Georgia Retired Educators Association



2026 - 2027 Handbook and Bylaws

GREA AREA MAP

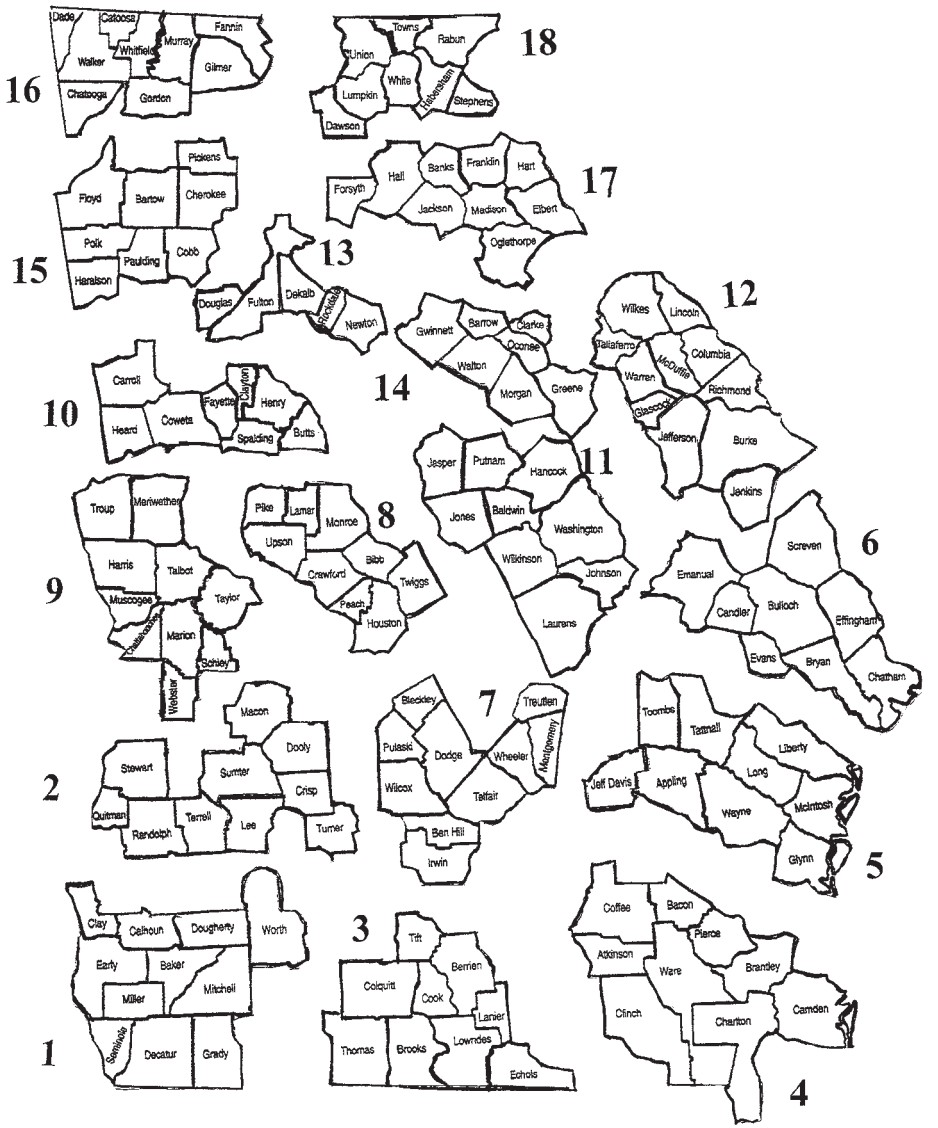


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Georgia Retired Educators Association
P.O. Box 1379 • 4311 Falcon Parkway • Flowery Branch, Georgia 30542
770-287-7721
Email: grea3@grea3.org • Website: garetirededucators.org

GREA LEADERSHIP TEAM



Dr. Sallie Mills
President
75 Knollwood Places, Covington 30014
770-314-0200 (C)
Email: mills_sally@bellsouth.net
Term Expires 2027



Liz Bouis
President-Elect
240 Meeting Street, Marietta 30060
678-522-3926 (C)
Email: lizbouis@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027



Geraldine Reid
Past -President
P.O. Box 396, Thomson 30824
706-814-1781 (C)
Email: reidj1@comcast.net
Term Expires 2027



Johnny Smith
Executive Director
P.O. Box 1379, Flowery Branch 30542
770-287-7721 (O)
grea3@grea3.org • johnny.smith@grea3.org



Barbara Howard
Recording Secretary
744 Tiger Lily Trail, Chattanooga 37415
423-314-3502 (C)
Email: browneyedgirl@epbfi.com
Term Expires 2027



Dr. John C. Upchurch
Treasurer
107 Granite Bluff, Dahlonega 30533
706-864-0164 • 706-525-9450 (C)
Email: johncupchurch@yahoo.com
Term Expires 2027

GREA Staff Members



Linda Wright
Assistant to the Executive Director
770-287-7721 (O)
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Joy Smith
Membership Services Office Manager
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Janet Allison
Accountant for GREA & GREM
770-287-7721 (O)
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Jesse Hunter
GREM Building Supervisor
229 Misty View Drive
Canton 30144
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Dr. William Sloan, Jr.
Legislative Liaison
3059 Ivey Road
Gainesville, 30504
770-287-7721 (O)
770-540-9850 (C)
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Marcia Wendel
Museum Curator
2017 Bayswater Road
Brunswick 31525
912-222-2547
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marciawendel54@gmail.com

GREA Mission Statement

The GREA Mission shall be to unite retired educators in Georgia for fellowship, support, and educational/community service and to improve benefits for all retired educators through cooperation with local, state and the national organizations.

