

BCREA Newsletter



February, 2020

Broward County Retired Educators' Association

<http://browardrea.org>

Number 283

League of Women Voters is More than Voting!

At the January meeting, League of Women Voters' speakers **Barbara Markley** and **Deborah Davis** presented a program dealing with gun safety. "Lock It Up!" was the title of their



presentation which included 13 slides. Who knew the LWV was involved in this issue!! The purpose is primarily to prevent children - espe-

cially teenagers - from having access to guns. In the US, there are 1,700 child and teen homicides by guns every year. In 2016, over 3000 children died by firearms. This includes suicides - children as young as 10 are sometimes suicidal. Nine out of 10 people who attempt suicide and fail won't try again. Having access to a gun increases their chance of success. Every 15 hours, a woman is killed by an intimate partner. Availability of a gun increases the risk of death by 500%.

According to their website, <https://www.lwvbroward.org>



The League of Women Voters was founded by **Carrie Chapman Catt** in 1920 during the convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. The

League got its official start in Florida in 1939 and was followed by the establishment of the League of Women Voters of Broward County in 1953. Strictly nonpartisan, the League has never supported any candidate for office at any level of government. At the same time, the League is wholeheartedly political and works to influence policy through advocacy. Visit their website to find out all they do!



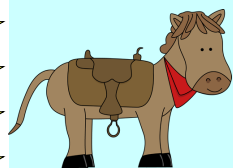
From Luncheon Chair Diane Texter Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Thursday, February 6, 2020, 11:30 am

Howdy, Y'all! Get ready to do the Texas Two Step at our Annual Scholarship Luncheon. Bring your cowboy hats to **Tropical Acres Restaurant** 2500 Griffin Road.

Tickets are \$35 each with a choice of beef, fish, chicken, or a vegetation plate. Tickets will not be sold at the door. They may now be ordered by mail. See the form on page 5 in this Newsletter. Send your order with a self-addressed-stamped-envelope to **Diane Texter** by February 1.

We enjoy seeing friends at the luncheon. We would like to see your smiling face there. Sorry, no horses permitted! **Diane**



February 6 - Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Time: 11:30 am

Place: Tropical Acres Restaurant

Address: 2500 Griffin Road
(1/2 mile west of I-95)
954-761-1744

Program: Broward County's Cultural Division
Western music

On the Agenda:
Scholarship Fundraiser



Bring to meeting:

Change for the Pot of gold

\$\$ to buy fundraiser tickets

Books for Elementary Students

Boxtops & Labels for Education

Aluminum pull-tabs

Old cell phones & eyeglasses

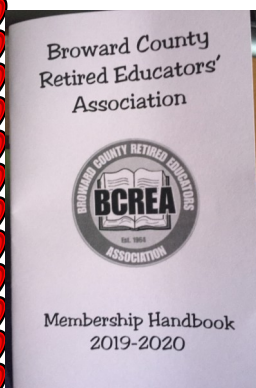
.....And wear western attire!



President's Corner

February is the Love Month. We can start our Love Crusade now if it didn't happen under the mistletoe, or at a favorite spot on New Year's Eve.

We are so loved already in our BCREA unit. So much of this love is found between the pages of the little Big Book we call our Directory or Membership Handbook.



We issue a new, updated copy each year to all members. Colleagues we worked with, friendships we made, and relationships we shared, are bound between the pages of this book with an organizational structure that includes Officers, a Constitution, By-Laws, and Committees. This is the essence of BCREA.

Browsing through this publication from time to time, I have often wondered about the many ways each of us can find it useful to ourselves personally and to our organization. You would be surprised to see the names of persons you knew so many years ago and wondered where they were now; or find someone nearby that you thought had moved away; or find someone who did move away and is still living in retirement in some far-away place. You might find a reconnection with a colleague with whom you shared a great working relationship. Reasons. Reasons. Reasons. Such a plethora of information and so many reasons this little Big Book can be beneficial to you and to us as an organization. For BCREA, this is a great year we can spread the love of who we are and why we are. It is relevant to our survival as a professional organization with a futuristic purpose. It is paramount! We can strengthen, stimulate, and steer our unit to greater heights. We can engage ourselves more with the initiatives and projects we have established to support. We can encourage the participation of others in what we do. We can reach out and bring others into our unit. Most importantly, can peruse our little Big Book with advantage and responsibility.

