

Have You Voted Yet?



Nominees are: L to R: President, **Lillian Small**; President Elect, **Sue Colton**; Secretary, **Karen Avery**; and Treasurer **Marelise LeClerc**. Since voting could not take place at the April meeting, Nominating Committee Chairman **Carol Roland** has requested that you vote online by **April 15**. You can use the ballot on page 6.



Display your bears for the children on "Bear Hunts."



Do you know this woman? Hard to recognize friends in masks! But please wear yours!

Broward Student Wins FREF Scholarship

by Anne French

Good News! A Broward student is one of 12 students awarded a 2020 FREF scholarship for future teachers. **Anika Sultana**, from **Northeast High School** is excited and thankful for this \$1,000 annual boost to her college expenses.



University. She has been accepted into this program and has received financial support from them as well as a Bright Futures Scholarship. Anika is finishing her last two required classes on-line. She is

Although accepted at University of Florida, she would prefer to stay closer to home at this time. She is hoping to be able to attend the prestigious Fischler Academy for Education at Nova Southeastern

disappointed that Senior Prom has been cancelled. Through texts and video chats she is staying in touch with her friends and teachers. Congratulations, Anika!

Jacob Barnes Is Literacy Winner

by Sandy Lefkowitz

It's time to recognize our fifth grade **Margaret Poppell Essay** winners. Unfortunately they could not attend a May awards meeting but they deserve the credit for writing winning essays. They will receive their winning award certificates and gift cards. Our first place winner is **Jacob Barnes** from **Floranada Elementary**. His essay "Summer With My Grandparents" has

been entered into the state competition. You can read it on page 2. Let's hope he is an FREA winner! Honorable mention essay winners were **Charlie Whiteman** from **Harbordale Elementary**, **Sophia Schober-Longhi** from **Sheridan Park Elementary**; **Quinton Green** and **Gabriel Vasilescu** both from **Floranada Elementary**. We congratulate all of these fifth graders.

May 1 Meeting

Time: 11:45

Place: Deicke Auditorium

3701 Cypress Road

Plantation

(1 Block off Broward at Royal Palm)

CANCELLED

Don't forget to do your **CENSUS!**

President's Corner

"When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." This proverbial phrase you have heard many times, suggesting an attitude of positivity when adverse situations arise. May I remind you that all our lives have had a jolt of the pandemic adversity (COVID-19), and we have had to share the "lemonade" many times through all our walks of life: with family, friends, neighbors, associates, and acquaintances. Sometimes we shared with an occasional stranger also in need of a "taste." It has been a most precarious predicament: a test of our humanity to each other.

Our April and May meetings usually wrap up our year as they relate to our most important commitments to our youth in the county. Our April Book Celebration, and our May Scholarship Celebration along with the Fifth Grade Essay Contest, are such awesome reminders of our post-career connections to our school district. We look forward to our May celebrations with great anticipation every year. Families gather with us to celebrate scholarship recipients and essay contest winners. As fate would have it, we are now in regrouping mode and our celebrations are on hold.

We will keep our positivity alive; the lemons that remain for making "Lemonade", and the hope of celebrating our young people as soon as time permits. Who knows...there just might be more lessons in the delay which could benefit us all.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! Enjoy your summer, your family, and STAY SAFE. Better days are yet ahead,



Community Service

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



Hope you are all staying safe and are finding things to do to keep from getting bored.

Our volunteer hours that were reported to FREA totaled **18,634** which is a significant increase over last year.

Please keep track of your

hours over the summer so that you can report them at our first meeting in the Fall. If you have any questions as to what constitutes community service, please e-mail me or give me a call for clarification.

Darcy

Margaret Poppell Literacy

Contest Winner

Jacob Barnes

Mrs. Foresi, Floranada Elementary

Summer With My Grandparents

One summer my mom dropped my brother and I off at my grandparents in California. I got to spend a whole month with my grandparents, and they took me on a 5-day camping trip in their RV. I was very excited because this was my first time going camping and driving in an RV. We got to do many things on the trip like hiking to a beautiful waterfall that we got to drink straight out of. I thought I needed a life straw to do that, but my grandpa said it was good drinking water. We got to hunt squirrels and jump off huge rocks that felt like we were jumping off a cliff into a lake. We got to see things we had never seen before like rocks stacked up so tall, they looked like they should fall over. At night my grandpa showed me how to wait until it was dark so that lots of frogs would come out then we could catch them. When I caught my first frog I said, "It's all wet" and my grandpa laughed then told me "That's pee. Frogs pee when they get scared". Every night I caught about 6 or 7 frogs.

My Grammy is amazing because she has a huge farm that she takes care of all by herself. I would think that would be very hard to do when you are 62 years old, but she never complains. She has a cute horse named Mac that she loves to ride and take care of. We must get up early in the morning before we eat breakfast to feed Mac and scoop his poop. My Grammy likes to make new things out of old things that people are throwing away. She has a pond that she made from an old barrel that she keeps goldfish in. I asked her why there were less fish this year? She said that the raccoons come out at night and go fishing in her pond. She also built a Western Village that I love to sleep in. She built us our own bunk beds in a room we named the bunk house. She used many different materials to build her village but all the wood on the walls was from a barn that was knocked down to build a Costco.

