

December, 2023

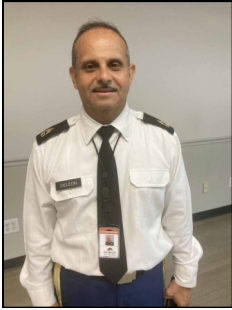
Broward County Retired Educators' Association

website: <http://browardrea.org>

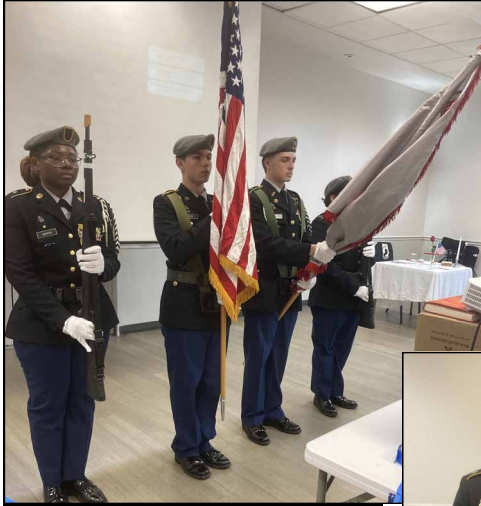
Number 313

# November Meeting Honors Veterans, Missing Man

McArthur HS JROTC Honor Guard under the direction of



MSG Jorge DeLeon and led by C/MAJ Michaela Morris opened the meet-



L-R: C/MAJ Michaela Morris C/CSM Gabriel Soto C/MAJ Alex Clardy C/LTC Amanda Skori who's also at right reading The Missing Man story.

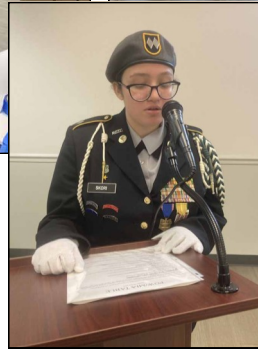
ing with a formal Presentation of Colors. Following that, C/LTC Amanda Skori read the Missing Man Ceremony. Mary Ellen Fowler read "In Flanders Field." To pay homage to all veterans, the Armed Forces Medley was played and everyone stood when the theme was played that represented a

family member's branch of the service. Members were



asked to bring photos of family members who were in the armed forces.

Brenda Roberts brought pictures of her 3 brothers (pictured below) who were all veterans.



By-Laws Chair Mary Ellen Fowler took a vote on the revisions which were presented at the October meeting. The Ayes had it and the vote was unanimous to accept the revisions as suggested by FREA.

## Important Upcoming Dates!

### December 7 Meeting

Time: 12:00 pm

Place: Jim Ward Community Center

Address: 301 NW 46th Ave, Plantation

Program: South Plantation High School Women's Chorale Ensemble

December 13: Board Meeting, 11:00 am Shirley Swartz's home



### Bring to meeting:

- Picnic Potluck
- Aluminum pull-tabs
- Cell Phones
- Eyeglasses
- New or gently used books

## Save the Date

Get ready to walk the Red Carpet in your finest movie star garb at this year's Annual Scholarship Luncheon Hooray for Hollywood! On February 1, 2024, at Tropical Acres Restaurant at 11:30 am

Tickets will be \$50.00 each for Prime Rib of Beef or Salmon and will be sold at our December and January meetings. Or you may use the form on page 6 of this

Newsletter to send a check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to me. Diane Texter.

742 NW 69th Terrace, Margate, Fl. 33063.

So. come dressed in your best and see if you may win a BCREA Award! I am not sure what I will wear yet but I am sure it will include my pink Boa!





## President's Corner

We had fun at our November meeting. The JROTC cadets from McArthur High School did an outstanding job. I was not familiar with the Missing Man Ceremony that Lieutenant Colonel **Amanda Skori** presented. It was very touching and struck a chord with many in the audience.



One of the primary purposes of BCREA is to fund and award scholarships to students going into education. The February luncheon is our biggest fundraiser for scholarships. It will be held at Tropical Acres on Thursday, February 1. Yes, the ticket price went up, but so did the menu costs (and do not get me started on food costs!). Please remember that past luncheon profits have funded at least one scholarship. Also, I checked the ticket prices of other groups' fundraising luncheons, and those ticket prices are often \$75 or \$80.

So please buy a ticket or two, enjoy the fun, and remember the purpose.

The busy holiday season is upon us  
Thanksgiving: Nov. 23,

Hanukkah: Dec. 7-15,



Christmas: Dec. 25,



Kwanzaa: Dec. 26-Jan. 1, and



New Years: Jan. 1.



Whew!

In the hustle and bustle, remember to reflect, reach out, and recharge. Reflect on the meaning of the holiday, reach out to those in need or lonely, and recharge your energy by taking time for yourself.

At our December 7 meeting, the **Women's Chorale Ensemble from South Plantation High** will entertain us. It is always a highlight of our year to have students perform.

