

BCREA Newsletter



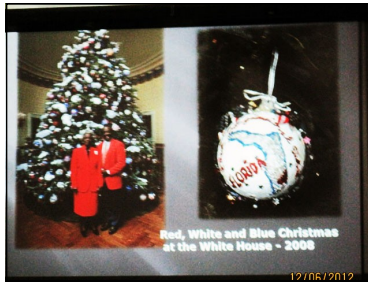
January, 2013

Broward County Retired Educators' Association

Number 226

George Gadson: Polk County to the White House!

Sculptor **George Gadson** hails from Polk County, FL, graduated from Duke, studied in Valencia, Spain and became a banker - and then found his passion. He enrolled in Hillsborough Community College to study art in 1981 and the rest is history - it became his life. At the December meeting, he shared his most important works in a slide show. His work



includes paintings, photography and even poetry (*Art Psalms*, 2007) as well as sculpture and vary in size from the tiny Christmas ornament to the 12-foot sculpture at the African-American Cultural Center. He chairs the Public Art Committee in Tamarac and served as the lead designer in Dania Beach's Art & Antiques Design Report. In December of 2008, he designed an ornament for the White House Christmas Tree. Being able to take his mother to the White House when the ornament was presented was an emo-

tional time for both of them - and especially to be there with the first black President. In 1995 and 1999, the South Florida Super Bowl Host Committee commis-



sioned Gadson to design commemorative bronze sculptures that were given as gifts to the National Football League teams' owners and Super Bowl VIP's. If and when the Super Bowl is held here again, he will do another one.

He's involved in education: one of his projects was the "Shoe Project" in which kids brought old shoes and told the shoe's story from a first-person viewpoint. To learn more about this versatile and prolific artist, visit his website at <http://www.georgegadson.com>

Scholarship Luncheon To Be Held On February 7

The annual BCREA Scholarship Luncheon will be held

Thursday, February 7, 2012

11:30 am - Social Hour

12 noon - Lunch served

Tropical Acres Restaurant

2500 Griffin Road

(954) 761-1744

Tickets for the luncheon are \$25.00 and will be sold at the January meeting. Or you may order them by mail with the coupon on page 4. Deadline for ordering tickets is January 27.

Please make checks out to BCREA and include a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope with your order. Door prizes are needed! If you have something to donate, please bring them to the January meeting or let Margarite Falconer know.

January 3 Meeting

Time: 11:45 am

Place: Deicke Auditorium

Address: 5701 Cypress Road
Plantation

(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

Program: : Jennifer Passino, Toastmasters



Bring to meeting:

Potluck Dish to Share

School Supplies

Door Prize for Luncheon

Blankies & Pillows

Books for Elementary Students

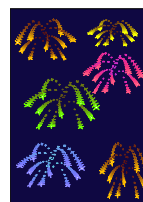
Books for Humane Society

Campbells labels

Aluminum pull-tabs

General Mills labels

Coupons for our troops



President's Corner

According to the Mayan calendar the world is supposed to come to its demise on December 21, 2012. I'm really having a good time right now and hope we'll enjoy each other's company at the January 3, 2013 meeting. But, just in case, we'd all better get out there and do some real partying over the next couple of weeks!



The Nominating Committee is looking for some volunteers to serve in leadership roles for next year. Please don't hide your talent under a bushel. This is a wonderful group of people to work with. We have had many of you step up and show us how you can take charge. Please give **Linda Horton** a call if you'd like to volunteer. Another one of our worker bees is **Carol Roland** who has put together a great line-up of cultural events for us. Please give her a call if you would like to go on a day trip to the Ringling Museum and home. I've been before and I'll go again if we can get the required number of people. If we can't make it this year maybe we can do it next year. Carol also makes those beautiful flower arrangements we give away as prizes for the scholarship raffle at the meetings.

We owe **Darcy Drago**, **Susan Lochrie**, **Judy Joseph** and **Bev Hoppe** a note of thanks for the Directory. It's work but they do it with no complaints. **Diane Texter** and her committee are selling tickets to the February Scholarship Luncheon.

This is our main fundraiser for the year. There will be lots of prizes and great food at Tropical Acres. Please, everyone have a great Holiday and an even better New Year.

Love to you all, *Margarite*

BCREA Officers....

President

Margarite Falconer
954-524-2938

President-Elect

Diane Texter
954-472-8032

Secretary

Josephine Walker
954-742-2430

Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc
954-962-7343

From the President-Elect.

At least once a year I visit my cousin Kay in Texas. Every Wednesday that I am there, she takes me to the El Patio Restaurant to have supper and meet with her Toastmaster's Club. Each meeting is centered around a speech given by a member while the others evaluate the presentation. As a teacher, I have always been confident in my speaking ability. Then one time as I visited, I was asked to speak on any subject but use a list of specific words in my story. I thought I did OK, but my cousin told me I used "uh" three times. Oh, NO! I have improved as I learned the ground rules and every time I go to Texas, I have a story to tell the Toastmasters at the El Patio.

