

May, 2021

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

Number 294

Only 1 Race: The Human Race



Dr. David Watkins is the Director of Equity and Diversity for

Broward County Public Schools. A Tallahassee native, David Watkins holds a bachelor's degree from Florida A & M University, a master's degree from Syracuse University and an educational specialist degree from Nova Southeastern University. For the past 25 years Mr. Watkins has served as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and director, all with Broward County Public Schools.

He says, "Race definitely impacts our schools, our students, and our work as educators, and if we're ever go-

ing to make real progress on race-related issues, we need to be able to talk about it in open, honest, and productive ways." That's the idea behind ***Courageous Conversations About Race***, a book by **Glenn Singleton** and an online course that teaches participants how to talk about race. In February 2018, Broward County enrolled 300 of its educators in the course, and the results have been significant. Participants, who describe the course as life-changing, say they wish every educator would take it.

After relating the long history about racism and how it is embedded in our culture, Dr. Watkins concluded, "There is only one race - 'The Human Race.'"

Kiara Cooks Stuffed Chicken and More



On March 18, the BCREA Fund Raising Committee held an online cooking class to help raise scholarship funds. Entitled "Make Your Own Lunch," it was led by Chef **Kiara Everett** who is a graduate of Johnson & Wales University. She and her brother **Reggie** who assisted her are products of the Broward County School System. She attended Walker Elementary,



Seminole Middle, Dillard HS and McFatter Voc-Tech for 2 years before moving on to Johnson and Wales. Reggie attended Nova HS. Those who attended via Zoom were given a list of ingredients and the recipes to make a four-course meal: Spinach Stuffed Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Sautéed Green Beans, salad with Honey Dijon Vinaigrette dressing, and banana pudding for dessert.

Our April fundraiser will be lots of Fun. Who doesn't love money! Join your friends on April 22 at 1:00 on zoom to make a MONEY SHIRT. It's perfect for any occasion. It costs only \$5 and that's less than a Hallmark card. DATE: April 22. TIME: 1:00. You will need 6 crisp one \$ bills.. For more info see your April Newsletter. See page 4 for May's fundraiser.

May 6 Meeting

Place: Zoom

Time: May 6, 2021 12:00 Noon

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 291 769 9881

Passcode: BCREA2020

Program: Scholarship Awards -

Diane Jarchow

Installation of New Officers



May 9 - Mothers' Day

2021-2022 Election Results



L to R: President, **Sue Colton** President Elect, Vacant Secretary, **Karen Avery**; and Treasurer **Marelise LeClerc**. Maybe YOU could be the new President-Elect??

President's Corner

It's my last hurrah for this journey. With a bitter sweet ending to a two-year leadership with BCREA, my emotions for a new journey are high flying and full of even greater expectations. This has been the best of times, and maybe even the worst of times.

More than anything else, it has been a time of viewing our commitments from a different perspective.

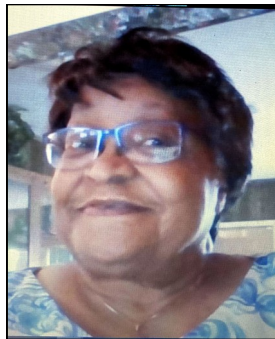
The most truthful thing I can say about this past year is the great amount of unavoidable apprehension that faced my administration from the outset as I could not figure which path to take, or if indeed, there was a path to follow. So we forged forward, sometimes blindly but most times with a little inkling of where to go and how to get there. We brought in new ideas and new means of getting more involvement from our members.

I can say it now, and mean it from my heart. You, my fellow BCREA members, friends and colleagues have shown the strength and courage we needed, and I thank you for all your support.

Leaving the helm means only that it's my time to go so that the new administration can come in with brave new ideas. Our selection has been a wise one and I look forward to being a source and resource to our new president **Sue Colton**. May your journey as President be smooth, beautiful and productive.

May you all enjoy the "lazy days of summer,"

Lillian



President - Elect's Corner

".....the hill we climb, if only we dare.

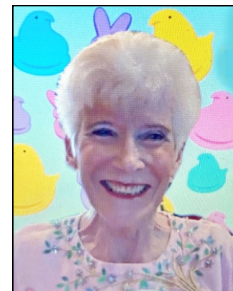
It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit.