Whether you are hosting Thanksgiving or gathering with friends, be thankful and safe. *Anne*

From the  
**President-Elect -  
Still Vacant!**  
*Whooooo will it be?*



**District Director  
Legislative**

Chair: Sue Colton

954-695-5065 [scolton@bellsouth.net](mailto:scolton@bellsouth.net)



On June 1, 1981, the proposal was passed as a law that the 3rd Sunday in November would be recognized as **Florida Retired Educators' Day**. It was signed by **Governor Bob Graham**. This particular date was chosen because it is the Sunday preceding National Education Week, which starts on the third Monday of November.

This year the proclamation has been for Sunday, November 19, 2023, by **Governor Ron De Santis**.



Yay! Celebrate us!

*Sue*


## Information Services

Chairman: Sallie Sherwood

954-629-3712 matildatwo@aol.com



We are entering the "big" holiday season and while we are celebrating Thanksgiving with family and friends, we will begin the preparation for the upcoming observances. December brings about several holiday events: Hanukkah (Dec. 7th-15th), Christmas (Dec. 25th), and Kwanzaa (Dec. 26-Jan.1st) and much hustle and bustle in planning for those days. It is time to dust off the decorations, share some recipes, write your family/friends holiday newsletter, spread the joy, remember patience, and above all else don't procrastinate, your "big" holiday will be here before you know it! In the

midst of everything pick up a little something for yourself. You deserve it! Unfortunately, the down side of seasonal happenings are the scammers and "bad guys"...keep your eyes open,  be aware of your personal space and be watchful of your belongings. December 7, 2023 is the close of the Medicare Open Enrollment Period. It is the time of year to review and make any changes to your Medicare Plan. Even though this is the December news letter, you will be reading this in the month of November. I would personally like to say Thank

You to all those (whether on a committee or not) who consistently assist with setting up and then cleaning up the meeting space. Thank you for your graciousness and willingness to lend a helping hand. YOU are greatly appreciated. We next meet on National Cotton Candy Day. This fluff stuff was actually invented by Dentist **William Morrison** and confectioner **John C. Wharton** and presented at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair as "fairy floss." In 1921, Dentist **Josef Lascaux** built a machine and sold the treat to his patients in his office (perhaps drumming up his business). Stay fit, stay sharp and send positive thoughts to others.

**Sallie**

## Passages



Happy Birthday to our Birthday Club

(members over 85!)

**Barbara LeGette 12/12**

**Jean Funk 12/18**

**Panchitta Chisholm 12/19**

**Lillian Hearn 12/20**

**Rosetta Watkins 12/22**

**Doris Emmett 12/26**

And turning 85 ...

**Luther Henderson 12/07**

**Charleen Burrows 12/23**

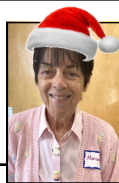


**Diane Jarchow**  
**JamesEtta Warner**  
**Val Proffer**  
**Cynthia Johnson**  
**Susan Lochrie**  
**Marelise LeClerc**  
**Arline Ziller**

## Social Committee

Chairman: Marianne Scott

954-321-9174 mscott33317@yahoo.com



The holidays are just around the corner. Although in many stores, it appears the holiday season has arrived! Thank you to the many members who have brought in reusable containers. Many of them were used by members who enjoyed the luncheon so much, they wanted to enjoy it again at home. Please don't forget that the Social Committee is recycling water bottles and cans at every meeting. The Recycling waste basket is right outside the kitchen door. In addition to Thanksgiving being celebrated in a few weeks and

Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa shortly thereafter, December also brings us Ugly Sweater Day. Perhaps you would like to wear yours to our next meeting which will be December 7- Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

**Marianne**



## Volunteer Help Needed for BCREA Member



I am **Barbara Bohuny**. I am permanently disabled and need periodic home exercise /therapy. However, I should have somebody present - to walk with me while I use an "upwalker" on the street in my quiet Coconut Creek neighborhood. Also I go to

our pool for self-directed aquatherapy, but need a companion who could dial 911 if there is an emergency; help me with towels, sunscreen, push my wheelchair etc.

Mostly you could sit in the shade or opt to use the pool while I do my therapy. Your company would be much appreciated as I am often alone. I also need a techie-person familiar with a Mac. Due to my injuries, I've forgotten how to use my computer. If you could help, please call 954-415-0681 for more details.

Thanks,

**Barbara**



## Community Service / Handbook

Chairman: Darcia Drago  
954-977-7247 dardra@att.net



### Community Service

#### Why People Volunteer

- To share skills
- To help someone
- To do one's share
- To make new friends
- To demonstrate commitment to a belief or cause
- To keep skills alive
- To donate one's professional skills
- To be challenged
- To have an impact
- To be part of a team
- To be an advocate
- To be an agent of change
- To feel proud
- To try new things & learn new skills
- To share knowledge & experience
- To stay active
- For fun!

