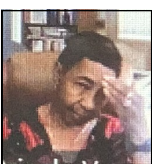
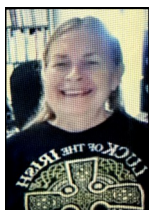




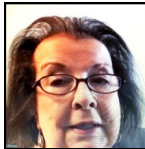
March Has Memorial, Membership and Nominations

Membership Chairman **Susan Lochrie** recruited **Val Proffer**, **Juanita Pringle**, **Julia Penley**, **Lenora Smoot**, **LuAnn Comes** to speak about what they like about BCREA. **Val Proffer** taught at Dillard Elementary with **Eartha-Iene Perry**. They attended a retirees' luncheon with Lillian and Karen and they invited them to attend a meeting. And they've been members



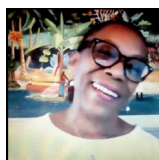
ever since. **Juanita Pringle** was brought in by **Helen Munnings**. Past Friendship

chairman **Julia Penley** moved



to Colorado 3 years ago and has been attending our Zoom

meetings since the beginning. **Leonora Smoot** loves the luncheon pot lucks as she loves cooking and eating! She likes connecting with co-workers and members and believes technology keeps us motivated.



And finally, **LuAnn Comes**



made a great chart showing what BCREA

means to her.

Jean Anderson is Volunteer of the Year

By Darcy Drago

Jean Anderson currently serves on our scholarship, fundraising and literary committees and formerly served on the hospitality committee. She also participated in our drive-through handbook/directory distribution. Jean volunteers at El Centro Hispanico, working with immigrant children and their parents, tailoring their English lessons to job and survival skills. She also volunteers for Bold Justice, an organization that succeeded in ending the arrest of youth for non-violent misdemeanors, instead suing civil citations. This legislation has thus far saved 31,000 children from an arrest record that would have marked them for life. When her church had to pivot to on-line services due to the pandemic, Jean recorded Bible readings, prayers and reflections for them to use. Jean says that when she was a teacher her rewards were intrinsic but now in retirement her volunteer work has become a source of joy.



9 Remembered in Memorial Service



Each year BCREA takes time to remember the members who have

passed away in the previous year. This year 9 members were honored at the March meeting. Because the meeting was via Zoom, there were no candles or flowers.

Frances Smoot and **Darcy Drago** pictured above at last year's memorial con-

ducted the ceremony. Frances read "Recipe For a Teacher" and Darcy read each name and told a few things about each one.

In Memoriam 2020

Kathlyn Barno

Anita Bullock

Ron Davis

Joseph Eddings

Jean Gray

Faye Mullarkey

Doris Stern

Norma VanBuskirk

Geneva Yokel

April 1 Meeting

Place: Zoom

Time: April 1 2021 12:00 Noon

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2917699881?pwd=TURYUzhRR2g3bFZQSDZPV3VQclJldz09>

Meeting ID: 291 769 9881

Passcode: BCREA2020

Program: David Watkins, Ed.S

"Courageous Conversation"

Passover:

3/27-4/04



Easter 4/04



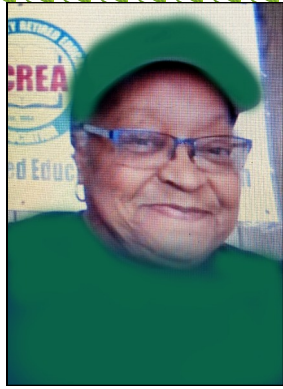
3/18 - 1:00-3:00 PM "Make Your Own Lunch"

4/22 - 1:00-3:00 PM "Make a Money Shirt"

