

# THE GRE A BULLETIN

JOURNAL OF NEWS AND REFLECTIONS FOR RETIRED EDUCATORS OF GEORGIA

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SUMMER 2022



## A Word from the Past President

By Jo Ann Tomlinson, Past President

The 62nd "Cheering for GRE A" Convention was a Huge Success!!!

Georgia Retired Educators gathered at the Evergreen Marriott in Stone Mountain, Ga. May 3-5, 2022. A total of 386 people registered to



attend the 62nd GRE A Convention. It was a great crowd. It was special listening to the voices of the people as they greeted each other especially since we had not met for a convention since May of 2019 because of the Covid Pandemic. I think everyone would agree the fellowship we all enjoyed was wonderful!!!

Becky Upchurch, Lumpkin County REA, served as my Convention Chairperson where every detail was very well attended to! Thank You Becky for a Wonderful and Excellent Job!

On Tuesday afternoon the First Business Session opened with the ceremony of the South Atlanta High School JROTC under the direction of Lt Col Johnson and Mera Turner's inspiration that started us with laughter. The people in attendance knew it was going to be a fun, good time for ALL!

Tuesday night was the "Tailgate Party." Everyone wore their favorite T-shirt and enjoyed BBQ brisket. Amy Richardson, Senior Director of Development for Alzheimer's Association Georgia Chapter was there to receive a check for my Humanitarian Project to the Alzheimer's (drum roll) for \$83,000. A Big Thank You to every REA Unit across the state of Georgia who contributed to support my Humanitarian Project. I had a goal of \$25,000 but due to my serving a longer term because of Covid, all of you continued to give generously so that we ended with \$83,000. Thank You for joining me in continuing to donate to the Alzheimer's.

Dr. John Upchurch, GRE A State Treasurer, presented the Friend of GRE A

Award to Dr. Buster Evans, Executive Director of Teachers Retirement System of Georgia. Dr. Evans is very deserving and has done an outstanding job as leader of TRS.

The skit "Cheering for GRE A" was written and prepared by Lisa Conner and Tanya Edwards, Clinch REA. There were 30 plus people in the skit who wore costumes made for each character by Lisa, Tanya and Maddie McQuaig. Dr. Bill Sloan, Executive Director of GRE A, served as the Grill Master for the events in the "Tailgate Skit"! Look at the GRE A Facebook page for the complete skit. It ended with JoAnn passing her pompoms to Dr. Gray as the Eagle Soars to Empower under Dr. Gray's great leadership.

Peter Stoddard, a humorist author, who writes books and gathers information about Lewis Grizzard gave an interesting and entertaining presentation. It was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to local units for bringing door prizes, scrapbooks, newsletters, handbooks, etc., goodies for the Hospitality Room and Silent Auction items. The GRE A Foundation manned the Silent Auction and received the proceeds for Foundation Scholarships. A BIG Thanks!!

On Wednesday morning everyone enjoyed a delicious breakfast buffet and attended the Area Awards Ceremonies. Units of Distinction and Units of Excellence were awarded.

Seven choices were available for Breakout Sessions for people to choose which three they wanted to attend: (1) Off the Beaten Path: Unique Finds in Georgia; (2) Hoodwinks, Bamboozles, Scams, Shams and Flimflams; (3) Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, Thyme and Beyond; (4) Talking Tech with Johnny; (5) Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research; (6) GRE A Benefits Review: AMBA; (7) Best Practices in GRE A: Fundraising, Membership, Service Projects, Program Ideas and Meeting Activities.

Two additional Breakout Sessions were offered in the afternoon: Afternoon of Line Dancing and Seniors in Motion.

A Memorial Service was held on Wednesday afternoon to remember the ones that passed during the last three years. Thank You to Liz Bouis, Ida Dixon, Janice Habersham, Penny Howerton, and Area Directors for participating in this beautiful service.

Later at the President's Banquet all the Past GRE A Presidents in attendance were recognized. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner especially prepared by the Chef. Wednesday night had another funny skit with retired educators playing the actors. Thank You to Penny Howerton, Mickey Wendel, Patsy Harrell, myself (JoAnn) and Dr. Sallie Mills for participating in this hilarious skit. Next Dr. John Upchurch invited the North Georgia University Male Ensemble to present a selection of songs. The blending of their voices was something special to hear. They were excellent!! After dinner and entertainment, folks who wanted to enjoyed Line Dancing.

