



# BCREA Newsletter



February, 2011

Broward County Retired Educators' Association

Number 211

## Double Program: Both HANDY & Art Center Need Teachers

First on the program at the January meeting was **Jeff Rusnak**, Director of Develop-



ment of the Hollywood Art and Culture Center. According to its website, <http://artandculturecenter.org> "The Art and Culture Center's educational program-

ming includes adult and children's arts classes, after-school and outreach programs, camps, and other art curricula. In partnership with the Broward Education Communications Network, the Center offers distance learning visual and performing arts classes for all Broward County students. The Center also provides music/drama/theater and visual arts programming for area schools." For these reasons, the Center is hoping to get volunteers from BCREA.

For more information on the Art and Culture Center of Hollywood, please call (954) 921-3274.

Director of Programming **Kirk Brown** and Director of Development **Becky Irwin** represented HANDY at the meeting. According to their



website, <http://handyinc.org> "HANDY is a critical resource for children in Broward County's child protection system, providing a lifeline for our abused, neglected and disadvantaged youth." They work closely

with the Guardian ad Litem program to support both children and their caregivers. According to Brown, "No one who's ever been to Handy has walked out the same." At the present time they have 278 kids between the ages of 10 - 23. 90% of their clients graduate from high school and 905 of those go on to college. They need volunteers to tutor these kids - and who better to do this than retired teachers? Every subject is needed and tutoring is done every day except Sunday. The facility is located at 501 NE 8th Street - just across Federal Highway from Parker Playhouse. "I'm a social worker," he says; I work on lives; teachers work on brains!" If you'd like to help, call 954-522-2911.

### February 3 Meeting

**Time:** 11:30 am - **Advance Tickets only**  
**Order Form on page 6**

**Place:** Tropical Acres Restaurant  
**Address:** 2500 Griffin Road  
(1/2 mile west of I-95)  
954-761-1744

**Program:** Annual Scholarship Luncheon  
(Ticket Order Form on page 4)  
With remarks by Maureen Dinnen

### Bring to meeting:

Volunteer Reporting Form

Door Prize for Luncheon

Blankies & Pillows

Campbells labels

Aluminum pull-tabs

General Mills labels

Coupons for our troops



### Blankies and Pillows Project Going Strong

The Blankies & Pillows project initiated by Michele Edwards several years ago has been revitalized in a big way! Above **Cheryl Ammons**, **Shirley Wiggin** and **Michele** display their creations! If you are interested in making one to be given to Kids in Distress, call Michele at **954-849-5512** or e-mail her at [dramama51@bellsouth.net](mailto:dramama51@bellsouth.net).

## President's Corner

Hi Everyone,

Everyone has been so wonderful at their jobs. This organization runs like a well-oiled machine. We are going to need many of you to pitch in and help when it's time for the District 10 workshop that will be held here in September. I'm also putting out a call for a District 10 Director. The job is to coordinate Dade, Palm Beach and Broward Counties with the state FREAs agenda - in other words, getting the news out from the state. For those of you who have never been to a District workshop to see how this all happens, make plans to attend. It's a learning, networking and fun experience.



At the January meeting we had two speakers who brought to us information that we can do something about. We are in the learning arena. We can help those children and adults who are waiting out there for us. Maybe in some ways our profession has turned its back on us but we can't turn our backs on those who want to learn. It's what we do. HANDY and the Hollywood Arts Council both made great presentations for our help. There is no way we can sit back when we know we can help.

On February 3 we are going to raise money to help some young people get to college by having a delicious lunch at Tropical Acres. Please join us for a couple of hours of smiles and prizes. For those of you who have



never been you're missing a good time. Do something nice for yourself and someone else by attending. Thanks to all of you who make me look good at my job.