P.S. Maybe this message really is not just about Love. Let's say Love and Resolutions for 2020.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Lillian

Legislative

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



Sue Coulter of the Legislative Committee will represent Broward County in Tallahassee at the FREA Legislative meeting at the end of February. At our March meeting, she will update us on her meeting with state legislators.

Are you registered to vote? If not, now is the time to register since we have many local, state and national elections coming up this year.

- ♦ Do you know who your local state Senator and Representative are?

If not, e-mail me the district you live in and I will let you know. Don't know your Districts either? Just log on <https://www.flsenate.gov> (for senators) and <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov> for the House of Representatives and click on "Find my Senator" or "Find my Representative." Then type in your address and the information will come up.

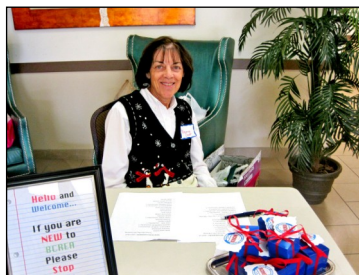
- ♦ The opening session of the State Legislature is Tuesday January 14.

By our February meeting we should know the bills which will be considered this year. Additional information will be given at the February meeting.

Carol

Friendship

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



I want to thank **Marianne Scott** and **Betty Clark** for their help at our January meeting.

As we enter a new year, please keep any members in

mind who may be ill or would enjoy a "Thinking of You" card. Just email me their names.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our luncheon!

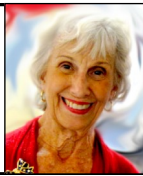
Marsy



Membership...

Chairman: Susan Lochrie

954-525-8503 or slochrie@bellsouth.net



Most of our members like to attend meetings where they can continue friendships and make new friends. Some of our loyal members pay dues and support the Scholarship fund but never attend meetings. Some don't come to meetings because they live far away, but some live near but no longer attend meetings. If you have not attended a meeting for a year or more please make a special effort to attend in March. If you know members who have not attended a meeting for a long time, please call them and ask them to come. Contact me if there is someone I can call and send more information about BCREA. **Susan**

In 2019-20 we have 287 members with 32 new members, the largest number of NEW members we have had in several years. This positive trend is good news for the future.

Throughout the US membership in volunteer organizations has been declining. This lack of social interaction adds to feelings of isolation and loneliness. Interaction online is convenient but it's not the same as "face to face" time spent with people.

Retirement from full time

employment gives us a chance to explore many interests. We need to consider joining volunteer organizations that have a mission we can believe in. Membership in the Broward County Retired Educators Association gives us the opportunity to donate time and money to help young people attend college through scholarships. We also can support the work of the Florida Educators Association with the State Legislature in protecting our pensions.

Volunteer Services/Handbooks

Chairman: Darcia Drago

954-977-7247 dardra@att.net



Thanks for helping to replenish the school supplies at the Broward Education Foundation's Resource Center. Your contribution is much appreciated at this time of year when supplies run low.

Thanks to **Mary Taylor**, who is one of our members and one of their volunteers,



for delivering the donated items. As former educators this is a great way to give back to the school system.

You can increase your chances of winning a prize at the February scholarship luncheon if you turn in your community service reporting form that day you will receive an extra ticket for the door prize drawings.

Darcy

Passages



Happy Birthday to our Birthday Club (members over 85!)

Miriam "Mimi" Bond 2/02
Evelyn Morris 2/07
Eleanor Meyer 2/22



Thinking of You....

Cynthia Johnson
Sallie Sherwood
Arline Ziller

BCREA Officers...

President

Lillian Small
954-288-9211

President-Elect
Vacant

Secretary

Karen Avery
954-806-1678

Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc
954-962-7343



Treasures for the Dollars for Scholars baskets still needed. If you were not able to bring your items to the meeting, contact Anne French before January 30. Think about donating unwanted holiday presents or gift cards. Remember these baskets help to raise money for student scholarships. Please do not wait to bring your items to the Luncheon.