Thursday morning was a time of celebration and appreciation for the outgoing GRE A Governing Board Members. Shirley Grant, Habersham REA, performed a great installation of the new GRE A Officers and Governing Board Members. The gravel was passed from President JoAnn Tomlinson to President Dr. Henrietta Gray for her presidency. I was very humbled and thankful for the presentation to me of a beautiful plaque and handmade quilt.

Thank You to each person who came to Stone Mountain for the convention. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did!! I truly felt the fellowship was enjoyed by all in attendance. I sincerely apologize to the folks who had a situation with their room. If you missed this year, plan now to attend next May 2-4, 2023, in Augusta, Georgia.

Look forward to seeing you at the Area Meetings in August!!

Blessings, JoAnn



# GREA 2022 Convention Photo Gallery



**Breakfast Awards**



**Cheering for GREA**



**Alzheimer Check**

**Color Guard**



**GREA Power Team**



**President Award**







**GREY  
Skits**



**Photo  
Booth  
Fun**



**Men's  
Quartet**



**Camden  
County  
Delegation**



**Lamar  
County  
Delegation**





## Membership Award Winners 2022

### Class A—1-60 Members (36 Units)

1st Place	Greene
2nd Place	Wilcox
3rd Place	Tie: Brantley & Hancock
5th Place	Schley

### Class AA—61-149 Members (39 Units)

1st Place	McDuffie/Warren/Glascock
2nd Place	Tie: Cook, Jefferson & Walton
5th Place	Lamar

### Class AAA—150-299 Members (40 Units)

1st Place	Tift
2nd Place	Newton
3rd Place	Waycross/Ware
4th Place	Tie: Effingham & Coweta

### Class AAAA—300-450 Members (17 Units)

1st Place	Golden Isles
2nd Place	Tie: Athens Area & Forsyth
4th Place	Houston County
5th Place	Tie: Floyd/Rome & Carroll/Heard

### Class AAAAA—450 And Up Members (13 Units)

1st Place	Cobb/Marietta
2nd Place	Cherokee
3rd Place	Chatham
4th Place	Decatur/Dekalb
5th Place	Tie: Bibb & Gwinnett

## Membership Winners 2022

Class A	Greene
Class AA	McDuffie/Warren/Glascock
Class AAA	Tift County
Class AAAA	Golden Isles
Class AAAAA	Cobb/Marietta

## "A Friend of GREA"

For many years GREA has recognized a person, company, or organization for the outstanding contributions they make to our Association. It is a very select group of people who have shown continuing support in many ways to GREA.

There are always several outstanding candidates for the award, but Dr. John Upchurch, Chair, and his committee may have made without a doubt the most deserving selection ever for this award. It was a unanimous decision by the committee to award this year's "A Friend of GREA" to Dr. Buster Evans, Georgia TRS Executive Director. They had waited two years to make this award because we had cancelled the convention for two previous years. Dr. Evans, without a doubt, has made outstanding contributions to GREA as well as all retired educators in Georgia in so many ways that we cannot express our appreciation enough to him.



GREA is so proud that he is a member of our organization. We are so blessed to have him leading the Georgia Teachers Retirement System. Thank you, Dr. Buster Evans, for your continuing support and contributions to retired educators and we were all thrilled to name you our 2022 "A Friend of GREA."

## Ramblin' Around With the Executive Director

By Bill Sloan, Executive Director



William Sloan

The GREA convention in May at the Evergreen Marriott was an outstanding success. It had been two years since we had gotten together for "Fellowship, Service and Support." Even though the pandemic was still around we had almost 400 people register for the convention. The GREA leadership was incredibly pleased with the participation of our members.

We celebrated the completion of the Presidency of Jo Ann Tomlinson. She had done an outstanding job and served two years because of the pandemic prevented us from having a change of leadership at a state convention. She volunteered to serve two years and did an wonderful job! I enjoyed my two years of working with her as our President. Her theme of "Cheering for GREA" was great and our local units did a wonderful job fulfilling her mission.

Thanks to Becky Upchurch and Jo Ann for planning and completing an outstanding convention. I am always in awe of people who can make it all come together and end up being such a success. Becky, as chairperson, had been working on it for over two years because she had to change directions after we decided to

let JoAnn have this convention even though she was officially the Past President. Current President, Dr. Henrietta Gray will have her convention in May of 2023, and we hope all of you will plan to attend.

