Georgia Retired Educators Association

#GREAistheBEST  #FellowshipServiceSupport  #CheeringForGREA
#JoAnnTomlinson,GREAPresident

2020 - 2021 Handbook and Bylaws
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREA Area Map</td>
<td>Inside Front Cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020 GREA Leadership Team</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020 GREA Staff Members</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020 GREA Area Directors</td>
<td>4-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRTA/GREA Past Presidents</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Goals for 2020-2021</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREA Calendar 2020-2021</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREA Area Meeting Announcement</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREA Committees</td>
<td>14-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREA Foundation</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc.</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The GREA Bulletin Schedule</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREM Curators</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREA Bylaws</td>
<td>20-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Organizations and Agencies</td>
<td>Inside Back Cover</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GREA LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jo Ann Tomlinson  
**President**  
3016 Ga. Hwy. 122 W., Homerville 31634  
912-487-8664 (C)  
Email: tomlinson.joann@gmail.com  
Term Expires 2021

Dr. Henrietta Gray  
**President-Elect**  
P.O. Box 285, Pooler 31322  
912-748-7762 (H) • 912-596-5831 (C)  
Email: Drretta3@aol.com  
Term Expires 2021

Mickey Wendel  
**Past-President**  
2017 Bayswater Rd. Brunswick 31525  
912-264-5347 • 912-223-2686 (C)  
Email: mandmwendel@comcast.net  
Term expires 2021

Dr. William G. Sloan, Jr.  
**Executive Director**  
3059 Ivey Rd., Gainesville 30504  
770-287-7721 (O) • 770-540-9850 (C)  
grea3@earthlink.net • vikingdawg2@att.net

Dr. Beverly A. Roberts  
**Recording Secretary**  
4275 Owens Road #110, Evans 30809  
706-432-8522 • 706-831-5015 (C)  
Email: galionbar@aol.com  
Term Expires 2021

Dr. John C. Upchurch  
**Treasurer**  
107 Granite Bluff, Dahlonega 30533  
706-864-0164 • 706-525-9450 (C)  
Email: johncupchurch@yahoo.com  
Term Expires 2021
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

Jewell Howard
P.O. Box 40, Baconton 31716
229-787-0014 (H) • 229-347-0314 (C)
Email: jewward@gmail.com
Term Expires 2021

Grady Co. Southwest Georgia
Miller Co. Worth
Mitchell/Baker
Seminole

Bainbridge/Decatur
Decatur
Dougherty Co.
Early/Clay/Calhoun

Area 2

Keith Lee
138 West Shore Dr., Americus 31719
229-928-2017 (H) • 229-942-0769 (C)
Email: kdlee18@mediacombb.net
Term Expires 2022

Crisp Co.*
Dooly
Lee Co.
Macon Co.

Randolph Co. Terrell/Lee
Stewart Co. Turner*
Sumter Co.
Terrell

Area 3

Brenda Moore
1230 Greggs Rd., Adel 31620
229-896-2053 • 229-563-5809 (C)
Email: brendamoore@gmail.com
Term Expires 2021

Berrien Co.
Brooks Co.
Colquitt Co.
Cook

Echols*
Lanier*
Thomasville Thomas Co.
Tift Co.

Valdosta Lowndes
Area 4

Karen Chauncey
180 Chauncey Road, Homerville 31634
912-487-3192 • 912-258-6324 (C)
Email: johnchauncey@hotmail.com
Term Expires 2022

Area 5

Marcia Wendel
2017 Bayswater Road, Brunswick 31525
912-264-5347 (H) • 912-222-2547 (C)
Email: mandmwendel@comcast.net
Term Expires 2021

Area 6

Dr. Connie S. Cooper
P.O. Box 2106, Savannah 31402
912-604-1992 (C)
Email: conlex1@aol.com
Term Expires 2022
Area 7

Coleen W. McIver
10 Batten Ave. McRae-Helena 31055
229-868-6770 • 229-425-1847
Email: cwmzphib@yahoo.com
Term Expires 2021

Ben Hill/Irwin
Bleckley Co.
Dodge

Montgomery*
Pulaski*
Talbot

Telfair/Wheeler
Wilcox Co.