President's Corner

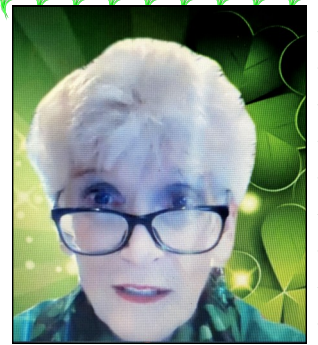
A journey is a journey is a journey ad infinitum. We generally think of the journey as one singular pathway. I have come to realize that a journey, even when we care to say Life's Journey, is much more than a singular pathway or pursuit. There are far-reaching tentacles that lead us in many directions; many of which are moving at the same time. We find balance to do all of what we need to do. We embark upon many journeys during a lifetime when we pursue various avenues of involvement, each with their own challenges and expectations. There is that Journey of Family, with parenting, grandparenting, and relatives; birthdays, graduations, weddings, family reunions. There is the Journey of a Career- when we spent hours upon hours in some school imparting knowledge, guiding, encouraging, motivating, and preparing our students for the future ahead. There is the Journey of Community, the Journey of Church Involvement, the Journey of Volunteerism, to name a few more protruding tentacles of our Life's Journey. We are at that station in life when we realize how important our health and well-being are to our enjoyment of the life we now have. So we add one more significant tentacle - the Journey of Aging Well. Though we may not be enjoying all of our prior commitments, we still have much to give, and can do so when we keep our wellness in the forefront of our involvement. The key to wellness is a good disposition of what our needs are in maintaining a healthy body. Now that SPRING IS HERE it is time to make those Springtime Resolutions for enjoying our beautiful weather with a Journey to Fit And Fabulous for aging well!

Lillian



President-Elect's Corner

As your President-Elect 2020-2021, I am humbled and happy to accept your nomination as President of BCREA for 2021-2022. I hope someone out there gives some serious thought to becoming President-Elect for next year! I promise I will provide you with all the support you need as well as the other members who have graciously supported me this year. We are here to continue the rich history and legacy of this organization founded in 1965. Speaking of rich history, I thoroughly enjoyed February's Black History Month Celebration, brought to us by **Diane Texter** and her fabulous team! Who knew **Leola Collins** of Collins Elementary was **Karen Collins Avery's** grandmother? Thank you, Diane, and "Oscars" to all who participated! You can purchase "Legends of Broward," educational black history trading cards by local art curator Emmanuel George at <https://thecreatecollective.com/.../legends-of-broward...> March's meeting was equally enlightening, as **Susan Lochrie** and her Testimonial Team presented Membership Month! It was terrific to hear members' stories of joining BCREA and the benefits they've built through the years. **Carol Roland** added FREA's latest legislative report, while **Darcy Drago** and **Frances Smoot** held our traditional Memorial Service, remembering all our outstanding members who have passed on. Thank you, Susan, for coordinating this beautiful day! **David Watkins, Ed.S.**, Director of Equity & Diversity, Broward County Public Schools, will bring us "Courageous Conversation: Understanding and Combating Racism" at our next meeting on April 1, 2021. ZOOM in from wherever you are to learn more about this culturally responsive topic. See you then! *Sue*



The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by

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CREDIT UNION

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

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



Community Service

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



Our Congratulations to **Jean Anderson**, BCREA's nominee for District 10 Volunteer of the Year. We wish her well in District competition. For the calendar year 2020 we reported 4,506 commu-

nity service hours to FREA; 648 of those hours involved working with the youth in our community. Thanks to everyone who turned in their volunteer hours.

Darcy

Legislative/Nominating

Chairman: Carol Roland
954-472-2389 carolrbeads@aol.com



FREA is especially concerned about

Florida Senate Bill 84.

It is a proposal that will in effect demolish the Florida Retirement System. Passage would abolish the current Florida Retirement System which provides for guaranteed "defined benefits" at retirement and would require teacher enrollment in a 401(K) Investment Plan rather than that would provide no guaranteed benefits.

Similar plans were created in Alaska, Michigan and West Virginia have proven to be a disastrous mistake. Florida teachers, law enforcement and fire personnel, and city, county and state employees deserve better. Please contact your senator and representative in opposition to this bill.

Slate for 2021-2022 Announced

In accordance with the BCREA Constitution, the Nominating Committee recommends the following as nominees for the 2021-22 BCREA Offices:



L to R: President, **Sue Colton**; President-elect: **Needed Secretary, Karen Avery**; and Treasurer **Marelise LeClerc**. Voting will take place at the April meeting.



Information Services

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



It is that time again - 2020 Income Tax Returns - and it is NEVER too early to start. Last year COVID provided a delay, this year there is NO EXTENDED DEADLINE. Taxes are due on April 15, 2021! There is some good news. There is a new tax return for seniors called 1040 SR. This form has larger text, less shading and an easier to read format. Another plus is that the form lists bigger senior specific standard deductions for those over age 65. Another plus for this year is that Stimulus Checks are not considered income and are not taxable and if you are one of the people who is missing a stimulus check (or part of), it can be claimed on the 2020 form as a tax credit called the Recovery Rebate Credit. If you need assistance with your Income Tax Return, the IRS offers FREE assistance for seniors with two programs: 1 - the Tax Counseling for Elderly Program (TCE) and 2 - the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). You can check on the IRS.gov site to see if you qualify for this free service. As if filing taxes is not "taxing" enough, we are also being warned about the spam, phishing, and other red flags for fraud by cybercriminals during tax season. Morgan Stanley suggests that we request an