There are many Toastmaster groups in Ft. Lauderdale. Our speaker in January is **Jennifer Passino**, from the Outspoken Toastmasters of Coral Springs. I will be careful to not say "uh" when I introduce her. My cousin, Kay, will be proud.

Diane



Volunteer Services / Directories

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



Volunteer Service

It's a new year and almost the start of second semester so at our

January meeting we will collect school supplies for the Broward Education Foundation's Kids in Need Resource Center. Items on their "wish list" include pens, pencils, markers, notebook paper, crayons, erasers, scissors, tape,

copy paper, notebooks, index cards and binders.

Directory

The 2012-13 Directory was distributed at the December meeting and will also be distributed at our January meeting and at the February scholarship luncheon. Happy New Year!

Darcy

Information Services

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



Remember the resolutions you made this time last year? Are there any there that you have completed, or did you put them away around Valentine's Day and forget all about them? Well now is the time to dust them off, review them, and make them again for this year. You can also add one or two new ones just to freshen up the lot. Here is some interesting information that came from the Pew Research Center. It debunks many of the myths of aging. It found that even though you may have trouble recalling names as quickly as you used to, you still have brain power to spare. In order to keep cognitive skills sharp and avoid dementia, do regular physi-

cal activity and jog your brain by learning new skills. The new technology presents many challenges along these lines. If you experience feelings of depression you don't have to live with them. Depression is treatable. Many sexual issues can be overcome so don't be shy about communicating your problems with your health-care provider. It was found that exercise and proper diet can reduce inflammation associated with cardiovascular disease and can improve and slow age-related muscle loss. Proper diet can control your weight and may prevent cancer and diabetes. So there you are. Have a happy and healthy year!

Kathlyn



Legislative Chairman Nancy Adams gives an update on state bills.

(Below) Marjuree Larin and Dana Saintfort report BrightStar info.



Remember to send your Potluck Recipes to **Bev Hoppe** - either by e-mail to Hapi-Hopi@aol.com, by USPS mail, call me and read it aloud or hand it to me at a meeting. Many thanks to the 19 of our 344 members who have contributed so far!

Bev

Passages



Happy Birthday to our Birthday Club

(members over 85!)

Nancy Sword 1/01

Claudia Finlayson, 1/23

Wilise Langford 1/25



*Thinking of You
Faye Mullarkey*



FREA Travel

Arline Ziller
954-781-4445

FREA Travel Specialist
954-290-9237

arlinez@juno.com



***Transatlantic 15-days on the beautiful Celebrity EQUINOX** departing Fort Lauderdale April 15, 2013 for Nassau; Tenerife & Lanzarote, Canary Islands; Lisbon, Portugal; Gibraltar, UK; Barcelona, Spain. This ship is your resort with all the trimmings. Plan to enjoy the shows etc. **JOIN US**

***PRAGUE TO PARIS, 2013** 12-Day Central European Experience. Features include Paris, Paris- Metz, Remich, Trier, Bernkastel, Cochem, Rhine Gorge, Rudesheim, Miltenberg, Wurzburg, Bamberg, Prague. I have a brochure on-line & am looking forward to being with you on this great land and river tour. "He who hesitates is..." **RESERVE COLLETTEVACATIONS.COM**

***NEW YORK CITY** 5 days includes 2 Broadway shows, New Amsterdam private tour and extras. Contact me & go on-line www.collettevacations.com.

***NATIONAL PARKS of AMERICA**, many dates are available.

***ISRAEL** two unpublished tours, a Biblical Journey & Pilgrimage to the Holy Land each 9-days; Go online and contact me. Follow through today don't wait for tomorrow. . . .!!

Remember our teachers and support them while enjoying the special travel.

Arline

Literacy

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



Happy New Year and Happy Reading!

Here are two ideas to add to your list of New Year's resolutions. Only these two are NOT to be broken!

#1 Read a favorite book to a young child. Take time for you and an older child to read a book together.

#2 Donate one new or gently used child's book to our BCREA book box. If everyone brings one book to the January meeting, we will have more than one hundred books to donate to Kids in Distress.

Sandy

Membership...

Chairman: Susan Lochrie
954-525-8503 or slochrie@bellsouth.net



BCREA is the Broward County Unit of the Florida Retired Educators Association (FREA). Our local unit has 347 members this year. The Florida Retired Educators Association is a state-wide organization working to retain and improve benefits for those who have retired. A representative of the organization watches the activities of the Florida Legislature in matters of the Florida Retirement System.

ALL RETIRED EMPLOYEES of the Broward County schools may join as well as employees of other school systems. Spouses and friends may join also. The dues notice for 2013-2014 will be posted in the March *BCREA Newsletter*. Annual dues are \$50. Dues includes \$35. for FREA membership and \$15. for the local BCREA membership.