Area 8

Janice Habersham
204 Glen Holly Court, Lizella 31052
478-757-8892 (H) • 478-747-8532 (C)
Email: janice.habersham@gmail.com
Term Expires 2022

Bibb
Crawford Co.
Houston Co.

Lamar Co.
Monroe Co.
Peach Co.

Pike Co.
Thomaston/Upson
Twiggs*

Area 9

Donna O. Kemp
5642 Sherborne Drive, Columbus 31909
706-563-6800 (H) • 706-464-1018 (C)
Email: magnoliachef@gmail.com
Term Expires 2021

Harris Co.
Marion
Meriwether

Muscogee
Schley
Talbot

Taylor*
Troup
Webster/
Chattahoochee*
**Area 10**

**Vicki Davis**
660 Windgate Road, Peachtree City 30269  
770-632-6234 (H) • 404-483-3051 (C)  
Email: vd1969@comcast.net  
Term Expires 2022

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

**Area 11**

**Dr. Janet Lee**
157 John Michael Dr. Macon 31211  
478-714-8955  
Email: simm2345@att.net  
Term Expires 2021

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

**Area 12**

**Emanuel Larkin, Jr.**
850 Waters Street, Waynesboro 30830  
706-871-8055  
Email: elarkinjr@aol.com  
Term Expires 2022

Burke Co.  
Columbia Co.  
Jefferson Co.  
Jenkins Co.  
Glascock/McDuffie/  
Warren  
Lincoln/Wilkes  
Richmond Co.  
Taliaferro*
Area 13

Alice Moore
3635 Cherry Hill Place Decatur 30034-5014
404-243-1500
Email: ammanns36@gmail.com
Term Expires 2021

Area 14

Patricia Leming
1431 Cedar Drive, Madison 30650
706-342-0106 (H) • 770-878-1399 (C)
Email: pleming@bellsouth.net
Term Expires 2022

Area 15

Liz Bouis
240 Meeting St., Marietta 30060
770-218-7640 (H) • 678-522-3926 (C)
Email: lizbouis@gmail.com
Term Expires 2021
**Area 16**

**Penny Howerton**

71 Carriage Dr., Ringgold 30736  
423-240-5754 (H)  
Email: pennyleishowerton@gmail.com  
Term Expires 2022

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

**Area 17**

**Suellen Jones**

127 Woods Lane, Hartwell 30643  
706-376-6321 (H) • 678-576-0524 (C)  
Email: smjones@hartcom.net  
Term Expires 2021

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

**Area 18**

**Brenda Hunt**

51 Westmoreland Rd., Cleveland 30528  
706-499-9676 (C)  
Email: soqueriver@gmail.com  
Term Expires 2022

- Dawson Co.
- Habersham
- Lumpkin Co.
- Rabun Co.
- Stephens Co.
- Towns Co.
- Union Co.
- White Co.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRTA Past Presidents</th>
<th>GREA Past Presidents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Harry L. Werner ........ 2006–2007</td>
<td>Myrtice C. Johnson ......... 2017–2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Executive Directors**

**GRTA**

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

**GREA**

* John Adler Hulsey, Jr. ... 1998–2002
* John Adler Hulsey, Jr. ... 1998–2002
* William G. Sloan, Jr. ..... 2005–present
Presidents Goals for 2020-2021
as we are
Cheering for GREA
State President: JoAnn Tomlinson

• Increase membership by 2,500.

