

## Memorial Ceremony & Membership Milestones

In spite of dire warnings for senior citizens to avoid crowds, 51 members and 3 guests braved the threat of the dreaded Coronavirus and attended the March BCREA meeting. Some even were observed to steal a hug instead of the recommended fist, elbow or toe bump to greet friends. Social Chairman **Sallie Sherwood** pro-

use. And she wore latex gloves to further allay fears. Celebrating Membership Milestones, there was a BCREA Bingo sheet to challenge members. Membership Chairman **Susan Lochrie** presented a certificate to **Kathlyn Barno** who has been a member for 32 years.



vided hand sanitizer and Wet Ones for anyone to



### Annual Memorial Service Honors 17



Each year BCREA takes time to remember the members who have passed away in the previous year. This year 17 members were honored at the March meeting. **Frances Smoot** and **Darcy Drago** conducted the ceremony. Frances opened with a poem about teachers. Then, as Darcy read each name and told a few things about each one, Frances added a white rose to a vase. The ceremony ended with a moment of silence,

### In Memoriam 2019

**Kate Alexander**  
**Mary Jo Bell**  
**Winifred Dickinson**  
**Frankie Foeman**  
**Lucille Folsom-Mason**  
**Coleen Gore**  
**Polly Lenzen**  
**Nancy Lindberg**  
**Evelyn Morris**  
**Charles Pipes**  
**Joe Reddick**  
**Mary Beth Schmid**  
**Ruth Travers**  
**Ed Weaver**  
**Runette Williams**  
**Lillian Wilson**  
**Beverly Yates**

### April 2 Meeting

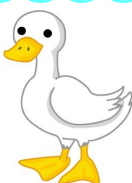
**Time:** 11:45

**Place:** Deicke Auditorium

**Address:** 5701 Cypress Road  
 Plantation

(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

**Program:** Sandy Lefkowitz - Literacy  
 Book Celebration



**Easter** 4/12

**Passover:**  
 4/08 - 4/16



### Bring to meeting:

Volunteer Hours  
 Dish to share  
 Labels for Education  
 Aluminum pull-tabs  
 Old eyeglasses & Cell phones  
 A New Member  
 Children's Books

The FREA State Convention will be May 11-14 at the Plaza Resort and Spa in Daytona Beach. There will be a gift basket competition with a holiday theme - although it can be an obscure holiday - like Sally's Peanut Butter and Jelly Day. As of the Board meeting, we didn't have any outstanding ideas. If you have a brainstorm, call Lillian at 954-288-9211 and let her know! Also, if you'd be interested in going, let her know that too!

## President's Corner

Sometimes we read about things that never leave us; a poem, news article, a great novel, or an inspirational quote. They hang around so long that we are made aware of their haunting presence in so many instances of our daily lives.

One such quote I think of often is that of **Sir Francis Bacon**, "Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man." Of course, since these utterances were so long ago, we do not submit to his gender-specific usage and include all human beings.

READING is the part of Sir Francis Bacon's quote that is a constant presence when we think of the most important skill that students should possess. For without reading, none of the other academic subjects could survive. Reading provides mental stimulation, improves memory and thinking skills, as well as focus and concentration. Stress can be reduced, knowledge gained, and better writing skills attained.

Here at BCREA, one of our most important initiatives comes through our Literacy Committee, chaired by **Sandy Lefkowitz**. April is our Book Celebration Month and we all pitch in to help Sandy with the collection of new and gently used books to be distributed to young readers throughout the county. We appreciate Sandy's hard work for this initiative, as well as the fifth-grade essay contest for which prizes are given at our May meeting. It is always a pleasure to witness the enthusiasm of our young scholars as they write about a grandparent. The best essay is entered into the statewide contest at the FREA convention.

Your castaway gently-used or new books are welcome to take some space among our collections to be distributed to young readers. Help us keep our book supply stocked. Collections are ongoing throughout the year, so there is always a time to give and be reminded of a favorite bumper sticker that says:

IF YOU CAN READ THIS,  
THANK A TEACHER.



Lillian

## Health & I+PS

By Lillian Small

**Coronavirus** is an umbrella term that refers to a group of viruses causing diseases like SARS, MERS and COVID-19. The newest disease caused by the coronavirus was originally called novel coronavirus but in February, the World Health Organization gave us the name COVID-19. The CO stands for *corona*. VI is for *virus*. And D means *disease*. The 19 is for the year 2019, the year the disease first appeared in China.