My grandpa is a very talented artist. He built a huge shop that he and my Grammy make signs in for their work. I love to hangout in the shop and work with my grandpa, He has real gold leaf that he puts on his signs. Gold leaf is shredded gold that you can use on lots of things. You can even use it on food because it is edible. My grandpa gave me a jar with real gold leaf in it to take home. I feel very lucky to have such nice, hard working grandparents.

Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



REMEMBER YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN BCREA

Our dues for 2020-21 are being collected now. Thank you to all of you who have already sent in your dues. We have had more members send in their dues this year than last year at this time! Many of you included a scholarship donation with your dues check.

To pay your dues for 2020-21, please use the instructions on the Membership Form printed below. If your information has not changed since last year you don't need to fill out all the blanks on the form. **IMPORTANT REMINDER:** If you choose to pay your dues directly to the FREA please remember to add the \$15. for local dues .

Today we are are restrained in socializing with family and friends, gathering in meetings, and doing volunteer work. As former educators we know how important it is to keep communicating with others. This is the time to stay calm, look outward, rather than inward and continue to be generous in any way we can.

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

Mary Hiers 5/07

Anita Bullock 5/17

Lizzie Johnson 5/21

Jean Gray 5/22

Darlene Utry 5/26

Norma Cosby 5/28

Helen Munnings 5/28

Robert Green 5/31

June

Glenn Sanderson 6/03

Joseph Eddings 6/09

Ron Davis 6/11

Kathlyn Barno 6/14

Dolly Burck 6/21

Frances Smoot 6/24

William Atchison 6/28

July

Milton Brantferger 7/01

Marilyn Holmes 7/04

David Sigler 7/8

Echo Heyer 7/10

Erma Bell 7/12

Janet Jackson 7/12

Maude Storr 7/16

Pat Schroder 7/21

Jean Childers 7/24

Marjorie Gregg 7/28

August

Betty McNaull 8/07

Margaret Green 8/08

Alice Mack 8/14

Sylvia Milks 8/17

September

Nancy Howell 9/01

Allegra Murphy 9/06

Eleanor Gaston 9/15

Annie Rawls 9/22

Tom Drilling 9/27

Geneva Yokel 9/27

Bobbie David 9/28

Health & I+PS

Chairman:

From Pathologist James Robb

As some of you may recall, when I was a professor of pathology at the University of California San Diego, I was one of the first molecular virologists in the world to work on coronaviruses (the 1970s). I was the first to demonstrate the number of genes the virus contained. Since then, I have kept up with the coronavirus field and its multiple clinical transfers into the human population (e.g., SARS, MERS), from different animal sources.

The current projections for its expansion in the US are only probable, due to continued insufficient worldwide data, but it is most likely to be widespread in the US by mid to late March and April. Here is what I have done and the precautions that I take and will take. These are the same precautions I currently use during our influenza seasons, except for the mask and gloves.:

- 1) NO HANDSHAKING! Use a fist bump, slight bow, elbow bump, etc.
- 2) Use ONLY your knuckle to touch light switches, elevator buttons, etc. Lift the gasoline dispenser with a paper towel or use a disposable glove.
- 3) Open doors with your closed fist or hip - do not grasp the handle with your hand, unless there is no other way to open the door.

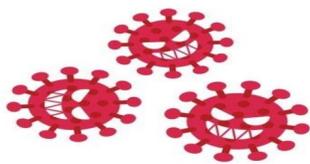
Especially important on bathroom and post office/commercial doors.

4) Use disinfectant wipes at the stores when they are available, including wiping the handle and child seat in grocery carts.

5) Wash your hands with soap for 10-20 seconds and/or use a greater than 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer whenever you return home from ANY activity that involves locations where other people have been.

6) Keep a bottle of sanitizer available at each of your home's entrances. AND in your car for use after getting gas or touching other contaminated objects when you can't immediately wash your hands.

7) If possible, cough or sneeze into a disposable tissue and discard. Use your elbow only if you have to. The clothing on your elbow will contain infectious virus that can be passed on for up to a week or more!



From the Treasurer

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



In this uncertain time, in our temporarily uncertain world with COVID-19, BCREA appreciates the thoughtfulness of members who have given additional contributions to our Scholarship Fund. Thank you to the following members:

Scholarship Donations

Donor	In Memory Of
Doris Cotnoir	Joyce Vaughn Mitchell
Susan Lochrie	Doris Stern
Linda Marable	Mary Jo Bell

Undesignated Donations

Emma Black	Barbara Bohuny	Carol Call
Norma Cosby	Mareen Dinnen	Joan Gavin
Sharyn Iba	Adelia Jones	Phyllis Kublin
Cynthia O'Linn	Frances Welch	

STAY HOME. STAY SAFE. THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO ALL.

