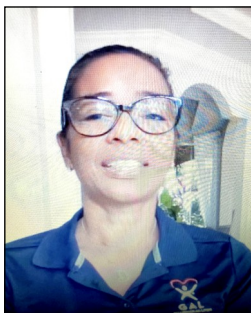


Kerry Ann Invites You to Be a Guardian!

Even though this was **Kerry Ann Brown's** third visit to BCREA, she always has new information to impart. This time she gave some history of the organization which originated in Seattle in 1977. It currently has 950 groups with 93,000 volunteers serving 271,000 kids across the country. In Florida, there are over



33,000 children being served. These children came into care through no fault of their own - they are not delinquents but may be victims of

abuse. To learn lots more, go to the **BCREA Website/ Newsletters** and go to **November, 2017** and **November, 2019**. If you'd like to become a volunteer go to <http://guardianadlitem.org>

Drive-By Only Moderately Successful



It wasn't for a lack of preparation that the Drive-By at Heritage Park on December 17 was not a big success. **Darcy Drago** came with around 200 Handbooks.

Sallie Sherwood brought drinks and snacks to distribute; she also provided a beautiful basket to collect cards for **Marsy Smith**. **Carol Roland**



brought a beautiful Christmas tree cake she could've sold at a real bake sale! **Alyce Aspler** did her part - she drove by! And everyone who came wore masks and



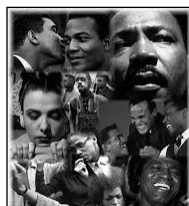
everyone who stayed 6 ft. apart.

Upcoming Events

February 4 Meeting

Time: 12 Noon (Eastern)

Place: Zoom Meeting



Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2917699881?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2917699881?pwd=TURYUzhRR2g3bFZQSDZPV3VQc1Jldz09)

[pwd=TURYUzhRR2g3bFZQSDZPV3VQc1Jldz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2917699881?pwd=TURYUzhRR2g3bFZQSDZPV3VQc1Jldz09)

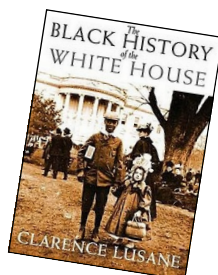
Meeting ID: 291 769 9881

Passcode: BCREA2020

Program:

Diane Texter

Black History Celebration



February 18 - BINGO

Scholarship Fundraiser

Time: 1-3 PM

Place: Zoom (Use same link)



Diane Texter Needs Your Help!

February is usually our time to celebrate, catch up with old friends, and enjoy a delicious meal at Tropical Acres. In February 2021, we have decided to educate ourselves in Black History. I have been researching "Historical African Americans That I Never Heard of."

One of my favorite characters is a woman named **Mary Jane Pleasant**. Has

anyone heard of her? She began as a slave, became a millionaire in California, and died in the poor house. If you have information to share or suggestions, call or email me. Or you may know of someone who would fit in my required category. Maybe you'd like to "become" someone like **Maya Angelou** and recite a poem. Let me know! Texterdr@gmail.com or 954-972-8032.

President's Corner

It's February everyone! It's the Month of Love and here is how I remember it being defined when I was a teenager. "Love is the feeling you feel when you feel you're going to have a feeling that you never felt before."



You probably never heard this jumble of a definition; and neither have the myriad of songwriters, poets, and philosophers who have weighed in on this indescribable emotion.

Love can be identified through the use of each of our senses. We can see it, feel it. Smell it, taste it, and hear it. We love the people and pets we see daily in our lives, the beautiful sunrises and the grandeur of our universe. We love the feel of soft breezes on our face, a fluffy pillow to hug, and a touch of tender hands. We love the smell of a rose, a fragrant perfume and the aroma of fresh popcorn. We love the sound of beautiful music, waves as they crash a shore, children laughing and playing. We love the taste of foods and delicacies to sate the palate. In essence, we love - LOVE!