Earlier projections that the coronavirus would be widespread in the US during March and April are here. There are now cases reported in Broward County. Precautions to take are similar to those currently used during our flu season. Most importantly, our generation is most vulnerable.

And from Pathologist **James Robb**:

- 1) NO HANDSHAKING!
- 2) Use ONLY your knuckle to touch light switches, elevator buttons, etc.... Lift 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 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 20 seconds and/or use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer whenever you return 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. The clothing on your elbow will contain infectious virus that can be passed on for up to a week or more!

8) STOCK UP ON: Latex or nitrile latex disposable gloves, disposable surgical masks, hand sanitizers and zinc lozenges

## Need Help With Taxes?

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. Through a cadre of trained volunteers, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide has helped low- to moderate-income individuals for more than 40 years in every state and the District of Columbia. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in cooperation with the IRS. Call **888-227-7669** to find a location near you!



## Community Service

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



Our supply drive for the **Florida Humane Society** was a huge success and is our last group project until next Fall. Their staff was most grateful for our donation of

pet and household supplies. Thanks for supporting our projects throughout the year and for all that you do individually throughout our community. If you have any suggestions for new projects for next year please let me know.

Congratulations to **Karen Uris**, our nominee for District 10 Volunteer of the Year.

Darcy

## Social Committee

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



At the March meeting, at least four people brought in donations of containers, plastic utensils, napkins and other items that we are always willing to accept for the luncheon table. Thank you for helping to make the luncheon successful. It was nice to see the Wearing of the Green and some delicious St. Patty Day dishes on the buffet table.

When next we meet it will be National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day and also National Burrito Day. Any creative pot luck ideas out there?? We are a little short of the plastic take home containers, so if you have any to bring in for the April and May meetings please bring them in next time.



## Karen Uris is Volunteer of the Year

By Darcy Drago



**Karen Uris** is our unit's nominee for District Volunteer of the Year. Karen, who co-chairs our Hospitality Committee, has been a member of BCREA for 3 years. She accrued a total of 1400 volunteer hours in the past year.

Karen is an usher at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts and their affiliated venues. Due to her

dedication she placed in their top 3 volunteers and received an award for her service hours. She trains new volunteers and works with Broward County students with the SEAS and Title One programs.

She volunteers at Sheridan Park Elementary School assisting with their yearly book fair and in their holiday shop.

Karen is also involved with the "We Care Food Bank" which provides groceries to families in need in our community. We wish her the best of luck in District competition!

## Legislative/Nominating

Chairman: Carol Roland  
954-472-2389 carolrbears@aol.com



## Slate for 2020-2021 Announced



L to R: President, **Lillian Small**; Vice-President, **Sue Colton**; Secretary, **Karen Avery**; and Treasurer **Marelise LeClerc**. Voting will take place at the April meeting.

The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by



Call (954)468-2728 or Online at [BSCU.org](http://BSCU.org)

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



## Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



In December 2019 we had 287 members who paid 2019-20 dues  
A big thank you to all of you who have continued your membership in BCREA even when you don't live in Broward County.

Out of Broward County (in Florida): 25 Members Out of State: 18

States represented: Georgia (4) Colorado (3) West Virginia (2) Alabama (1) South Carolina (1) North Carolina (1) Virginia (1) Kentucky (1) Texas (1) Massachusetts (1) Connecticut. (1) Vermont (1)

2020-21 Membership Drive started in March

Payment of \$50 for annual dues is sent to BCREA Membership Chairman, Susan Lochrie; Check is deposited by BCREA Treasurer Marelise LeClerc  
FREA Dues of \$35 per member are sent by the Treasurer to FREA office, in St. Petersburg, Local Dues are used for rental for the monthly meetings, Newsletter and Directory printing, mailings, liability insurance and other incidental costs for the committees. Our BCREA Board is entirely volunteer; all the work done by our local unit is volunteer.

