

BCREA



Newsletter



November, 2015

Broward County Retired Educators' Association

Number 248

# Guardian Ad Litem Needs Volunteers!



If October's speaker looked familiar to you, it would not be surprising. Guardian ad Litem (GAL) proponent **Steve Thacker** has been attending BCREA meetings for a few months - patiently awaiting his turn to present his program. He even

brought cupcakes!! And finally, it was his turn. In Broward County there are 2800 children who are "dependents" of the state. For various reasons they have no homes with parents. The purpose of the guardian is to represent the best interests

of a child in court. The judge wants to know how children are doing- are they happy? Doing well in school? And so on. There are 300 of the 2800 who have no GAL at the moment. According to Steve, "There are 500 active guardians in Broward, but we need 500 more." And that's where BCREA members could help. To become a GAL involves a 3-step process: His program fulfilled the first step. Step 2 is attending an Orientation; and the 3rd

step is an interview. Once you are certified, it's for life. "One lady began at age 60 and we just celebrated her 90th birthday!" he says. As a GAL, you have access to the child 24/7 - unannounced visits are not only OK, they're encouraged. The goal is to get kids back with their parents who have one year to rehabilitate. Steve has several kids but a new GAL begins with just one. Call Steve at 954-831-6477.



Seven of our 17 new members gave up their places in the lunch line to pose for this photo. Unfortunately in our haste to return them to the food, no names were taken! Have a look at the new member list on page 4 and see if you can match the names to the faces!

## November 5th Meeting

**Time:** 11:45 AM

**Place:** Deicke Auditorium  
5701 Cypress Road  
Plantation



(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

**Program:** Gale Butler - Birch State Park  
Anne French - A Golden Moment



### Bring to meeting:

Potluck Dish to Share

Items for the

Clothing & Food Drive

Kids' books for Literacy

Box tops & labels for education

Aluminum pull-tabs

Cell Phones & Eyeglasses

Blankies & Pillows

Used Duffel bags & bookbags

Coupons \$50 and above



## President's Corner

This is the start of a great year - our Golden Anniversary. Fifty years ago Broward County Educators got together and started BCREA. To celebrate this anniversary **Anne French** and her committee have made wonderful plans. Our "Golden Moment" for the first meeting was BCREA



Bingo. We were to check off the areas we were involved in and then get others to sign in the empty spaces. **Mary Taylor** won! She had all 25 spaces filled in. We have so many good people who do so much on the committees that make our BCREA group successful. **Sallie Sherwood** and her volunteers are always at the meeting early setting up for the luncheon. **Martha Pipes, Pat Schroeder** and **Charles Pipes** have the hospitality table ready for us to check in. **Myken Brady** worked all summer on our scrapbook to bring it up to date. It is an important part of our history. **Bev Hoppe** takes all the pictures at meetings and edits our monthly *Newsletter*. We had some new activities and a change in our table arrangements in order to get to know one another better. We want this to be our Special Golden Year that starts us off on the next fifty years. We have special plans for each meeting. We are hoping that you all will come and join with us.

*Echo*

## From the Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc

954-962-7343 Flsun1@comcast.net



It has been so rewarding to see many members include donations to our Scholarship Fund along with dues. Please remember BCREA when a loved one passes away and no particular charity is designated. We appreciate your assistance in helping us raise money for future educators. Recent contributors in the past few weeks are:

### Donor

Kathlyn Barno  
Patty Bopp  
Diane Jarchow

### In Memory Of

Alphonso Giles  
Leigh Roberts  
Lonia Goldstein

### Undesignated Donation

Joan Valant

## President-Elect's Corner

This month, our guest speaker gave members a very informative session on what it means to be a Guardian Ad Litum Volunteer. Members who would like more information can contact Steve Thacker at [steve.thacker#gal.fl.gov](mailto:steve.thacker#gal.fl.gov)



November's meeting should be just interesting. **Gale Butler** from Birch State Park will be giving a presentation about the Facilities, including camping opportunities at Birch State Park. Unless you are a native or near native of Ft. Lauderdale, many of you, like me, may know next to nothing of this Broward County treasure.

*Carol*

## Information Services

Chairman: Kathlyn Barno

954-581-4731

BB9214@aol.com



"How long should I keep this document?" This is a dilemma that we are faced with from time to time. Even if things are stored on the Internet, it is almost impossible to be entirely free of paper. Sometimes we can feel like we are bogged down in paper. Met-Life Insurance Company has some helpful suggestions as to how long we should keep certain documents. Here are the recommendations:

permanently  
\*\*Bills for large purchases and things of value - - **should be kept permanently**  
\*\* Canceled checks, records for tax deductions taken, receipts used for tax returns, Tax Returns - - **Keep for seven years**  
\*\*Property documents, Investment Certificates, Service Contracts and Warranties, Vehicle Titles, Brokerage Statements - **keep as long as you own the items.**

I hope this bit of information will be of help in keeping you organized. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. See you next month.

