



BCREA Newsletter



May, 2017

Broward County Retired Educators' Association <http://browardrea.org>

Number 262

Cuevas Discusses 2017 FREA Legislative Priorities

2017-2018 Officers Elected



At the April meeting, the following officers were elected for 2017-2018 club year: L to R - BCREA president will be **Carol Roland**; Lillian Small will be the new president-elect; **Josephine Walker** will serve as secretary for the 7th year; and **Marelise LeClerc** will serve as treasurer for the 8th year.

They will be installed at the May meeting.

FREA President **Roger Cuevas**, making his annual visit to BCREA, discussed FREA's 2017 Legislative priorities. He stated, "We are advocates for public education!" Number 1 on



the FREA Legislative priorities is, "Support legislation designed to provide adequate and equitable funding for public education in Florida." With the advent of new Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, this could become more important since she is known to be an advocate of school vouchers and not a fan of public education. He mentioned that local state senators **Gary Farmer** and **Perry Thurston** are both advocates of Education and encouraged members to contact them to show support. Go to frea.org for more.

May 4 Meeting

Time: 11:45

Place: Deicke Auditorium

Address: 5701 Cypress Road
Plantation

(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

Program: Scholarship & Literacy Awards
Installation of New Officers



Bring to meeting:

Service Hour Reports
Labels for education
Aluminum pull-tabs
Old eyeglasses & Cellphones
Children's books
Dish to share (With a bit extra for our guests)



Diane Texter is BCREA Nominee for District 10 Volunteer of the Year

by Darcy Drago

Diane Texter is a self-described Girl Scout who credits scouting with laying the foundation for her volunteerism over the years. After retiring from a 37-year career as a 2nd grade teacher at Tedder Elementary, Diane volunteered for any project that she thought could use her assistance. She currently volunteers as a Sunday school and Bible school teacher, youth group coordinator & council member at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. As a past-president of BCREA she acts as our advisor and serves on five different committees.



Diane has also taken a young neighbor's child, who was adopted from India, under her wing, tutoring her in English and counseling and mentoring her after her adoptive mother's sudden death.

We are proud that Diane is our Volunteer of the Year and wish her well in District competition.

President's Corner

Two years ago when I became president I wanted "Connections" to be my theme and goal. No one should come to a meeting and go away without meeting someone. So we went to round tables, having a greeter as people came in and having topics to discuss at the beginning of the meetings. This year we added decorating the tables.

As I looked around at our April meeting I saw **Julia Penley** greeting everyone as they came in, the tables looking absolutely beautiful and a great group of people involved in helping others.

Roger Cuevas, president of the Florida Retired Educators Association, was our speaker. He made the point that we had to keep abreast of what is going on in Tallahassee and let our legislators know what is important to us. We told him about the work that **Nancy Adams** and **Kate Alexander** had done in putting the names of our state and national legislators names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses on our BCREA website. We are encouraging our members to become active in letting legislators know what is important to educators here in Broward County.

The connections that I have made are with the greatest group of people you would ever want to work with to fulfill a goal. Our president elect, **Carol Roland**, our secretary, **Josephine Walker** and our treasurer, **Marelise LeClerc** are always there getting things done. The committee chairpeople accomplish so much and give so much of themselves to BCREA. They have all made my job easy and happy.

I hope to always be on committees of BCREA and be a part of our organization. I hope that a number of you will come on board with me to help with new pursuits and keep our unit as one of the best in the state of Florida!

Echo



President-Elect's Corner

May's meeting, of course, the time for celebration where we induct our 2017-18 officers and recognize our essay contest and scholarship winners.

Since there is no program, this *Newsletter* I will talk about a proposal discussed by the Board. It was suggested that when new members join, we give them a lapel pin at their first meeting. Of course, that would also mean that we would present each dues-paying member in attendance a pin as well. We have made no decisions yet but are considering a gold-tone $\frac{3}{4}$ " cloisonné pin embossed with the BCREA logo. We estimate the cost between \$3 - \$4. and it would have a magnetic back so it will stick to your clothes without damaging them. Before we spend any money, we would like your feedback. When you arrive at May's meeting, we will give you a ballot so you can vote on this issue.

Cultural Affairs

Also, don't forget: The trip to Vizcaya is scheduled for Thursday, May 18. We will meet at Vizcaya at 10:00 to tour and have lunch. If interested, E-mail Carol Roland at carolrbeads@aol.com by May 10.

Carol



Community Service

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



The staff and animals at the Florida Humane Society were very appreciative of our donations to the shelter last month. Thank you all for supporting this and all our other community service efforts throughout the year. BCREA reported almost 18,000 community service hours to FREA. This repre-

sents an increase of slightly over 4,000 hours over last year's totals. Keep up the good work and keep turning in your volunteer hours every month! Congratulations to **Diane Texter**, our nominee for District 10 Volunteer of the Year.