Susan

Spotlighting Our Members.... Darcy Drago was named a Broward County Pioneer and Frances Smoot was Volunteer of the Year for the Broward Partnership for the Homeless. Congratulations, Ladies!



Cultural Affairs / FREF

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



Eleven Visit Bonnet House



BCREA's day trip to the Bonnet House on December 4, was an outstanding success. Our own member and Bonnet House Docent **Susan Lochrie**, who led the tour, was a fountain of information on the Barnett Family and the artwork they created throughout Bonnet House. After a two hour tour of the house and gardens, The group then went to the Casablanca Café where members continued to get to know each other over an excellent repast.

Pictured above with Docent Susan Lochrie, (left) are members who attended: (l-r) **Jean Anderson, Barbara Morningstar, Evelyn Morris, Anne French, Nancy Ruiz, Shelia Isiwele, Alyce Aspler, Rosa Parra, Diane Texter and Mattie Brown.** Carol Roland, who also attended, took this picture.

Theater Tickets Coming in January

Theater Tickets for *Damn Yankees*, *Agatha Christie BBC Mystery* and *Capital Steps* will be distributed at the BCREA January Meeting. Show dates are

Damn Yankees -
January 24, 2013, 2:00 PM.
Agatha Christie -
February 2, 8:00PM
Capital Steps -
March 2, 7:30

Carol



FREF Extravaganza

Tickets - Only \$10.00

Buy your tickets now for a Chance to WIN:

Grand Prize I PAD III (\$700)
1st Place Kindle Fire ((\$200)
2nd Place Kindle Fire (\$200)
3rd Place \$200 Cash
4th Place \$100. Cash

Donations are used to provide scholarships for students planning to major in education. Buy Tickets at the next meeting or contact me for tickets.

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)

GRAND TOTAL: _____

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

Bea's Bytes.....

Although there were lots of delicious deserts at the December meeting, 2 of them disappeared the fastest! These were 2 big bowls of trifle—one chocolate, the other pumpkin-gingerbread! I'm hoping their creators send their recipes in for our cookbook! Hospitality Chairman **Martha Pipes** reported that there were 81 members and guests in attendance at the December meeting. In the Scholarship Raffle **Anne French** won \$20; **Charles Pipes** won \$10; and **Diane Raymond** won \$10. **Missy Belsito** and **Kate Alexander** won beautiful flower arrangements; and **Joseph Anselme** won the piggy bank!

Two of our members received some special recognition -



Scholarship Luncheon Ticket Order Form

Number of tickets: _____ @ \$25.00 each
Extra Donation for Scholarships? _____

Entrée choices: **Beef**
 Chicken
 Fish

Name	Entrée Choice
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_____	_____
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_____	_____
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_____	_____
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Send a check made out to BCREA
Include a Self-addressed, stamped envelope

to
Diane Texter
742 NW 69 Terr.
Margate, FL 33063

Darcy Drago was named a Broward County Pioneer last month. **Frances Smoot** isn't one to boast of her accomplishments. It was only by chance that I discovered she'd been named Volunteer of the Year by the Broward Partnership for the Homeless way back in March!! Congratulations to both these deserving members!

On a more serious note, **Faye Mullarkey** was hospitalized recently due to a painful bout with osteoporosis. We wish her a speedy recovery. It was good to have **Doris Emmett** back after her illness. And that's the last byte for this year!

Happy 2013!

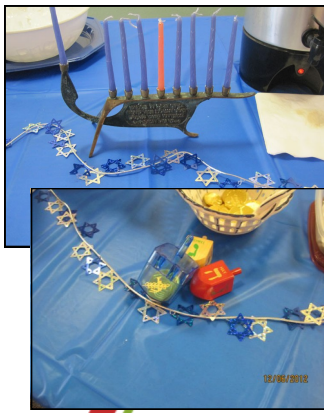
Bea

The cost of the BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by:



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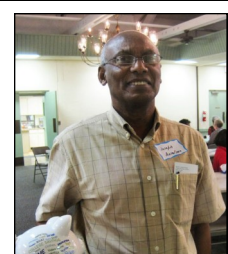
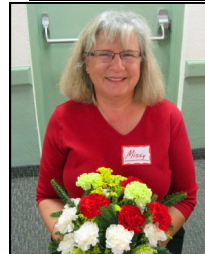


December also
means
Hanukkah—
menorahs, dreidels and stars!



Anne French, Diane Raymond, & Charles
Pipes collect their winnings

Seen at the
December
Meeting



Missy Belsito, Kate Alexander & Joseph
Anselme won the flowers and the pig!

Ready for Christmas:



Susan gets roses from
Carol for guiding the
Bonnet House tour



President-Elect Diane
with Artist Gadson

BCREA NEWSLETTER

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