• 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.
# GREA Calendar 2020-2021

## 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>GREA Executive Committee</td>
<td>Stone Mtn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>GREM Executive Committee</td>
<td>Stone Mtn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>GREA Governing Board Dinner</td>
<td>Stone Mtn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>GREA Governing Board</td>
<td>Stone Mtn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>GREA Governing Board Luncheon</td>
<td>Stone Mtn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>GREM Governing Board</td>
<td>Stone Mtn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Retired Educator Day in Georgia</td>
<td>State Wide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nominations due in State Office for President-Elect and Directors in Odd Numbered Areas</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11/6</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Budget &amp; Investment Committee*</td>
<td>State Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Nominations/Elections Committee*</td>
<td>State Office</td>
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*Executive Committee (state officers)

## 2021

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>2/15</td>
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<td>All ballots into the State Office for contested races and/or postmarked.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>GREA Executive Committee</td>
<td>Jekyll Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/15-2/17</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Governing Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/3</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>GREA Executive Committee</td>
<td>Augusta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/3</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>GREA Governing Board</td>
<td>Augusta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/4-5/6</td>
<td></td>
<td>GREA State Convention</td>
<td>Augusta</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Governing Board Meeting &amp; Lunch</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Area Meetings August 2020

All Area Meetings
Cancelled due to Covid-19.
GREA Committees 2020–2021

Archives and GREA History
Suellen Jones, Chair
smjones@hartcom.net
Shirley Grant
Penny Howerton
Linda Wright
Brenda Hunt

Awards and Recognition
Ann Bookhardt, Chair
912-539-0775
annbook@att.net
Marcia Wendel
Janet Graham

Bylaws
Brenda Moore, Chair
brendamoor@gmail.com
Keith Lee
Dr. Connie Cooper
GRES Executive Committee

Executive Committee
Jo Ann Tomlinson, President
ptomlinson.joann@gmail.com
912-487-8664
Dr. Henrietta Gray
Drretta3@aol.com
912-748-7762
Mickey Wendel
mandmwendel@comcast.net
912-223-2686
Dr. Beverly A. Roberts
galionbar@aol.com
706-432-8522
Dr. John C. Upchurch
johncupchurch@yahoo.com
706-864-0164

Convention Planning
Becky Upchurch, Chair
beckyupchurch@yahoo.com
Dr. Connie Cooper
Suellen Jones
Shirley Grant
Liz Bouis

Investment and Finance
Dr. John C. Upchurch, Chair
johncupchurch@yahoo.com
GRES Executive Committee
**Legislative**
Rod Chatham, Chair
rodchatham@bellsouth.com
Jewell Howard
Brenda Moore
Dr. Henrietta Gray
Janice Habersham
Donna Kemp
Pat Leming
Liz Bouis
Mickey Wendel
Emanuel Larkin
Alice Moore

**Necrology**
Liz Bouis, Chair
lizbouis@aol.com
Brenda Hunt
Janice Habersham

**Nominations and Elections**
Mickey Wendel, Chair
mandmwendel@comcast.net
GREA Executive Committee

**Membership**
Dr. William Sloan, Chair
grea3@earthlink.net
Local Unit Presidents
Local Unit Membership Chairmans

**Long-range Plans**
Karen Chauncey, Chair
johnchauncey@hotmail.com
Dr. Janet Lee
Jewell Howard
Mickey Wendel

**Policies**
Keith Lee, Chair
kdlee18@mediacommb.net
Brenda Moore
Coleen W. McIver
Emanuel Larkin

**Public Information & Program Planning**
Alice Moore, Chair
ammanns36@gmail.com
Vicki Davis
Karen Chauncey

**Service to Members**
Pat Leming Chair
pleming@bellsouth.net
Suellen Jones
Donna Kemp
Special Committees

**AdHoc Technology**
Dr. Beverly A. Roberts, Chair
galionbar@aol.com
Marcia Wendel

**Credentials**
Emanuel Larkin, Chair
elarkinjr@aol.com
Alice Moore
Keith Lee

**Door Prizes**
Jesse Hunter, Chair
hunterjd1972@gmail.com
Karen Chauncey
Jewell Howard
Janice Habersham

**Convention Bags**
Marilyn Werner
mdwerner40@hotmail.com
Nancy Hall
Patsy Harrell
Donald & Pam Altman

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

**Information Desk**
James Twiggs
Rufus Akins

**Silent Auction**
Mickey Wendel
mandmwendel@comcast.net
Members of GREM

**Vendors**
Rufus Akins
James Twiggs
Georgia Retired Educators Foundation, Inc.

2020-2021 Board of Directors

Patricia Bassett, Chair
190 New Street, Roberta, GA 31078 • 478-836-3234

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

Dr. William Gardner, Treasurer
11 Springer Way, Rocky Face, GA 30740 • 706-428-9919