Adopted by the Governing Board January, 2002

Area Directors and Local Units

*No Local Unit in this County



Area 1

Evelyn Fillingame
3720 John Martin Rd.,Dawson 39842
229-254-1495 (C)
Email: ekf243@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027

Bainbridge/Decatur*
Decatur
Dougherty Co.
Early/Clay/Calhoun
Grady Co.
Miller Co.
Mitchell/Baker
Seminole
Southwest Georgia
Worth*



Area 2

Jane Butler
173 E Federal St., Leslie 31764
229-938-7112 (C)
Email: jane.retirededucators@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Crisp Co.*
Dooly
Lee Co.
Macon Co.*
Randolph Co.
Stewart Co.*
Sumter Co.
Terrell
Terrell/Lee
Turner*



Area 3

Sherry Waldrop
1152 Tifton Eldorado Rd., Tifton 31794
229-392-4002 (C)
Email: sherrywaldrop73@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027

Berrien Co.
Brooks Co.
Colquitt Co.
Cook
Echols*
Lanier*
Thomasville Thomas Co.
Tift Co.
Valdosta Lowndes



Area 4

Felicia Robinson

23 Helen Taylor Lane, Kingsland 31548
(912) 674-2386 (C)
Email: frobinsona4@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Bacon*
Brantley Co.
Camden Co.
Charlton Co.
Clinch
Coffee/Atkinson
Pierce*
Waycross/Ware



Area 5

Edna Shurley

729 Chesley Drive, Vidalia 30474
912-293-2958 (C)
Email: ehshurley@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027

Appling Co.
Golden Isles
Jeff Davis
Liberty/Long*
Tattnall
Toombs Co.
Wayne Co.



Area 6

Gwendolyn Yarbrough

201 Niver Rd., Statesboro 30458
912-682-5555 (C)
Email: gwendolynhyarbrough@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Bryan/Evans
Bulloch
Candler Co.
Chatham/Savannah
Effingham Co.
Emanuel Co.
Screven Co.



Area 7

Mimi Dennis

P.O. Box 118, Eastman 31023
478-231-8335 (C)
Email: mimidennis31023@yahoo.com
Term Expires 2027

Ben Hill/Irwin
Bleckley Co.*
Dodge
Montgomery*
Pulaski*
Treutlen
Telfair/Wheeler
Wilcox Co.



Area 8

Linda Olivier

186 Walton Road, Barnesville 30204
770-617-8074 (C)
Email: lndolvr@aol.com
Term Expires 2028

Bibb
Crawford Co.
Houston Co.
Lamar Co.
Monroe Co.*
Peach Co.
Pike Co.
Thomaston/Upson
Twiggs*



Area 9

Dr. Marietta Webb

2109 40th St., Columbus 31904
706-718-1231 (C)
Email: mwebb3322@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027

Harris Co.
Marion
Meriwether*
Muscogee
Schley
Talbot*
Taylor*
Troup
Webster/
Chattahoochee*



Area 10

Sherry Taylor

5 Carriage Light Way, Newnan 30263
770-251-4925 (C)
Email: sherryleightaylor@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Butts Co.
Carroll/Heard*
Clayton Co.*
Coweta
Fayette Co.
Griffin/Spalding
Henry Co.



Area 11

Carol Roe

PO Box 56, Montrose 31065
478-290-1050
Email: carolsroe54@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027

Baldwin Co.*
Hancock Co.
Jasper*
Johnson Co.
Jones*
Laurens/Dublin
Putnam*
Washington Co.
Wilkinson*



Area 12

Angela Stokes

5006 Congressional Drive, Martinez 30907
706-799-3562 (C)
Email: angela.retirededucators@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Burke Co.
Columbia Co.
Jefferson Co.
Jenkins Co.
Glascock/McDuffie/
Warren
Lincoln/Wilkes
Richmond Co.
Taliaferro*



Area 13

Joe O'Neal

305 Spring Creek Way, Conyers 30012
770-630-5671 (C)
Email: joeoneal@gmail.com
Term Expires 2027

Atlanta
Decatur/DeKalb
Douglas Co.
Newton Co.
North Fulton
Rockdale
South Fulton



Area 14

Dr. Sean Callahan

4020 Braswell Church Rd. SE, Good Hope 30641
770-780-6626 (C)
Email: scscallahan17@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Athens Area
Barrow Co.*
Greene Co.
Gwinnett Co.
Morgan Co.
UGA*
Walton