That jumbled definition may not accurately define anything really. What we do know is we are filled with love when we give it away, not when we receive it. To know this simple truth frees us from searching for love. To understand how it came to be can only be explained from the Cradle to Calvary; from the birth of our Savior to His death. It is, was, and shall always be, No Greater Love as expressed by the great lyricist John W. Peterson in his cantata. Let us reflect on the nature of our love-being now and into the rest of this year, and be thankful for the capacity to love.

HAVE A BEAUTIFUL AND LOVING VALENTINE'S DAY

Lillian

President-Elect's Corner

On the evening of August 25, 2017, I arrived at my hotel, the Nairobi Serena, anticipating my Kenya/Tanzania safari adventure for the next 2½ weeks. At dusk, the hotel was surrounded by a military detail in camouflage and assault weapons. We were assured this would be our protection due to threats of nightly protests from the political unrest of their August 8th contested presidential election. Fast forward to the afternoon of January 6, 2021, when I watched an angry mob of protesters storm our Capitol Building in Washington, DC as a result of the political turmoil from our contested November 3rd presidential election. Was this happening in the United States of America?

I am finding it difficult to find words that express the emotions I feel in my gut from watching the disrespect and destruction of historical artifacts and human life that represent our democratic process, where I have stood in awe in the Rotunda and Statutory Hall. So, I turn to the words of my favorite author of *Leadership and the New Science* and *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future*, Dr. Margaret Wheatley.

She says, "I hope we can reclaim conversation as our route back to each other, and as the path forward to a hopeful future. It only requires imagination, and courage and faith. These are qualities possessed by everyone. Now is the time to exercise them to the fullest."

Will you join me in my hope for this New Year of 2021?

Sue



BCREA Officers....

President

Lillian Small

954-288-9211

President-Elect

Sue Colton

954-695-5065

Secretary

Karen Avery

954-806-1678

Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc

954-962-7343



Who were those masked women?

Membership...

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



We Are you grateful to be retired? I am. Our profession has always been challenging but these days I have great admiration and concern for all of the people who work in schools in the middle of a pandemic. BCREA and the Florida Retired Educators Association helps us support our Educators by supporting legislation to help our schools, encouraging future teachers through scholarships and working to continue a sound pension system. Please urge your friends who have retired to join us. We still are meeting through Zoom meetings. The good news about this is that we have members who live out of Broward County who come to the zoom meetings! Many members live out of the

county and state. At the January Meeting **Julia Penley** joined us from Colorado, **Nina Hansen** from North Carolina and **Linda Wells** from Arkansas. Milestones: We have thirty members who have been in BCREA for over 25 years. Thank you for your consistent support. The following have been BCREA members for over 30 years: **Milton Brantferger**, living in Melbourne, **Norma Cosby**, living in Orlando, **Doris Emmett**, **Panchitta Chisholm** and **Warren Cox**, who are all in Broward County. In December 2020 we had 242 members. In the month of March, we will begin to ask for dues for 2021.

Susan

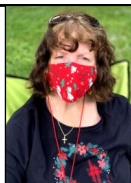


Welcome New Member
Linda Wells



Information Services

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



A A January update from the CDC, issued a strong warning that even after a person is vaccinated, the body will be building immunity for a few weeks. It is imperative that while the body is building protection against the virus, one must continue to follow all protocols... wear your mask (cover both nose and mouth), wash

your hands, clean and disinfect areas, avoid crowds and maintain at least a six foot distance from others. Another point reported is that if you have already had COVID-19 and have recovered, you should still get vaccinated to avoid re-infection. An article from Harvard Women's Health Watch suggests that after

Bea's Bytes...