Identity Protection Pin if using the IRS site. Use a Multi-Factor Authentication whenever it is offered and to file early to be ahead of any cybercriminals who might try to use your Social Security number. Our pursuit of safety continues. Recently, one of our members' phone was hacked. Do you know if you have been hacked? Do you know what to do if you have been hacked? Here are some suggestions from various on line sources. If your phone experiences any of the following, you may have been hacked: frequent battery drain, strange pop ups, unusual lights or Flashes, texts or calls not made by you, higher than normal data usage, or appearance of apps you don't recognize. If you have been hacked, here are some suggestions: change passwords, select a highly rated password manager, remove apps you do not recognize, check your bank statements, be careful about using public Wi-Fi, turn on two factor authentication, de-authorize apps on Facebook, Twitter, Google, etc., delete sensitive information from your account, tell you friends/ contacts and keep your phone updated.) When next we meet it will be April 1st so Happy April Fools' Day in advance. April 2nd is a little more important for two reasons: World Autism Awareness Day and International Children's Book Day. Stay fit, stay sharp, and send positive thought to others.

Sallie

Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



The more people who join BCREA and FREA the more power we have in making our concerns heard by the Florida State Legislature. Payment of Membership Dues starts in March. Thanks to all of you who have already sent in your dues for 2021-22. We encourage every one to pay early, if possible, before June 2021. Pay your dues of \$50 directly to BCREA so that you have only one check and one mailing. Your \$35 State dues are mailed to FREA by our Treasurer. The \$15 is for the Broward Unit expenses including the Newsletter printing and all mailings.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: If you choose to pay your dues directly to FREA please remember to add \$15 for local dues. If you pay dues to FREA you don't need to pay us again. We are reimbursed for the local dues payment.

Please call or email me and I'll be delighted to answer questions about your local and state dues.

Susan

Passages



Happy Birthday to our
Birthday Club

(members over 85!)

Mary Bedard 4/2

Lillian Johnston 4/3

Gwen Thompson 4/10

Eleanor Majerus 4/23

Jimmie Wickham 4/30



Thinking of You....

Martha Pipes

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: _____

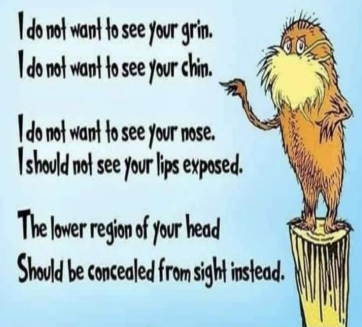
Please make check payable to BCREA and mail to

Susan Lochrie, BCREA Membership

P.O. Box 30533

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33303

Many of our members have had their Covid vaccinations but the instructions from the CDC say to continue wearing your mask for a while longer. Here's a fun version of the edict:



Literacy

Chairman: Sandy Lefkowitz
954-473-9480 Slef123@bellsouth.net



Join BCREA and take time to cook up some literacy. The March 18th cooking experience, preparing a scrumptious 3-course meal with a chef, is a unique fundraiser. It's a time to enjoy cooking and having fun with friends. Let's continue to gather around and share some favorite titles that are related to cooking. For example, I'm sure you have shared the book "Green Eggs and Ham" with some youngsters. Have you also

shared "Cook-a-Doodle-Do" by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens? Or "Baloney (Henry P.)" by Jon Seiszk? Or "Miss Spider's Tea Party" by David Kirk? These are fun reads for any age! And may I also name some adult fiction novels to enjoy: "Delicious!" by Ruth Reichl and "Chocolat" by Joanne Harris. So curl up, take pleasure and feast your eyes on some tasty books.

Sandy



I had the nicest call on Valentine's Day. I missed the call which went to voice mail - and I was glad it did



as I was happy I could save it. It was longtime member Helen Munnings who sang a rendition of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." I know I wasn't the only one whom she serenaded - Josephine Walker received one too. Thanks, Helen!

Former members Brian and Barbara Rowland have rejoined even though they are living in Orlando. She's been attending our Zoom meetings and played BINGO. Welcome back!