Area 15

Frank Hutcheson

1529 Coppermine Rd., Buchanan 30112
770-646-5525 (H) • 770-301-1473 (C)
Email: frankhutcheson@att.net
Term Expires 2027

Bartow/Cartersville
Cherokee Co.
Cobb/Marietta
Floyd/Rome
Haralson/Bremen
Paulding
Pickens Co.
Polk



Area 16

Penny Howerton

193 Pine Lakes Drive, Ringgold 30736
423-240-5754 (C)
Email: pennylewishowerton@gmail.com
Term Expires 2028

Catoosa
Chattooga/Trion*
Dade*
Fannin Co.
Gilmer Co.
Calhoun/ Gordon
Walker Co.
Dalton/Whitfield/Murray



Area 17

Suellen Jones

127 Woods Lane, Hartwell 30643
678-576-0524 (C)
Email: smjones@hartcom.net
Term Expires 2027

Banks*
Elbert*
Forsyth Co.
Franklin Co.
Jackson Co. Area
Hall/Gainesville
Hart Co.
Madison Co.
Oglethorpe Co.



Area 18

Juanita Tipton

82 Hawks View, Dahlonega 30533
706-867-5401 (C)
Email: juanita_tipton@yahoo.com
Term Expires 2028

Dawson Co.
Habersham
Lumpkin Co.
Rabun Co.*
Stephens Co.
Towns Co.
Union Co.
White Co.

GRTA Past Presidents

(Addresses on file in the State Office)

* Allie Mann 1958–1959
* W. T. Harrison 1959–1965
* Boyd B. Littlejohn..... 1965–1967
* Hannah Flanigen..... 1967–1968
* Elizabeth Davis..... 1968–1970
* Frank M. Hughes..... 1970–1971
* Kankakee Anderson... Apr.–Dec. 1971
* J. W. Horn....Dec. 1971–Apr. 1972
* Ruth Cochran..... 1972–1973
* John H. West..... 1973–1974
* Aaron Cooper..... 1974–1975
* Ware T. Beall..... 1975–1976
* Jim Threatte..... 1976–1977
* Clara West..... 1977–1978
* Henry C. Eddleman..... 1978–1979
* G. Nathan Hunter 1979–1980
* Alene S. Shaw..... 1980–1981
* Earl May..... 1981–1982
* Geneva Jarrett..... 1982–1983
* Clyde T. Warren 1983–1984
* Eleanor Lee..... 1984–1985
* Lloyd Kimmell 1985–1986
* Willathea Jackson 1986–1987
* Ralph Hogan 1987–1988
* Frances McBride..... 1988–1989
* W. Starr Miller..... 1989–1990
* Robert Corley..... 1990–1991
* James W. Flowers..... 1991–1992
* Herbert Robinson..... 1992–1993
* Reid Mullins..... 1993–1994
* Peggy L. McMahan 1994–1995
* Narvie J. Harris 1995–1996
  William N. Brinkley..... 1996–1997
* James F. Johnston..... 1997–1998

GREA Past Presidents

* John A. Demons 1998–1999
* Marinelle W. Simpson. . 1999–2000
* Geraldine G. Tilson. . . . 2000–2001
  Patricia Bassett. 2001–2002
* Dr. John F. Pearce. 2002–2003
* Mary F. Long 2003–2004
* Zimma C. Jones 2004–2005
  Lester Dean 2005–2006
* Harry L. Werner 2006–2007
* Sue Thornton 2007–2008
  Dr. Beverly A. Roberts . 2008–2009
  Dr. John C. Upchurch. . 2009–2010
  Dorothy Wilson 2010–2011
  Kate Finch. 2011–2012
* Mary Ann McDaniel. . . 2012–2013
  Rita Marable 2013–2014
  Vivian S. Teasley 2014–2015
  James R. Haymans 2015–2016
  Jesse Hunter 2016–2017
  Myrtice C. Johnson 2017–2018
  Mickey Wendel 2018–2019
  Jo Ann Tomlinson. 2019–2021
  Dr. Henrietta Gray 2021–2023
  Joe Boland. 2023–2024
  Shirley Grant 2024–2025
  Geraldine Reid 2025–2026

Executive Directors

GRTA

* Julius Gholson. 1974–1976
* E. C. Mitcham 1976–1980
  J. C. Mullis 1980–1989
* John Adler Hulsey, Jr. . . . 1989–1998

GREA

* John Adler Hulsey, Jr.. . . . 1998–2002
  William D. Gardner 2002–2005
  William G. Sloan, Jr 2005–2025
  Johnny Smith 2025–present

*Deceased

2026-2027 GREA PRESIDENT'S GOALS

State President: Dr. Sallie Mills

- Increase GREA Membership
- Encourage members to become active at both the Local and State levels
- Encourage all Units to participate in the T-Shirt design contest
- Encourage all Units to Sound the Trumpet for Fellowship, Service, and Support
- Invite a school Jazz ensemble or Trumpet Player to your local meeting