**Margarite**

## Vice-President's Corner

First of all, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! Every year I start with the idea that this year looks promising with good things to follow. With this in mind, if you have been a member of our organization but haven't attended one of our luncheons, I can promise you that you won't be disappointed spending an afternoon with our group of friendly people and good food. I was very hesitant about joining this group when I retired since I didn't know anyone who was a member. By becoming a member, I have met a group of dedicated, hard working people who care about each other. It's also reassuring to know that all of us are retired and have many of the same interests. Our group also tries to keep up to date on what is happening in the legislature since our benefits can change with the passing of new laws and regulations.



At every meeting we have a guest speaker to either familiarize us about an existing program, or provide up-to-date information, or to entertain us. If you know of a program that you think would be beneficial for our group presentation, please e-mail me the information at [bmorningstar1@bellsouth.net](mailto:bmorningstar1@bellsouth.net). I do have a waiting list of programs to be presented but I'm always interested in adding to my list for next year.

So I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the Scholarship Luncheon and promise a fun and exciting afternoon with great food.



P.S. If you would like to carpool, please check the directory to find someone who might live near you.

**Barbara**

## BCREA Officers....

### President

Margarite Falconer  
954-524-2938

### Secretary

Judy Joseph  
954-974-8224

### Vice-President

Barbara Morningstar  
954-781-4356

### Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc  
954-962-7343

## At the Board Party



Left: Lorene's son Brian drove her to the party and had a surprise - he had fun with the old folks!  
Right: Martha chooses some wine!





## Community Service / Directories

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



A big "thank you" to those members who brought in toiletries for Women in Distress. It's nice to know that our donation is brightening the start of their New Year. Thanks also to those who brought in books & magazines for VA patients and manufacturers' coupons for our troops.

Don't forget to turn in any unreported community service hours at our February

scholarship luncheon. We have to send in our annual report to FREA in March. Remember that you may include travel time to and from your volunteer site.

\*\*\*\*\*

For those who have not yet picked up a 2010-2011 Directory, I'll have them available at the luncheon.

**Darcy**

## FREF

Chairman: Frances Smoot  
954-733-3385 francessmoot@hotmail.com



### FREF Extravaganza 2011!!!!

Tickets for the exciting FREF Extravaganza 2011 will arrive soon and will be sold at the March and April meetings. You have a chance to win four excellent prizes for the cost of \$10.00. Remember - the funds will go to support the state scholarship fund for students who plan to become teachers in the state of Florida. We look forward to your cooperation and we need your participation.

**Frances**



**You're Invited  
to**

**Nova / SE Lifelong Learning Institute's  
Winter Welcome Week,**

**January 10 - 13**

**For more info**

**Main: 954-262-8471 Direct: 954-262-8472**

**Cell: 954-673-6777**

**[lmaurice@nsu.nova.edu](mailto:lmaurice@nsu.nova.edu)**

**Website:**

**<http://undergrad.nova.edu/li/>**

## Bev's Bytes.....



So here we are - a decade into the 21st century! Remember when we got all those dire predictions that the world would end when Y2K rolled in? Remember the digital clock in the Post Office that had the countdown - one second at a time? You knew to the second just how long you had to wait in line! How our lives have changed during that decade. Of course, the world didn't end; but after 9/11/01, our world would never be the same. This becomes most apparent if you have to fly anywhere. Take off your shoes! No food allowed - it might be explosive! No liquids - not even baby formula! And now! Full body scans and pat-downs? Egad! Ten years ago I might not have minded a full body scan! My body looked a lot better then! OK! 'nuff said! On to happier topics! We've been having around 70 attendees at our meetings - 65 plus 5 guests (including one very well-



behaved 4-year old) at the January meeting. The happy winners of the 50/50 were:

## Passages



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

**Annie Williams, 2/04**

**Laura Robinson, 2/11**

**Ruby Huff, 2/16**

**Faye Mullarkey 2/24**

*...And turning 85:*

**Evelyn Morris 2/07**

**Joseph Vargo 2/13**

**Eleanor Meyer 2/22**



*Thinking of You....*

**Bruce Arnold**

**Dianne Texter**



*Directory Correction:*  
**Tom and Harriet Drilling's**  
new e-mail address is  
[harttomdrill@yahoo.com](mailto:harttomdrill@yahoo.com)

**Cathy Brawer (\$20), Linda Horton (\$20) and Shirley Wiggin (\$10).** And did you see those beautiful "blankies" for KID? They're works of art!

