



## Maureen Delivers "State of the Schools"

Not only is **Maureen Dinnen** Co-chairman of the School Board of Broward County, she's also a member of BCREA. On Thursday, February 7, Maureen addressed the 90 members and friends who attended the BCREA Annual Scholarship Luncheon on at Tropical Acres Restaurant. Essentially, she delivered a "State of the Schools" speech. There was good news and bad news. The good news: Of the 9 School Board members, 6 are former teachers; the School Board is the largest employer in the county; there are now 32



School board Co-Chairman Maureen Dinnen and BCREA President Tom Drilling

high schools in Broward including Sea Gull - an extensive, well-equipped school for pregnant girls which

keeps them from falling through the cracks; the Sunset Learning Center for students with emotional problems; and now there is also a Center for Autistic Students. There are numerous magnet programs including the new environmental program at South Plantation HS and the law program with a mock courtroom at Ft. Lauderdale HS. Perhaps the best news is that Broward is the largest fully-accredited school district in the entire United States! The bad news is that schools are underfunded. The state sets the educational budget and the

county has no control over it. FCAT determines funding as well as bonuses; however, they are working to change this. And there seems to be hope that this may happen - Governor Crist seems to listen to suggestions. Maureen sees hard work and dedication today as in the past in school personnel. Florida does believe in public education and this gives her encouragement. And, by the way, she's running for re-election!



### March 6 Meeting

**Time:** 12:00

**Place:** Holiday Park Social Center  
1150 G. Harold Martin Drive  
Ft. Lauderdale  
(behind War Memorial Auditorium)

**Program:** **Margarite Falconer  
& Arline Ziller  
Travelog**



### Bring to meeting:

A dish to share  
Service Hours Reports  
Blankies 'n Pillows  
Campbells labels  
Aluminum pull-tabs  
General Mills labels  
Coupons for our troops  
Old eyeglasses & Cell phones

## President's Corner

Many thanks to everyone who helped make our February luncheon a success. We raised \$300 for scholarships at the luncheon. Our February luncheon is the only one we have at a restaurant. This reminded me of how good our luncheons are at our other meetings. The excellent food that is brought by our members is much enjoyed. The social committee who sets up the luncheon and cleans up afterwards does great work. Hope to see you at our March meeting.



Tom



## Literacy

Chairman: Rosetta Watkins



This year we had a total of 64 entries in the 5th grade Literacy Essay Contest. At this time the judges are still in the process of reading them.

You may report your Literacy Volunteer hours to me via telephone (954-584-8719) or E-mail (mamarowat@aol.com).

Rosetta

## Health & Blood Bank

Chairman: Kathlyn Barno



Don't forget about our Blood Bank Drive. This is your last chance to sign up to be eligible for two free pints of blood in any hospital in the U. S. should you need it.

Starting next year you will need a digital tuner built into your TV or in an external box in order to get free TV via an antenna. Because the government is requiring the transition, Uncle Sam is offering each household two \$4.00 coupons to buy two

converter boxes. You can't combine two coupons toward the purchase of one box and you must buy a box that is approved by the government. You must request coupons by March 31, 2009. For more details on the program go to [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov) or [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov). These are two FCC sites. You can also check with your cable provider.

See you at the meeting.

Kathlyn

## Community Service

Chairman: Darcia Drago



Remember to turn in any unreported community service hours for March 2006 through February 2007 at our March meeting so that they will be included in our report to FREA. We will continue to collect aluminum

pull tabs, Labels for Education (Campbell's & General Mills"), eyeglasses, cell phones, pillow and blanket sets, and grocery and personal care coupons through May.

Darcy

## Cultural Affairs

Chairman: Michele Edwards



### Groucho: A Life in Revue

is a stage play written by Groucho's son Arthur and Robert Fisher. Starring Gabe Kaplan (of "Welcome Back, Kotter" fame), it will be the BCREA Theatre Activity for '07-'08. It will be at the Stage Door Theatre just off Sample Road between 441 and University Dr. in Coral Springs / Margate. It is easy to access with plenty of parking. We will attend the Matinee: **2pm on Sunday, April 27.** Tickets: \$35 each; make checks payable to BCREA and mail to:

**Michele Edwards**  
1933 NW 107 Drive, Coral

Springs, FL 33071

NO LATER THAN MARCH 6TH

We will also attend **African Footprint** at the Broward Center at 8 pm on February 20. Book your own seats by phoning 954-462-0222. Give the password **DRUMBEAT** to receive \$20 balcony seats - for teachers and students only. Before the show, anyone who wants to will meet for supper, a snack or whatever, meet at Palm Grille (formerly Max's Grille) in the Riverfront complex. It is on the east side of the main walkway on the ground floor.