*Darcy*

## Membership...

Chairman: LuAnn Comes  
954-475-1510 or lacomes987@aol.com



Welcome to our new members! We were happy to see several new members at our November meeting. Currently, BCREA has 245 members. Let's see if we can grow that number. Dues have been collected since March 2023 for 2023-2024. While most members have renewed, we are still waiting for some renewals. Checks should be made out to BCREA and sent to me at **107 NW 107 Terr.**

**Plantation, 33324**

At this time of year when we focus on thankfulness and kindness, I recognize how thankful I am for my friends and their ongoing kindness towards me and other people. I also recognize that BCREA has provided me the opportunity to develop new friendships, time to socialize with long-time friends, the ability to help children and educators in the community and the chance to learn about current retirement news or useful information for seniors. So I ask you, have you invited your friends to join BCREA? Remember, a retired educator from a different county or state may join. Some retirees just need to have that personal encouragement from a friend to join our very worthwhile organization. Call or email me with questions about dues or membership.

*LuAnn*



### Welcome New Members



L-R  
Pinkie Jackson,  
Diana Carter,  
JoAnne Kitchen Simmons



We guarantee **BRIGHT** Service  
every time



SunSentinel  
MEDIA GROUP



Several of our members have been traveling or are planning to do so. **Sue Colton** took a 10-day cruise on RCC's Symphony of the Seas, with visits to Florence where she saw the famous David statue, Marseilles, France and Barcelona. She kept a running commentary on Facebook with lots of photos so we could enjoy her trip too. **Jan Heinrich** also spent 5 weeks in Europe including a cruise on the Danube. Even more exciting, she had a new granddaughter during the summer. The winners of the scholarship drawing (L-R) were \$20, **Ellen Emery**; and \$10 each, **Suzanne Atkin, Darcy Drago and Josephine Walker**. Some dishtowels

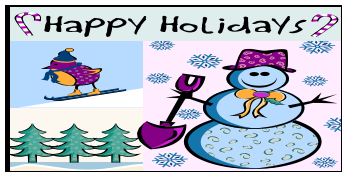


were won by **Lillian**



**Small** and the winner of Darcy's Volunteer Award was **Ellen Emery!**

On page 3 there is an article written by member **Barbara Bohuny** who lives in Coconut Creek. She explains about her need for some help. Read it over and see if you or someone you know might be able to help her out. And that's the last byte for December.



Happy Holidays!  
*Bev*

### 2023-2024 Officers

- President**  
**Anne French**  
954-579-1719
- President-Elect**  
**Vacant**
- Secretary**  
**Karen Avery**  
954-806-1678
- Treasurer**  
**Carol Roland**  
954-472-2389

## Literacy

**Chairman: Sandy Lefkowitz**  
954-557-5817 [Slef123@bellsouth.net](mailto:Slef123@bellsouth.net)



**NOW HIRING! POSITIONS AVAILABLE!** Join a fantastic committee. Come on board! The Literacy Committee is waiting for you. Contact me (954-557-5817) or come up to me at the next meeting and smile. We'd love to have you join us.



the recipients of our new and gently used books. Just be sure the books are for young adults and teens. It would be

wonderful to provide books for young teens at a location familiar to all of us. Also spread the word that our 5th grade essay contest is in full swing. Make a commitment to share the fifth grade essay contest with at least one school. Share information to fifth grade teachers before 2024 so students have ample time to participate and perhaps write an essay over winter break. Information is always available at our meetings and on our website. Any fifth grader at any school (public, charter or private) in Broward County can write an essay about their grandparent or a grandparent figure and enter the Margaret Poppell Literacy Contest.

The location of our meetings, Jim Ward Community Center, has a teen program and they would love to be

*Sandy*

### We Need Items For the Fundraiser!

Don't forget to start saving NEW items for the big fundraiser at the February Scholarship Luncheon. Please do not clean out your closets and donate things you no longer want. Others probably won't want them either! Christmas or Hanukkah gifts you don't want would be good - but please leave them unopened! Are we being picky? YES! Donate only things you'd like to win! Ann French will collect them at the **January** meeting. We also need baskets!





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**- DATED MATERIAL -  
 PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**



Everyone was asked to wear red, white and blue to celebrate Veterans' Day. Here are the members who went all in!  
 L-R  
 Sue's Shoes  
 Anne's patriotic shirt  
 A patriotic dog  
 LuAnn Comes

**Scholarship Luncheon Ticket Order Form**

Number of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$50.00 each

Extra Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée choices: **Prime Rib of Beef**  
**Salmon**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Entrée Choice \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send a check made out to BCREA  
Include a Self-addressed, stamped envelope  
 to  
 Diane Texter  
 742 NW 69 Terrace  
 Margate, FL 33063

**BCREA VOLUNTEER REPORTING FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please Print)

Month \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Volunteer hours working with adults \_\_\_\_\_  
 (persons who are non-family members;  
 this also includes literacy hours)

Volunteer hours working with youth \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Persons 25 years of age or younger;  
 This also includes literacy hours)

Bring this to our next meeting, e-mail it to me at  
[dardra@att.net](mailto:dardra@att.net) or mail it to me at:

**Darcia Drago**  
 2505 Dagoon Avenue  
 Coconut Creek, FL 33063