GREA has a two-term limit for its Governing Board members, so we had to say farewell to Karen Chauncey, Area 4, Janice Habersham, Area 8, Vicki Davis, Area 10, Emanuel Larkin, Area 12 and Pat Leming, Area 14. These 5 directors did an outstanding job for the members in their respective areas as well as all GREA members. Thanks to each of you for a job well done!

It is exciting to see all our local units resume meeting again in person in September. It has been a long time since we could fellowship together. I encourage all of you to go to the local unit meetings in your county and become an active part of GREA. GREA needs you and you need GREA!

Even with our country in the throes of inflation, your organization is very sound financially and we are growing in membership every day. Thanks to each of you who help make GREA an outstanding organization and for being a member of the only organization in Georgia that works full time for the interest of retirees. I enjoy being your Executive Director!

# Message From the President

## *GREA—Still Rising*

By Dr. Henrietta Gray, President



*Henrietta Gray* Despite the many delays and COVID pivots, GREA is Still Rising. Thank you GREA for a wonderful 2022 State Convention. It was a fitting celebration for our Past President and Head Cheerleader, JoAnn Tomlinson, who led us in cheering for GREA. For me, this was the BEST ALL AROUND GRE Conference I have attended.

The attendance exceeded our expectations and prognostications. The spirit and enthusiasm of our membership was invigorating and stimulating. The love by our membership for GRE and our incumbent Leadership Team was clearly expressed and seen.

The prolific, consummate, and outstanding Convention Planner, Becky Upchurch, did it again. In the excellence of Becky's planning, she preserved the rich legacy of some traditions and concurrently inculcated the energy and excitement of new innovative endeavors and activities.

For this article I will briefly recapitulate a few power points of my Inaugural Address given at the Convention. I reiterate that I am humbled and honored to serve another year as President of GRE. I have come to this extended term grateful to Presidents who have proceeded me in this auspicious position; all of them were valuable and contributed to the greatness that is GRE. Please allow me to lift the Theme of the Administration of Past President Mickey Wendel, "Share the Light" which are words that are scripturally based and spoke to the essence of the commitment of my life. The Sharing and Shining of the light cast a bright aura that helped us Cheer for GRE and solidified who we are and gave rise to the Imperative of our 2021-2023 theme "Empowered to Serve."

From my Inaugural Address I share the following points of Information:

Let us set ourselves during this 2022-2023 term to be guided by the theme "Empowered to Serve." Empowered for Service is a blend and balance between Leader and Servant. You don't lose leadership qualities when you become a Servant Leader. In fact, one who leads without serving, won't last long. An empowered servant-leader is one who (1) Cultivates A Culture of Trust; (2) Develops Other Leaders; and (3) Makes short- and long-range plans for success and growth.

The following three foundational points will guide this Administration in how we serve:

**Prayerfully**—No matter how trained, educated, elevated, professional, or high profile one is, we all must pray.

**Wholeness**—The circumference of this wholeness enhances our ability to serve.

**All In**—Be it known that there is no big I or little you. All of us are valuable and endowed with certain gifts, skills and talents which we bring to GRE.

So I charge us to: Do All We Can... By All The Means We Can... In All The Ways We Can... In All The Places We Can... For All The People We Can...For As Long As We Can. This is Our Charge as we move Forward, Empowered and Still Rising.

I ask and urge all of you to attend our Area Meetings. I will share the Area Meeting Message that summons us to serve in the spirit, unity and excellence that makes us Team GRE. See you there!

Please be free to contact me with any concerns, questions, observations, or suggestions.

# TRS News

By L. C. (Buster) Evans, Ed.D  
Executive Director, TRS of Georgia



*Buster Evans*

Hello to our GRE friends across Georgia! Here we are in already a "hot" summer in Georgia...both weather wise and politically speaking. I'll leave most of the political activity to other folks, but I do want to, in this column, give a small and sincere suggestion. But before I get to that, there are a few things to share with my GRE fellow members.

First, I want to heartily congratulate the new 2022 retirees. Some 6,900 new retirees have joined the ranks of being a "retired educator." This is a special, and hopefully, rewarding happy time of life. For the rest of your lives, you can cherish the knowledge that you have influenced the lives of literally thousands of young people in your educational careers while also receiving a monthly benefit if you are a TRS retiree. You've educated professionals in all walks of the work life who have transitioned into being successful adults. I can think of no life work that is of greater importance. Thank you for your service as an educator!

