

BCREA

Newsletter

February, 2023

Broward County Retired Educators' Association

<https://browardrea.org>

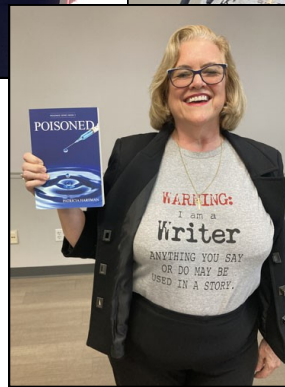
Number 307

Hilarious Hartman Shows Humorous Side

According to her website, "As a forensic CPA, Patricia Hartman experiences suspense, drama and intrigue in her everyday professional life. She has been uncovering lies, deceptions and criminal activity as part of her regular practice for over 25 years. Patricia weaves her life experiences into captivating plots that expose the evil that trap otherwise innocent people in very dark places."

If she ever decides to change careers, most mem-

bers who attended the January meeting feel she should try stand-up



comedy! The group was in stitches as the author used ideas from the BCREA website to decorate herself. She used a boa, a groundhog hat (as the next meeting is on February 2);

She had a patriotic corsage and finally a plush meercat which was accompanied by a story from her travels. She gave a "report card" to a speech teacher to evaluate her presentation. The available grades were A+,

A++, and A+++! And of course, she was awarded the highest marks! She gave an apple to that teacher.

Her real purpose in speaking to the group was to promote her latest book *Poisoned*, a mystery set in Hearthstone, West Virginia about Julie Wheeler, a veterinarian who gets caught up in a murder.

"Everyone has a story," she announced before asking each person to share theirs with the person next to them and then having 3 share the most interesting:

Lillian Small told about kissing a shark! **Suzanne Atkin** told about marrying her husband just a few months after they met and celebrating their 50th anniversary last week! And **Virginia Slater** told about how we parent our children when they're young and they turn the tables and parent us when we age. Patricia lives in Oakland Park. Email her at Patricia@PatriciaHartman.net Phone her at 954-295-1103



February 2 Meeting

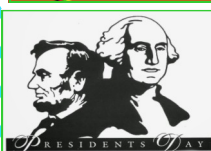
Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Time: 11:30 am

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

Program: Surprise

On the Agenda: Scholarship Fundraiser



Bring to meeting:
Your Hat

Change for the Pot of gold
 Fundraiser Prize for Luncheon
 \$\$ to buy fundraiser tickets
 Aluminum pull-tabs
 Old cell phones & eyeglasses

From Luncheon Chair Diane Texter

Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Thursday, February 2, 2023, 11:30 am

Theme - Hooray for Hats

Tropical Acres Restaurant
2500 Griffin Road

Tickets are \$43 each with a choice of prime rib or broiled salmon.

Tickets may be ordered by mail by January 24.

See the form on page 5 in this Newsletter.

President's Corner

This past week has been gut-wrenching to watch as a young NFL football player went into cardiac arrest on the field during prime-time Monday Night Football. The raw emotion we viewed and felt rocked the nation and made us all take a deep breath and stop to appreciate life, appreciate love, appreciate faith, and appreciate our humanity. Our hearts soared as **Demar Hamlin's** breathing tube was removed, and he made the heart sign of love to his players on Saturday. Let's continue that appreciation as we move into February, the month of love. Our January speaker, author **Patricia Hartman**, continued that message as she shared "The Power of Story" and led us through several activities showing our appreciation, love, and importance of building relationships with each other through our stories. It was joyful to see our membership return to our Potluck Lunch (Picnic Style:-) and continue our conversations and camaraderie, waiting in the serving line and at our tables. More food, fun, and fellowship to come on February 2 at our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon! As BCREA Legislative Chair and member of the FREA state legislative team, I will continue to update you on the 2023 Florida Legislative Session, which begins March 7, 2023. I will also post updates on our BCREA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1529026950460880> later this month.

Sue



President-Elect's Corner

BCREA's Annual Scholarship Luncheon will be Thursday, February 2 at Tropical Acres Restaurant. A ticket order form is enclosed in this newsletter. The deadline for ticket purchases is Tuesday, January 24. Please buy your ticket ASAP - It will be lots of fun. This is BCREA's biggest fundraiser and, historically, we have raised enough money to fund one student scholarship. Let's work together to keep or beat this record. Hooray for Hats is this year's theme. Everyone is encouraged to wear a hat to the event. What kind of hats will we see? Cowboy hats, baseball caps, french berets, flowered chapeaux, felt fedoras, patriotic bonnets to name a few. There will be prizes for the most original, prettiest, and most outlandish. Remember, hats have power. They can change you into someone else. Who will you be at the luncheon? A fun part of the luncheon is the gift basket fundraiser. Among the treasures you can win are designer purses, cookware, wine, collectibles, and lots of gift cards. If you have items to donate for the gift baskets, please contact me. But no more empty baskets! We have plenty! We will be assembling the goodies on Sunday, January 29 starting at 1 PM at my house. Come join us for 'Controlled Chaos' - it is fun and for a worthy cause. Call me if you will be there at 954-579-1719 and I will give you directions.



