



email: npcra@gmail.com

North Pinellas County Retired Educators Association NEWSLETTER



PO Box 4248, Clearwater, FL 33758

Vol. 48, Issue 1

Sept/Oct 2022



Celebrate the New School Year with North Pinellas Retired Educators



Wear your school colors

**NPCREA gathers at
Clearwater Country Club
525 N. Betty Lane
Clearwater, FL 33755
at 11 am on Tuesday, Sept. 13**

Represent your school by wearing its colors or a school t-shirt to our gathering on Sept. 13. We get together at 11 am at Clearwater Country Club for our first meeting of the new school year.

We'll hear from Michelle Walag of Ready for Life Pinellas, describing programs that their non-profit sets up to help foster kids who are preparing to age out of the foster care system.

Please bring toiletries and personal care items for the 18-year-olds who will be starting out on their own after years of traveling from home to home. Our collection for Ready for Life in Largo will include personal items such as soap, shampoo and conditioner, body wash, razors, toothpaste and toothbrushes, combs and brushes, washcloths and towels.

Luncheon will be spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic sticks, beverage, and ice cream sundae. The cost this year will be \$18, including tax, tip, and facility.

President's Corner:



Bob Stephens

Tuesday, September 13, will be the first meeting of the school year for North Pinellas County Retired Educators Association. Doors will open at 11am at the Clearwater Country Club, 525 N. Betty Lane in Clearwater. A kick-off lunch will include spaghetti and meatballs, breadstick, beverage, salad, dessert, tax and tip for \$18.

Please make your check payable to NPCREA. This is our "Back to School" meeting, and all members are encouraged to wear their School Colors.

On pp. 9-10 of this Newsletter, we provide you with a sheet of Touch Cards that you can use as icebreakers when talking to retired educators. NPCREA has been using these touch cards over the years to help recruit new members and to introduce ourselves to the community. We'll have more touch cards available at the Sept. 13 meeting. Also, please plan to share your summer experiences. Each table will have forms for "the places you have been this summer." Responses will be published next issue.

I hope you are planning to join fellow FREA members at the District 6 Symposium to be held Monday, October 17, at the Silverthorne Country Club, 4550 Golf Club Lane, Spring Hill. Registration fee is \$30, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch (see pg. 8 for further instructions) This is a great opportunity to meet other members of District 6 and the Board members of our state organizations. The program will include the goals of FREA and benefits available to members. There will be breakout sessions available for you to learn of the many programs offered by FREA and FREF, its charitable foundation.

NPCREA is a very active unit of FREA. BUT we are only as active as our members. With that thought, PLEASE consider volunteering for one of the many opportunities available to you. Learn more at our September meeting and our District 6 Symposium.

Bob Stephens



Please Call In Your Volunteer Hours to Eldon Weaver, our Volunteer Coordinator

I would like to hear from any member of NPCREA who has been volunteering in his/her community. Each of us contributes in some way to help our community. I want to brag about all that you do. You would be surprised at the time you have spent helping other persons. Some examples are:

- Calling or sending cards to a shut in;
- Shopping for a friend or neighbor;
- Recycling glass, plastic, metal, and paper
- Donating used clothing or books
- Tutoring a person in need of training
- Volunteering in a senior center
- Shopping for a card, addressing, mailing it
- Donating food to a pantry, church, or club
- Volunteering in schools and clubs
- Salvation Army donations and bellringing
- Volunteering in animal shelters or hospitals
- Teaching Sunday School or senior centers
- Serving as a library aide or reading to kids
- Ushering in a community playhouse
- Driving friends and neighbors to appointments
- Collecting books for the Poppell Book Program
- and many others.....

Just call my phone (954.895.1073) and leave your name and # of hours on my answering machine----

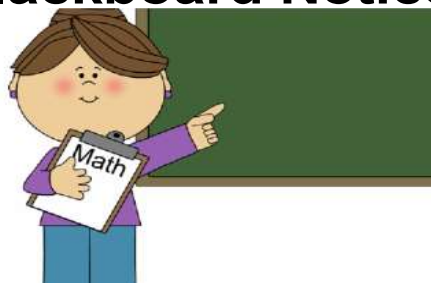
or e-mail me at: **pegasus_fl@yahoo.com**

or use the Volunteer Hours form on page 8 and bring to an NPCREA meeting.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Eldon Weaver

Blackboard Notices



...PATRONS

Please consider purchasing a patron ad, which will help to defray the costs of printing and mailing the bi-monthly *NPCREA Newsletter* and our member directories. Suggested donation is \$15; make check payable to NPCREA. Send to NPCREA, P.O. Box 4248, Clearwater, FL 33758-4248.