Darcy



Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



EARLY COLLECTION OF DUES FOR 2017 - 2018

Reminders from BCREA have been sent to members who still owe BCREA and FREA 2017-18 dues.

In May, the Florida Retired Educators Association will also be sending reminders for membership dues to those members who have not yet paid. .

If you pay the dues of \$50 directly to BCREA you have only one mailing. State dues are \$35 and Broward Unit dues are \$15. The FREA dues are mailed to FREA by our treasurer.

The Broward County Retired Educators Association is our local unit of FREA. We send *Newsletters*, plan the monthly meetings and luncheons and give scholarships every year at the May meeting.

Please pay Your Dues for 2017-18 using the form below or at the monthly meeting.

Please call or email me with your questions.

Susan

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

Passages



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

May

Lillie Fye 5/01
Dorothy McCrain 5/15
Florida Gilmartin 5/18
Lizzie Johnson 5/21
Darlene Utry 5/26
Polly Lenzen 5/27
Robert Green 5/31

June

Glenn Sanderson 6/03
Joseph Eddings 6/09
Ron Davis 6/11
Kathlyn Barno 6/14
Lillian Wilson 6/17
Dolly Burck 6/21
Ed Weaver 6/28

July

Milton Brantferger 7/1
Erma Bell 7/12
Maude Storr 7/16
Pat Schroder 7/21
Jean Childers 7/24
Lucille Folsom-Mason 7/24
Marjorie Gregg 7/28

August

Marie Heastie 8/05
Ruth Edwards 8/07
Betty McNaull 8/07
Margaret Green 8/08
Robin Reinhold 8/16
Sylvia Milks 8/17
Shirley Ernst 8/18
Ruth Van der Walt 8/20

September

Eleanor Gaston 9/15
Tom Drilling 9/27
Donna Whitfield 9/27
Bobbie David 9/28

Health & I+PS

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



Summertime means travel time. We are ready to pack our bags and get away somewhere for a change of pace. Whatever your destination, here are some travel tips to help you avoid any stress or aggravation. These are recommended by Health To You magazine. First of all, become familiar with your destination's special events and attractions so that you won't be surprised by some things unique to that environment. Book flights and hotels a few months in advance. If you have special requests for hotels, let them know early. This way they can better accommodate you. Arrive early for your flight. Heed

the instructions of the airlines. That way if there is a problem, the sooner you know about it, the easier it will be to get it resolved. Don't take unnecessary luggage. Bags must fit airlines' size. Make the most of space by taking mix & match clothes. Fold and roll items to fit tightly together. Wear your bulkiest shoes and clothing while traveling to save space. Be sure that your passport is in order if you are going out of the country, also that you have any needed tourist visas. If your passport is in poor condition, replace it so that you will not have problems with the airlines or immigration.

Friendship

Chairman: Julia Penley
561-465-2739 jgpen581@aol.com



This year has really flown by and soon Summer will be knocking at our door! However, it has been a memorable year as we reflect back on our beloved members who passed away or were ill and those who are still struggling to overcome health problems. We remember **Shirley Ernst** and **Arline Ziller** as they continue their difficult roads to good health. Congratulations to those members who reached that magical age of 85+ this year! May you continue to celebrate many more years!!

At our May meeting we award scholarships to deserving Broward County high school seniors. Two seniors from South Broward High will be given scholarships in memory of **Nancy Ruiz** who taught German and Spanish at South Broward HS for 30 years and was a member of BCREA until her death last November. I know she is so proud that so many of her friends donated to the scholarship fund in her memory to allow this to happen. Have a fun, safe and healthy Summer!!

Julia

From the Treasurer

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



Thanks so very much to **Bright Star Credit Union** for the generous check of \$2000 presented at our April meeting. This money is used to publish our newsletters, Directory, and other organizational expenses. We are grateful for Bright Star's sponsorship and appreciate the collaborative support of our liaison **Michael Cardona**.

We appreciate all the members who have recently included extra money when paying yearly dues. You will note how many members we have that have given most generously. If you have not already paid your dues, please consider including an extra 5, 10 - even \$100 or more! We are so grateful for any money towards our Scholarship Fund. Happy Summer to all!