It's the past we step into and how we repair it."

These spoken words, by **Amanda Gorman**, our sixth and youngest presidential inauguration poet, brings us hope and renewal in this spring season.

Thank you, **David Watkins**, for sharing your passionate "Courageous Conversation About Race" at our April meeting. Your words and the history of our nation and our Broward Community opened the perspective of our times.

Sue



Legislative/Nominating

Chairman: **Carol Roland**

954-472-2389

carolrbeads@aol.com



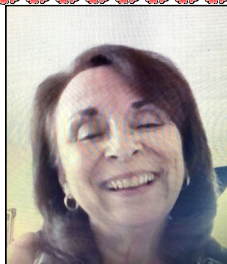
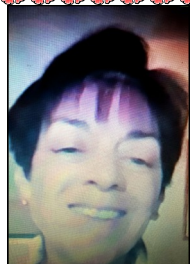
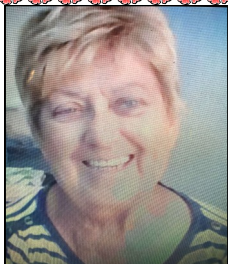
FREA is especially concerned about

Florida Senate Bill 84.

As of March 31, Senate Bill 84 (House Bill 84) was passed by both the Governmental Oversight and Accountability (2/4/21) and Appropriations (3/31/2021) committees.

This bill which aims at abolishing the current Florida Retirement System, will now be sent to the House and Senate Floors for discussion, possible revision and ultimately a vote. For details on this bill, see the article in March's Newsletter. FREA encourages all members to contact their State Senators and Representatives in opposition to this bill.

Carol



The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by



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

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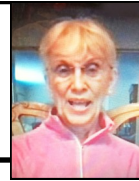


Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



Membership Dues for 2021-2022

We are grateful to all who have already sent in BCREA/FREA dues for 2021-22. Please pay early if possible, by June, 2021. If you pay your dues of \$50 directly to BCREA you have only one check and one mailing. The State Dues of \$35 are mailed to FREA by our treasurer. \$15 is for the Broward Unit expenses including the *Newsletter* printing and all mailings.

You may receive a Dues reminder from FREA. IMPORTANT: If you choose to pay your dues directly to FREA, rather than to BCREA, please remember to add \$15 for the 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

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

Lizzie Johnson 5/21

Darlene Utry 5/26

Norma Cosby 5/28

Helen Munnings 5/28

Robert Green 5/31

June

Glenn Sanderson 6/03

Frances Smoot 6/24

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

Pat Schroder 7/21

Jean Childers 7/24

Marjorie Gregg 7/28

August

Betty McNaull 8/07

Alice Mack 8/14

September

Nancy Howell 9/01

Allegra Murphy 9/06

Eleanor Gaston 9/15

Annie Rawls 9/22

Bobbie David 9/28



*Thinking of You
Mary Ellen Fowler
Houdini LeClerc*



*In Memoriam
Margaret Green*

BCREA MAY FUNNY-WACKY MAY CELEBRATIONS

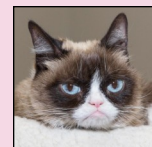
Let's have some fun! This is our last fundraising activity of the year. Take a sheet of paper and write **\$10.00**. Follow the daily steps on this calendar and add or deduct from \$10.00. When you have completed the entire month, whether daily or all at once, the figure you end up with is the amount we hope you donate to our Scholarship Fund. Please make all checks payable to BCREA. Mail to:



Marelise LeClerc, Treasurer
615 North 31st ROAD
Hollywood, FL 33021



- May 1. May Day.** If you have ever danced around a May Pole, pay \$1.00.
- May 2. Lemonade Day.** If you have ever had a lemonade stand, pay \$1.00.
- May 3. Garden Meditation Day.** If you have a garden (and meditate there!), subtract \$1.00. If not, pay \$2.00.
- May 4. National Teacher Day.** If you ever worked in a school, pay \$1.00. Haha!
- May 5. Cinco de Mayo Day.** If you have ever been to Mexico, pay \$2.00. If you have ever had a Margarita to celebrate this day, take back \$1.00.
- May 6. No Diet Day.** If you are NOT on a diet, subtract \$1.00. If you are (on a diet) pay \$1.00.
- May 7. International Tuba Day.** If you have ever played a tuba, pay \$1.00.
- May 8. National Military Spouses' Day.** If you are/were a military spouse, pay \$2.00.
- May 9. Lost Sock Memorial Day.** If you keep your unmatched socks, hoping one day the match will magically appear, pay \$1.00.
- May 10. Clean Up a Room Day.** Count the number of rooms in your dwelling. Pay 25 cents a room.
- May 11. Hostess Cupcake Day.** If you have Hostess Cupcakes in your home, take back \$1.00. If you don't, pay \$1.00.
- May 12. Hug Your Cat Day.** If you have a cat, pay \$1.00 (after giving a hug). If you have more than one cat, take back \$1.00.
- May 13. National Hummus Day.** If you have ever made hummus, subtract \$2.00.
- May 14. National Dance Like a Chicken Day.** If you have ever done the Chicken Dance, pay \$1.00.
- May 15. National Chocolate Chip Day.** If you have ever eaten them right out of the bag, pay \$1.00.
- May 16. Mimosa Day.** If you don't drink mimosas, pay \$1.00. If you do, take back \$1.00.
- May 17. National Walnut Day.** If you have eaten walnuts (even in foods), this month, pay \$1.00. If you have not, pay \$2.00.
- May 18. I Love Reese's Day.** If you have had a Reese's cup within the last week, pay \$1.00.
- May 19. May Rain Day.** If it rains today, pay \$1.00. If not, subtract \$1.00.
- May 20. Eliza Doolittle Day.** If you know who she was, pay \$1.00.
- May 21. National Pizza Day.** If you love pizza, pay \$1.00.
- May 22. National Vanilla Pudding Day.** If you LIKE vanilla pudding, pay \$1.00. If not, subtract \$1.00.
- May 23. Neighbors' Day.** If you have great neighbors, pay \$1.00. If not, take back \$1.00.
- May 24. National Asparagus Day.** If you have eaten asparagus soup in 2021, pay \$1.00. If you haven't eaten it this year, pay \$2.00.
- May 25. National Wine Day.** Count your wine glasses. Pay 25 cents each.
- May 26. National Blueberry Cheesecake Day.** If you've ever made a blueberry cheesecake, pay \$1.00.
- May 27. Sunscreen Protection Day.** If you use sunscreen, subtract \$2.00.
- May 28. National Hamburger Day.** If you have eaten a hamburger this month, pay \$1.00.
- May 29. Learn About Composting Day.** If you've ever composted, pay \$2.00.
- May 30. Mint Julep Day.** If you have ever had a mint julep, pay \$1.00.
- May 31. National Macaroon Day.** If you have ever made macaroons, subtract \$2.00. If not, add \$1.00.



Literacy

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



Celebrate Spring

Add these fun ideas to your April and May calendar.

Spread literacy. You can challenge a grandchild, a friend's child or a student to join you. Take the challenge and see who finishes first. There's no order to the list below; just enjoy.

*Read a book while wrapped up in your favorite blanket.

*Read on a porch or in the

yard or in a park

*Read while listening to the rain.

*Read with your pet or with a picture of the pet you wish you had.

*Stay up "past your bedtime" reading. Our challenge might be to stay up after midnight.

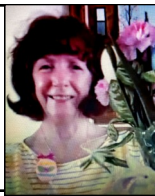
*Read at the table with a snack (or a glass of wine).

*Reader's Choice! Share a book with a friend.

Sandy

Information Services

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



CORRECTION to previous BCREA Newsletter! Just after our last newsletter was published, there was a change made by the IRS. "On March 17, the federal income tax filing due date for individuals for the 2020 tax year was extended from April 15, 2021 to May 17, 2021." Because of recent changes and updates by the IRS it is best to check with your accountant or tax preparation specialist prior to filing your taxes. It is still strongly recommended that you prepare and send in your tax information as soon as possible for the

following three reasons: you will receive your refund sooner, you can protect against identify theft and if there is a problem, you will have time to deal with the issue.