GREA Calendar 2026-2027

2026

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
August 11-13	9:30 a.m.	Area Meetings	Various locations
August 18-20	9:30 a.m.	Area Meetings	Various locations
August 25-27	9:30 a.m.	Area Meetings	Various locations
October 12	6:00 p.m.	Governing Board Dinner	Brasstown Valley
October 13	8 - 1 p.m.	Governing Board Meeting	Brasstown Valley
October 14	8 - 1 p.m.	Governing Board Meeting	Brasstown Valley
November 1		Nominations due for President-Elect and Directors Odd Numbered Areas	State Office
November 1	All Day	Retired Educators Day	Statewide
November 6	10:00 a.m.	Nominations and Elections Committee meets by Zoom	

2027

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
February 15		All ballots into the State Office and/or postmarked for contested races.	
February 20		Ballots counted for any elected positions	TBA
March 8	6:00 p.m.	Governing Board Dinner	Jekyll Island
March 9	8 - 1 p.m.	Governing Board Meeting	Jekyll Island
March 10	8 - 1 p.m.	Governing Board Meeting	Jekyll Island
May 3	2:00 p.m.	GREA Executive Committee	Augusta Marriott
	3:00 p.m.	GREA Governing Board	Augusta Marriott
May 4-6		State Convention	Augusta Marriott
May 6	12:00 p.m.	Governing Board Luncheon	Augusta Marriott

August Area Meetings 2026

Date	Areas	Person in Charge	Place
8/11	3 - 4	Sherry Waldrop	Northside Baptist Church 4605 Murray Ave, Tifton
8/12	5 - 6	Edna Shurley	First Baptist Church 185 S Brunswick St., Jesup
8/13	11 - 12	Carol Roe	Community Missionary Church 627 James Grove Church Road Wrightsville
8/18	1 - 2	Evelyn Fillingame	Albany Technical College 1704 S Slappy Blvd., Albany
8/19	7 - 8	Mimi Dennis	Terry Coleman Center 1670 College St, Eastman
8/20	9 - 10	Dr. Marietta Webb	St. Luke Ministry Center 301 11th Street, Columbus
8/25	13 -14	Joe O'Neal	Conyers First Methodist 921 N Main St NW, Conyers
8/26	15 - 16	Frank Hutcheson	Cherokee County Club 150 Club Drive, Cedartown
8/27	17 - 18	Suellen Jones	Gainesville Civic Center 830 Green Street, Gainesville

Registration 9:30 -10:00 a.m.
Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast, snacks or lunch is optional for each meeting

GREA Committees 2026–2027

Archives and GREA History
Suellen Jones, Chair
smjones@hartcom.net
Juanita Tipton
Penny Howerton
Dennis Howerton
Shirley Grant

Awards and Recognition
Ann Bookhardt, Chair
annbook@att.net
Joe Moore
Marcia Wendel

Bylaws
Edna Shurley, Chair
ehshurley@gmail.com
Angela Stokes
GREA Executive Committee

Convention Planning
Liz Bouis, Chair
lizbouis@gmail.com
Mary McNeal
Ann Bookhart
Pat Leming
Ida Dixon

Executive Committee
Dr. Sallie Mills, President
mills_sally@bellsouth.net
Liz Bouis
lizbouis@gmail.com
Barbara Howard
browneyedgirl@epbfi.com
Dr. John C. Upchurch
johncupchurch@yahoo.com
Edna Shurley
ehshurley@gmail.com
Geraldine Reid
reidj1@comcast.net

Investment and Finance
Dr. John C. Upchurch, Chair
johncupchurch@yahoo.com
GREA Executive Committee

Legislative
Angela Stokes, Chair
angela.retirededucators@gmail.com
Dr. Sallie Mills
Jane Butler
Felicia Robinson
Gwendolyn Yarbrough
Linda Olivier
Sherry Taylor
Sean Callahan
Juanita Tipton
Dr. William Sloan

Long-range Plans
Dr. Marietta Webb, Chair
mwebb3322@gmail.com
Carol Roe
Frank Hutcheson

Membership
Johnny Smith, Chair
grea3@grea3.org
Local Unit Presidents
Local Unit Membership Chairmans

Memorial
Penny Howerton, Chair
pennylewishowerton@gmail.com
Becky Oliver
Evelyn Fillingame
Felicia Robinson

Nominations and Elections
Geraldine Reid, Chair
reidj1@comcast.net
GREA Executive Committee

Policies
Joe O'Neal, Chair
joeoneal@gmail.com
Edna Shurley
Angela Stokes
Gwendolyn Yarbrough
Johnny Smith

Public Information & Program Planning
Linda Olivier, Chair
lndolvr@aol.com
Sean Callahan
Sherry Taylor

Service to Members
Gwendolyn Yarbrough, Chair
gwendolynhyarbrough@gmail.com
Mimi Dennis
Jane Butler
Juanita Tipton
Sherry Waldrop

Special Committees

Credentials
Joe O'Neal, Chair
joeoneal@gmail.com
Carol Morgan
Evelyn Fillingame
Angela Stokes
Marilyn Moore

Door Prizes
Jesse Hunter, Chair
hunterjd1972@gmail.com
Mickey Wendel
All Area Directors

Convention Bags
Ida Dixon
idadixon50@gmail.com
Carol Roe

Photography
Joe Moore
Janet Graham

GREA Special Awards
Dr. John C. Upchurch
johncupchurch@yahoo.com

Information Desk
Lester Dean
Mickey Wendell
Jesse Hunter

Silent Auction
Barbara Wilcher, Chair
watusi50@att.net
GRE Foundation Members

Vendors
Mickey Wendel, Chair
hornsup1391@gmail.com
Jesse Hunter
Joy Smith
Linda Wright

Georgia Retired Educators Foundation, Inc.

2026-2027 Board of Directors

Barbara T. Wilcher, Chair
1540 Carl Drive, Thomson, GA 30824 • 706-361-3418

Carol Morgan, Vice Chair
10940 Hwy 221 N, West Green, GA 31567 • 912-381-1135

Jane Butler, Secretary
173 E Federal St., Leslie, GA 31764 • 229-938-7112

Becky Oliver, Assistant Secretary
90 Mountain View Acres, Blue Ridge, GA 30513 • 706-455-4640

Linda Kay Holloman, Treasurer
1097 Crabapple Hollow Rd., Hull, GA 30646 • 706-540-9296

Tommie Fuller, Jr., Assistant Treasurer
524 S Macon St., Jesup, GA 31545 • 912-427-8708

Dr. Larry Johnson, Parliamentarian
200 Meeler Circle, Bogart, GA 30622 • 706-207-5886

Members-at-Large

Patricia Bassett, Immediate Past Chair
190 New Street, Roberta, GA 31078 • 478-837-3237

Brenda Carter
3 Applecross Court, Macon, GA 31210 • 478-283-0305

Sharon Muller
1830 Silverstone Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30045 • 770-312-7480

Louis Frank Tompkins
2744 Cherokee Ave., Macon, GA 31204 • 478-747-3570

Honorary Member

Virginia Edmonds
1681 Walker Street, NE, Gainesville, GA 30501 • 770-536-6244

Ex Officio Members

Dr. Sallie Mills, GREA President

Johnny Smith, GREA Executive Director

Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc.

Board of Directors 2026-2027

President	Geraldine Reid	TriCounty
President-Elect	Dr. Sallie Mills	Newton County
Vice President	Liz Bouis	Cobb County
Treasurer	Dr. John C. Upchurch	Lumpkin County
Secretary	Barbara Howard	Catoosa County
Area 1 Director	Evelyn Fillingame	Terrell County
Area 2 Director	Jane Butler	Sumter County
Area 3 Director	Sherry Waldrop	Tift County
Area 4 Director	Felicia Robinson	Camden County
Area 5 Director	Edna Shurley	Toombs County
Area 6 Director	Gwendolyn Yarbrough	Bulloch County
Area 7 Director	Mimi Dennis	Dodge County
Area 8 Director	Linda Olivier	Lamar County
Area 9 Director	Dr. Marietta Webb	Muscogee County
Area 10 Director	Sherry Taylor	Coweta County
Area 11 Director	Carol Roe	Laurens/Dublin
Area 12 Director	Angela Stokes	Camden County
Area 13 Director	Joe O'Neal	Rockdale County
Area 14 Director	Sean Callahan	Walton County
Area 15 Director	Frank Hutcheson	Haralson/Bremen
Area 16 Director	Penny Howerton	Walkers County
Area 17 Director	Suellen Jones	Hart County
Area 18 Director	Juanita Tipton	Lumpkin County
Museum Curator	Marcia Wendel	Ex Officio Member

The GREA Bulletin Schedule

Information to State Office	Bulletin Mailed to Members (approx.)
September 4, 2026	October
November 13, 2026	January
February 5, 2027	April
June 11, 2026	July

Georgia Retired Educators Museum's Curators Committee

Marcia Wendel, Chair
Golden Isles REA • marciawendel54@gmail.com

Jim Berry
Cherokee County

Pam Bland
Bulloch County

Patricia Denney
Pickens County

Fonda Harrison
Forsyth County

Bonny Keheley
Cherokee County

O'Livia Meeks
Troup County

Mickey Wendel
Golden Isles

Geraldine Reid, Ex Officio
GREM President

Georgia Retired Educators Association, Inc.
2026–2027 Bylaws

Article I
Objectives

Section 1. Name

The name of the organization shall be the Georgia Retired Educators Association, Inc., hereafter referred to as GREA.

Section 2. Mission

The GREA Mission shall be to unite retired educators in Georgia for fellowship, support, and educational/community service, and to improve benefits for all retired educators through cooperation with local, state and national organizations.

Section 3. Motto

The GREA Motto shall be: **FELLOWSHIP...SERVICE...SUPPORT**

Article II
Objectives

Section 1. To provide an educational basis for a continuing identity with the education profession.

Section 2. To promote programs and legislation beneficial to education,

Section 3. To cooperate with organized groups having similar concerns,

Section 4. To encourage fellowship among retired educators,

Section 5. To recognize the contributions of retired educators,

Section 6. To support retirement as a time of dignity, independence and purpose, and

Section 7. To encourage educators in the workforce to prepare for retirement.

Article III
Governance

GREA shall be governed by its Bylaws.

Article IV
Membership

Section 1. Membership

Membership shall be granted, upon payment of dues, to any person who has retired or plans to retire from the field of education, or who agrees to support the mission and objectives of GREA. GREA shall recognize special membership as follows:

A. Automatic Dues Deduction (ADD) membership is the preferred membership choice and is granted to any individual who has dues automatically deducted from the member's monthly Teacher Retirement System (TRS) benefit check.

B. Life membership shall be granted to any person who pays Life membership dues.

C. LADD membership shall be granted to any individual who is a life member and becomes a LADD Plan member (Life plus ADD) by electing to have dues automatically deducted from his/her monthly TRS benefit check.

D. Emeritus membership shall be granted to current GREA members who have attained the age of ninety and who have been members for five years immediately preceding their ninetieth birthday. No future dues are required.

E. Disability membership shall be granted to a GREA member who is permanently, physically or mentally incapacitated. No future dues are required.

Section 2. Membership year

The fiscal and membership year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the next year.

Section 3. Membership dues

All members shall pay dues in the amounts as established by the GREA Governing Board.

Article V
Association Structure

The GREA structure shall include a Governing Board, Geographical Areas, and Local Units.

Article VI
Officers and Area Directors: Election and Duties

Section 1. Officers

A. The officers of GREA shall be President, President-elect, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past President.

Section 2. Election of Officers

A. All GREA officer nominees must be members in good standing of State GREA and meet qualifications as stated in the GREA Policy Manual.

B. The **President-elect** shall be elected annually for a one-year term. The following year, this individual shall serve a one-year term as

President and the next year a one-year term as Immediate Past President.

C. The **Recording Secretary** shall be recommended by the President -elect and approved by the Governing Board for a one year term. The Recording Secretary may serve multiple terms.

D. The **Treasurer** shall be recommended by the President-elect and approved by the Governing Board for a one-year term. The Treasurer may serve multiple terms.

E. The Officers shall be installed at the Annual Convention and assume duties immediately following installation.

Section 3. Area Directors

Each of the 18 geographical areas of the state shall elect one director to the GREA Governing Board.

Section 4. Election of Area Directors

All persons elected as Area Directors must be members in good standing of the State GREA. Local Units in each of the areas shall elect an Area Director at the designated time as stated in the Election Guidelines. Local Units in odd-numbered areas shall elect Area Directors in odd-numbered years and even-numbered areas in even-numbered years. The Area Directors shall be installed at the Annual Convention.

Section 5. Term of Office

Each Area Director shall be elected for a two-year term. Individuals are nominated for the position of Area Director by the Local Unit in which the individual is a member and for the area in which the unit is located. This individual, after serving two consecutive terms, is required to wait one term before again serving in the position of Area Director.

Section 6. Duties

A. The President's duties are as follows:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Governing Board, the Executive Committee and the Annual Convention, and perform any other duties pertaining to the office of President.
2. Appoint committee chairs and members of the committees and be an ex-officio member of all committees.
3. Call regular and special meetings of the Governing Board and Executive Committee.
4. Make recommendations to the Governing Board for programs of action.
5. Present to the GREA Archives an annual written report of the

year's activities.

B. The President-elect's duties are as follows:

1. Submit a proposed budget for approval to the Executive Committee and the Governing Board, and to the Annual Convention for final approval.
2. Attend Area Meetings
3. Serve as an ex-officio member of all standing committees.
4. Preside at meetings of the Governing Board, the Executive Committee, and the Annual Convention in the absence of the President
5. Assist the President in the performance of the duties of the office of president and perform other duties as may be delegated by the president.

C. The Immediate Past President's duties are as follows:

1. Serve as Chair of the Election and Nominations Committee.
2. Serve as Advisor to the current GREA President.
3. Serve as President of the Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc. (GREM) Board.

D. The Recording Secretary's duties are as follows:

1. Record the minutes of the Annual Convention, the Governing board, and the Executive Committee meetings.
2. Submit a copy of the minutes within two weeks to the State Office for appropriate distribution.
3. Submit an approved copy of the minutes to the Archives Committee, the Policies Committee, and the Bylaws Committee.

E. The Treasurer's duties are as follows:

1. Chair the Investment and Finance Committee and monitor all investments of the Association.
2. Present financial reports to the Governing Board and the Annual Convention.
3. Serve as a cosigner of checks.
4. Be bonded for at least $50,000.00.
5. Assist the President-elect in preparing the budget.

F. The Area Director's duties are as follows:

1. Assist Local Unit presidents and officers in strengthening Local Units in the respective areas.

2. Visit and communicate with all Local Units in the area from which elected.
3. Conduct an Area meeting planned in cooperation with the GREA staff.
4. Attend State and Area meeting, workshops and annual state convention and participate as designated.
5. Serve as a member of the Credentials Committee at state convention.
6. Serve as member of the Georgia Retired Educators Museum Board of Directors.
7. Failure to perform the duties listed in the above paragraphs 1-5, without due cause of illness or emergency circumstances, will be grounds for dismissal by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee and Governing Board.
8. As vacancies occur on the GREA Foundation Board or the GRE Museum Board, Area Directors from the named areas shall nominate a member based on the policy of that Board.

Article VII
Organization

Section 1. Management

Management of GREA shall be vested in the Governing Board.

Section 2. Governing Board

A. Membership—The Governing Board shall consist of the officers and Area Directors.

B. State Meetings

1. The GREA Governing Board shall have a minimum of four regular meetings a year. Two of these meetings shall be held at the convention site and at least one of the other two meetings may be held at the Georgia Retired Educators Museum (GREM).

   At a meeting of the GREA Governing Board, a majority of the Board members shall constitute a quorum.

2. Called meetings of the Governing Board may be held at the option of the President, at the request of a majority of the Executive Committee, or at the request of the majority of the Governing Board members.
3. The GREA Executive Committee will have a minimum of

three regular meetings a year.

4. Called meetings of the Executive Committee may be held at the option of the President or a majority of the Executive Committee.
5. GREA shall convene an Annual Convention once a year. At meetings of the GREA Annual Convention, those members present shall constitute a quorum.

C. Duties of the Governing Board

1. Be responsible for carrying out the policies and bylaws of the Association.
2. Propose programs and/or activities for the Annual Convention.
3. Employ an Executive Director annually.
4. Hear and make decisions regarding all presidential appointments.
5. Hear and approve reports of standing committees and make decisions regarding their activities.
6. Create and terminate committees as needed.
7. Charter new Local Units.

D. Removal From Office

1. Any member of the Georgia Retired Educators Association's Governing Board may be removed from the Governing Board by a two-thirds affirmative vote of Governing Board members present and voting.

Section 3. Executive Committee

A. The membership shall consist of the officers, *a fourth year* Area Director elected by and from Area Directors, and the Executive Director, who will serve as an ex-officio member.

B. The Committee shall meet at the call of the President or a majority of the Committee.

C. The Committee shall act on behalf of the Governing Board between meetings of the Board.

D. The Committee shall declare a vacancy in any position in which the elected representative is absent without an official excuse from two consecutive meetings of the Governing Board.

Section 4. Executive Director

A. The Executive Director shall be accountable to the Governing Board.

B. The responsibilities of the Executive Director are outlined in the GREA Policy Manual, Article VIII, Section 1 and Section 2.

Section 5. Local Units

A. A Local Unit may be organized by 12 or more retired educators living in a geographical area. Each unit shall write its own Bylaws which must not be in conflict with GREA Bylaws. The members shall elect their own officers. The GREA Governing Board shall assist the new unit as it begins the organizational process.

B. All officers of local units shall be required to be GREA members.

C. It is required that the Local Unit secure approval from the GREA Governing Board for any proposed activity that will use the GREA name for promotional purposes.

Section 6. Area Meetings

A. The State shall be organized into geographical areas with each local unit being assigned to an Area.

B. GREA members in each geographical area shall elect an Area Director to represent them on the GREA Governing Board.

C. Each Area shall convene an annual meeting. Areas will be paired together for this meeting. They will cooperatively plan the meeting with the GREA staff. Areas may plan and hold additional meetings.

Article VIII
Committees

Section 1. Committee Chairs

The term of office for each committee member shall coincide with the GREA President's term of office. Any committee chair or member shall be eligible for reappointment.

Section 2. Standing Committees

Each standing committee shall consist of the GREA President, the GREA President-elect and the GREA Executive Director, as ex-officio members, plus other members as designated. A majority of the committee, excluding ex-officio members, shall constitute a quorum. The Standing Committees shall be those listed below:

A. Archives and GREA History

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and two other members.
2. The committee is responsible for maintaining the history of GREA including the President's report and other archival materials.

B. Awards and Recognition

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and at least two other members.

2. The committee, according to guidelines set up by the Governing Board, will work with the GREA staff and Local Units to recognize members. The committee will recommend to the Governing Board new awards and changes as needed.

C. Bylaws

1. The committee shall consist of a chair, Chair of the Policies Committee, and members of the Executive Committee.
2. The committee shall review minutes of Governing Board meetings, receive suggestions from members, and review the bylaws annually.

D. Convention Planning

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and at least two other members.
2. The committee, in cooperation with the State Office Staff, shall make necessary preparations and arrangements for the ensuing GREA Annual Convention.

E. Investment and Finance

1. The committee shall consist of a chair, who is the GREA Treasurer, and the members of the Executive Committee.
2. The committee shall meet with the auditors and receive the report of the previous year's financial statement and make recommendations regarding financial policies.

F. Legislative

1. The committee shall consist of a chair, GREA ex-officio members, President-elect, and at least one member from each of the Area Clusters. (Areas I & II, one member; Area III & IV, one member, etc.).
2. The committee is charged with the responsibility of developing GREA legislative priorities and monitoring the State Legislative program.
3. The committee's duty shall be to keep the Local Unit Presidents, the Local Unit Legislative Chairs, and the GREA membership well informed on State legislative matters.

G. Long-range Plans

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and at least two other members.
2. The committee have the task of evaluating where the organization is at the present and where it is headed within a reasonable time frame.
3. The committee shall review the long-range goals of GREA

annually, report progress in meeting goals to the Governing Board, and submit recommendations for approval by the Governing Board.

H. Membership

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and at least two other members.
2. The committee is responsible for working with the State Office on membership recruitment and retention.
3. The committee is responsible for informing the Local Unit Presidents, Local Unit Membership Chairs, and the GREA membership on membership matters.

I. Memorial

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and two other members.
2. The committee shall conduct a service at the Annual Convention in the memory of deceased members.

J. Nominations and Elections

1. The committee shall consist of a chair, who is the Immediate Past President, and the members of the Executive Committee.
2. The committee shall supervise the distribution of election material to each Local Unit. It shall count election results and announce winners.

K. Policies

1. The Committee shall consist of a chair, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, and at least two other members.
2. The committee shall review GREA policies annually, review minutes of Governing Board meetings, receive suggestions from members and make recommendations for changes to the Governing Board.
3. Any changes in policy must adhere to article XIII of the GREA Policy Manual.

L. Public Information and Program Planning

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and at least two other members.
2. The committee shall monitor and evaluate organizational activities and materials regarding communications to the membership and public at large.
3. The committee shall assist in developing organizational approaches and materials used in public relations activities.

4. The committee shall assist in local unit program planning.
5. The committee shall be charged with preparing and publicizing Georgia's Retired Educators' Day.

M. Service to Members

1. The committee shall consist of a chair and at least two other members.
2. The committee shall seek ways to serve the needs of GREA members, research programs which may be beneficial to GREA members, and make recommendations to the Governing Board.

Section 3. Ad Hoc Committees

Ad Hoc committees may be appointed by the President for special purposes and shall be dissolved upon completion of the assigned task, or at the end of the fiscal year in which the committee was appointed.

Section 4. Other Standing Committees

The Governing Board may appoint other Standing Committees as necessary to carry out the objectives and mission of GREA.

Article IX
Vacancies

Section 1. Vacancy in the office of Area Director

A vacancy in the office of Area Director resulting from failure to nominate at the appropriate time or for any other reason shall be filled by the candidate recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the Governing Board. The President of his/her designee shall poll the affected Area Local Unit Presidents for recommendations of candidates for consideration.

Section 2. Vacancy in the office of President

A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the President-elect who will complete his/her predecessor's term before assuming his/her own term.

Section 3. Vacancy in the office of President-elect

A vacancy in the office of President-elect resulting from failure to nominate at the appropriate time or for any other reason shall be filled by the candidate recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the Governing Board.

Section 4. Other vacancies

A vacancy in the office of Recording Secretary or Treasurer shall be filled by the candidate recommended by the President and approved by the Governing Board to complete the term of office.

Article X
Fiscal Year

The Fiscal year of this organization shall be from July 1 to June 30.

Article XI
Funds and Accounts

Section 1. Special Funds

The Governing Board is hereby authorized and empowered at its discretion to create and maintain special funds and accounts.

Section 2. Audits

Audits of all funds and accounts of the Association shall be made annually by an outside public accountant.

Section 3. Expense Vouchers

All expense vouchers and invoices shall be sent to the GREA office for approval and payment in a timely manner.

Article XII
Amendments to the Bylaws

Section 1. Amendments

A. The Bylaws Committee shall review the Bylaws annually, and shall be authorized to correct typographical or grammatical errors with the approval of the Governing Board. For any additional changes, the Bylaws Committee shall forward its rationale and recommendation to the GREA Governing Board at its winter meeting.

B. Bylaws may be amended at the Annual Convention by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided copies of the amendment(s) have been distributed to the Board members and recommended by the GREA Governing Board at its winter meeting.

C. After approval by the Governing Board, the proposed changes shall be sent to Local Unit Presidents for consideration by Local Units.

D. The copies of the amended bylaw(s) or the new bylaw(s) shall be presented to the membership at the Annual Convention for approval. The bylaw change(s) must be approved by two-thirds of those voting at the convention.

Section 2. Adoption Date

The amended bylaws shall become effective the day following the adoption at the annual convention.

Article XIII
Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the GREA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the GREA may adopt.

Article XIV
Publication

The Association shall publish *The GREA Bulletin* which shall contain an account of the affairs of the Association and items of interest to members. It shall be sent to all members of the Association who are in good standing. Members may elect to have *The GREA Bulletin* mailed, sent electronically or by other means.

Approved May 10, 2018 at the Annual Convention, The Macon Marriott City Center, Macon Georgia.

NOTES

Support Organizations and Agencies

Teachers Retirement System of Georgia

404-352-6500
1-800-352-0650 (state only)
Fax: 404-352-4885
Website: www.trsga.com

TRS of Georgia
Two Northside 75, Suite 500
Atlanta 30318

Legislative

Governor
203 State Capitol
Atlanta 30334

Contact your Senators and Representatives at www.legis.ga.gov/

State Health Benefit Plan

1-800-610-1863

United Health Care:
1-888-364-6352

Blue Cross/Blue Shield
1-855-641-4862

GREA Benefits

AMBA: 1-800-258-7041
6034 W. Courtyard Drive, Suite 300, Austin, Texas 78730
or locally at www.garetirededucators.org



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