

ACREA Newsletter
Our Year in Review
2024-2025



October 2024



Donna Waller, from the League of Women voters shared information with members regarding voting information but mainly Amendments.

November 2024



Marsha Kiner, Executive Director of Children's Trust of Alachua County, was introduced by her mother Jean Kiner a member of our ACREA group and spoke to the membership about all the various facets of the organization. They reached over 23,000 children and youth in 2023. They have over 80 programs that serve children, youth and families. She brought staff with her to discuss some volunteer opportunities. If you would like to know what they do visit www.childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us If you would like to volunteer or find out about volunteer opportunities contact mkiner@childrenstrustofalachuacounty.us

January 2025



Angela Terrell along with teachers from the Caring and Sharing Learning Center brought their talented music and dance troupe. The talent demonstrated was what

would be expected from students of an older age. Members were in awe and the group was given a standing ovation.

February 2025

Betty Calhoun along with her committee did a presentation and social. A multimedia presentation was done on Black Historic Landmarks such as The Cotton Club Museum, Female Protective Society, Lincoln High School Memorial Wall, Historic Black Colleges and Universities Band competitions and homecoming-Tuskegee University, Bethune-Cookman University, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and Jackson State University. We were also introduced to Historic Firsts of Millionaires and Billionaires such as Andrea and Robin McBride and Devin Hester. As usual it ended with a social with excellent foods and allowing members a chance to visit.

April 2025



Jan Slean and her committee selected the top 3 finalists for the Alachua County 5th Grade Essay Competition. The winners were invited to present at the April

program. This year all three students were from Leann Malphurs class at High Springs Community Schools. Gauge Richards who won first place for our County took 2nd place in the State of Florida competition and presented at the State Florida Retired Educators Convention in May in St. Augustine Florida.

May 2025



We had our Annual Luncheon at the Eastside High Hungry Ram Café. It was a delicious lunch prepared by the Culinary Arts Students under the supervision of Pam Bedford. We enjoyed Thespian and Musical performances by Eastside students under the Direction of Daniel Lytton. We had our annual business meeting and elected our new Board, Marcia Wiesel-Leary-President, Mary White-Secretary and Lorraine Hctor-Treasurer. A Necrology Service remembering those who have gone on before us, Majorie Ayers, Sheldon Boyles, Bob Dykes, Barbara Mallard, Eula Mae Williams, Shana Smith, Helen Hodges, Cherrestine Cohen, Roberta Parks and Ruth W. Brown, was conducted.

Community Outreach by Our Unit

From October through April, we participate in activities to provide for various groups in the community as well as for students in Alachua County. We provide socks for Veterans, Books for Elementary Schools, Food for Kids Backpack program, Helping Hands Clinic with personal items, Dolly Parton Literacy Program, Florida Retired Teachers Association Scholarship Program, Alachua County Scholarship Program-we give a scholarship to a senior who is going into education and the Annual Alachua County Teacher Recognition.

We hope you will join us again in the coming year. Please let other retired educators know about us and invite them to join us!!

Looking forward to an informative and fun 2025-2026

ACREA Board