Rita Marable, Secretary
250 Kirby Avenue, Roberta, GA 31078 • 478-960-2039

Deloris N. Mullins, Parliamentarian/Assistant Treasurer
3400 New Hope Rd., Dacula GA 30019 • 770-962-1167

Members-at-Large

Marsha Bond
409 W. 6th Street, Donaldsonville, GA 39845 • 229-524-8792

Juanita B. Fuller
P.O. Box 51, Screven, GA 31560 • 912-579-2205

Dr. Tommie C. Fuller, Immediate Past Chair
P.O. Box 51, Screven, GA 31560 • 912-579-2205

Jim Haymans
232 Harp Road, Fayetteville, GA 30215

Keith Lee
138 West Shore Dr., Americus, GA 31719 • 229-928-2017

Vivian S. Teasley
140 Dove Valley Dr., Athens, GA 30606 • 706-548-2909

Emeritus Members

Zimma C. Jones
191 Michigan Ave., Tallapoosa, GA 30176-1575 • 404-402-8503

Mary F. Long
288 Craig Street, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 • 770-962-6345

Honorary Member

Virginia Edmonds

Ex Officio Members

JoAnn Tomlinson, GREA President
Dr. William G. Sloan Jr., GREA Executive Director
Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc.
Board of Directors 2020-2021

President Mickey Wendel.....................Golden Isles
President-Elect Jo Ann Tomlinson...............Clinch County
Vice President Dr. Henrietta Gray .............Chatham County
Treasurer Dr. John C. Upchurch..............Lumpkin County
Secretary Dr. Beverly A. Roberts..............Richmond County
Area 1 Director Jewell Howard ..................Mitchell/Baker
Area 2 Director Keith Lee ......................Sumter County
Area 3 Director Brenda Moore...................Cook County
Area 4 Director Karen Chauncey ...............Clinch County
Area 5 Director Marcia Wendel .................Golden Isles
Area 6 Director Dr. Connie S. Cooper..........Chatham County
Area 7 Director Coleen W. McIver ..............Telfair/Wheeler
Area 8 Director Janice Habersham.............Bibb County
Area 9 Director Donna O. Kemp................Muscogee County
Area 10 Director Vicki Davis....................Henry County
Area 11 Director Dr. Janet Lee .................Bibb County
Area 12 Director Emanuel Larkin, Jr. .........Burke County
Area 13 Director Alice Moore....................Atlanta
Area 14 Director Patricia Leming..............Morgan County
Area 15 Director Liz Bouis.....................Cobb/Marietta
Area 16 Director Penny Howerton ..............Walker County
Area 17 Director Suellen Jones................Hart County
Area 18 Director Brenda Hunt...................White County
## The GREA Bulletin Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information to State Office</th>
<th>Bulletin Mailed to Members (approx.)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Georgia Retired Educators Museum’s Curators Committee

Marcia Wendel, Chair  
Golden Isles REA • mandmwendel@comcast.net

- Becky UpChurch  
  Lumpkin REA
- Jesse Hunter  
  Pickens REA
- Patricia Denney  
  Pickens County
- Louis Frank Tompkins  
  Bibb REA
- Marilyn Werner  
  Henry REA
- Myrtice C. Johnson  
  Bibb REA
- Mickey Wendel  
  Golden Isles, Ex Officio
- Mary Long  
  Gwinnett REA, Emeritus member
Georgia Retired Educators Association, Inc.
2020–2021 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

GREAs 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.
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
fourth year
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. Necrology
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.
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

**State Health Benefit Plan**

1-800-610-1863

United Health Care:
1-888-364-6352

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

**Legislative**

Governor
203 State Capitol
Atlanta 30334

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

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