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The Advisor

Quarterly Newsletter of the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System

Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System

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A Tribute: Tommy C. Beavers (1941 – 2009)

The Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System would like to extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Tommy C. Beavers who passed away on September 14, 2009. Tommy was the Executive Secretary of the System from 1988 until he retired in December 2008.

During his long tenure, Tommy worked diligently to improve the retirement benefits and well being of the System. He enjoyed and appreciated his job and felt honored to serve the educators of Oklahoma. Through his insight and dedication, he earned a reputation of honesty and integrity.

Because of his many accomplishments while serving the State, he was recognized by Governor Henry who declared December 10, 2008 "Tommy C. Beavers Day." He was also honored by the State Senate on January 9, 2009.

Dedicated to serving the local community as well as devoting many hours to the national retirement community, Tommy was President of the National Council on Teachers Retirement from 1999 to 2000, and was also active in the Southern Conference on Teacher Retirement.

Tommy graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a B.S. in Accounting and Education in 1964. He served in the U.S. Marine Corp from 1966 to 1969 attaining the rank of Captain, and then received his Masters in Public School Administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1973.

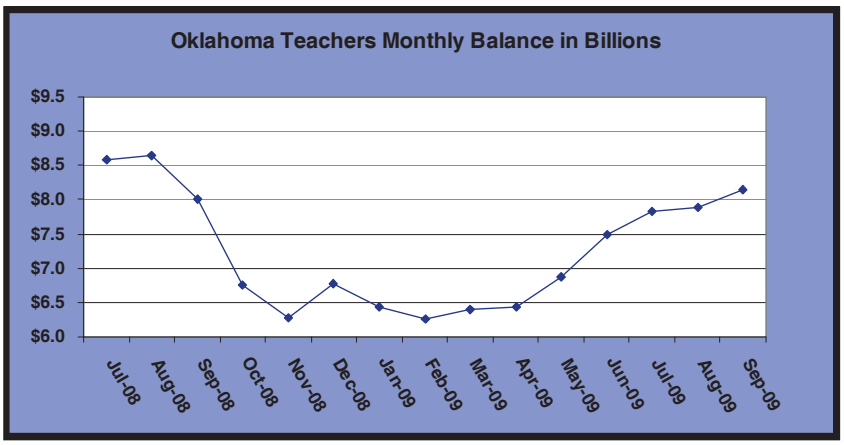
Days before his retirement, Tommy, a non-smoker, was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer. He is survived by his wife, Verda, two daughters and six grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Association.

An Overview of Investment Performance

The third quarter of 2009 saw continued economic recovery. Although the S&P 500 has increased by 60 percent since March, it remains 31 percent lower than its' high nearly two years ago. Despite the precipitous decline in the market index Oklahoma Teachers Retirement is only off its all-time high by 15 percent.

Much uncertainty still remains in the economy, and recovery is far from a forgone conclusion, but with Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke declaring last week that the recession is "very likely over" it seems, for now, investors can take some confidence that the American consumer will start to spend again.



In the third quarter the System tracked its performance benchmark very closely. While the benchmark realized a 3.26 percent increase, the System realized a 2.99 percent increase.

Over the past quarter the System has seen considerable appreciation, however management continues to evaluate the financial markets and seek new investment opportunities that comply with the investment guidelines of Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System.

We Need to Hear From You

As part of our commitment to make The Advisor personal and informative, we are looking to include feature articles submitted by our clients in future editions. We need your help and welcome story submissions and suggestions. Please submit your ideas to:

Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System
PO Box 53524
Oklahoma City, OK 73152

Or send an email to:

the_advisor@trs.state.ok.us

To further our environmental awareness and cost savings effort, we continue to encourage our clients to sign up to receive an electronic copy of The Advisor.

Please send an e-mail, with your name and address included, to

e-advisor@trs.state.ok.us.

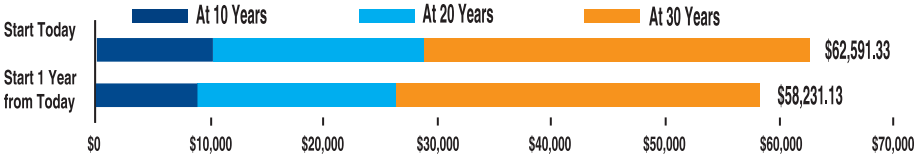
National Save For Retirement Week

October 18-24, 2009 is National Save for Retirement Week! This means it's a good time to review your retirement strategy and make sure you are saving enough to retire the way you want. Could you put aside a little extra?

If you contribute as little as $2 per day ($62 per month) starting today, those funds may grow to over $62,000 in 30 years! If you can afford $4 per day ($122 per month), your savings may be even greater. Take a look at the chart below.

Amount Saved	At 10 Years	At 20 Years	At 30 Years
$2 per day	$10,211.32	$28.789.77	$62,591.33
$4 per day	$20,093.25	$56.650.83	$123,163.59

The sooner you start, the more time you have on your side. If you were to wait just one year from today to start saving $2, you would have over $4,300 LESS in your account in 30 years than if you started saving today. Take a look at the chart below.



When it comes to your retirement, it is always a good time to check on your progress!

OKLAHOMA TEACHERS
403(b) PLAN
RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The New 403(b) Plan – Transition to ING Complete

On September 2, 2009 the 403(b) Tax Sheltered Annuity Plan successfully transitioned to ING. The staff of the System is excited about the many new choices and services available to our clients.

For instance, accounts will be valued daily instead of once a month. You may check your balance as often as you like online or by phone.

Customer service representatives are available to assist you Monday-Friday from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm CT by calling the ING National Service Center at 800.584.6001. To meet with a local ING representative, please call the regional customer support number, 866.795.4746.

The annuity plan is still the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement 403(b) Plan. We have contracted with ING to administer the plan, offer additional services and provide the investment options.

To learn more, please visit www.OTRS403b.com.

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Have Questions? Need Help?

Here's how you can get in touch with us:
In person: Oliver Hodge Building, 5th Floor, 2500 N. Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City
On the phone: 1-877-738-6365 or 405-521-2387
On the web: www.ok.gov/trs

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The Final Word: Dedication To Service

By James R. Wilbanks, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary
Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System

"It is the mission of the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System to provide outstanding customer service to all of our active and retired Clients"

After careful thought and consideration, a new mission statement has been adopted by the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System. In order to put the mission statement into practice, the Board of Trustees and the staff of the System designed a Mission Action Plan (MAP). The MAP details how the staff of the System will go about supporting the mission in our day-to-day operations.

Mission Action Plan

- Provide excellent communication and education to our Clients
- Protect and promote the financial interests of our Clients
- Consistently improve performance
- Pursue pro-active solutions and innovations
- Promote an environment of trust and cooperation where Colleagues are encouraged to reach their potential

We will be working diligently to implement our new mission and will remain focused on providing the outstanding customer service all of our clients deserve. Serving the clients of the System is not only our duty, it is our privilege.