Send me some news - about yourself or someone else! And if you have the time, volunteer at one of the facilities introduced by our speakers. What better place for retired teachers to help out! And that's the last byte for this month!

*Bev*

## Membership...

Chairman: Susan Lochrie

954-525-8503

or

slochrie@bellsouth.net



**STRENGTH IS IN NUMBERS!** When we speak with our Florida Legislators about saving our pension benefits, they ask, "How many members are in your organization of retired educators?"

The more people who join FREA and BCREA the more power we will have in making our voices heard by the legislators. Urge your friends who are not members to join BCREA, even if they are not able to attend meetings. FREA will notify us of any bills which could negatively affect our pension benefits. You know how important this is. We will get in-

formation on how to contact our lawmakers. Please contact me if you know of anyone who should be mailed a membership information packet. The BCREA website <http://browardrea.org> has information and past Newsletters and the state organization's website is <http://frea.org>

We now have 343 members, including 43 new members. It is wonderful to see so many new faces at the meetings! In March we will start to collect the dues of \$45 for 2011-



### Board Holds Annual Holiday Meeting

Pictured above are the BCREA Board members who gathered at Michele Edwards' home on December 9 for their annual holiday meeting. They enjoyed lunch and had a Chinese-auction style gift exchange - which resulted in members battling over desirable acquisitions! Front: Michele Edwards, Margarite Falconer, Susan Lochrie, Marelise Leclerc; 2nd row: Mel Wenig, Kathlyn Barno, Frances Smoot, Charles Pipes, Martha Pipes, Rosetta Watkins; 3rd row: Pat Schroder, Lorene Broxton, Diane Texter, Barbara Morningstar; top: Bev Hoppe and Linda Horton.

## Member Spotlight

Linnie Kidd celebrated her 90th birthday in November. She has been a member of BCREA since she retired in 1989. She is now living in the Orlando area near her son, who is a minister and a teacher at a theological college. Linnie lives in a retirement community where she is known as "Miss Butterfly" because of her hobby with Monarch butterflies. She harvests the eggs from the milkweed plant and provides an environment for the caterpillars, the chrysalis and finally the butterflies, which are then released. She used

to grow milkweed when she had her own garden. Linnie likes to keep moving. Other activities that she enjoys at the retirement center are the treadmill, the step machine and chair aerobics.

Linnie's first teaching position was in Clarksdale, Mississippi, in a 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>-grade combination class where 45 students were the norm. She studied for a Master's degree at George Peabody College in Nashville, TN. After she married Rex Kidd, her late husband, they had two sons and she taught in Leon County and Alachua County, Florida while he was working toward his PH.D. The Kidds moved to Broward County in the 1960's. Linnie taught 2nd grade for 28 years at Peters Elementary School.

## Cultural Affairs

Chairman: Michele Edwards

954-849-5512



Bring your check made payable to BCREA for \$35 per ticket to attend

**"Plaza Suite"**

**on Friday, March 18  
at 8 p.m.  
and or**

**"Light in the Piazza"  
on Saturday, April 9  
at 2 pm;**

both shows are at Broward Stage Door Theatre. Barbara Morningstar will collect your checks for me as I'll be missing the luncheon. Your LAST CHANCE to purchase theatre tickets will be at the March

3 meeting. If you will not be at the luncheon or the meeting, mail your check to Michele Edwards,  
1933 NW 107 Drive,  
Coral Springs, FL 33071  
to be received by March 3. Be sure to note the number of tickets and show name(s) in the memo on your check.

**Don't forget to attend "Ella" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 26, 2011 in the Parker Playhouse!!! See you there!**

*Michele*



## Bright Star

Representative: Marjuree Larin  
Marjuree.Larin@bscu.org



### BrightStar Members' Interest.. Brighten Your New Year and Share The Love..

Share the benefits of Credit Union membership with your circle of friends, family and coworkers, and we'll enter both of your names into a monthly drawing for a chance to win \$250 each when the referred member opens a new membership with us. We'll award a prize at the end of each month in 2011. The more members you refer, the better your chances of winning. For details go to <http://bscu.org/sharethelove>.

### Gift The Gift of Savings...

Open a savings account for your loved ones ages 12 and under so they can be part of

Cosmo's Kids Club for young savers. It's easy to join! If they are already a member of BrightStar and under 13 years of age, then they are automatically enrolled in **Cosmo's Kids Club**. For more details, visit [www.bscu.org/cosmo](http://www.bscu.org/cosmo) or visit any of our local branches.

### Renaissance Festival

The international award-winning Florida Renaissance Festival held at Quiet Waters Park in Deerfield Beach, welcomes students and educators to step back in time to learn about this fascinating period in history. Visit <http://ren-fest.com/>

to purchase tickets and be sure enter the coupon code BSCU (for a special discount).

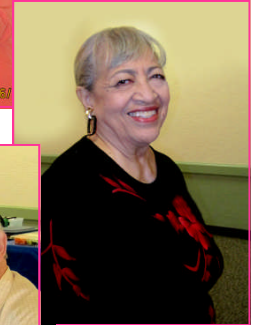
**Marjuree**



**Jewel Ecton  
looks happy**



**Pat  
Schifini  
reads the  
minutes**



**Kathlyn  
Barno**



**Toni buys  
a 50/50  
ticket.**



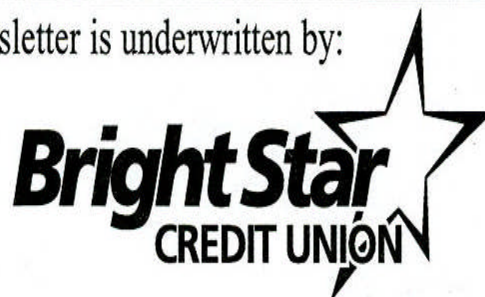
**Edie, Barbara, et al  
check out the choices!**

**Doris  
sells  
lunch-  
eon  
tickets**



**Catherine Phoenix and friends**

The cost of the BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by:



954-486-2728 • Online at BSCU.org

*Serving Broward Educators Since 1946*

Bring this to our next meeting or mail it to:

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

**BCREA VOLUNTEER REPORTING FORM**

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

Month \_\_\_\_\_, 200 \_\_\_\_\_

**LITERACY VOLUNTEER HOURS:**

Teaching Sunday School, reading to children/adults; tutoring;  
helping with testing programs, etc; Includes any activities to  
promote a more literate America. TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKING WITH OUR YOUTH:**

School, tutoring, mentoring, coaching etc. (Persons 25 years  
of age or younger. TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS:**

Church, civic, hospital / hospice, personal help to others (non  
-relatives), school, drug, ecology / environment.

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Overlapping categories should be reported in both places.

GRAND TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

**February 3 Scholarship Luncheon  
Ticket Order Form**

Number of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00 each  
Extra donation for Scholarships ? \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée choices: Prime Rib of Beef  
Chicken Francaise  
Broiled Salmon

Name	Entrée Choice
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Send a check made out to BCREA (by January 27)  
(Include a Self-addressed, Stamped Envelope)

to  
Doris Emmett  
6000 NE 22 Way, Apt. 3-B  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308

- ♦ Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- ♦ The early bird may get the worm - but the 2nd mouse gets the cheese!
- ♦ Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go.

**Scholarship Donations  
Undesignated:**

Madeline Martin

Joyce Stokes

**BCREA NEWSLETTER**

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