When next we meet, it will be May 6 which happens to be Favorite Beverage Day. So bring your favorite drink and add a snack because it is also No Diet Day. See you then and raise your glass to our last meeting of the year.

Until then, stay fit, stay sharp, and send positive thoughts to others.

Sallie

From the Treasurer

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



What a year! Even though we didn't have face-to-face meetings, because of YOUR generosity, we have done fairly well with our Scholarship Fund this year. So many of you have contributed a lot of money this year. If so, you might want to just have fun with the last fundraiser, THE FUNNY-WACKY MAY CELEBRATIONS included in this Newsletter. And if, during the summer you feel like sending in the money, we will take money anytime! We hope you will join in the April fundraiser. For \$5, how can you lose?! I have made the money shirts for several friends and relatives. Everyone I have given it to, loves it! And **Mary Ann**, our instructor (and my friend) is a great teacher. You won't regret joining. It's really a fun, and productive activity.

A huge thank you to all the benevolent members below. Their combined donations are an incredible \$1,325!

Scholarship Donations

Donor

Gwen Batie
Missy Belsito
Milton Brantferger
Milton Brantferger
Darcy Drago
Darcy Drago
Linda Gibson
Linda Gibson
Gloria Jackson
Elizabeth Ouellette
Julie Cole Patten
Julia Penley

In Memory Of

Kathlyn Barno
Mary Beth Schmid
Earl Stabler
Carl Passiglia
Bill Schroeder
Margaret Green
Mattie Benson
Royetta Tunnage
Ulysses Jackson
Joe Vargo
Mary Sefferly
Nancy Ruiz

Undesignated Donations

Cheryl Baker-Hill	Susan Barber	Carol Call
Doris Cotnoir	Norma Cosby	Maureen Dinnen
Nancy Howell	Sharyn Iba	Sally Macak
Madeline Martin	Arline & Wayne McWinney	
Ronald Mayhew	Jackie Molyneux	Seolar Moncrief
Annie Ruth Rawls	Eleanor Robinson-Gaston	
Rosa Parra	Sallie Sherwood	Jean Shiskin
Marianne Scott	Dezzie Smith-Walker	
Jannes Strauch	Mary Taylor	Diane Texter
Maria Tracy	Amada Walker	Janet Vandivort

Marelise

- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

BCREA VOLUNTEER REPORTING FORM

Name _____
 (Please Print)

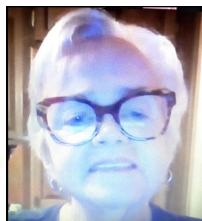
Month _____, 20____

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)

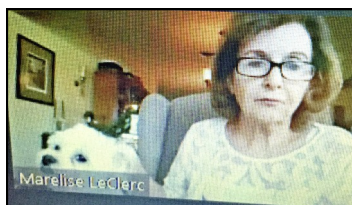
Bring this to our next meeting, e-mail it to me at dardra@att.net
 or mail it to me at:

Darcia Drago
2505 Dagoon Avenue
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

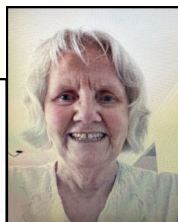


I just found out at the April meeting that **Mary Ellen Fowler**

broke her hip on Valentine's Day! Best wishes for a speedy recovery, Mary Ellen. **Marelise Leclerc's dog Hou-**



dini had to have surgery for a torn ACL. Any guesses what her vet bill was for that??



It was great to finally be able to see **Nina Hansen's** smiling face at the April meeting. She's been having

Bev's Bytes.....



problems getting her Zoom video to work!

I had a nice chat with **Echo Heyer** recently. Some of you may remember when she invited her friend and author **Elaine Viets** to be our speaker. (February, 2015) I had to share with Echo that I'm now on my 3rd book by Elaine. Who knew mysteries could be funny!!

With this issue of the **BCREA Newsletter** I have completed 16 years of **Newsletters** - which means I haven't missed a meeting in 16 years! Anyone want to take over this job? And that's the last byte for this year!

Bev



Seen at the April Meeting

