

Levy-Gilchrist Retired Educators Association

AUGUST 2024

OFFICERS:

President — Cheri Brodeur
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VP & Scholarship — Rick Reed
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Secretary — Sue Reed
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Treasurer — Larry Bachle
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Volunteer Services— Karen Philman
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Legislative Representative & Website —
Paula Marczynski marczy52@gmail.com

Sunshine & Shadows—Cora Lord
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Schedule of Events:

- SEP 16 — “KISSING BUG” (LAURA STORM)
- OCT 8 — REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM
- OCT 21 — TBD (KAREN PHILMAN)
- NOV 18 — BENEFITS (PAULA MARCZYNSKI)
- DEC 16 — CHRISTMAS PARTY
- JAN 20 — DOUGH SHEETER (RICK REED)
- FEB 17 — BLACK HISTORY MONTH (ALPHONSO JOHNSON)
- MAR 17 — SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT (RICK REED)
- APR 21 — TBD (CHERI BRODEUR)
- MAY 19 — ELECTION OF OFFICERS
- MAY 20-22 — FREA CONVENTION
- JUN & JUL — NO MEETINGS

COME JOIN US!

Levy and Gilchrist counties are located in rural north central Florida. The Suwannee River forms the western boundary of both.

We meet on the **3rd Monday** September thru May at **10:30 a.m.** at **The Trenton Library in Trenton.** We welcome all retired school personnel living in our area, no matter where you worked.

The Levy-Gilchrist Retired Educators Association is a unit of the state-wide **Florida Retired Educators Association**. Association (FREA) organization.



AUG

We held our organizational meeting for the year at the Trenton Library and planned out the year's calendar. We had three guests — **Laura Storm, Mark Kinney, and Jon Meinholtz.**

Because of the date change due to Hurricane Debby, **Rick** had to man our table by himself at the Gilchrist Welcome Back Teachers day. He did a great job!



We look forward to a successful year!

L-GREA Activities

APR

Plans were finalized for the FREA state conference. **Paula** and **Cora** will attend. We discussed the FREF basket and funds were collected to purchase items for it.

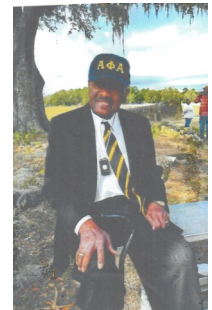
MAR



Congratulations go to **Rick** who was announced as our unit Volunteer of the Year!

As VP and Scholarship chair, Rick introduced this year's winner of our \$500 scholarship, Evelyn Frazier. Evelyn is a senior at Bell High School and plans to pursue a career as a high school English teacher. Congratulations to her!

We had two visitors this month—
Lisa Hudson and Adrienne Snyder. Welcome!



FEB

Cheri called the meeting to order and **Alphonso** provided the opening devotions. Minutes and Treasurer's report were given by **Sue** and **Larry**, respectively. Committee reports were presented by **Rick**, **Paula**, **Karen**, and **Cora**. **Larry** gave an update on **Harriet's** improvement.

For our program for Black History Month, Alphonso shared photos and newspaper clippings about his experience as Grand Marshal for the Williston Martin Luther King, Jr. parade. We are so proud for him!

JAN

Cheri called the meeting to order and **Sue** provided the devotion. **Alphonso** was unable to make the meeting due to serving as Grand Marshal in the Williston MLK Parade.

A presentation was made to the group by **Michelle Walker-Crawford** about her new tutoring service starting Wed, Jan 17th called The Learning Curve.

Larry gave the treasurer's report and collected funds for Extravaganza tickets. He also reminded us that organization dues need to be paid. Volunteer hours were turned in to **Karen**. **Rick** and **Sue** gave an update on our scholarship applications and **Paula** gave a legislative report. **Cora** passed around a birthday card for **Harriet** that we all signed.

Paula made a presentation on the Excel program she created which is based on the FREA Volunteer Services form but is catered to an individual's specific areas of volunteerism and tallies numbers as they are entered. It makes it much easier to keep track of one's hours. Door prizes this month were camellia blossoms from **Paula's** home. Everyone received some.



L-GREA Activities cont.

DEC

We had a very informative presentation on Identity Theft and ways we can keep ourselves safe online. Sheriff Schultz and several of his deputies gave a presentation on Identity Theft.

Following the program, we had goodies prepared by members and a gift exchange.



OCT

Cheri called the meeting to order and **Alphonso** provided opening thoughts and led the pledge and singing of God Bless America. Committee reports were presented by **Rick, Sue, Paula, and Karen**.

We had a special guest from Levy County schools teacher association...**Kim Hudson**. She talked about issues facing current teachers and how the state voucher program has negatively impacted public education.

Cheri gave a very informative presentation on tips and concerns when traveling overseas. She offered travel books for those who were interested.

SEP

Cheri called the meeting to order and **Alphonso** provided opening thoughts and led the pledge and singing of God Bless America. Committee reports were presented by **Paula, Rick, Sue, and Karen**.

Paula and Rick discussed a spreadsheet she designed and shared with him for collecting and tallying volunteer hours. The program is setup for each person's specific needs.

Our program about essential oils was presented by **Lois Bachle**, the granddaughter of members **Harriet and Larry**. It was an excellent and informative message on how to create products and market strategies for her FFA Ornamental Horticulture project.