In addition to the baskets, one lucky person will win The **Pot of Gold** and this year's pot is very, very heavy! The Pot of Gold is filled with coins collected at meetings. Several members have slipped in one and five-dollar bills, because their coin purses were empty. These paper bills add to the total winnings and definitely make it easier to

count!

Think about your hat - be creative, not boring! Hats are like a halo of happiness, and we all need more of that.

Anne



Cultural Affairs

Chair: Carol Roland

954-472-2389 CAROLRBEADS@aol.com



Upcoming Event

Open to members and their friends:

Fun 'n Frolic Day at

Heritage Park, Plantation.

March 16th

1:00 - 3:00PM.

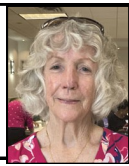
Sign up at the February meeting or e-mail me.

Carol



Information Services

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



The beginning of a new year has arrived and decision time is here. Do we plan and prepare New Year's goals or do we determine not to make any resolutions? If you **Google** "What are the most common New Year's resolutions?" a survey jumps up indicating the top three responses:

- 1) **Exercise more,**
- 2) **Eat Healthier,**
- 3) **Lose weight.**

Possibly some of us have had these same goals for the past many years. Perhaps we should veer away from making the same resolution time after time and have a new approach to the year. While we do need to focus on our health, we also need to focus on those who surround us. **Tracy Bower**, who writes for **FORBES**, suggests making goals for the New Year creates

"positivity:" thinking that you can be and do better. You become optimistic that you are able to make changes for the better and impact those around you. **Bower states,** "New Year's resolutions are terrific ways to focus on yourself, but also to consider your broader responsibility and to expand and multiply your positive effects on others." Perhaps, as we begin 2023, we can begin to write our own story as **Patricia Hartman**, our enjoyable speaker at the January meeting, suggests, "Everyone has a story." She asks "What's yours?" Maybe during this year, we could begin to write our own story, to share with and encourage our family and friends. **Brad Paisley** stated, "Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365

page book. Write a good one." **Charles Dickens** penned in 1844, "So may the New Year be a happy one to you, happy to many more whose happiness depends on you!"

Don't forget the abundance of free videos online that may help with our personal health plan. **AARP, National Institute on Aging, LivingStrong, HASfit** and others have classes that we can join.

Stay fit, stay sharp and send positive thoughts to each other.

Sallie

BCREA Officers....

President

Sue Colton
954-695-5065

President-Elect

Anne French
954-579-1719

Secretary

Karen Avery
954-806-1678

Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc
954-962-7343

Passages



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

Eleanor Meyer 2/22
Rosemary McGarry 2/23



Thinking of You....

Darcy Drago
Chris Campbell
Rosa Parra
Arline Ziller



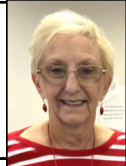
Congrats!
Jean Shiskin



Welcome new member
Leslie Siegel

Volunteer Services/Handbook-

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



At our March meeting we will collect pet supplies for our furry friends at the **Florida Humane Society**, a "no-kill" shelter in Broward



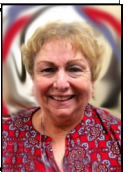
County. Any type of pet supplies are welcome but their most pressing needs are:

- ♦ **White copy paper**
- ♦ **Bottled water**
- ♦ **Dawn dish soap**
- ♦ **Any kind of laundry soap**
- ♦ **Cat litter &**
- ♦ **Dry cat food.**

Darcy

Fund Raising

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



Upcoming Event

FUN ZOOM BINGO is
April 20 2023.

BINGO

1	27	33	48	75
8	19	45	56	61
3	18	FREE SPACE	49	69
15	26	41	53	66
2	21	37	46	65

Cards are \$10 for 5 games. You can get cards at the March or April meeting.

You can also send a check to **Marelise LeClerc** with a self-addressed stamped envelope by April 10th Hope to see you at BINGO.

Barbara

From the Treasurer

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



It is heartwarming to see so many people signed up for our Annual Luncheon in February. Traditionally, we make enough money from the Auction at the Luncheon to support one scholarship. Plus, it is SO much fun! If you haven't signed up, please do so now! And would you consider giving a little extra for our scholarship fund along with purchasing your ticket? Several of the donors listed below did just that. Thanks to all our most recent contributors.

Marelise

Donor

Pauline and Avis Green

Jamesetta Warner

In Memory Of:

Robert Green and
Ulysses Jackson

P. Barchess, C. Barnett,
P. Evans, O. Herring,
B. Moore, A. Robb

Undesignated Donations:

Garnett Ferguson

Jacqueline Molyneux

Rosemary Hart Rawls

Madeline Martin

Juanita Pringle-Vaughns

Carol Roland

Sallie Sherwood

Morris Scholarship

Chair: Mary Ellen Fowler
954-925-6911 mefdania@hotmail.com



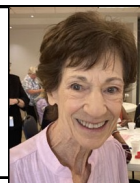
Reminder: The Evelyn and Jim Morris Scholarship for prospective educators goes live January 23, with forms available on the BCREA website. The scholarship is open to all Broward County employees who wish to further their educational goals.