\*\* Bills - from one year to

*Kathlyn*

# Passages



*Happy Birthday to our  
Birthday Club*

*(members over 85!)*

**Runette Williams 11/09**

**Mary Perfect 11/13**

**Mary 'Betty' Weber 11/17**

**Mary Dunavent 11/20**

**Dorothy Johnson 11/21**

*And turning 85...*

**Martha Pipes 11/06**



*Thinking of You*

**Nancy Ruiz**

*In Memoriam*



**Al Giles 9/11/15**

**Helen Mitchell**

## **BCREA Officers....**

### **President**

Echo Heyer

954-523-0661

### **President-Elect**

Carol Roland

954-472-2389

### **Secretary**

Josephine Walker

954-742-2430

### **Treasurer**

Marelise LeClerc

954-962-7343



# *Cultural Affairs 2015 - 2016*

Chairman: Judy Edwards

954-850-1692

jadzeta@bellsouth.net



**January 22-23**

## **Murder Mystery Dinner Train**

Overnight trip to depart from Westfield Broward Mall At 11:00 a.m.

Travel to Ft. Myers, FL via Air-conditioned motor coach, overnight stay at Marriot Courtyard Hotel, Murder Mystery Dinner Train.

Return trip will include a stop at the Outlet mall.

Total cost of trip: \$265.00 all inclusive. (Hotel, Tickets to dinner show, gratuities for dinner and driver, fuel surcharges)

**April 16 Matinee**

## **Dirty Dancing**

Broward Center for the Performing Arts

201 SW 5th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale

The Classic Story on Stage is a record-breaking live theater sensation, exploding with heart-pounding music, passionate romance and sensational dancing. Featuring the hit songs, "Hungry Eyes", "Hey Baby", "Do You Love Me?" and the heart-stopping "(I've Had) The Time of my life."

Ticket price: \$58 (24 tickets available)

**May 18 (Wednesday) Matinee**

## **Beautiful - The Carol King Musical**

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale

Tells the inspiring true story of Carole King's remarkable rise to stardom, from being part of a hit songwriting team with her husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history.

Along the way she made more than Beautiful music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation.

Ticket price: \$68.50 (16 tickets available)

## **A Golden Tidbit from Ann French.....**

In 1964, Superintendent **Myron Ashmore** asked **Edna Jacobs** to form a group of retired educators in Broward County. Edna had just retired from being principal of Lauderdale Manors Elementary School.

After a constitution was drawn up and by-laws were written, the first meeting of Broward County Retired Educators was held February 10, 1965. For the full story, go to our website at <http://browardrea.org> and go to the History page to see photos of Edna and our recent past-presidents.

## Membership...

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



Our BCREA membership count was 275 on October 3. We are still missing dues from many of you!

Reminders are being sent again by mail or email.

**EACH ONE, REACH ONE** is this year's Membership Slogan. We have strength in numbers as FREA members. Tell your friends about the important part FREA does in working to protect our Health Insurance Subsidy and our COLA, both of which could be taken away. Encourage your friends to go to the BCREA website and read about our local meetings and activities. Encourage those to whom you **REACH** to go to the FREA website and learn more about the advantages and benefits of FREA Membership.

EACH ONE, REACH ONE and watch our numbers grow!

If you **BRING IN THREE NEW MEMBERS** this year, you'll WIN A \$25. gift card.

A membership Form can be obtained by

\* downloading from the BCREA website <http://browardrea.org>

\* or contacting me, **Susan Lochrie**, Membership Chairman for a Membership Form.

*Susan*

## Friendship

Chairman: Julia Penley  
954-830-4210 jgpen581@aol.com



What a fun and interesting meeting we had on October 1st as we began our new year! Our President had promised new things and new fun activities were planned for our 50th year anniversary meetings and a good time was had by all! If you missed the meeting - try to be there for the next one on November 5th - I am sure you will enjoy it! One of the new things we will be doing at our meetings is recognizing everyone who has a birthday that month and we will honor them with the "Happy Birthday" song! We lost a special member **Al Giles** on September 11th. Thank you to everyone who called to let me know. A

special card of sympathy was mailed to his family. He will be greatly missed by all, as many of you told me how he was so active in our group, always participating in all our activities and meetings. Also, recently received news of the passing of **Helen Mitchell** but no date was given. Please continue to let me know of anyone in our group who you know is ill, bereaved or is celebrating a special event. I will continue also to send birthday cards to our 85+ members. Each member is truly special to all of us. Happy 50th Year Anniversary Everyone!! See you in November!

*Julia*

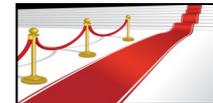
*Bev's Bytes...* Our 50/50 winners this month were **Margarite Falconer**, \$20; **Carol Roland**, **Carol Fischer** and **Judy Edwards** who won \$10 each; **Josephine Walker** who won mums and **Pat Schroder** who won an orchid.



