

Dr. Sallie Ruth Mills –GREA 2026 - 2027 President

Dr. Sallie Ruth Mills is the daughter of the late Henry and Emma Mills. She was born and raised in Newton County, Covington, Georgia along with one sister and four brothers. Dr. Mills decided at the age of five that she wanted to be a teacher. She went with her mother to take her two older brothers Usher and Earnest to school one going to the second grade and one to the first grade. She asked her mother if she could stay with her brother that was going to the first grade. The first grade teacher told her mother that she could stay and that she was sure that she would not want to stay for the whole year. Guess what she went to school the entire year with her brother in first grade and they both were promoted to the second grade. As time moved on Sallie and Usher caught up with Earnest their older brother in 5th grade and they graduated High School together. When asked how that happened the story was summed up to say **“one went early, one went on time and one stayed back”**.

Dr. Mills received her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Fort Valley State College, now known as “The Fort Valley State University. Dr. Mills was the first girl trumpet player in the Marching and Jazz band at Fort Valley State College. She received her Master's in Early Childhood Education from Georgia State University, Atlanta GA; her Specialist and Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Sarasota, Sarasota Florida. Dr. Mills retired after 31 years in Education has been a member of GREA since 2003. After being retired for three days she went back to work at the Georgia department of Education for 8 more years. During her 39 years in education she was a Kindergarten Teacher, Curriculum Coordinator, and Consultant for the Georgia Department of Education. Her other affiliations include being a member of Newton County Retired Educators Association, where she served as Secretary and President, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Fort Valley State University Newton Rockdale Alumni Chapter and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Her Hobbies are traveling, fishing, and shopping. One of her favorite scriptures is Matthew 5:16 “let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works.