislature.

8. David J. Rogers - Overland Park

Occupation/Former Occupation Pharmaceutical sales manager

Personal Interests Healthcare, working conditions, retirement issues, children's issues, education, and tax policy.

Hobbies Sports (more watching than playing now), reading, volunteering, domestic and international travel.

Volunteer Activities Do volunteer work at Kauffman Center for Performing Arts, and do volunteer work with refugees, church, and as an election worker.

Special Talents Organizing, talking with people, leading groups, conciliating, and listening.

Remarks I am well-educated and consider myself well-informed. I have much experience working with people and am a good problem solver. I will bring my skills to the KSHL.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

I am a retired pharmaceutical sales director with experience hiring, training and managing up to 120 representative and managers. I have 5 children and 11 grandchildren. I am currently involved in church and civic activities including volunteering at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts as an usher and volunteer trainer. I have a great deal of experience, personal and professional, working with groups to determine solutions and build consensus. I am well informed and articulate. If elected I will work to advocate for both seniors and other citizens, particularly in the areas of healthcare, education, and as assistance to the less fortunate.

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9. Gary Rex Scott - Olathe

Occupation/Former Occupation Former teacher

Personal Interests Enjoy spending time with family and friends, as well as sporting and social events. Parent volunteer at Millbrook Elementary.

Volunteer Activities Volunteer for state and national driver education associations.

Hobbies Politics, sporting events, and running.

Special Talents Enjoying life and whatever comes my way. Positive outlook at all times.

Remarks I am a native Kansan and very proud of our state and what it has to offer to its constituents.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

My teaching career has provided me the opportunity to work with many people of all ages from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds. I have worked on committees that have given me the opportunity to see many individuals with a multitude of needs come together to form a common resolution good for the entire group. My head coaching experience has provided the insight of the responsibilities that come with leadership positions. I have lived my entire life in Kansas. I understand the importance of Senior Services provided for people in Kansas – from my grandparents to my own generation. I want to make sure that the seniors in Kansas continue to receive excellent services throughout their life.

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10. John P. Smith - Shawnee

Occupation/Former Occupation Former medical microbiologist, manager of a hospital medical microbiology laboratory for 30 years, and former financial regulator of credit unions in Missouri and Kansas for 20 years.

Personal Interests Farming, gardening, volunteer work, public advocacy

Hobbies Gardening, yardwork

Volunteer Activities I have volunteered as a precinct committeeman, planning commissioner for the city of Shawnee, president of Greenview Ridge Home Owners Association.

Special Talents Knowledge of financial regulation of credit unions, farm issues, and governmental organization. Retired U.S. Navy Officer

Remarks Knowledge of the legislative process as a former state agency head would be helpful in advocacy in support of issues vital to the interests of the constituency of the Silver Head Legislature.

What I intend to do for the Kansas Silver-Haired Legislature

If I am elected my primary work will be to advocate advancement of issues important to the elderly and all citizens.

Issues include (not in rank order):

1. Continuation of the federal Medicare program as currently structured without privatization or funding by the states through block grants.
2. Adequate funding of education from kindergarten through graduate education.
3. A balanced income, sales and property tax structure for all Kansas citizens.
4. A voter registration structure that protects the rights of those who have difficulty obtaining photo identification or birth certificates.
5. Other issues that develop quickly that require attention that are unknown at this time.

My experiences in health care (30+ years managing a medical laboratory and teaching at Wichita State University) and 20 years as a credit union volunteer and regulator for Missouri and Kansas credit unions, farming interests and 37 years in the Naval Reserve will be utilized. I have written legislation that became law in Kansas and Missouri.

Additionally, I now serve as a member of the planning commission for the city of Shawnee, Kansas and president of our homeowners' association.

Politically I have held governor appointed senate confirmed positions in Kansas and Missouri heading the credit union financial regulatory agencies and in health planning. I have also been elected to national positions in health care and credit union professional organizations. I have also served as a consultant to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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