There were 33 in attendance at the January Zoom meeting. Or maybe 35 or 40. It was hard to keep up - there were lots of people who didn't have their videos turned on so there were several black rectangles with just iPhone or a phone number showing. I didn't even bother to take a group photo. But there were 2 pages of attendees! Past-President **Madeline Martin** who lives in Vermont hasn't quite mastered Zoom but sends wishes to everyone for a Happy 2021! There were 3 attendees from a distance - **Julia Penley** in Denver; **Nina Hansen** in NC; and new member **Linda Wells** in Little Rock. And that's the last byte for February! *Happy Valentine's Day!*

Bea

COVID the "long haulers" may experience symptoms which keep dragging on for weeks or months. Presently there are no long term treatment plans for these individuals, however, one should stay in contact with their primary care physicians for surveillance and evaluation. The "Live Life To The Max in South Florida @ The BOOMERS & SENIORS Health, Wellness, Medical, Lifestyle, Enter-

Passages



Happy Birthday to our
Birthday Club
(members over 85!)
Mimi Bond 2/02
Eleanor Meyer 2/22



Thinking of You....
Diane Jarchow
Martha Pipes

Save the Day!
Thursday, March 18
1:00 - 3:00 PM
On Zoom
(of course!)
Cook your own
meal with a chef!
Cost: \$20.00
More info to come!

tainment, Financial & Home EXPO" will be held at the Pompano Beach Emma Lou Olson Civic Center on Thursday, February 25, 2021, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Admission is free. When next we ZOOM meet on February 4th, it will be National Homemade Soup Day! I have a wonderful recipe for Senate Bean Soup, anyone want to exchange recipes? Stay fit, stay sharp, stay safe and send positive thoughts to others **Go to More Info from Sallie on page 4** →

Literacy

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



Be positive. Wear a smile.
Laughter is good medicine.

Catch a good read. The
libraries are available. Drive
by for pick up or order on-
line

Reach out to family and
friends. Zoom has become
our favorite friend.

Expect a better year. En-
joy the end of 2020 is over
and be glad 2021 is here.

And join BCREA events,
fundraisers and fun times
coming in the next few
months.

BCREA Scholarship funds
are off to a good start with
the BCREA **Bakeless Bake
Sale**. It was a huge success!
Here is one of the wonder-
ful recipes that members
submitted. Space permit-
ting, one recipe will be
shared in every Newsletter,
so look forward to trying
some new yummy treat.

This month's recipe:
Buttermilk Crumb Cake
from Mary Ellen Fowler

Sift together
3 cups flour and 2 cups
sugar

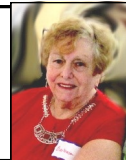
Cut in $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter/
margarine. Set aside 1 cup
of mixture for topping.
Add to the remaining flour,
sugar and butter mixture:
1 tsp. nutmeg,
1 tsp. cinnamon,
1 tsp. baking soda,
1 tsp. baking powder,
1 c. plumped raisins,
1 c. chopped nuts,
2 c. buttermilk.
Mix well, it will be lumpy.
Put into a 13x9 " pan.
Add topping.
Bake at 350° for 50 minutes.
Best to cool before slicing.
You can top with powdered
sugar.



Sandy

Fund Raising

Chairman: Barbara Lewis
954-562-1936 barbarabeth1@att.net



Thanks to all who participated in our Bakeless Bake Sale.
We raised \$860. Here's the info on our next fundraiser:

**February Scholarship Fundraiser
BINGO**

Date: Thursday, February 18

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Cost: 5 cards for \$10 / 10 cards for \$20

There will be prizes for the winners of each game so come
out one and all. Enjoy BINGO and raise money for our
scholarships see you then. If you have any questions you
can call or email me.

Barbara

BINGO Cards Order Form

Deadline: February 5

1 or 2 Sets of cards @\$10.00 / 5 = _____

Extra Donation: _____

Total: _____

**Send a check made out to BCREA
Include a Self-addressed, stamped # 10 envelope**

to
**Marelise LeClerc
615 North 31 Road
Hollywood, FL 33021**

.....More Info From Sallie!

From February 2nd to 28th days and 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
there will be an art show on Saturdays.
and sale at History Fort There will be a Black History
Lauderdale (231 SW 2nd Celebration, on February
Ave, Fort Lauderdale, FL 28th from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at
33301.) The exhibit fea- the Reverend Samuel De-
tures the work of students levee Park, 2530 Sistrunk
from Dillard Center For Blvd., Fort Lauderdale. "From
The Arts in Fort Lauder- Africa to America" and it will
dale. There is an admission include speakers, rappers,
fee and the museum is open and performances. **Sallie**
from 12:00 to 4:00 week-

Friendship

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



I want to express my appreciation to all of you who have
donated greeting cards, so we can continue to keep our
members in our thoughts. If you have birthday, get well
or sympathy cards you would like to donate, please send
them to me at **420 S.56 Ave., Hollywood, FL 33023.**



To those who have had a birthday since
we last met, please accept this virtual
birthday wish!

