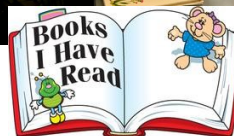


400 Books Get Personalized by BCREA

March's scheduled program was cancelled at the last minute due to the illness of the speaker. But things always seem to work out. Literacy Chairman **Sandy Lefkowitz** and her committee already had planned to have members help with



a project: In her words, here's how it worked out: "THANK YOU! The March meeting was a book extravaganza. You — our wonderful BCREA members — donated over 400 children's books this year. During the March meeting we were busy adding book plates and book marks to all the books. These books will soon be in the hands of fifth graders who wrote essays, grandparents at The Pantry of Broward, and children at Kids in Distress. A big thank you to everyone. *Sandy*



Help Make These Books Special!

Here's what you can do:

1. Please take a book.
2. Place a bookplate on the inside front cover.
3. Choose a bookmark.
4. Write some words of encouragement on the back of it.
5. Place the bookmark inside the book.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT! HELPING TO MAKE YOUR BOOKS SPECIAL

There are some ideas that you may find helpful:

You're right on track!

You're a super star!

You make a difference!

Children in our charge that working words!

Help all your readers love to read!

You're right on track!

You're a super star!

You make a difference!

Children in our charge that working words!

Help all your readers love to read!

You're right on track!

You're a super star!

You make a difference!

Children in our charge that working words!

Help all your readers love to read!

April 5 Meeting

Time: 11:45

Place: Deicke Auditorium

Address: 5701 Cypress Road
Plantation

(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

Program: Barry Shapiro:

The Lifelong Learning Institute

Easter 4/1



Passover:

3/30 - 4/07



Bring to meeting:

Volunteer Hours
Dish to share
Labels for Education
Aluminum pull-tabs
Coupons for our troops
Old eyeglasses & Cell phones
A New Member
Blank or "Thinking of You"
greeting cards

Slate for 2018-2019 Announced

Past-President and Nominating Committee Chairman **Echo Heyer** announced the slate for the upcoming Club year:



L to R: President, **Carol Roland**; President-Elect, **Lillian Small**; Secretary, **Karen Avery**; and Treasurer **Marelise LeClerc**
Voting will take place at the April meeting.

President's Corner

Sometimes positive things result even though things you planned for go awry. At the end of March's meeting, I was disappointed that our guest speaker had been unable to attend. That was until several BCREA members approached me and said that even though we did not have a presentation, they really, really enjoyed the meeting. They told me that because they had signed the book cards rather than just bringing in books, they felt more involved in the process of donating books to elementary children. Two continued by saying that the substitution activity provided them with an opportunity to socialize with other members.

After discussing what was said with the Executive Board, we concluded that we should include more interactive activities in our meetings. Keeping this in mind, I am asking that for April's meeting you bring in unused cards and envelopes. Do you have any "Thinking of you" or "Blank" greeting cards you can spare? If so we will make good use of them. Hope to see you at the next month's meeting. *Carol*



President-Elect's Corner

Here we are with April bearing down upon us, and a calendar year still breathing fresh energies into our monthly programs and activities. Although our March meeting program did not materialize as expected, Plan B was fully effective as I was prepared to give a brief presentation of the **American Cancer Society Relay For Life** of Carter Park/Lauderhill/Lauderdale Lakes. Handouts were provided to all. Thanks to **Pamela Pittman**, the chair of this event, to be held May 18-19, 2018. All are invited to participate in this 24-hour vigil.

As Retired Educators/Teachers, we have long embraced the understanding that we must NEVER STOP LEARNING. Our presentation for April promises to be one that we can use to refuel our minds and bring back that thirst for knowledge, that eagerness to know, and that childlike appetite for what's next; to RECEIVE so that we enhance our ability to GIVE. The presentation comes to us from the Lifelong Learning Institute at Nova Southeastern University. Lectures, workshops, class audits, field trips, free aerobics and yoga classes, and a welcoming social community for learning is information we can look forward to hearing about from this presentation. WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS, **Mrs. Linda Maurice, Director of the Lifelong Learning Institute, Beth Allen, and Barry Shapiro.** *Lillian*