Have you noticed there hasn't been a coupon for the FREF Extravaganza in the past 2 issues? That's because Anne

French sold all of them already! I didn't even get one!

At the Membership meeting, President Lillian presented a new banner to the club! Thanks, Lillian!

Once again, our condolences go to Martha Pipes whose daughter Cindy Arnst succumbed to a Parkinson's-like disease just a month after her sister Bette passed. Happy Passover! Happy Easter!

Happy

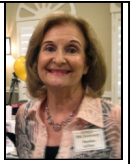


Spring!

Bev

From the Treasurer

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



Forty-four members and friends participated in our Zoom Bingo held on February 18. The winners of the \$20 Amazon cards were: Rhonda Bandis, Patti Read, Robin Newman, Ilene Miller and Suzanne Atkin. The two top winners for a \$25 gift certificate were Anne French and Sally Macak.

With the extra donations many of you sent, we made almost \$800! That is almost one scholarship! I always say that educators are the most generous people of all!

Thanks to all who played.

We have just begun renewing membership for the 2021-2022 year. Already, with fewer than 30 people paying, scholarship donations have amounted to \$875! Much gratitude to the following:

Scholarship Donations

DONOR:

IN MEMORY OF:

Pauline & Robert Green

Ulysses Jackson, Sr.

Dorothy Howard

Kathlyn Barno

Susan Lochrie

Kathlyn Barno

UNDESIGNATED DONATIONS:

Susan Barber

Carol Call

Maureen Cleary

Doris Cotnoir

Darcy Drago

Anne French

Ann Graves

Marjorie Gregg

Micaela Hawn

Ruth Hooper

Dorothy Howard

Phyllis Kublin

Linda Marable

Sallie Sherwood

Jean Shiskin

Maria Tracy

Marelise

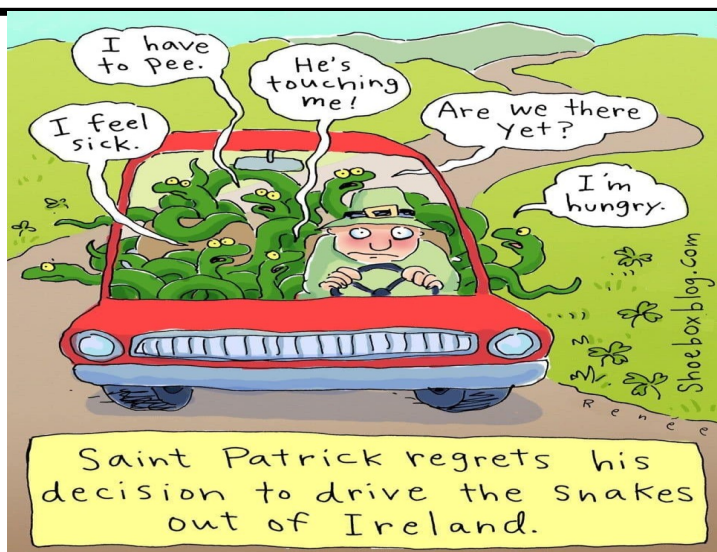
The devil whispered to me, "I'm coming for you." I whispered back, "Bring pizza."

Me: (sobbing my heart out, eyes were swollen, nose red)...I can't see you anymore. I am not going to let you hurt me like this again!

Trainer: It was a sit up.



- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



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)

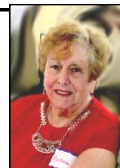
Volunteer hours working with youth _____
(Persons 25 years of age or younger;
This also includes literacy hours)

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

Darcia Drago
2505 Dagoon Avenue
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Fund Raising

Chairman: Barbara Lewis
954-562-1936 barbarabeth1@att.net



Hi Everyone,
Hope to see all of you at our March fundraiser.

"Make Your own Lunch"

March 18 1:00-3:00.

A chef will teach us to make a salad, stuffed chicken
and a dessert. Send your \$20 check and email address
to: Diane Texter

742 NW 69 Terrace
Margate, Fla 33063

It will be yummy, so please support us for
some fun.



Also, on April 22, from 1:00-3:00, we will
have the April Fundraiser, "Make A Money
Shirt." It's a great gift card.
Join us on Zoom and follow along as we
make this unique card.

Please send \$5 and your Email address to:

Sandy Lefkowitz
1141 NW 105 Way
Plantation, FL 33322
The deadline is April 15

Help Wanted

Nominee for President-elect
Call Carol Roland to volunteer
or to nominate someone!