Marsy



From the Treasurer

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



Wow! \$860 was collected for the scholarship fund at our first fundraiser! The list of contributors below accounts for much of the money collected. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Mark your calendars! Join in the BINGO fun on February 18 (see coupon at left), I will mail you your Bingo cards. Deadline is **February 5th** for money to be into me. That way, you can be sure to have your cards back in time to play. If you send a check, make sure it is made out to BCREA, as always.

Do you have to be a member to play??

NO! Get your friends, neighbors, enemies (Kidding!) to send in \$10 or \$20

Can I have more than one set of cards?

YES!! You may have 2 sets of cards for \$20. ZOOM will accommodate up to 100 people. Let's make sure we have as many people as possible.

Thank you to recent scholarship contributors:

Marelise

Scholarship Donations

Donor:

Diane Texter

In Memory Of:

Faye Mullarkey & Doris Kern

Undesignated Donation

Jean Anderson	Alyce Aspler	Karen Avery
Missy Belsito	Bonnie Cagle	Mary Cangemi
Sue Colton	LuAnn Combs	Darcy Drago
Ellen Emery	Ann French	Mary Ellen Fowler
Bev Hoppe	Diane Jarchow	Marelise LeClerc-
Sandy Lefkowitz	Barbara Lewis	Susan Lochrie
Lana Lysen	Robin Newman	Earthalene Perry-
Valarie Proffer	Carol Roland	Marianne Scott
Sallie Sherwood	Lillian Small	Lenora Smoot
Diane Texter	James Etta Warner	Charles Webster

FREF

Chairman: Anne French
954-579-1719 Annefrench10@gmail.com



Broward County currently has six students receiving FREF \$1,000 annual scholarships.

Because of Covid 19, FREF Extravaganza tickets will only be sold via the *Newsletter*. Please show your support for Future Educators by completing the form below.

ANNE

FREF Scholarship Extravaganza

Tickets - Only \$10.00

Buy your tickets now for 2 Chances to win:

First, you will be in the District drawing for a \$100 winner in Broward, Dade or Palm Beach.

Second, you will have a chance to win:

\$500 Cash - 1st Prize

\$300 Cash - 2nd Prize

\$200 Cash - 3rd Prize

Fill 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 _____

All donations will be used to fund the general scholarship program as well as the operating expenses of the Foundation.

The cost of BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by

Bright Star
CREDIT UNION

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

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



More Drive
-by Photos!

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

Legislative

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



The 2021 legislative session will begin on March 2, 2021. Legislators in both houses have submitted bills they wish to have discussed this term. These bills were referred to appropriate committees for consideration. Before a bill is submitted to the floor for discussion, it must be sponsored by both a House and a Senate member. So many of the proposed bills will never make it out of committee. At this point only one bill has both House and Senate sponsorship: HB 157/SB 280. This bill requires that physical education classes train students in CPR. Other education-related bills without the related sponsorship and its general topic are listed: HB131 on educator conduct, SB 178 on public school transportation, SB 200 on student retention, SB 202 on high school diploma requirements, and SB 254 on teacher certification. While SB 410 does not have a companion House Bill, it may be of interest since it deals with materials used to teach STD and reproductive health education. So far, no bills have been submitted regarding the Florida State Retirement System. Two other submissions may be of interest: HB 39 which is an agreement by the states to elect the US President by national popular vote and HJR 11 a recommended state constitutional amendment that would set term limitations on District School Boards. For more information on these or other bills, go to my-floridahouse.gov or Flsenate.gov. To find contact information for your state senator or representative, check our December 2020 Newsletter.

Carol