Social Committee

Chairman: **Sallie Sherwood**
954-629-3712 matildatwo@aol.com



The months are passing by so quickly. February was gone in a flash! At the moment March winds are presently upon us. Soon we will be preparing for the April showers, which will of course, bring May flowers. During the month of April, we will be meeting on April 5 which is "National Read A Road Map Day." (Also, National Dandelion Day.) The March luncheon was a very nice event. The day was made even more special by all of the "wearing

of the green" which was displayed throughout the room. Just a few reminders regarding the buffet table. For those of you who are new to the organization (or may have forgotten) we encourage participants to take home the left over food. There are usually small containers provided so you can pick up some of the goodies. However, if you have brought something to the luncheon and wish to take your leftovers home, please try to retrieve your food



item before it goes home with some other person. At some of the earlier luncheons, we had large amounts of excess food which no one took home and had to be thrown away. Our new

system limits the amount of food which has to be discarded. Thank you to all of those participants who are helping by taking home the leftovers.

Sallie

Friendship

Chairman: Marsy Smith
954-962-6433 smithmarsy@aol.com



It was great seeing everyone at the March meeting.



Some bad news - Julie Patten had a stroke in early February right after our luncheon.

She is at Health South in Sunrise. Her husband reports that her leg is not

coming back as fast but other extremities are better. She will be there at least a week. She would love visitors.

Thank you to those who have donated greeting cards. If you hear of a member who is ill, or has lost a loved one, please let me know. You can contact me by e-mail (above).

See you in April! Marsy

Health & I+PS

Chairman: Kathlyn Barno
954-581-4731 BB9214@aol.com



Hail to all the brave students at Stoneman Douglas High School. They have heroically distinguished themselves. Hail to the teachers who unselfishly presented themselves to protect their students from the assassin's bullets. We are deeply grieved for those young people who had their lives snatched from them far too soon and the teachers who gave their last measure of devotion for their students.

Last month I talked about participating in the 2018 elections. Now we have every reason, we have an obligation, to run, walk, crawl to the election box. Let's stand behind these students and help make our schools safe again. This cannot go on. We need to

join in and say "Never Again".

When tragedies strike we are often asked to donate blood. Some of us wonder if it is OK to do so because we have certain ailments. According to the Red Cross under certain conditions: Diabetes - if it is under control with insulin or oral medication; Hypertension - if pressure is below 180 systolic and 100 diastolic at the time of donation; Heart Disease - must be free of heart-related symptoms in the last six months and have been medically evaluated and treated. Cancer - if you have been cancer-free for more than 12 months unless you had leukemia, lymphoma or other blood cancers.

Happy Easter Kathlyn

Community Service

Chairman: Darcia Drago
954-977-7247 dardra@att.net



The staff at the Florida Humane Society greatly appreciated our donation of pet and household supplies to the shelter.

Thank you for supporting our community service projects throughout the year. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for new group projects for the coming year.

BCREA only reported 12,600 community service hours this year. Unfortunately this is a significant decrease from last year's totals. Please remember to report your hours every month so that we can do better next year.

Congratulations to Mary Ellen Fowler, BCREA's nominee for District 10 Volunteer of the Year.

Darcy



Thanks, BrightStar!

Thanks to Bright Star Credit Union for their generous donation of \$2000 which supports the BCREA Newsletter and the Membership Handbook. Below, Michael Cardona presents the check to President Carol Roland at the March meeting.



The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by

Bright Star
CREDIT UNION

Call (954)468-2728 or Online at BSCU.org

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946

Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



2018-2019 BCREA and FREA MEMBERSHIP DUES

We urge you to pay your dues early before reminders from BCREA and FREA. are mailed to you.

When you pay the dues of \$50 directly to BCREA you have only one mailing. State Dues are \$35 and Broward Unit Dues are \$15. Your State Dues are mailed to FREA by our Treasurer.

BCREA had 311 members this past year. Let's continue to increase our membership. If you know retired educators who are not members or have discontinued their membership, please reach out and urge them to join. I can send them an information packet if you contact me with the mailing address. Bring in 3 new members this year and you will receive a \$25. gift certificate.

Please call or email me with your questions.

Susan

Passages



Happy Birthday to our
Birthday Club

(members over 85!)

Carol Merz 3/31

Gwen Thompson 4/10

Jimmie Wickham 4/30



Thinking of You....

