

ACRE PAPER

December 2005 / January 2006 Issue

FROM YOUR ACRE PRESIDENT:

Dear Fellow ACRE members & NEW retirees:

Now that we are beginning the holidays, we must be thankful for the blessings we have. Among these, remember our ACRE organization! ACRE is vital to our welfare and is working on getting all the benefits to which our hard work has entitled us. We have seen many achievements in the past that ACRE had a hand in:

- We had the city amend the pension ordinance, so retirees with 25 years of service or disability will receive no less than \$12K a year on pension.
- We also asked for and got a satellite office for your benefits that would be more easily accessible. Representatives from UNHC along with benefits officers from the city come to our monthly meetings upon request.
- We've gotten raises in our pension each year and we been assured of more in years to come. ACRE, along with the Tennessee Pharmacists Association, was able to win a lawsuit against the city allowing us to purchase maintenance drugs at our local drugstores.
- ACRE has been granted two seats (and two votes) on the Healthcare Committee chaired by Councilwoman Carol Chumney.

Our office is located at 638 Jefferson, and Frank Hester is either there or on his cell phone to answer any questions you may have. If someone has lost a member of the family, we will help direct you to the proper channels for help with benefits or pension problems.

Our insurance has been our main objective in 2004-2005. We have been active in all the steps along the process to be sure ACRE received the best plan and with the city's cooperation we were able to accomplish this. The city recognizes us in a serious way!

We have a lot of talented people giving their time and considerable efforts. We can do so much more with your help! It's not fair that some retirees let others do it all. I would like to ask that each retiree attend some of our meetings. Things are going well for us because some retirees are looking out for all of us.

A big thank you to our executive board and insurance committee members. I also want to thank all of our faithful members who come almost every month to our meetings. To new retirees, please know that you are important to us too. Come down and let's make our next meeting our largest attendance yet, and let everyone see just how strong ACRE is! You may even win one of our door prizes.

Best wishes to you all, and hope to see you soon! To paraphrase a President: "Ask not what ACRE can do for you, ask what you can do for ACRE."



Sincerely,
CLAIRE LESTER
Your Friend and President

