



November, 2017

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

Number 264

Become a Guardian - Lift Up a Child's Life!

November 2nd Meeting

Time: 11:45 AM

Place: Deicke Auditorium
5701 Cypress Road
Plantation
(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

Program: Broward Sheriff's Department -
The Opioid Epidemic



Bring to meeting:

Potluck Dish to Share
Beef jerky for our troops
Kids' books for Literacy
Box tops & labels for education
Aluminum pull-tabs
Cell Phones & Eyeglasses
Blankies & Pillows
Coupons \$.50 and above



New members Shirley, Penney, Ned, Eileen and a mystery lady without a nametag!

According to Guardian Ad Litem representative **Kerry-Ann Brown**, there are more than 3200 children between the ages of 0-5 in Broward County at the present time in need of Guardian Ad Litem services. Only 52% of them have one. She is hoping she can convince some BCREA members to become guardians to fill this need. Guardians are required to visit their children once a month to evaluate their living conditions. Other requirements to be a guardian are:

- *You must be fingerprinted
- *Attend training sessions totaling 30 hours - includes court observations
- *Have an interview
- *You'll be accompanied by a supervisor on your first visit

After that you set your own visitation schedule at your convenience. You have the right to speak with teachers and doctors and you have access to medical records. Basically you become like a parent except the child doesn't live with you. They may be living with grandparents or other relatives, in foster care or in group homes. Sometimes those given the responsibility for one or more children have difficulty providing for them. A group called "Voices for Children of Broward



County" provide snack boxes for kids who don't have enough food. They are able to help only 50 families. To get additional information, you may access the GAL website at <http://guardianadlitem.org> Or phone 866-341-1415 (State) or 954-831-6214 (Broward)

Or you could have a chat with BCREA member **Julie Biancardi** who became a



Guardian last year.

President's Corner

I found it heartwarming to see so many members at October's BCREA Meeting - especially since we had to relocate from Deicke Auditorium due to emergency repairs. I really appreciated the members' sense of camaraderie.

Even though the new **Plantation Community Center** facilities are beautiful, we were tightly crammed in



the room. Yet I saw members at several full tables, squeezing even closer together to make room for latecomers.



In fact, several members mentioned that they felt a positive atmosphere of community emanating from the group. I'm not sure whether it was the closeness of the room or a residual afterglow resulting from knowing we avoided critical consequences from Hurricane Irma, but I hope this aura continues. For after all, that's what BCREA should be all about: a community of educators bonding together for fellowship and support. While we will be returning in November to Deicke Auditorium, I sincerely hope that this fellowship will continue throughout the year. We can accomplish this if everyone becomes a little more involved in our organization. On that note, if you forgot to volunteer to serve on a committee, please consider doing so at our next meeting.

Carol

President-Elect's Corner

The OPIOID EPIDEMIC is a serious national crisis that affects public health as well as social and economic welfare. Every day more than 90 Americans die after overdosing on opioids. Dependence is a chronic condition and remaining opioid-free is a challenge.

Presenters on this topic for our November meeting are from the **Broward Sheriff's Office**. Because this issue has become a public health crisis with devastating consequences, it is an initiative of priority for them. Obviously our communities are negatively impacted and BSO is very much involved in making sure that those most vulnerable, the elderly and children, are safe from dangers or harm by this very serious prescription drug problem. As we gain knowledge from this presentation, it is incumbent upon us to ask questions and share our understanding with others. Remember the teacher in YOU.

Thanks again and kudos to **Kerry-Ann Brown** from Guardian ad Litem, our October presenter.

Lillian



Social Committee

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



Different venue, different location, different place... no matter... a great luncheon with both repeat and new members. We enjoyed catching up with friends, our guest speaker, news from the committees and the buffet table. Thank you to everyone who brought food to the table to be shared by all and thank you to those who took leftovers home. Next month we will be cele-

brating Turkey Day! Perhaps we will be enjoying some favorite family recipes. Please remember to



use the Vegetarian Food Label if applicable for your dish.

Sallie

BCREA Officers....

President

Carol Roland
954-472-2389

President-Elect

Lillian Small
954-288-9211

Secretary

Josephine Walker
954-742-2430

Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc
954-962-7343

Passages



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

Helen King 11/07
Runette Williams 11/09
Mary Perfect 11/13
Mary 'Betty' Weber 11/17
Mary Dunavent 11/20
Dorothy Johnson 11/21
Martha Pipes 11/06



Thinking of You
Martha & Charles Pipes
Lillian Wilson
Arline Ziller

In Memoriam



Mary Sefferly 6/18/17
Ruth Edwards 8/31/17
Joyce Holmes 9/11/17
Joyce Niedenthal 8/19/16

Membership...

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



A big thank you to the members who brought friends to the October meeting. Many of them joined BCREA. This is a good way to encourage membership and stay in touch. Thank you to all of the Membership Committee members who helped with stuffing envelopes and distributing information to new retirees at the District Retirement Breakfast in June. In September, Membership volunteers helped to prepare a mailing of over 800 pieces to send to new retirees and to members who had not yet sent in dues.

If you received a reminder to pay send in your check made out to BCREA for renewal by November 1 or pay at the November meeting to be listed in the 2017-18 Membership Handbook.