Myken Brady

Julie Patten

Arline Ziller

BROWARD COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

_____ I would prefer to receive my Newsletter by email only

Date Retired _____ Retired From _____

Position _____

Dues:\$50.00; Donation for Scholarships: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Please make check payable to BCREA and mail to

Susan Lochrie, BCREA Membership

P.O. Box 30533

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33303

Need Help With Taxes?

Established in 1968 with the cooperation of the Internal Revenue Service, the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program is a free service. Nationwide, nearly 36,000 volunteers help more than 2.6 million taxpayers annually.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. Through a cadre of trained volunteers, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide has helped low- to moderate-income individuals for more than 40 years in every state and the District of Columbia. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in cooperation with the IRS.

Call 888-227-7669 to find a location near you!

(FYI - this is also the number to reach driver safety information that Sandy Le-fkowitz teaches.)



As you can see from the photos, quite a few members celebrated St. Patrick's Day a wee bit early! Hospitality Chairman **Ilene Miller** reported 53 attendees at the March meeting.



Winners in the **Scholarship Fundraiser** were Above, L-R: **Sally Macak**, \$20; **Marianne Scott**, \$10; **Karen Uris**, \$10; and **Jane Keyes**, \$10.

Evelyn Morris and Bobbie Lou David won the flowers donated, as always, by **Carol Roland**.

Myken Brady is still healing from her severely broken elbow and arm. She won't be able to do the scrapbook, so if there's anyone who'd like the job, let President Carol know. Sorry to hear about **Juli Patten's** stroke but happy to know she's recovering. **Arline Ziller** isn't up to attending meetings but likes to hear from people. Give her a call.

See all the rest of the photos on Shutterfly! Go to the website <http://browardrea.org> and click on Photos on Shutterfly.

Happy Passover! Happy Easter! Happy Spring! *Bev*

Mary Ellen Fowler is BCREA Volunteer of the Year

Mary Ellen Fowler is one busy lady, amassing over 1800 community service hours this year. In addition to chairing BCREA's By Laws Committee and serving on our Literacy Committee she volunteers at her church as a lector and training other lectors. She also serves communion to the homebound. She is a board member and secretary of Bold Justice and mentors potential school administrators. Mary Ellen volunteers at Sheridan Park Elementary School in their Career Explorers Program and is involved in local book drives and the Broward County Literary Fair.



Well done Mary Ellen! Good luck in District competition.

BCREA VOLUNTEER REPORTING FORM

Name _____
(Please Print)

Month _____, 201__

Volunteer hours working with adults _____
(persons who are non-family members;
this also includes literacy hours)

Volunteer hours working with youth _____
(Persons 25 years of age or younger;
This also includes literacy hours)

Bring this to our next meeting, e-mail it to me at dardra@att.net or mail it to me at:

Darcia Drago
4346 Carambola Circle North
Coconut Creek, FL 33066

From the Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc
954-962-7343 Flsun1@comcast.net



Thank you to all the members who have recently contributed to our Scholarship Fund while paying annual dues. To all of you who have not yet paid your dues,

please consider including extra money for scholarships. We would like to recognize the following members for their benevolence: *Marelise*

Scholarship Donations

Donor
Myken Brady
Bev Hoppe
Ron Mayhew
Ron Mayhew
Ron Mayhew
Ron Mayhew

In Memory Of
Shirley Ernst
Shirley Ernst
Artis Jack Hall, John Broome,
Nathanial Dick Dixon
William Red Wilson,
Charles D. McCoy

Undesignated Donations

Milton Brantferger	Bobbie Lou David
Eleanor Gaston	F. Ann Graves
Marge Gregg	Ruth Hopper
James Etta Warner	Theodora Williams

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FREF Scholarship Extravaganza **Tickets - Only \$10.00**

Buy your tickets now for 2 Chances to win:

First, you will be in the District drawing for a \$100 winner in Broward, Dade or Palm Beach.

Second, you will have a chance to win:

\$500 Cash - 1st Prize

\$300 Cash - 2nd Prize

\$200 Cash - 3rd Prize

Buy Tickets at the January - March meetings or fill out the form below and send with a check to:

Anne French

1017 NE 28 Drive

Wilton Manors, FL 33334

Make your check payable to FREF (Florida Retired Educators Foundation).

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

All donations will be used to fund the general scholarship program as well as the operating expenses of the Foundation.