2022-23 Patrons thus far:

Mary Blackmon
Linda McGeehan
Carole Pope
Rick Pope
Barbara Seiler
Phyllis Walls

...BOOKS NEEDED

Margaret Poppell Literacy For Life Program

NPCREA continues collecting new and gently used science, fiction, and nonfiction books for grades K/5 on behalf of the Literacy For Life Program.

Members can donate books at monthly luncheons/general meetings, which are then placed in two "Little Libraries" in Clearwater with special bookplates inside each book. One Little Library is located at Morningside Recreation Complex and the other at Moccasin Lake Nature Park.

This summer 200 books were collected or purchased at thrift stores to supply books for the libraries. Pat Dalton and Maura Hedrich are spearheading this collection. Please consider picking up books at thrift stores, garage sales, or on the clearance racks and bring them to our next luncheon so we can add to the collections!

...UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 13--**CELEBRATE THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR** by wearing your school colors. Bring toiletries for Ready for Life Pinellas.

Oct. 17--DISTRICT 6 SYMPOSIUM, 9-2:30 at the Silverthorn Country Club in Spring Hill. No NPCREA meeting in October.

Nov. 8 --**CELEBRATE VETERAN'S DAY!** Wear red, white, and blue to celebrate those who have served our country. Bring canned food items for Mattie Williams Neighborhood Center in Safety Harbor.

Dec. 13 - **CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS.** Wear your favorite holiday attire. Bring toys for the Salvation Army toy drive. If desired, bring a \$15 or less item for a grab bag gift exchange.

...BRIDGE-A-RAMA

We play contract bridge at the Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Blvd. in Dunedin, on the second and fourth Wednesdays. We are always in need of substitute players. For more information, call Phyllis Walls at 727.418.7025 or email: wallsphyllis@gmail.com

AUGUST 1 LUNCHEON AT

At our “Not Back to Preplanning” Luncheon at Capogna’s Dugout in Clearwater on August 1, we enjoyed a really spectacular turnout of retired educators. Plus we collected a small mountain of school supplies for distribution to teachers and children in Pinellas County.

Many of us lunched on a special \$5 meal deal of spaghetti with marinara sauce, Italian salad, and soft drink or tea or coffee of choice. Some ordered items from the menu as desired. The food was delicious, and members present enjoyed sharing it with our friends and visitors.



Leading the Luncheon: (l-r) Elizabeth Szostak of Pinellas Education Foundation, two Capogna daughters, and our president, Bob Stephens, with a tableful of backpacks and school supplies



Ann Crum’s friend, Helen Tantum (right), brought a backpack filled with school supplies in memory of Ann, our longtime member



Tables of retired educators



CAPOGNA'S DUGOUT RESTAURANT



Elizabeth Szostak, Director of Development at Pinellas Education Foundation, attended our luncheon and spoke to our members, friends, and visitors about the importance of our efforts to promote education in Pinellas. She ate lunch with us, then

spoke individually with many attendees, thanking them for their contributions. At the close of the luncheon, she gathered up all the school supplies (with a lot of help from our guys) and carried them off in her van to deliver to the Pinellas Education Foundation.

Bob Stephens, our president, spoke about the importance of our volunteer work in aiding local schools and students. He thanked the restaurant owner, Al Capogna, for providing a location for our lunch and school supply collection. He also thanked the two Capogna daughters who helped prepare and serve our great Italian meals. They are truly a wonderful family, invested in the Clearwater community and in promoting education in Pinellas.



The lunches were delicious, and many retired educators took home enough ample portions for their dinners.

Breakfast at Tiffany's Family Restaurant, 23399 US 19 North, Palm Harbor Aug. 10 -- First Day of School

Many thanks to the owners of Tiffany's Family Restaurant in Palm Harbor for providing breakfasts to the retired educators gathered there on Wednesday, August 10.



Eldon Weaver in a Tiffany's Restaurant booth full of school supplies donated by North Pinellas retired educators.



Bob Stephens (right), NPCREA president, delivered the donated school supplies to Mattie Williams Center in Safety Harbor on Aug. 10



votepinellas.com/electionready

IMPORTANT VOTING DATES!!

General Election Tues, Nov 8th

- *Oct 6 Mail Ballots sent out
- *Oct 11 Voter Registration Deadline
- *Oct 24 - Nov 6 Early Voting Clw Court House
- *Oct 29 LAST day to request a mail ballot.
- *Nov 8 Election Day Polls OPEN 7am to 7pm

Have a question?

Go to...

votepinellas.com/electionready

or call 727/464-8683



VOLUNTEER SERVICES REPORT

Name: _____

Month(s): _____

Youth

Adult

Retired Educators Assn.

Community/Clubs

Hospital/Schools

Churches

Friends/Neighbors

All Others

TOTAL



Phone to Mr. Eldon Weaver at 954.895.1073

or email to pegasus_fl@yahoo.com

or cut out and bring to the meeting



District 6 Symposium**October 17, 2022****Lunch Menu**

To register for the Oct. 17 District 6 Symposium, send a \$30 check to NPCREA, PO Box 4248, Clearwater, FL 33759-4248.

Include your beverage and salad/soup OR sandwich order for lunch. Deadline: Sept. 20

NAME: _____ UNIT: _____

CHOOSE A BEVERAGE AND A SALAD OR A SANDWICH

Please **CIRCLE** your food and beverage selection.

BEVERAGE: Iced Tea Coffee Water

SALADSGreek Salad

salad mix with potato salad, Feta, diced cucumbers, tomatoes, beets, onions, olives, and grilled Pita bread

Soup and Salad

House or Caesar salad and either Silverthorn Chili or Soup of the Day

BURGER AND SANDWICHES

All burgers and sandwiches served with cole slaw, fries, and a dill pickle.

Naked BurgerBacon Cheddar BurgerClassic Patty Melt

grilled Swiss cheese burger with onions and mushrooms

Silverthorn Club

toasted sourdough bread, with ham, turkey, bacon, and cheese

Basa Fish-Fry

hand-breaded and served on a hoagie roll with lettuce, tomato, and onion



Scan to go to: www.frea.org

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Smile and a Thank-You
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Retired Educators Association

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525 N. Betty Lane, Clearwater, FL**

**Tuesday - Sept. 13, Nov. 8, Dec. 13,
Jan. 10, Feb. 14, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9**

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North Pinellas County Retired Educators Association Membership Application



Unified Dues: \$50.00 Annually – July 1 to June 30

<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of Membership	General Member - Circle One: Retired School Teacher/School Administrator/School Transportation School Maintenance, School Cafeteria. Other:
FREA Benefits are fully available to ALL FREA members be they Regular or Associate.	Associate Member Associate: Any person supporting the mission of the Association may apply for associate membership. (Associate members may not vote as a delegate.)
Circle One: Miss, Mrs., Ms., Mr., Dr., Other	Date:
Your Name:	Spouse's Name
Mailing Address Apt./Condo	Telephone—Cell phone preferred ()
City	State Zip County
E-mail address:	Your Month/Day/of Birth:
School District Retired From: Year Retired	Position Retired From

NPCREA and FREA are your advocates regarding your pension and the future of education in the State of Florida. Would you like to support our efforts on behalf of all present and future Retired Educators, and other beneficiaries of the Florida Retirement System like First Responders, etc.? This money will be used in a non-partisan way.

Yes, I would like to support FREA's Legislative Advocacy: \$ 4.00

Unified Dues for July 1—June 30: **\$50.00**

Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to Florida Retired Educators Foundation of \$5.00

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: NPCREA (North Pinellas County Retired Educators Association)

Mail to: NPCREA, P.O. Box 4248 Clearwater, FL 33758-4248

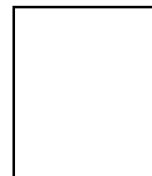
Have questions? Contact NPCREA: NPCREA@gmail.com

NPCREA has many active committees. All of our committees welcome new people, ideas and /or suggestions. The work of the committees listed below is explained at our meetings.

Please indicate your interest in one or more of them by checking the line by the committee. The chair will contact you personally.

Volunteer Services		Information Services		Newsletter	
Hospitality		Legislative		Photography (Historian)	
Sunshine		Name Tags		Retirement Planning	
Phone Tree		Membership		Publicity/Website	
Cultural Affairs		Nominating		Thought for the Day	

**NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY
RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 4248
CLEARWATER, FL 33758-4248**



NPCREA OFFICERS FOR 2022-24

PRESIDENT	BOB STEPHENS
VICE-PRESIDENT	SHARON OZBUN
TREASURER	MARIE GREIN
RECORDING SECY.	MARY BLACKMON
CORRESPONDING SECY.	NANCY STONER
HISTORIAN	MARY BLACKMON
TECH SPECIALIST	MAURA HEDRICH

Email Address: npcrea@gmail.com

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