Secondly, I want to say that I am a proud GRE member. I have known of the work of GRE for many years, and believe me when I tell you that it is truly an organization I believe every TRS retiree should be a part. GRE, in addition to being an organization that keeps retirees active and involved, also serves as an engaged organization in teacher pension support legislatively. GRE honored me in one of the most humbling and special honors that I have ever received a couple of months ago with the "Friend of GRE" award. I do not mention this here for any further recognition, but I do share it out of a sense of sincere gratitude. Being involved with GRE, visiting local chapters, and meeting members at the regional and state level have been a cherished and valued part of my work. While I sincerely thank GRE for the honor received, I especially thank each of you for your friendships.

Thirdly, some of you may find yourselves eligible to return to work full time under the provisions of HB 365. If you are in a critical needs teaching area, have been retired for a year, and have 30 or more years of service, you just may be eligible. More information can be found on our website at [www.trsga.com](http://www.trsga.com). The reality is a number of our retirees find that continuing to work in the educational profession is rewarding as well as helps generate a little extra income in retirement. The wisdom and experience of a retired educator can be a great asset for students, schools, colleges and universities, and others.

Finally, currently, and for the next several months, we will witness a great deal of political bantering, promises, truths, and perhaps even some mistruths. As a TRS beneficiary, I want to encourage you to politely and genuinely thank your local and state leaders for their recognition of the value of the defined benefit plan for teachers. Most of the elected state and local leaders I know "get it" when it comes to understanding why we have a retirement plan like we do. Perhaps there are a few who may be running for office who you can enlighten that such a plan as ours helps to recruit and retain educators in the profession. It comes at a cost, but I believe the returns are more than worth it. So be sure that you tell our leaders "thank you" for their support of the retirement plan that has been a part of our state's educational policy for going on 80 years.

In closing, have a great summer, and I hope to see you at one of the many GRE events across Georgia during the coming "school year!"



# GRE Foundation, Inc. Profiles Scholarship Winners

*For the last twenty years the GRE Foundation has invited active educators in Georgia to apply for a scholarship. These scholarships started out in the amount of \$500, but this past spring the amount was changed to \$1,000. The first scholarship was for one educator. Over the years, with the help of local REA's, the Foundation was able to present 18 \$750 scholarships a year. For the past two years the number was dropped to 10 scholarships. Some local REA's continue to donate to the cause. The GRE Foundation and the winning educators appreciate the help. Please continue to support the scholarships and the active educators through local unit donations, individual donations, and the Silent Auction at the conventions.*

Patricia Bassett—retiring Chair of the Foundation

## **Legacy Scholarship in Memory of Dr. B.J. Bassett of Crawford County and Dr. Leona Raughton of Franklin, Ga.**

**Mary Rachael White** of Monroe is a high school math teacher with one year experience and wants to work on her master's degree. She said that even as a child she wanted to teach math. She stated that as a teacher she wants her students to realize that education is the key for them to excel and gain the confidence to realize their goals. She wrote that she is a second-generation American. Her mother was born in Ukraine but later came to the USA. Her mother had very little English and her father worked to support the family; therefore, as a child there was very little educational help at home. Her father worked to cover the costs of her education and now her mother is sick. As part of the community she volunteers at dances, sporting events, charities, etc. She tries to support her students in their extra-curricular activities. At school she is the sponsor of the BETA Cub, works with the media committee and the prom committee. She says the scholarship will help her achieve her long-term goals of an advanced degree in education.



**Rene' A. Langlois** is an Educational Sign Language interpreter in the middle school in Bonaire, Ga. Providing an accurate, clear, and meaningful interpretation is essential for deaf/hard of hearing students, so her goal is to earn National Interpreter Certification. As a single mother her financial goal has been to invest in her children's welfare. To prepare for her educational goals she needs to take a course to prepare for the test and then the test itself. The course and the test will be over \$1,300.00. Her community and school volunteerism has been devoted to the deaf/HH. She has been active in the American Association of Adaptive Sports Programs; Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.; St Catherine University; Catie Center; Optimist Club; Homegrown Yoga, and many others. As a certified yoga instructor, she developed "Shark Yoga" during covid shutdown to motivate the athletes and combat social isolation. It was streamed and the American Association of Adaptive Sports Programs shared it across the state. It was interpreted to give full access to the deaf/HH.