BCREA

P O Box 30533
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33303



Susan

From the Treasurer

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



Thanks to all our members who have contributed to our Scholarship Fund over the last several months. The list below denotes contributions from late spring through September. Because of your generosity, we were able to support nine \$1000 scholarships this past year. No district in Florida awards more scholarships than we do! This is all due to your charitable kindness! Many kudos to the following contributors: Marelise

Donor

Emma Black
Philip VanPelt

In Memory Of

Ethel Pappy
John Lyzott and Don Roberts

Undesignated

B.D. Aucamp	Gwen Batie	Louise Costello
Garnett Ferguson	Joyce Ferguson	Carol Fischer
Jean Funk	Ethel Gerakas	Kathleen Ginestra
Edith Gooden-Thompson	Nina Hansen	Lillian Hearn
Luther Henderson	Marva Jenkins	Irene LaBelle
Calvin Lamar	Mozella Lennon	Madeline Martin
Antoinette Merton	Amanda Miles	Dorothea Moran
Rosa Parra	Carol Pratt	Annie Rawls
Jannes Strauch	Norma Van Buskirk	Frances Welch
Susan Whiting	William Wolfolk	



Diane Texter above; and
Jean Gray below.



Welcome New Members

Karen Campion
Shirley Schwartz
Kelvin Urquhart

Ned Oistacher
Karin Uris
Geneva Yokel



Community Service /Directory

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



Handbook

Copy for the 2017-18 membership handbook will go to the printer immediately following our November meeting. Handbooks will be distributed in December & will be mailed to members who are "shut-ins" or who live out of the area. Committee members need to have a list of their current members to me by the November meeting.

Community Service

At our November meeting we

will collect beef jerky for our troops overseas. Thanks for supporting our projects throughout the year & for turning in your volunteer hours. If you live out of the area, please e-mail or "snail mail" me your hours so that we can include them in our annual report to FREA. (A special thank you to **LuAnn Comes** & **Madeline Martin** for doing this every month!) Happy Thanksgiving to you & your families!

Darcy

Information Services

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



Here come the big, happy holidays with all of the shopping for gifts and goodies and all that good stuff.. And guess what? Right along with that, here come all of the shysters just waiting to steal your precious identity. It is imperative that we do all in our power to protect ourselves from those evil deadbeats.

Here are a few suggestions from the AARP Fraud Watch to help us protect ourselves.

A locked mailbox is a very important way too keep a lot of your information safe.

Nothing of value should be left in your parked car, Things like your wallet, laptop cell

phones, and other mobile devices.

Invest in a microcut shredder to shred sensitive documents into confetti.

Protect your smartphone with a secure password. Do not choose one that is easy to guess such as birthdates, pet names or numbers in sequence.

May you be safe and healthy. Be thankful that we have been spared some of the misery that has been inflicted upon some of our fellowmen in other parts of the world. Remember them when we sit down to our

bountiful meal on Thanksgiving Day.



Kathlyn

Friendship

Chairman: Marsy Smith
954-962-6433 smithmarsy@aol.com



It was great seeing everyone at our first meeting of 2017/18 school year!

As I announced at the meeting, in an effort to make new members feel welcome, we are looking for two current members to serve as BCREA "Greeters" at each meeting. As a greeter, you would stand at the entry door and welcome each incoming person. When a new member arrives, you would escort them into the meeting room, explain how our meetings are

structured, explain the purpose/function of the membership table, drawing table, etc. and introduce them to a few current members. We already have two volunteers for the November meeting (Thank you, **Diane Texter** and **Lynne Ogden**!) but need volunteers for the December through May meetings. If you are interested, please call or email me. See you in November!

Marsy

Bev's Bytes... I had a nice email from

Madeline Martin - she had her 2nd knee operation and she's now a member of the Vermont REA. As I write, **Julia Penley**, now in Denver, is experiencing her first snowfall! Brrrrrr! As I was reading the FREA Newsletter, I saw that state member **Joyce Niedenthal**, former **Stranahan** home ec teacher and county curriculum supervisor, died at age 89 in Shelby, NC. Condolences to **Lillian Wilson** whose husband **Keith** died

last month.

Winners of the Scholarship Fundraiser were **Priscilla Peck**, \$20; and \$10 each: **Bobbi Lou David**, **Carmen Hower-ton**, and **Bev Hoppe**. Flowers were won by **Mozella Lennon** and - once again! **Bobbie Lou**!



And that's the last byte for this time!

Bev



FREF

Chairman: Anne French
954-561-1719 Afrench@hotmail.com



FREF Extravaganza Tickets - Only \$10.00

Buy your tickets **NOW** for a Chance to WIN:

- \$500 Cash - 1st Prize
- \$300 Cash - 2nd Prize
- \$200 Cash - 3rd Prize

\$100 Cash - Guaranteed Prize to a winner in District 10: Dade, Broward or Palm Beach.

Donations are used to fund scholarships for future Florida teachers. Buy Tickets at the meeting or by filling out the form below and send with a check to:

Anne French
1017 NE 28 Drive
Wilton Manors, FL 33334

Make your check payable to FREF (Florida Retired Educators Foundation).

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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 or mail it to me at:

Darcia Drago
4346 Carambola Circle North
Coconut Creek, FL 33066

Literacy

Chairman: Sandy Lefkowitz
954-557-5817 Slef123@bellsouth.net



Thanks to everyone who brought books to the October meeting! We'll be collecting at every meeting!

Sandy



The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by



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

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

Scenes from the October Meeting