Social Committee

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



Hopefully everyone is sticking to their New Year's Resolutions. If you didn't have a chance to commit to something, don't worry, you still have enough time to set a 2020 goal. One of your New Year's Resolutions could be to remember to recycle those empty water bottles and cans at the luncheons and don't forget to give the pull tabs to Darcy Drago. When next we meet for our February

6th Annual Scholarship Luncheon at Tropical Acres, it will be National Frozen Yogurt Day! So enjoy some yogurt on your way home from the luncheon. **Please remember to bring your serving utensil** with you pot luck dish to the March meeting at Deicke Auditorium. Your Social Committee wishes everyone a very healthy, safe and happy 2020.

Sallie

From the Treasurer

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



If you have not yet paid for the Annual Scholarship Luncheon, please consider donating an extra few dollars to your check. An even \$50 will pay for your lunch-
eon AND add an extra \$15 towards a scholarship for this year. Thank you to the following members who did contribute extra when paying for their Luncheon:

Scholarship Donations

LuAnn Comes Evelyn Morris

Marianne Scott

Joyce Stokes

JamesEtta Warner

Marelise

Literacy

Chairman: Sandy Lefkowitz
954-557-5817. Slef123@bellsouth.net



IMPORTANT NOTICES:

*1 The deadline for the fifth grade essay contest is February 10. Please contact your schools and see if they have any student essays to enter. The contest is easy: 500 words or less about an experience with a grandparent

or grandparent figure. Remember there are cash prizes for the winners!

*2 We are in need of children's books, preschool to



young adult, new or gently used. Please bring books to the February luncheon and to the March meeting.

Thanks so much for all your donations. Karen Avery (left) is one of our volunteer readers for young students.



Sandy



The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by



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

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



BCREA VOLUNTEER REPORTING FORM

Name _____
(Please Print)

Month _____, 20____

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 Dahoon Avenue
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Bev's Bytes...

You probably noticed that someone very important to the Social Committee was missing at the meeting. Chairman **Sallie Sherwood** tripped over her dog, fell and broke her shoulder - right before Christmas! She is healing but must avoid crowds (and probably dogs!) for the foreseeable future. Condolences to **Cynthia Johnson** whose husband **Jackie Johnson** passed recently. There were 52 members and 1 guest in attendance at the January meeting. Winners in the scholarship drawing were: (l-r) \$20, **Suzanne Atkin**; \$10 each, **Juli**



Patten, and once again **Suzanne Atkin**! She remarked, "Great! Now I can afford my luncheon ticket!"



And last, **Linda Gibson** won **Darcy Drago's** volunteer hours drawing!

And that's the last byte for February!

Happy Valentine's Day!

Happy Frozen Yogurt Day! Bev

Scholarship Luncheon Ticket Order Form

Number of tickets: _____ @ \$35.00 each

Extra Donation: _____

Entrée choices: _____ Beef _____ Chicken
_____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

Name _____ Entrée Choice _____

Send a check made out to BCREA
Include a Self-addressed, stamped envelope

to

Diane Texter by February 1
742 NW 69 Terrace
Margate, FL 33063

FREF Extravaganza Tickets - Only \$10.00

Buy your tickets now for 2 Chances to WIN:

1st - \$100 Cash Guaranteed Prize to a winner in District 10:

Dade, Broward or Palm Beach. PLUS

2nd - \$500 Cash - 1st Prize

\$300 Cash - 2nd Prize

\$200 Cash - 3rd Prize

Donations are used to fund scholarships for future Florida teachers. 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.

BCREA NEWSLETTER

Published 8 times a year, September – April by the
BROWARD COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
1040 SW 52 Avenue
Plantation, FL 33317

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL
PERMIT NO. 409**

**- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**



Pictured above are the BCREA Board members who gathered at Bev Hoppe's home on December 16 for their annual holiday meeting. They enjoyed lunch and had a Chinese-auction style gift exchange! Front: **Karn Avery, Diane Texter, Marsy Smith, Lillian Small, Bev Hoppe**. Rear: **Susan Lochrie, Suzanne Atkin, Anne French, Marelise LeClerc, and Linda Gibson**.



A malfunctioning microphone caused problems at the meeting.

Seen at the
January
Meeting

Betty, Jen and Sandy
helped with the lunch-
eon prep and clean-up!



Diane Texter, Earthalene Perry and Val Proffer sell tickets for the February Luncheon.