Please remind your friends about this wonderful opportunity!

Mary Ellen

Literacy

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



Be positive. Wear a smile. Choose a book that makes you happy.

Catch a good read. Check out a library book or borrow one online.

Reach out to family and friends and share a book with them.

Extend your love for books by reading to children

And above all thank you for donating books.

Sandy

Social Committee

Chair: Marianne Scott
954-321-9174 mscott33317@yahoo.com



Our first Pot Luck luncheon since the pandemic was a resounding success! As always, we had a wonderful

selection of delicious food. Everyone enjoyed chatting and sharing stories while eating lunch together. Thank you to all of you for your recycling efforts. This month, the recycling bin had the largest amount of bottles and cans in it since this project was started. Our Scholarship Luncheon is next month so you will have extra time to think about the delicious dish you will bring to the March meeting. See you on February 2 wearing your amazing hat.

Marianne



We guarantee **BRIGHT** Service
every time

BSCUorg

LOANS. CHECKING. SAVINGS. BUSINESS SERVICES

Follow us on Social Media

@brightstarcu

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
2505 Dahoon Avenue
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Bev's Bytes... Congratulations to **Jean Shiskin** who married her high school sweetheart on November 29. They are going to live in State Park, PA part of the year and the rest of the year in her home here!



Congrats to drawing winners. They were: (l-r) \$20, **Suzanne Atkin**; \$10 each, **Ellen Adler**, **Karen Avery** and **Diane Texter**. Flowers were won by **Virginia Slater**, **Susan Meyer**, **Anne French** and **Carol Roland**. **Sue**



Colton won the volunteer hours award. Get-well wishes to **Darcy Drago** who was hospitalized for a week and is now recovering at home. Welcome back to **Joseph Anselme**

and also to **Bonnie Kinghorn-Cagle** and her husband **Cleat**! Great to have some men in the group! New member **Chris Campbell** won't be able to attend meetings for a while as she's a fulltime caregiver for her son. There were 56 members and one very funny speaker at the meeting. Thanks **Patricia Hartman** for the hypodermic pens. *Happy Valentine's Day!* *Bev*

Scholarship Luncheon Ticket Order Form

Number of tickets: _____ @ \$43.00 each
Extra Donation: _____

Entrée choices: **Prime Rib of Beef**
Broiled Salmon

Name	Entrée Choice
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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

By Deadline of January 24

to

Diane Texter
742 NW 69 Terrace
Margate, FL 33063

FREF Extravaganza 2023

Remember! 2 Chances to Win!

Tickets are a \$10.00 Contribution

Drawing will be at the Convention May 26, 2022. Prizes are

1st Prize	\$500 Cash
2nd Prize	\$300 Cash
3rd Prize	\$200 Cash
10 District prizes	\$100 cash each

District prizes will be drawn from tickets sold in each district

Donations are used to fund scholarships for future Florida teachers. Buy Tickets at the January - March meetings or fill out the form below and send with a check to:

Shirley Swartz
1911 SW 52 Terrace
Plantation, FL 33317

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

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

BCREA NEWSLETTER

Published 8 times a year, September – April by the
BROWARD COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
1040 SW 52 Avenue
Plantation, FL 33317

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL
PERMIT NO. 409

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

Membership...

Chair: **Susan Lochrie**

954-494-8204 or slochrie@bellsouth.net



We have 273 members in our local Broward group. Cheers for our twenty five members who have paid membership dues for 25 or more years.

Four have been members for more than 30 years. **Milton Brantferger** has been a member for 37 years, **Norma Cosby**, a member for 33 years, **Doris Emmett**, a member for 33 years and **Pan-**

chitta Chisholm for 31 years. Many of our members can't go meetings but enjoy reading the Newsletters and supporting our mission. By joining the Broward County Retired Educators

Association, (BCREA), we are also joining the Florida Retired Educators Association (FREA; website: frea.org) FREA represents us with the State Legislature to

see that we do not lose financially and help safeguard our retirement.

Another reason to join is that FREA membership gives access to benefits with AMBA.

Collection of Annual Dues for 2023-2024 will begin next month and a form will be in the March Newsletter.

Susan



BCREA Board Gathers for Holiday Luncheon

Front: **Sandy Lefkowitz, Marianne Scott**

Middle: **Bev Hoppe, Lillian Small, Karen Uris, LuAnn Comes, Marelise LeClerc, Mary Ellen Fowler**

Back: **Marsy Smith, JamesEtta Warner, Darcy Drago, Anne French, Susan Lochrie, Suzanne Atkin, Shirley Swartz, Diane Jarchow, Sallie Sherwood, Karen Avery**

Seen at the meeting



Multi-tasking



There were men at the meeting!



There were ants at our picnic!

