



From the President - - -

Ah, Winter Time in Florida ó 80⁰ today, 30⁰ tomorrow.

But of course, there is that one or two times in January or February with extended periods of very cold, freezing weather ó extended periods of a week or two, that is. Predictably unreliable weather predictions are indeed the norm here, but we Floridians are quite used to that. And truthfully, that is part of why many folks really enjoy Florida in the winter months. In addition to the weather, there are other noteworthy pleasures during the winter time. Several holiday celebrations occur within weeks of each other, from Christmas to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, to Valentine's Day, and more. These bring times for family and friends sharing their love and fellowship together. Also, the winter days allow us to really enjoy certain kinds of foods more, like chili and homemade soups. And these months seem to bring our thoughts to improvements we would like to make in our lives for the new year.

This is also a time to begin preparations for changes in our NCREA organization. We will be winding down the current biennium of service for the leadership team, and looking forward to the last few programs for the year's meetings. With this being said, I again am urging all members to consider what roles in which you are willing to help serve for the next term. Any organization can only remain vital and thrive if its membership actively participates. NCREA also needs to increase its membership. There are many of our friends and former colleagues who recently retired or will soon retire that I am sure can enjoy being part of this group. So each member is again urged to personally contact someone you know that could be part of NCREA, and make it a priority to invite and bring them to a meeting.

I have shared before that I very much look forward to our meeting times together ó not because of a meeting activity, but the friendships and fellowship we have together. Let's continue to build on that and encourage others to come and enjoy NCREA as well.

Blessings, Dotti W.

NCREA TID-BITS

HANDBOOK: There is a new *NCREA Handbook* available to all dues-paying members. If you still need to get your copy, contact Dotti Williams.

DUES : Treasurer Stephanie Manwell is still collecting dues. The \$45 fee for the 2014 fiscal year will be needed by February 28. Any outstanding dues for 2013 should be paid as soon as possible. Stephanie's address is 1601 Nectarine St., Apt. H3, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.

NCREA DISPATCH

NASSAU COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

"Growing Futures - Learning for Life"

WINTER 2013-14



Volume 7 Issue 1

LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Yes, YOU CAN DO IT !

It is time now to SAY YES to several leadership opportunities for our local Unit, for the District, and for the State. As a retired educator, we naturally and very purposefully become selfish of our time and energy. Which is okay ó we certainly deserve to. But really as a member of this organization, serving in some capacity is truly not such a stressful task. This is for our own interests and enjoyment, so being part of a leadership team can be very rewarding. Each member is being strongly urged to consider how you can specifically serve in the next biennium term. We all do work well together and all tasks and activities are supported by generous helpers, for sure.

Leadership Team roles needed for NCREA include a President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, and Historian. Committee leaders needed for Volunteer Services, Information Services, Membership, Legislative, Scholarship, Retirement Planning, and Communications. Now, please do understand, current office-holders may indeed choose to remain serving in the same capacity. We will have an election in the Spring. Our **President-Elect Thomas Ford** is chairing the Nominating Committee, so do contact him with a Yes, I'll Do It notice.

For our District 5 Leadership Team, nominations are needed for the District Director and the District FREF Trustee. These roles are currently held by Bertha Padgett and Carolynne Foorsee, respectively.

And for the state FREA Board, a President-Elect nominee is being sought. Contact NCREA **Pres. Dotti** to submit any suggestions.

VOLUNTEER REPORTING

Be sure you are trying to keep a record of anything you do that can be considered 'volunteer hours / services / gifts'. There is a reporting form that is easy to use [and bright pink in color ☺], but you can keep track of your service which ever is most efficient for you. Perhaps even just keeping notes on a calendar would work for you, then you can transfer information to the form when reporting is needed in February. Remember, even though we seem to resist actual reporting of our volunteer time, it is an extremely valuable bit of data used for several areas by the state organization. One major point is demonstrating to politicians the economic value of service from retired citizens.

If you have any questions, contact **Volunteer Services Chair Joyce Patten**.

MEETINGS REVISITED - - - -



August - New Member
'Invitational Tea'

September – 'Breakfast
Pot-Luck' Welcome Back ;
Presentation to Ms. Angie
McClellan for School
Homeless Students



District 5 Sept. meeting -
Stephanie presents
Volunteer news;
Nassau receives many
awards.



October – Members prepare to hear
Chuck Sheehan talk about Scams.



November – Members 'Get
More Techie' from each
other and special expert
helper Jeremy Fase.



FLORIDA RETIRED EDUCATORS FOUNDATION, INC.

FREF Chair Paul Conley reminds all Units to support our state Scholarship Fund by purchasing tickets for the annual *Extravaganza fundraiser*. Each \$10 ticket provides a chance to win a \$500 VISA gift card, an HD TV, an ipad Mini, \$150 cash, or \$100 cash. The FREF goal of \$15,000 for scholarships can be met if each member buys at least one ticket. So be prepared at our Unit meetings to purchase your ticket!

"SUNSHINE RAYS"

BIRTHDAYS



DECEMBER

Polly Hord Linda Proctor
Linda Jones Dotsey Samson
Joyce Patten Elizabeth Tisdale

JANUARY

Dotti Williams

FEBRUARY

Hilda Alderman Joan Itak
Eugene Grant Annette Myers
Barbara Grass Martha Owens



PRAYERS for
COMFORT & HEALING

Emily Gilyard family
Peggy Dennard Cornelia Graves
Eunice Maley



MEETING SCHEDULE 2013-14
9:45 – 10:15am 'Social Time'
10:15am Business meeting begins

- Dec. 17 Sliders Seaside Grill, Fernandina,
 11:30am *'Holiday Luncheon'*
- Jan. 21 – Full Service School, Yulee;
 'Volunteer Services'
- Feb. 18 – Full Service School, Yulee;
 'Fun Fitness'
- March 18 – FB Police Station Community Room
 'Membership'
- April – Cummer Museum of Art, Jacksonville;
 'Social Outing'
- May 20 – Cedar River Restaurant, Fernandina;
 'Wrap-Up Dining', 11:30am
- May 28-30 – Renaissance Hotel, World Golf Village,
 St. Augustine; 2014 FREA Convention