Marelise

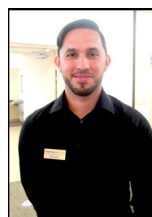
Scholarship Donations

Donor	In Memory Of
Mary Jo Bell	Janie Bonds
Valerie Hinton	Perry Hinton
Ronald Mayhew	John Broome, David Dixon, Artis Hall
Linda Ross	John Sands & Willie Turner, Jr.
Debra Sparacino	Nancy Ruiz
	Nancy Ruiz

Undesignated Donations

Susan Barber	Mary Jo Bell	Julie Biancardi
Myken Brady	Milton Brantferger	Carol Call
Panchitta Chisholm	Linda Combs	JoAnn Corder
Norma Cosby	Doris Cotnoir	Gayle Grossman
Bertilda Henderson	Sharyn Iba	Jacqueline Jackson
Lizzie Johnson	Adelia Jones	Susan Baumgart Jones
Judy Joseph	Phyllis Kublin	Byron Langenfass
Rosemary McGarry	Beverly Merrill	Mary Perfect
Mary Sefferly	Sallie Sherwood	Joyce Stokes
Mary Taylor	Diane Texter	Mark Thomas
Peggy Tingle	Barbara Wilder	

The cost of the BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by:



954-486-2728 • Online at BSCU.org
Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



Although **Madeline Martin** has been living in Vermont for almost 2 years, she's still a contributing BCREA member - she's among last month's scholarship donors. I recently had a nice conversation with **Carol Merz**, another member who lives in Fort Myers but also keeps in touch and contributed to the scholarship fund; she had some sad news to share - her husband Frank died in January from complications of dementia. **Martha Pipes** re-



ported 79 in attendance at the meeting. Winners of the Scholarship Fund-raiser were



Ellie Kelleher \$20
Anne French, \$10;



JoAnn Corder, \$10;



and Karen Avery, \$10!

pictured is **Lynne Ogden** who won a statue of a bird. To encourage everyone to turn in their volunteer hours, **Darcy Drago** has been having a drawing from all those who turn them in and gives a reward to the winner. This month **Juli Cole Patten** was

the lucky one!. Roger Cuevas mentioned that BCREA's **Anne French** is now the FREF state chairman and has managed to raise the FREF scholarship to \$1000 per year! Way to go Anne!

Weren't the teapot

centerpieces beautiful!!

Have a relaxing, enjoyable summer!

And that's the last byte for this year!

Bev

Social Committee

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



First, a round of applause for the adorable and festive table decorations of **Carol Chess, Ilene Miller** and **Lynne Ogden**. Way to go ladies!

Second, we find ourselves on another "search" mission looking for **Marilyn Johnson's** black or blue Pyrex (9x13) casserole lid that matches her dish and carrying case. All of the trash cans were searched but it could not be found, so someone must have picked it up by accident. Please, check your items from the luncheon to see if this casserole lid somehow ended up with your take-home articles. If you do find it, please give Mayilyn or myself a call.

Third, please keep in mind that the luncheon table is filled with so many wonderful goodies because of YOUR effort and thought-

fulness.

Last but not least, please remember to bring in some additional portions of your delectable treats for the last luncheon of the year. There will be approximately ten scholarship winners, plus their families and guests that will be joining us at this luncheon. Thank you to those who are taking advantage of the gently used "take home containers" that have been provided for leftovers at the end of the luncheon. For those who are beginning their summer early and starting their vacations, please travel safe and to those who are not feeling well, we keep you in our thoughts.

Have a wonderful and safe summer and see you in the Fall.

Sallie

Four lucky winners received pots of flowers - **Gayle Grossman, Ilene Miller, Anne French** and **Carol Roland** - and she's the one who donates the flowers!! Also

Literacy
Chairman: **Sandy Lefkowitz**
954-473-9480 slef123@bellsouth.net



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIFTH GRADE ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS!

They truly deserve praise for the essays that they submitted. **Maya Monsalve** from Mrs. Doyle's class at **Harbordale Elementary** was our first place winner with her entry "Hard Rock with my Grandpa." Wait to you hear her read the essay at our May meeting. You will be delighted and surprised. To give you an idea of what to look forward to, here is a sentence from Maya's essay: "We had bubble baths, bubble wars, and even bubble fashion shows. I would even cover grandpa's

face with bubbles like he was Santa." District 10 has forwarded Maya's essay to the state Margaret Poppell Essay Competition. Keep your fingers crossed and let's hope she wins first place. Our honorable mention winners were also from Harbordale. They were **Cypris Strabley** and **Gabriella Ciotti**. Our hats off to Harbordale Elementary. Keep up the good writing. BCREA looks forward to honoring these students at the May meeting.

Sandy

- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



Lynne Ogden, Ilene Miller & Carol Chess created the great teapot centerpieces!



New members
Valerie Hinton and
Mike Roland

Seen at the
April Meeting



Bunny Alyce Aspler left
footprints at the entrance!



The book bin was full-up!

Pretty Centerpieces!



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
4346 Carambola Circle North
Coconut Creek, FL 33066