Marelise

**People keep asking,
"Is Covid-19 REALLY that serious?"
Listen y'all, the casinos and churches are closed.
When Heaven and Hell
AGREE on the same thing,
it's probably pretty serious.**

The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by

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Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



Although she hasn't attended a meeting, **Angie Dickinson** is a

BCREA member. A retired home ec teacher, Angie has been



making masks and hats. "I have made 50

+ nurses hats after my daughter-in-law, a nurse, reported to work one day last week and did not have

any caps for full protection. I'm still making both if you know of a place or person in need."

From **Sallie Sherwood**: "I got a call from the Publix in Tamarac and they said that my friend had fallen and wouldn't go with the paramedics. So I had to go to the Publix to pick her up! As it turns out, she fell because she couldn't get any oxygen into her system. Both the paramedics and the doctor told her it was probably due to the



More Passages



Thinking of You
Jean Childers
Louise Costello
Michael Phillips
Arline Ziller

mask she'd been wearing that she couldn't breathe. And I thought they were supposed to be good for us!" **Anne French** recently talked with **Pat Schroder** in Nevada. She's doing well and remembers people in BCREA. She says her only problem is "she is 92 years old."**Julia Penley**,

in Colorado, sends her prayers for everyone to be safe. So, until we meet again, stay home and stay healthy!

Last byte for now! *Bea*

Social Committee

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



It is nice ...

(even though very difficult and stressful at times)

It is nice to see families outside with the kids.

It is nice to see kids playing on the neighborhood streets again.

If is nice so see sidewalks covered with colored chalk designs.

It is nice to hear sounds of children's laughter.

It is nice to hear people talking across their lawns.

It is nice to hear from family and friends more often.

It is nice to hear neighbors asking if you need any assistance for groceries and pharmacies and such.

It is nice to feel the sense of community,

It is nice to feel that we are not alone.

It is nice to feel the con-

cern of others.

It is nice to know that there are still some good things happening.

It is nice to know that we will gather again in the Fall.

Your Social Committee would like to thank you for all the delicious foods and contributions which you brought to the luncheon table this year. You are responsible for making this such a successful gathering. If you are able, please try to save some of your gently used containers for the leftovers which will be taken home at the end of the meetings. Be safe, stay inside, keep in contact with your family and friends and find strength in them. Looking forward to seeing everyone in the Fall.

Sallie

Literacy

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



Let's take time to celebrate BCREA. It's time to take a bow and look over the things that we have accomplished this year. First a big thank you to everyone who has contributed children's books. Even though we did not add book plates to the books this year, the books will be donated to Kids in Distress. Rest assured that the books will be in the hands of children of all ages. Second, thanks to the BCREA members who have joined our new Reading to Kids initiative this year and have volunteered to read to the three-year olds at Kids in Distress. This program has been well received and all the BCREA readers have enjoyed the experience and found the kids delightful.

Alyce Aspler, Karen Avery, Luanne Comes, Ellen Emery, Ann French,

Chris Hynes, Sue Lettman, Barbara Lewis, Shirley Swartz and Wayne Rogers deserve a special thank you for volunteering their time to read to the children.

As Literacy Committee Chairperson I am already looking forward to next year when we continue our amazing projects. I look forward to seeing the faces of 3 year olds who listen to a book read and to watching other children hold on to their very own book. I look forward to hearing the voices of proud parents and hard-working teachers as they learn that their fifth grader has written a winning essay. Most of all I look forward to working with a wonderful committee. I invite you to become part of the BCREA Literacy committee next year. Stay safe, stay healthy and enjoy the summer.

Sandy

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

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)

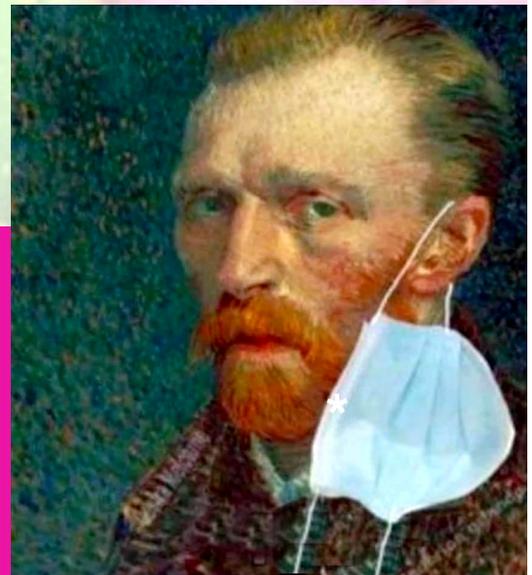
Volunteer hours working with youth _____
 (Persons 25 years of age or younger;
This also includes literacy hours)

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

Darcia Drago
2505 Dagoon Avenue
Coconut Creek, FL 33063



Karen Avery is one of the Literacy Committee members who has been reading to children in elementary schools.



#@!!%&*

BCREA Election of Officers

	Nominated	Write in candidate
President	Lillian Small	
President-elect (Vice President)	Sue Colton	
Secretary	Karen Avery	
Treasurer	Marelise LeClerc	

Voting by mail or e-mail will be conducted April 1st through April 15th, 2020.

E-mail your ballots to carolrbeads@aol.com
 or mail to
 Carol Roland
 721 SW 14th Pl
 Davie, FL 33324