### 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!)

Lillian Johnston 4/3  
Eleanor Majerus 4/23  
Gwen Thompson 4/10  
Jimmie Wickham 4/30



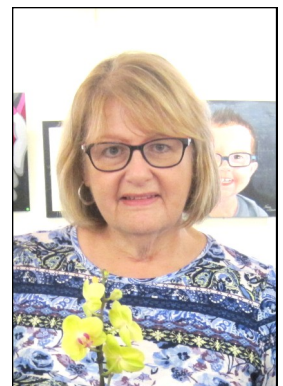
Thinking of You....  
Michael Phillips  
Arline Ziller



In Memoriam  
Doris Stern 03/2020



Welcome New Member  
Jan Heinrich





## Literacy

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



Look forward to a fun, interactive April meeting. April is the last month that BCREA will be collecting children's books. At the meeting we will be adding book plates to all the books that YOU have donated this year. This will be your chance to see the wonderful books that we have collected. You deserve a pat on the back for making a difference in the lives of children. We are competing with tablets and computers so it is especially gratifying to see a child hold a book

and devote time to reading. Thanks to you for making books special. Also plan on attending the May meeting when we will officially announce our fifth grade **Margaret Poppell** essay winners. Our first place winner **Jacob Barnes** is from **Floranada Elementary**. It was very difficult for the committee to choose one winner this year. Mark May 7th on your calendars and join us to celebrate the fifth grade essay winners.

*Sandy*

It was great to have **Sallie Sherwood** back at the helm of the Social Committee - after a 3-month absence recovering from a broken shoulder. Very sad news: Brand new member **Doris Stern** who'd been attending with **Michael Phillips** for 3 months, was fatally injured by a hit-and-run driver when she and Michael were out for an evening stroll. Michael was also injured but thankfully survived.

Winners in the **Scholarship Fundraiser** were Below, L-R:



**\$10. Val Proffer**, new member **Jan Heinrich** and **Missy Belsito** won the flowers - donated, as always, by **Carol Roland**.

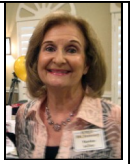


**Marelise LeClerc** was the winner of the Community Services Drawing. See all the rest of the photos on Shutterfly! Go to the website <http://browardrea.org> and click on "Photos on Shutterfly."

Happy Passover! Happy Easter! Happy Spring! *Bev*

## From the Treasurer

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



BCREA thanks Bright Star Credit Union for their most generous donation of \$2,000 presented at our March Meeting by **Michael Cardona**. This most charita-



ble contribution helps us print our newsletters, the directory, along with our yearly rental of Deicke for our meetings. We have corporation and liability insurances, as well as many other expenses. Because of this gift from **BrightStar**, we are able to put all the money that our members give to-

ward scholarships. **Diane Jarchow** has bestowed \$1,000 for a scholarship in memory of her mother, **Virginia Potter**. A deserving student will be given this scholarship because of Diane's considerate thoughtfulness. Kudos to **Cynthia Johnson**! She won the pot of gold at our annual luncheon in February. She donated one-half of her winnings, \$100, back to our Scholarship Fund. Thank you to many of the people who have paid their dues for 2020-2021. The donations for the Scholarship Fund of the first 29 members who paid their dues is a whopping \$855! BCREA members are the BEST! Thanks to the following members:

### Scholarship Donations

#### DONOR:

Milton Brantferger  
Diane Jarchow  
Diane Jarchow  
Sandy Lefkowitz  
Carol Roland

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Dorothea Moran  
Virginia Potter  
Edie MacMurdo  
Doris Stern  
Mary Bush

#### UNDESIGNATED DONATIONS:

Ellen Emery	Ann Graves	Marjorie Gregg
Ruth Hooper	Cynthia Johnson	Judy Joseph
Ronald Mayhew	Arline & Wayne McWhinney	
Mary Perfect	Eleanor Gaston	Sallie Sherwood
Mary Taylor		Bruce Voelkel

*Marelise*

- DATED MATERIAL -  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



Karen Uris and LuAnn Comes welcome us!



Sandy Lefkowitz and  
Sallie Sherwood get-  
ting lunch ready!

Suzanne Atkin brought  
her granddaughter to  
the meeting



#### BCREA VOLUNTEER REPORTING FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Month \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_\_\_

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  
2505 Dagoon Avenue  
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Sue Colton went to  
Tallahassee on a  
bus with other  
teachers that left  
at 4 AM for the  
opening of the  
Legislature in early  
January. She  
shared lots of info  
at the meeting.