**Ashley Thoron** has 10 years of experience and teaches 9-12 agriculture in Tift County. Her overall goal for her and her students is to develop a passion for learning and compassion for each other. She is enrolled in the Hutson School of Agriculture where she is working on her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership. The scholarship will be a great help in reaching her financial goal since she is earning the degree without loans. She had a long list of community activities, leadership positions, and awards that she has been involved with during the last few years. As the agriculture teacher, she is the FFA advisor. Over the years she has worked with many students and led them through chapter, state, and national career and leadership events and leadership positions. She stated that it would be an honor to receive the scholarship since she believes that she shares a goal with GREA—promote the advance-



ment of education and maintain and interest in education.

**Barbara Truluck** is an educator in Cobb County with 19 years-experience. The last seven were as a middle school counselor. She is working on her Ed.S. degree. She says that this degree will allow her to be the very best trained counselor for her students and school community. The degree will include the following topics: elementary school counseling, adolescent counseling, substance abuse counseling, family counseling, and leadership, etc. She is thankful to GREA for granting scholarships to educators since many of them (including her) have to take out and repay loans for their education. She is working to meet the educational needs of her community by being a member of the American School Counseling Association (ASCA), being the 2020 Georgia School Counselor of the Year, being a 2021 ASCA School Counselor of the Year finalist, being a National, State, and Local speaker, trainer, and author, etc. She is a member of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) since they support first generation college bound students and they need extra support for success. She said she had first-hand knowledge of this. She serves on the school leadership team and on the Cobb County School District School Counseling Advisory team. She wrote that she would be honored to receive the GREF scholarship and would continue to support her school community and advocate for her students and her profession.



## **A Word from the President-elect**

By Joe Boland, President-elect



On June 4th my wife and I went to a TRS Post-Retirement Seminar. GREA friend Mike Zarem was the host and spoke about TRS. Other topics covered were Estate Planning and Elder Care. I appreciate TRS having this seminar.

One topic that was touched on was scams on the elderly—phone calls, emails, text messages. We used to call our daughter Lynn for advice. We don't anymore, because I can hear her loud, stern voice saying the same thing every time—"Don't open it...Delete it...Don't answer it."

What do the Pope and GREA have in common? Objective 6 of GREA—to support retirement as a time of dignity, independence, and purpose. The Pope in a recent article described the care and proper treatment of the elderly as part of fulfilling the 4th Commandment to honor your father and mother. Just saying ...

I have long admired Lynda and Guy Rutland from Polk County. They grew up in Polk County, attended high school there, taught there, live there and still serve the community. Lynda went to UGA; Guy went to Jacksonville State. Guy drove to Rockmart HS (Lynda's alma mater), while Lynda drove to Cedartown (Guy graduated from Cedartown HS). They waved to each other on the highway and married when Lynda was 30. Did I mention that Guy was her high school science teacher?

They have both served as President of their local unit multiple times. Guy also served as Area Director and served 12 years on the school board. Their unit is very friendly and very active. Near downtown Cedartown is the Polk Retired Teachers' Memorial Wall which is quite impressive and worth the visit.

They live in a very comfortable yellow house on Highway 278, Rockmart Highway. In 2018 the Rutland Farm was listed as a Georgia Centennial Family Farm—a farm in the same family for 100 years.

I appreciate their service to Polk County and to GREA. Their story is not over though. Their daughter is a teacher, their daughter-in-law is a teacher, and their granddaughter is studying to be a speech pathologist.

A note with important reminders to our State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) retirees:

Thank you for the dedicated service you provided during your tenure. You and your work made a tremendous impact in your community, and the entire state of Georgia owes you a debt of gratitude.

We would like to take the opportunity to share a few **important reminders** regarding your enrollment in an SHBP Medicare Advantage (MA) Plan Option.



- **Please do not** enroll in a third party (non-SHBP) Medicare Advantage Plan, Medicare Part D Plan or Medicare Supplement, or you **will lose eligibility for SHBP Medicare Advantage coverage and be automatically enrolled in an unsubsidized active Commercial Plan Option.** If this happens, you will be responsible for the entire costs of coverage, which is **substantially higher** than your current premium. Please do not unenroll in your SHBP Medicare Advantage Plan option; you may not be able to reenroll.



- **Provide Your Medicare Part B to SHBP**  
**You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premiums to remain in the SHBP Medicare Advantage Plan.** You may provide your Medicare Part B information to SHBP by contacting SHBP Member Services at 1-800-610-1863 or visiting the SHBP Enrollment Portal ([mySHBPga.adp.com](http://mySHBPga.adp.com)). To add your Medicare Part B information to the SHBP Enrollment Portal, you must first log in, then:
  1. Select Manage under Manage Information
  2. Then select Edit next to your name or your Dependent's name
  3. Select Edit on the Review Info page to enter Medicare Part B information
  4. Click Save to submit your Medicare Part B information



- **Keep Your Contact Information Up-to-Date**  
To avoid missing important mail from SHBP, please keep your **physical address** and your **email address** current and up-to-date. Contact SHBP Member Services at 1-800-610-1863 or visit the SHBP Enrollment Portal ([mySHBPga.adp.com](http://mySHBPga.adp.com)) should this information change.