Condolences to **Ruth** and **Yvette Giles**, Al's wife and daughter. He was given a wonderful send-off at Mt. Hermon AME Church - all decked out in a suit and tie! There was even a video of him and at age 93, it was a fitting tribute. **Nancy Ruiz** is still awaiting her final surgery, but is making good use of her time. She's tutoring a young man and sending



### Welcome New Members



<b>Ellen Adler</b>	<b>Sharon Airaghi</b>
<b>Anthony Arico</b>	<b>Penny Becker</b>
<b>LuAnn Comes</b>	<b>Donna Delegal</b>
<b>Florida Gilmartin</b>	<b>Cynthia Johnson</b>
<b>Ellen Kelleher</b>	<b>Eileen Kimmich</b>
<b>Mary Linden</b>	<b>Kandace Ranger</b>
<b>Berta Reed</b>	<b>Margaret "Peggy" Schultz</b>
<b>Joan Valant</b>	<b>Jill Wilson</b>

her volunteer hours! Hospitality Chairman **Martha Pipes** reported a total of 92 attendees at October's meeting.

*Happy Thanksgiving*



**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](mailto:dardra@att.net) or mail it to me at:

**Darcia Drago**  
4346 Carambola Circle North  
Coconut Creek, FL 33066

***Community Service /Directory***

**Chairman: Darcia Drago**  
954-977-7247    [dardra@att.net](mailto:dardra@att.net)



***Community Service***

At our November meeting we will collect nonperishable food and "gently used" men's shoes and clothing for LifeNet4Families. This organization provides a food bank, job counseling and other services for the homeless and hungry residents of Broward County. Thanks to all our members

who support our service projects throughout the year. Remember to turn in your volunteer hours at each of our monthly meetings.

***Directory***

The 2015-16 edition will go to press immediately following our November meeting and will be distributed at our Decem-

***Social Committee***

**Chairman: Sallie Sherwood**  
954-629-3712    [matildatwo@aol.com](mailto:matildatwo@aol.com)



Thank you to all of the BCREA members who went back to the luncheon table and picked up their food containers and left over items. It was wonderful to hear one person asking another if they could "take this home." We had a few left over items that we had to dispose of, but not too many. Anne French's 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee suggested the following activity. Each of the remaining luncheons this year will have a "Favorite Family" recipe. The theme for November would be "Favorite Family Fall Dishes." Those who choose to participate would find a card and a card holder on the coffee table. You would write the name of the dish, your name, and your email address or phone numbers on the card provided, then place the dish and the card on the back table. Any-

one who does not choose to participate would bring in their dish as they normally do. We are still looking for people who would like to join the Social Committee for this year. Your responsibilities would be to come in a little early to help set up the table and receive the food as it is brought to the table or "break-down" the table after the luncheon. If you would like to help on this committee, please call or email me. Finally, thank you to the official BCREA Greeters for the first three months of 2015-2016. Our greeters will be: November: **Jeri Cross** and **Patty Bopp** December: **Jean Anderson** and **Jean Gray** January: **Diane Jarchow** and **Lora Mills.** *Sallie*

ber meeting. Committee chairmen, be sure to send me your list of members. Copies will be mailed to

"shut-ins" and to those members who live out of county.

**Darcy**

**The cost of the BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by:**

954-486-2728



Online at <http://BSCU.org>

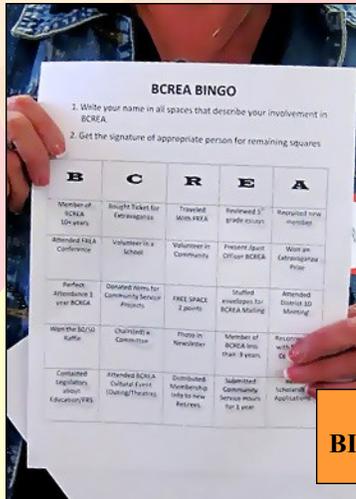
*Serving Broward Educators since 1946*

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

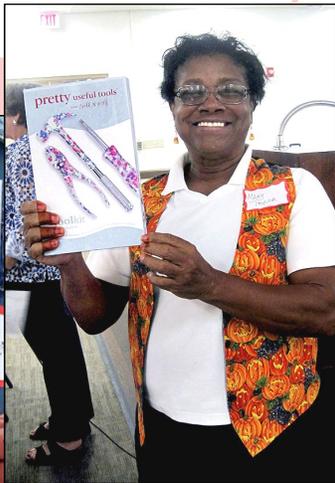
**Scenes from the October Meeting**



**Mary Ellen Fowler hands out BCREA BINGO sheets at the door!**



**Mary Taylor won the BINGO with all 25 answers!**



**Carol Chess was awarded a cute button from FREA for being a volunteer!**



**Frances Smoot peruses the BCREA 2014-15 scrapbook**



**Carol Roland greets speaker Steve Thacker**



**District 10 Director Margarite holds check for the equivalent of District 10's volunteer hours - \$1,203,400.00**