

THE GREA BULLETIN

JOURNAL OF NEWS AND REFLECTIONS FOR RETIRED EDUCATORS OF GEORGIA

VOL. XXXVI, NO. 1

GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA

SUMMER 2019



Mission Accomplished

In the fall of 2006, Harry Werner appointed a committee to explore the possibilities of building a state office building for GREA. In October 2009, GREA purchased a tract of land on Falcon Parkway in Flowery Branch, Georgia from the Hall County Board of Education. In May 2013, the Governing Board voted to begin construction. On a hot Sunday afternoon in September 2013 about 100 people assembled to view the ground breaking ceremony. In May 2015, we occupied our State Office/Museum building. The entire project from beginning to end cost approximately 1.5 million dollars. The building was totally paid for by Georgia retired educators and their friends through brick sells, donations and dues money.

On April 19th, 2019, the picture at the right shows Dr. Bill Sloan, Executive Director; Dr. John Upchurch, GREA Treasurer; Myrtice Johnson, GREM President; Chris Gooch, BB&T Bank; Mickey Wendel, GREA President and Louis Frank Tompkins presenting the FINAL payment on our building to the BB&T bank official in Gainesville.

GREM and GREM are totally DEBT FREE! We have a lot to be thankful for as retired educators. Thank You, Harry Werner for your vision of this building.



Message From the President

By Jo Ann Tomlinson, GREA President



Jo Ann Tomlinson

Our theme for this year is "Cheering for GREA"!!! I am sooooo excited to be your GREA President for 2019-2020. Let's cheer: GR EA is the BE ST!!! GREA is the BEST!!!!

As a past cheerleader coach for 22 years and a principal for four years, all at the same high school, who has won 20 state championships, we have lots and lots of experience with cheering.

Health insurance and pension benefits are high priority for all of us. We want our voice to be heard with the legislature, therefore, membership is our Number One Goal. We are all going to be striving for 2,600 new members this year. I challenge each of you to find and encourage three new members to join GREA. There are 128,000 retirees and we have about 30,000 members. That leaves 98,000 retirees that need to be members of GREA. You know three people that you worked with that are retired now and are not members of your local REA. Many of you taught at more than one school or school system so get your mind moving and thinking. These people need your personal invite to join. Always, always have a membership card and a brick card handy to give to prospective members. Your membership chairman will have membership cards and your President will have Brick cards. The cards are on our garetirededucators.org/about/forms/brick-card then GREM or garetirededucators.org/Membership then membership form website and can be printed. Remember educators include secretaries, bookkeepers, nurses, beneficiaries and others who staff our schools and the school couldn't function without them. All of these members need to be ADD—Automatic Dues Deduction—which is \$2 per month from their TRS check. They will not miss it!!!!

Anyone can join GREA. We welcome everyone to become a member. You can pay annually if you don't receive a TRS check. Annual dues are \$27 due to the cost of mailing each year for renewing. We celebrate and value each member. AMBA benefits alone are outstanding and worth your money. Checkout our website garetirededucators.org and look under Benefits. Check us out on Facebook and be sure to Like and Share with someone who could become a member.

A special Thank You goes to President Mickey Wendel and his wife, Marcia, for providing a wonderful year of "Sharing the Light." What an inspiration to all!!! Thank you to Keith and Donna Lee for the fantastic Share the Light@ Convention!!! A lot of hard work that was well worth it!!!

A special Thank You goes to Shirley Grant, Habersham REA, for preparing and presenting the amazing creative Installation Service at the Convention in Augusta. The menu of a Five-Star Restaurant was awesome!!!!

A special Thank You goes to the following Governing Board Members who serve as volunteers and as Area Directors by giving of their time, efforts, dedication and passion.

The people who just completed their term had a lot of character and integrity. They had vision and were level-headed.

Thanks to Marsha Bond, Area 1; Harley Grove, Area 5; Henrietta Gray, Area 6; Mary Ann McDaniel, Area 7; Olivia Meeks, Area 9; Al Money, Area 15 and Joe Boland, Area 17. You will be missed!!!!

A special Thank You goes to the New Area Directors and President-elect who will begin this year working hard for GREA. Thank You to these new folks: Dr. Henrietta Gray, previously Area 6 Director, will serve as President-elect; Area 1 Director, Jewell Howard; Area 5 Director, Marcia Wendel; Area 6 Director, Dr. Connie Cooper; Area 7 Director, Coleen W. McIver; Area 9 Director, Donna Kemp; Area 15 Director, Liz Bouis and Area 17 Director, Suellen Jones.

There is a lot of responsibility on these new people and I appreciate all of their efforts and hard work. I am looking forward to bonding

and working with these new Area Directors as GREA Governing Board members.

Enjoy your summer with your family/grandkids/friends, canning and freezing fresh vegetables or at least eating lots of fresh veggies!!! Take time to personally contact your three new members and buy a brick for the Museum in honor or memory of someone or yourself. The Museum Building is paid in full but now we need to complete the inside to be a truly magnificent museum of the Education in Georgia. Next set up/connect with the Walk to End Alzheimer's Organization at alz.org/walk and enter your zip code. There will be more about the Humanitarian Project in the next *Bulletin*.

If you missed the "Share the Light Convention," check out the GREA website garetirededucators.com and watch the video of my President's speech.

I plan to be in your neck of the woods in August for the Area District Meetings. Plan now to attend and volunteer to help prepare for the event by Cheering for GREA@!! See you soon!!!!



President's Goals for 2019-2020 as we are Cheering for GREA

- Increase membership by 2,600 members
- Encourage each unit to purchase two bricks for the museum
- Encourage each Area Director to strive for 40% or more of their units to receive the Unit of Distinction Award.
- Encourage each Area Director to strive for 50% or more of their unit to receive the Unit of Excellence Award.
- Encourage each unit to give \$250 or more to the "Cheering for GREA" Humanitarian Project Alzheimer's Organization. Our goal is at least \$25,000.



JoAnn Leading the Cheers at the 2019 GREA Convention

Welcome to Our 2019-2020 President-elect

GREA is proud to welcome Dr. Henrietta Gray as our 2019-2020 President-elect. Dr. Gray was the Area 6 Director but gave up her last year as the director to become our new President-elect. She served her area well and she will be an excellent president-elect this year. She is a member of the Chatham REA in Savannah. Welcome Dr. Gray to this important position of leadership.





Buster Evans

News by the Numbers

By L. C. (Buster) Evans, Ed.D

\$78.4 Billion

I am very pleased to report that our assets continue to grow significantly.

Since June 2013, TRS assets have increased \$19.8 billion in the last seven years, bringing our net assets, as of April 2019, to \$78.4 billion. Thanks to a stronger stock market and our diligent team of investment professionals, TRS is doing well and is financially and actuarially sound.

128,864

As of April 2019, we now have 128,864 TRS retirees. Did you know that we have 8,044 retirees who are over 85 years of age and 72 of these retirees are over 100 years of age? It is our pleasure to provide all of our retirees with the professional customer service they deserve and an assurance that their retirement benefit will be paid timely and accurately each and every month.

\$4.7 Billion

TRS paid almost \$4.7 billion in benefits to retirees during FY 2018 and over 89% of our retirees reside in Georgia. As consumers, our retirees pump money back into their community's economies through expenditures on goods and services. This economic

impact amounts to approximately \$6.91 billion a year. These expenditures increase economic demand and encourage employment throughout the State. In other words, you as a TRS retiree have a substantial impact on Georgia's economy.

26,287

Our member education programs continue to be successful in FY 2019. TRS attended the Annual GREA Convention in May and presented at 18 GREA chapter meetings across the state. We individually counseled over 7,300 members. We also conducted 335 educational presentations, meetings, and benefit fairs, reaching 26,287 members, and sponsored 10 retirement seminars across the State with speakers from TRS, the Social Security Administration, and financial/estate planning experts. We also continued our Mid-Career one-on-one counseling to those members with 5-24 years of service, as well as launched a new half-day seminar with various financial experts that focuses on preparing our members for retirement early in their careers. Our new one-on-one employer training for HR and Payroll staff continues to be popular, as we have met with over 40 employers since the program was rolled out in the spring of 2018.

2019-2020

The 2019-2020 Georgia General Assembly concluded on April 2nd, and is the first year of the two-year biennium session. Retirement legislation that has a fiscal impact had to be introduced during this session and can only be acted on during the 2nd year. TRS had one bill, HB 196, signed into law by Governor Kemp on May 7, 2019. This bill requires each public retirement system trustee to complete appropriate education applicable to his or her fiduciary duties and obligations under the public retirement system. We are working to ensure our trustees meet this obligation as outlined in the law. TRS also had many bills that were forwarded by their respective committees for an actuarial study: HB 292, HB 320, HB 336, HB 390, HB 662, HB 667 and SB 260. A synopsis of all legislation is available in the Newsroom on our website under Legislation.

I encourage you to visit us online at www.trsga.com to receive the latest news and to periodically view your account. Feel free to contact us via email, Facebook, Twitter, or phone if you have any questions or if you just wish to let us know how we're doing. I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and I thank you for your continued support!

Friend of GREA Award, 2018-2019

By Dr. John Upchurch

The coveted Friend of GREA Award was presented, at the Annual Convention, to Patricia Wheeler, President of Cobb-Marietta Retired Educators Association by GREA President Mickey Wendel. The presentation immediately followed Executive Director Dr. Bill Sloan's blockbuster announcements that the mortgage on the new facility containing the Education Museum and State Office complex had been retired a few days earlier, and that the new building now belongs to GREA members free and clear.

Cobb-Marietta's involvement in paying off the mortgage is the reason for its GREA "Friend" recognition this year. Specifically, the CMREA



Mickey Wendel presents the Friend of GREA Award to Patricia Wheeler

made the largest single gift to the building fund during the almost decade-long land acquisition, construction, and loan payment programs. Their truly significant monetary donation was in the amount of \$21,500 which, when added to the many other generous gifts and proceeds from brick sales and other fund-raising activities, has enabled our membership to be debt free.

Heartfelt thanks are also extended to all who contributed to the building project. Now, with our own facility a reality, we can move forward with developing a first-rate museum focused on public education in Georgia.

Congratulations to Local Membership Winners

These local units were the leaders in their respective classifications for gaining the most new members from April 2, 2018 to April 1, 2019. Pictured below are the representatives from each local unit along with their area director. These units did an outstanding job this year! Thanks to all of you for your excellent work on membership recruitment.

Pictured at right are: Karen Chauncey, Area 4 Director; Cheryl Evans, Coffee/Atkinson; Evelyn Fillingame, Area 2 Director; Thelma West, Macon County; Brenda Barrow, Effingham County; Brenda Hunt, Habersham; Shirley Grant, Area 18 Director; Judith Munson, Cobb/Marietta and Joe Boldand, Area 15 Director.



2019 GREA Units Of Distinction

We are pleased to announce that 59 local units have earned all thirteen local unit awards and therefore qualified to be designated a "Unit of Distinction" for 2018-19.

Area 1, Marsha Bond, Director
Seminole, Mitchell/Baker

Area 2, Evelyn Fillingham, Director
Dooley, Lee, Macon, Sumter, Terrell

Area 3, Brenda Moore, Director
Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Tift

Area 4, Karen Chauncey, Director
Camden, Clinch, Coffee/Atkinson

Area 5, Harley Grove, Director
Golden Isles, Jeff Davis, Tattnall, Wayne

Area 6, Dr. Henrietta Gray
Bulloch, Chatham, Effingham

Area 7, Mary Ann McDaniel, Director
Bleckley, Dodge

Area 8, Janice Habersham, Director
Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Lamar, Thomaston/Upson

Area 9, O'Livia Meeks, Director
Troup

Area 10, Vicki Davis, Director
Butts, Coweta, Fayette, Griffin/Spalding

Area 11, Dr. Janet Lee, Director
Johnson, Laurens/Dublin, Washington

Area 12, Emanuel Larkin, Jr., Director
Jefferson, Lincoln/Wilkes, Glascock/McDuffie/Warren

Area 13, Alice Moore, Director
Newton, South Fulton

Area 14, Patricia Leming, Director
Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan

Area 15, Joe Boland, Director
Cherokee, Cobb/Marietta, Haralson/Bremen, Pickens

Area 16, Barbara Howard, Director
Catoosa

Area 17, Al Money, Director
Forsyth, Hall/Gainesville, Madison, Oglethorpe

Area 18, Shirley Grant, Director
Dawson, Habersham, Lumpkin, Stephens, Union, White

Spotlight Winners 2019

Area 1
Bainbridge/Decatur, Mitchell/Baker, Seminole

Area 2
Dooley, Lee, Macon, Sumter, Terrell

Area 3
Berrien, Brooks, Colquitt, Cook, Thomasville/Thomas, Tift

Area 4
Camden, Clinch, Coffee/Atkinson, Waycross/Ware

Area 5
Appling, Golden Isles, Jeff Davis, Tattnall, Wayne

Area 6
Chatham, Effingham

Area 7
Ben Hill, Bleckly, Dodge, Telfair/Wheeler

Area 8
Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Lamar, Peach, Thomaston/Upson

Area 9
Harris, Muscogee, Troup

Area 10
Butts, Coweta, Fayette, Griffin/Spalding, Henry

Area 11
Hancock, Johnson, Laurens/Dublin, Washington

Area 12
Glascock/McDuffie/Warren, Jefferson, Lincoln/Wilkes, Richmond

Area 13
Douglas, Newton, Rockdale

Area 14
Athens, Barrow, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan

Area 15
Cherokee, Cobb/Marietta, Haralson/Bremen, Pickens

Area 16
Catoosa

Area 17
Forsyth, Franklin, Gainesville/Hall, Hart, Madison, Oglethorpe

Area 18
Dawson, Habersham, Lumpkin, Stephens, Towns, Union, White

Membership Award Winners 2019

Class A—1-60 Members (36 Units)

1st Place	Macon County	16
2nd Place	Tie: Dawson County & Wilkerson County	10
4th Place	Brantley County	8
5th Place	Tie: Brooks County & Randolph County	6

Class AA—61-149 Members (44 Units)

1st Place	Effingham County	29
2nd Place	Gilmer County	19
3rd Place	Columbia County	17
4th Place	Tattnall County	16
5th Place	Oglethorpe County	15

Class AAA—150-299 Members (39 Units)

1st Place	Habersham County	30
2nd Place	Bulloch County	29
3rd Place	Sumter County	28
4th Place	Catoosa County	26
5th Place	Coweta County	25

Class AAAA—300-450 Members (14 Units)

1st Place	Coffee/Atkinson	45
2nd Place	North Fulton	43
3rd Place	Houston County	41
4th Place	Tie: Fayette County & Forsyth County	39

Class AAAAA—450 And Up Members (13 Units)

1st Place	Cobb/Marietta	(Record) 121
2nd Place	Gwinnett County	70
3rd Place	Tie: Bibb County & Cherokee County	67
5th Place	Decatur/Dekalb	66

Local Units Making 10% Growth

Area 1
Miller, Mitchell/Baker, Seminole

Area 2
Dooley, Lee, Macon, Sumter, Terrell/Lee, Randolph

Area 3
Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Tift

Area 4
Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee/Atkinson

Area 5
Golden Isles, Jeff Davis, Tattnall, Toombs, Wayne

Area 6
Bulloch, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Screven

Area 7
Bleckley, Dodge, Wilcox

Area 8
Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Lamar, Pike, Thomaston/Upson

Area 9
Schley, Troup

Area 10
Butts, Coweta, Fayette, Griffin/Spalding

Area 11
Hancock, Johnson, Laurens/Dublin, Lincoln/Wilkes, Washington

Area 12
Columbia, Jefferson, Glascock/McDuffie/Warren

Area 13
Newton, North Fulton, South Fulton

Area 14
Barrow, Greene, Gwinnett, Morgan, Walton

Area 15
Bartow/Cartersville, Cherokee, Cobb/Marietta, Haralson/Bremen, Paulding, Pickens

Area 16
Catoosa, Fannin, Gilmer

Area 17
Forsyth, Hall/Gainesville, Madison, Oglethorpe

Area 18
Dawson, Habersham, Lumpkin, Stephens, Union, White

Counties with no unit that grew by 10%:
Jasper, Jones, Turner, Wilkerson

Ending the Share the Light Year With Zero Debt Leads to a Year of Cheering for GREA

By Mickey Wendel, GREM President



Mickey Wendel

Thank you for a wonderful convention at the Augusta Marriott on May 7-9. The hotel staff provided excellent service and the entire event left us with great memories. One of the biggest highlights was the burning of our \$1½ million mortgage note on Tuesday evening during the Lighthouse Beach Party. This makes us a debt-free organization. Our current assets will allow us to purchase a \$100,000 CD by the end of May.

There are so many people I need to thank for working on the convention. First, I want to say a BIG THANK YOU to Keith and Donna Lee and my wife Marcia for planning a super convention. A BIG THANK YOU also goes to Harley and Jo Ann Grove for coordinating all the absolutely beautiful table decorations for our Share the Light events at the convention. And we could not manage without our wonderful photographer, Janet Graham. She is always working behind the scenes to capture every moment of our festivities.

I want to thank those who came up and told me that you really enjoyed the experience of Sharing the Light all year long. I would like to say thank you to the 42 unit presidents who took the time to complete and return my President's Survey. Here are some of the stats of Sharing the Light. Marcia and I drove 8,435 miles across Georgia as we shared the light this year at your area and unit meetings. As of April 1st, GREA had 2,484 new members which was 16 short of my goal of 2,500. We should reach our goal of 30,000 members before July 1st. Our numbers continue to grow as more retired educators join our ranks. Congratulations to the 59 units who earned the Unit of Distinction Award and to the 49 units who earned the Unit of Excellence Award. We had 83 units earn the 10% membership award. This is so important in making GREA a strong voice in our state as we continue to work to protect TRS benefits for all future retired educators. The money is still coming in, but it looks like we are going to be able to contribute over \$21,000 to the music therapy program at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. My grandson Logan, who enjoys music, will be grateful for the music therapy the next time he goes in for surgery as well as children all over Georgia and really all over the world because it is such a great hospital. Thank You. Through Kids Heart Challenge (Jump Rope for Heart), we helped 11 new schools in Georgia raise \$52,876.12 resulting in 357 schools in Georgia raising \$1,665,905.29 for heart research. Thank You. 86 % of our units gave a least one brick resulting in 530 bricks being placed in memory or in honor of educators on our museum walkway. Thank You. My heart was really touched as you responded to Sarah Tatum's testimony with over \$2,000 for Campground Ministries as we educate the world on childhood cancer. Thank You. She is available to come speak at your unit meetings and teach you how to paint Camp Rocks. I really enjoyed the energy and fun of all of you who experienced dancing for two hours after the program on Tuesday with Michael Hulett and Ken and Karen Hicks on Wednesday.

We have so much to say thank you for and to celebrate that it is really going to be fun to join President Jo Ann Tomlinson in Cheering for GREA and help put an end to the disease of Alzheimer's. Let's all climb on the back of that ole Black Truck and ride all over the state of Georgia cheering for GREA and promoting Fellowship, Service and Support.

As your new GREM President, I will be working with our Curator Committee to make some major changes in our museum building starting with building a partial wall down the middle of the museum room to display the Timeline of the Four Periods of Public Education in Georgia. We will be moving the pictures of past GREA Presidents to the Board room and making that room a history of GREA. There is so much excitement among your GREA Board about what is going to happen this year, we cannot wait to finish these projects and share them with you. This has been made possible with great leadership from our past museum committees and from Past Presidents Jesse Hunter and Myrtice Johnson and our Executive Director Dr. Bill Sloan. We have been blessed.

Ramblin' Around With the Executive Director

By Bill Sloan, Executive Director



William Sloan

Well it is a beautiful Sunday afternoon in Flowery Branch and it is about 95 degrees outside. It is a good day to be working inside. The convention this year was one of the best ever. Donna and Keith Lee did an outstanding job as Co-Chairs. Leading a convention is a tremendously difficult task that only a few people are willing to attempt to do. They deserve thanks from all 30,000 GREA members.

My special thanks to Mickey Wendel and his lovely wife Marcia for an outstanding year for GREA. Mickey easily was one of the best ever in leading our organization. His theme of "Sharing the Light" was wonderful and so many of our local units did an outstanding job in working his theme into their activities during the year. GREA was blessed to have him lead our organization for this year!

Incoming President Jo Ann Tomlinson really got off to a great start with her theme of "Cheering for GREA." She led the cheers for GREA in the final meeting and she will be an outstanding President. We all look forward to working with her this year.

What else can be said about outgoing GREM President Myrtice Johnson! Her prediction three years ago that we would pay off our building in 2019 came true. She had the faith and it happened. She was probably the only one who really believed that we would be debt free in May of 2019. The Executive Director of GREA thinks you are a special lady! Thanks so very much for three years of outstanding leadership and service to GREA.

As I mentioned above we are now debt free and we are already looking ahead for some new exciting goals for GREA. Where do we go next? Just wait and see as we plan for the future. Thanks so much to each and every one of you who helped in paying off our State Office/Museum building by buying bricks or helping recruit new members. GREA is so fortunate to have so many members who actively work for our organization. If you are not a local unit member in your county, I challenge you to get involve soon.

When former President Harry Werner started us in 2007 on the trail to having our own building some of our members said don't worry we will find enough corporate donations to help build it. Well I can tell you today that we are still waiting on the first donation from outside our membership. We built and paid for our building entirely with the money from retired educators! All of you should be extremely proud of what we accomplished together! Thanks to all of you who helped.

We will reach a milestone very soon for GREA as we will have over 30,000 members across at least 15 states. GREA is getting bigger and better every day because so many of you are helping us grow!

I hope each of you have a great summer as it appears it will be a hot one this year! God Bless each of you!

Thank You For a Job Well Done In 2018-2019

GREM President



Mickey And Marsha Wendel

GREM President



Myrtice Johnson and Al Brown

Finally, it has been an absolute joy to serve as your president. It was so much fun meeting and talking with you and building a relationship with you. I encourage you to keep Sharing the Light as you embrace Cheering for GREA and supporting a great GREM President in Jo Ann Tomlinson. Thank You for a wonderful year.



RELAX. HELP IS ON THE WAY.

24/7 MEDICAL AIR, HELICOPTER AND GROUND TRANSPORT AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE.

Wipe out in the Alps? Heat stroke in Tunisia? All is fine. Medical Air Services Association (MASA) provides life-saving emergency assistance from home or anywhere in the world—24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Coverage includes:

- Emergency air & ground transportation
- Escort, family, minor children, & grandchildren transportation
- Organ retrieval, vehicle return & more

Learn more: **1-800-258-7041**

myambabenefits.info/grea



Scenes From the Convention



New board members—2019 GREA Convention—Thursday



*Our Sumter County Hostesses—
2019 GREA Convention—Tuesday*



Thank You! Convention chairs—2019 GREA Convention—Thursday



GREA Membership Directors—2019 GREA Convention—Thursday



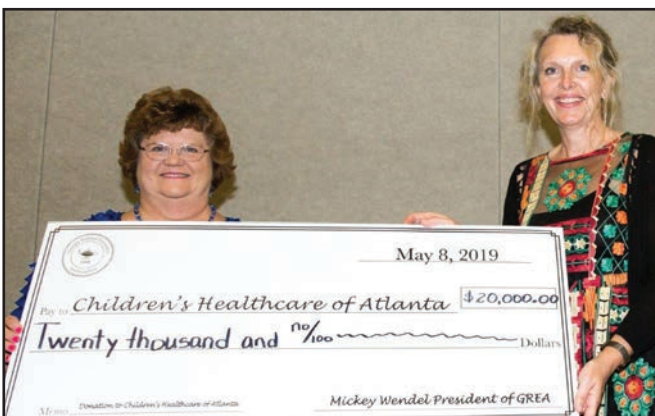
*May I buy this purse?
2019 GREA Convention—Tuesday*



The Winner is...—2019 GREA Convention—Wednesday



*May we help you?
2019 GREA Convention—Tuesday*



Children's Healthcare check—2019 GREA Convention—Wednesday



JROTC looking sharp (Richmond County)—2019 GREA Convention—Tuesday

Thank You to Everyone Who Bought a Brick 3/1/19-5/31/19

Thanks so much to each and every one of you who purchased a brick for our Honor Roll Plaza at the State Office/Museum building. Through your generosity we were able to pay off our mortgage on the building! Have you bought a brick yet? Forms can be found on our web site at garetirededucators.org or you can call or email us and we will be happy to send you a card. Why not honor someone today with a permanent memory in our Plaza?

Alice M. Pugh	Kathryn H. Rawls
Barbara R. Brown	Linda T. Brubaker
Barrow Co REA	Lola P. Bell
Betty Ann Smith	Maggie R. Lowe
Betty H. Vollenweider	Mary Jo Roberts
Bibb Co. REA	Mary R. Rose
Brenda Gilreath	McDaniel, Mary Ann
Catherine J. Crapps	Morgan Co. REA
Clifford Rogers	Nadine Hunt
Crawford Co. REA	Ocilla Civic Club
Dawne Hudson	Pamela E. Witt
Deirdre G. Robinson	Phyllis C. McNicoll
Diane E. Dunston	Ruth H. Washington
E. K. Chaney	Shirley S. Grant
Early Clay Calhoun REA	The Educational Foundation
Elizabeth Anne Bouis	& Museum
Glenda Waller	Tift Co. REA
Gwinnett Co. REA	TRI Co. GMW REA
J. M. Wood	Valdosta-Lowndes REA
James A. Eyles	Valencia Stroud
Joe Boland	Wilson, Catherine

GREA

P. O. BOX 1379
FLOWERY BRANCH, GA 30542

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Gainesville, GA
30501-8522
Permit No. 271

GREA Is Proud To Announce a New Staff Member!

Due to the large increase in membership and work load in the state office over the last few years, the GREA Governing Board has decided to add a new part-time staff position. The new position will be "the Director of Communications" and we are proud to announce that Johnny Smith will be the new director. Mr. Smith was the Science Department Chair at East Hall High School for 35 years. After retiring in 2011, he has been very active as Event Supervisor, EKG Services, Tour Director for Daniel's Educational Tours, and Field Trip Guide for Jaemor Farms. Mr. Smith will become the new Editor for the *GREA Bulletin*, in charge of the GREA web site along with AMBA and will oversee various things such as our Facebook page and he will introduce us to the world of Twitter and Instagram. GREA wants to be more visible to our members, prospective members and the general public. He will be a great addition to our staff in Flowery Branch! This is an exciting new venture for GREA. Welcome Mr. Johnny Smith!



Johnny Smith

Have you moved or changed your email address recently?

It is very important that you notify these organizations as soon as possible after you move or change your email address:
State Health Benefits, TRS, GREA and Social Security (if applicable).



GREA OFFICERS

Jo Ann Tomlinson, President
Dr. Henrietta Gray, President-elect
Mickey Wendel, Past President
Dr. Beverly Roberts, Secretary
Dr. John Upchurch, Treasurer
Dr. Bill Sloan, Executive Director

AREA DIRECTORS

Jewell Howard, Area 1
Evelyn Fillingame, Area 2
Brenda Moore, Area 3
Karen Chauncey, Area 4
Marcia Wendel, Area 5

Dr. Connie Cooper, Area 6
Coleen McIver, Area 7
Janice Habersham, Area 8
Donna Kemp, Area 9
Vicki Davis, Area 10
Dr. Janet Lee, Area 11
Emanuel Larkin, Jr., Area 12
Alice Moore, Area 13
Patricia Leming, Area 14
Liz Bouis, Area 15
Barbara Howard, Area 16
Suellen Jones, Area 17
Shirley Grant, Area 18

GREA BULLETIN

Georgia Retired Educators Association
The Only Organization That Concentrates Exclusively On The Welfare of Retired Educators of Georgia

Bill Sloan, Editor

Published quarterly by GREA

P. O. Box 1379 • 4311 Falcon Parkway • Flowery Branch, GA 30542

Telephone: 770-287-7721, 800-637-2883

Fax: 770-287-0567

E-mail: greas3@earthlink.net

Website: www.garetirededucators.org

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.