- **Make Changes to Your SHBP Coverage**  
As a Retiree, you may reduce your coverage tier(s) at any time, meaning you may remove yourself or your covered dependents at any time. However, dependents cannot be added to your coverage unless you experience an applicable Qualifying Event and declare the event by the deadline (in most cases, within 31 days of the Qualifying Event).  
***If you discontinue your and/or your dependents coverage, you and/or your dependents are no longer eligible to participate in the SHBP unless you return to work with an SHBP Employing Entity in a benefits eligible position.***



- **How to Review or Make Changes to Your SHBP Coverage**  
To review or make changes, you may:
  1. Visit the SHBP Enrollment Portal at [mySHBPga.adp.com](http://mySHBPga.adp.com), or
  2. Contact SHBP Member Services at 1-800-610-1863.



- **You May Receive a Bill From SHBP**  
There are a few instances in which Retirees will be billed directly by SHBP for their premiums; this means your SHBP premium will not be deducted from your annuity (i.e., retirement check). If you have questions regarding payment, please contact SHBP Member Services at 1-800-610-1863.  
**Failure to pay the invoice will result in termination of coverage with no right to reinstatement unless you return to work in a benefits eligible position with an SHBP Employing Entity.**

# A Word from AMBA

By Alexander Williams, District Manager

Over the past month and a half Lisa McKenzie has shown tremendous appreciation for the local unit of Waycross Ware. She expressed to me that the unit president, Minnie Dotson, had come to Lisa with the worry that the unit was going to dissolve from lack of attendance and leadership. So without hesitation, Lisa and I got to work.

We strategized direct mail campaigns and targeted phone calls to active and non-members of the Waycross Ware unit and told them about a fantastic door prize that we were going to be giving away at the next local unit meeting. We made hundreds of phone calls to the members with the hope that we could get a few more people to the next meeting.

Through Lisa's efforts, Minnie had her largest attended meeting since before the pandemic, and found new members to step into leadership positions! AMBA is so much more than just a benefits provider, we serve our members with love and pride. It is the lifeblood of what we do. We are now going to start the process all over the state, and grow the local units, thus making the state association stronger, and we could not be more excited!

Below is a quote from the local unit president:

*"I cannot express my gratitude enough for AMBA's support and a special thanks to our Benefits Representative Lisa McKenzie. Chapter meetings have been very difficult the past couple of years due to the pandemic. I was in fear of our chapter dissolving due to low attendance and participation. I was also concerned about finding someone to volunteer and take over the role of Chapter President. I stressed my fear to Lisa in April of this year before our final scheduled chapter meeting in early May. Lisa reached out to her District Manager, Alexander Williams at AMBA and they came to our rescue! They both contributed generous gift cards and Lisa McKenzie made over 200 phone calls to our members encouraging them to attend our final meeting.*

*Our final meeting was a GREAT success. We had the highest attendance we have had in years. Members were excited to be back, and we filled almost all our volunteer positions. Also, a special thanks to our incoming Chapter President Pam Altman. Pam just excitedly returned from the GREA Convention with 12 awards for our Waycross/Ware Chapter. Thank you again AMBA & Lisa.*

Minnie Dotson, Waycross/Ware  
Chapter President 2020-2022"



## GREA

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## Bulletins by Email

Would you like to get your *GREA Bulletin* by email? Approximately 12,000 of our members are now getting their *GREA Bulletin* by email each quarter. The people who get it by email receive it approximately 2-3 weeks before the print edition is mailed to our members. In addition, the email copy is totally in color where the print edition is only partially in color due to the high cost of printing in color.

Postal rates are rising, so if you do not wish to receive the *Bulletin* or would like to receive it via email, please let us know by emailing us at [greas3@greas3.org](mailto:greas3@greas3.org) and we will be happy to put you on the email list. Thank you for considering getting your *Bulletin* by email.

### GREA OFFICERS

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

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Liz Bouis, Area 15  
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Brenda Hunt, Area 18

### GREA BULLETIN

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

Johnny Smith, Editor

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