**Michele**

## Volunteers Needed at the PTA Clothing Bank

The Ann Murray PTA Clothing Bank was established over 40 years ago to solve a major truancy problem. Some students were not in school because their parents were unable to provide suitable clothing. The clothing bank made it possible for children to attend school by providing them with clothing. Volunteers are needed to sort and shelve clothing and to wait on customers. The Clothing Bank is open Tuesday & Thursday 9 am - noon. It's located at 1441 N. Federal Highway - just north of 17th Street. If you can help, contact **Dianne Timmons** (Reva Moore's daughter) at **954-963-0564** (home) or **954-648-4033** (cell).



## Membership...

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



### Dues are Due! Don't Put Off Renewing your Membership!

Beginning at the March meeting, dues for the 2008-2009 club year may be paid at meetings or mailed using the form below to note any changes to your personal information.

Annual dues are \$45.00. BCREA will forward the state dues of \$30.00 to FREA. You will receive a membership card from the FREA and your name will be on the Broward County Retired Educators Association mailing list and listed in the BCREA Directory.

Life members do not pay the FREA dues of \$30.00, but DO pay the \$15.00 annual dues to the local unit - BCREA.

The membership year extends from July 2008 through June 30, 2009.

**Reminder:** Members who have Pioneer Insurance Medi-Gap Supplemental Insurance must pay their dues by June 1, 2008.

### Broward County Retired Educators Association 2008 - 2009 Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

SS # : XXX - XX- \_\_\_\_ (last 4 digits only) Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Date Retired: \_\_\_\_\_ Retired From: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$45.00 Donation for Scholarships: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **BCREA** and mail to: Mrs. Susan Lochrie  
PO Box 30533  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33303

## Passages



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

*Lily Diekman 3/02  
Don Fry 3/03  
Ed Elder 3/05  
Janet Knapp 3/06  
Jane Pepper 3/11  
Dorothy Jane Golder 3/27*



*Thinking of You....  
Susan Lochrie*



*In Memoriam  
Edythe Cockett 12/20/07*

### BCREA Officers....

#### President

Tom Drilling  
954-537-9288

#### Vice-President

Linda Horton  
954-463-0192

#### Secretary

Madeline Martin  
954-973-6509

#### Treasurer

Doris Emmett  
954-772-8681

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: \_\_\_\_\_



## Scholarship Donations

### Donor

George Martin  
Rita Wolfson Liz  
Evelyn Lewis  
Jean Grason  
Jean Grason

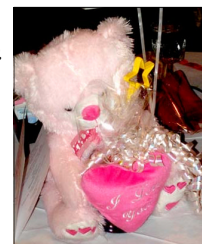
### In Memory Of

Mona Hobbs  
(Mrs. George) Martin  
Horace W. Lewis  
Reva Moore  
Allene Rollins

Donations were received from the following  
with unspecified memorial

Evelyn Johnston Marie Heastie Carol Call  
Pauline McShane Winifred Graham Lizzie Johnson

I'm wondering why 90 people attend our annual luncheon but only 40 or 50 attend monthly meetings..... Centerpieces were once again provided by Nancy Harvey and Bright-Star Credit Union - they were Teddy bears holding valentines along with red and gold balloons. Ethel Pappy's guest was Tunia Todd, daughter of her longtime friend and member Florrie Seabury, who passed in 2006. Joanne Davis won so many raffle prizes we lost count! "I bought lots of



*Bea's  
Bytes.....*



tickets!" she explained! President Tom Drilling held a brief business meeting to announce the 2008-2009 officers: President: Linda Horton; V-P: Margarite Falconer; Secretary: Madeline Martin and Treasurer: Doris Emmett. Thanks to Nominating Committee Chairman Frances Smoot. And that's the last byte for this month.

*Bea*

### BCREA NEWSLETTER

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NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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- DATED MATERIAL -  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY