

JK Villagers Redux Receives Rave Reviews

They arrived in the John Knox van for their third appearance at a BCREA meeting. Their ages now range from 62-99+. They are 54

men who like to sing and, from the standing ovations they received, it's apparent that they do it well. Their director **Ron Davis**, a member of BCREA himself, organized the group in 2006 after having several singing calls on his



birthday and noticing that the men had good voices! And, as they say, the rest is history.

They are accompanied by **Nita Ferguson**.



For this performance, they began with a medley of "Hi

Neighbor" and "Let Us Entertain You," which culminated in an introductory "We're the Men of John Knox Village." Included in their repertoire was

"Amazing Grace" featuring soloist **Ryan Carswell**. Trumpeter **Norm**



Liedtke played and sang "Won't You Come Home Bill Bailey." After several other familiar oldies, they ended with a rousing rendition of "God Bless America" and invited audience participation. Because they are such a positive example for John

Knox Village, The Villagers do not charge for their performances; however, just like the uTube videos, they have JK representative **Chris Miller** who gives a brief "comer-cial" to promote the benefits of living at John Knox. Chief among the reasons is, of course, long term health care needs. More immediate benefits include not having to deal with home repairs and gardening chores. The 20 or more "groupies" who came to hear them sing are all enthusiastic residents who extol the JK life!

To see videos of the performance, go to <http://browardrea.org> and click on the Shutterfly Photos link.

April 3 Meeting

Time: 11:45

Place: Deicke Auditorium

Address: 5701 Cypress Road
Plantation

(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

Program: Raz Pullen

"Right from the Start"



Passover:



4/14 -
4/22

Easter - 4/20



Bring to meeting:

Dish to share
\$10.00 for FREF raffle ticket
Blankies & Pillows
Campbells labels
Aluminum pull-tabs
General Mills labels
Coupons for our troops
Old eyeglasses & Cell phones

Carol Roland Is Volunteer of the Year

By Darcy Drago



Carol Roland has been a member of BCREA and FREA for the past 5 years. During the past year she has accrued over 800 community service hours volunteering with the Department of Elder Affairs, the School Board of Broward County, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and BCREA. As our Cultural Affairs Chair she has expanded our programs to include day trips. Her beautiful floral arrangements are a much

sought-after prize at our monthly raffles to raise money for scholarships.

President's Corner

I was raised in a family of singers. Before we ever had TV, we knew the words to all the songs on "Sing Along With Mitch" My father loved to sing in the church choir and the Senior Citizens' Choir. So it was with joy that I watched the faces of the "John Knox Villagers" as they sang for us. I could picture my father enjoying the singing and the friendships shared in this group and YES I knew all the words to the songs. I did not mind waiting to eat lunch so the group could sing one more song. As we left the building after the meeting, we were caught in a rain storm and wind. After I arrived home in my very wet clothing, I discovered that there had been tornado warnings. I hope you all made it home safely.

About 3 blocks from my home, there was an elderly man in a motorized wheel chair stuck in the middle of the road. The battery in his chair was dead and he was unable to move. I was already wet, so I stopped and helped him get out of traffic and called 911. He told me that I did not need to stop and I told him, "Yes, I did.." My father was still on my mind and I was humming "Amazing Grace" all the way home. Those Villagers didn't realize how much their music and attitudes would affect my day.

Thanks a lot!

Diane



President-Elect's Corner

What a wonderful treat we had at our March meeting when the John Knox Villagers Men's Chorus entertained us. They even brought along a contingent of their 'groupies' which made it even more fun.

For the month of April we have a speaker who is one of the most interesting people I know and one of the nicest. I worked many years with **Razia Pullen** at FDLRS, part of Exceptional Student Education. Razia is a retired educator from the Broward County school system. During her 30+ years in Broward, Raz worked as an instructional assistive technology specialist for children with special needs. Her passion has always been to improve the lives of children. For the past 25 years she has been engaged in an honorary capacity to get parents of children ages birth-6 involved in their children's "Right from the Start" nurturing and development. The premise of her work is that "Home is the first school and parents are the first best teachers."

Raz has travelled extensively, internationally to get other volunteers involved in this project. She has travelled to Canada, Australia, the Northern Areas of Pakistan, Dubai, France, Kenya, Madagascar and the Republic of Congo. Raz will share some of her experiences in the developing countries with us on April 3. Come and meet one of the most creative people you



will ever meet.

Echo



2014- 2015 Officers Elected

At the March meeting, the following officers were re-elected for 2014-2015 club year:



L to R - BCREA president is **Diane Texter**; **Echo Heyer** is the president-elect; **Josephine Walker** will serve as secretary for the fourth year; and **Marelise LeClerc** will serve as treasurer for the 5th year. They will be installed at the May meeting.



Cultural Affairs

Chairman: Carol Roland

954-472-2389

CAROLRBEADS@aol.com



March Activities:

Miami City Ballet *Don Quixote*
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
Sunday, March 23 at 2:00 PM

April Activities:

Over the River and Through the Woods :
Stage Door Theater
Friday, April 11, at 8:00 PM
One ticket is available for "Over the River and Through the Woods" E-mail **Rosa Parra**.

Community Service

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



Thanks to all of you who turned in your volunteer hours over the past year. Our report is on its way to FREA. I will give you a more complete report in next month's newsletter.

Thanks also for your donation of pet supplies to our furry friends at the Florida

Humane Society. Congratulations to **Carol Roland** who has been selected as BCREA Volunteer of the Year. Her name will be submitted as our candidate for FREA District 10 Volunteer of the Year.

Darcy

Social Committee

Chairman: Sallie Sherwood
954-629-3712 matildatwo@aol.com



Is there ever a time when you say "Thank you" too much? NO! So "Thank you" again and again and again. Everyone who comes to our luncheon carrying their bag of delectable edibles deserves a "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" Without your effort, the luncheon would not be such a wonderful gathering of friends. There is always an ample amount of food to be shared and tasted with many favorite dishes returning to the table, as well as new recipes frequently appearing to tempt us. Because of your participation, the March table was a tremendous success.

Another "thank you" to all who take the time to let your Social Committee know that their effort is

appreciated. We extend our "thank you" to all who remember to remove their containers from the table at the end of the luncheon. Again, we had a few members of the Social Committee who were not able to attend due to illness or travel. Your team wishes you a speedy recovery and safe travel. My person thanks to this dedicated group (along with those who volunteer and assist when we are reduced in number) who give of their time and effort to have the table set, decorated and food items arranged for the luncheon buffet.

Welcome to all the new members of BCREA. Hope everyone has adjusted to the "time change."

See you in April. *Sallie*



April, 2014

Website: <http://browardrea.org>

Page 3

Health & I+PS

Chairman: Kathlyn Barno
954-581-4731 BB9214@aol.com



Taxes all done? What a good feeling to have that over with. If you haven't done so, get busy and pay the piper or if you are lucky let him pay you. Now you can be ready for the Easter bunny. Our health tip for this month was brought in by one of the members of our committee, **Al Giles**. WE are always concerned about keeping you informed about things that will improve our lifestyle.

The biggest study of its kind found that sugar could be deadly, at least when it came to fatal heart problems. **Quanhe Yang**, the lead author of the U. S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention called the results sobering and said it's the first study to examine the issue. The researchers found that it doesn't take all that much to raise the risk. A sweet roll with coffee in the

morning, a supersized soda at lunch and a scoop of ice cream after dinner would put you in the highest risk category in the study. If you normally eat 2,000 calories daily even two 12-ounce cans of soda increases the risk. That means that your chance of dying prematurely from heart problems is nearly three times greater than for people who eat only foods with little added sugar. Previous studies have linked diets high in sugar with increased risks for non-fatal heart problems and with obesity which can also lead to heart trouble. **Laura Schmidt**, a health-policy specialist at the University of California, stated that "Too much sugar does not just make us fat, it can also make us sick". Lesson here is watch your sugar intake.



Kathlyn

Need Help With Taxes?

Established in 1968 with the cooperation of the Internal Revenue Service, the **AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program** is a free service. Nationwide, nearly 36,000 volunteers help more than 2.6 million taxpayers annually. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. Through a cadre of trained volunteers, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide has helped low- to moderate-income individuals for more than 40 years in every state and the District of Columbia. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in cooperation with the IRS. Locally, BCREA member **Beverly Williams** is one of the volunteers doing taxes. Call 888-227-7669 to find a location near you!

Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



PAY DUES FOR 2014 - 2015

\$50.00 is the amount for local and state dues. We urge you to pay your dues within the first week of April.

BCREA sends your state dues of \$35.00 to FREA. BCREA is the Broward County Unit of the Florida Retired Educators Association. You will receive a membership card from the FREA and your name will be on the Broward County Retired Educators' mailing list and listed in the BCREA Directory. The Florida Retired Education Association is a statewide organization, which represents our interests and benefits as retirees to the state Legislature. Website: <http://frea.org>

Please invite your retired friends to come to the meetings or send me their names and I will send them membership information.

Anyone who brings in 3 NEW members this year will win a \$25 gift certificate. Congrats to **Carol Chess** (pictured below with me) who is our first winner!

Susan

BROWARD COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

_____ I would prefer to receive my *Newsletter* by email only

Date Retired _____ Retired From _____

Position _____

Dues:\$50.00; Donation for Scholarships: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Please make check payable to **BCREA** and mail to

Susan Lochrie, BCREA Membership

P.O. Box 30533

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33303

Passages



*Happy Birthday to our
Birthday Club*

(members over 85!)

Anna Tarullo 4/08

Gwen Thompson 4/10

Georgia MacVean 4/15



Thinking of You....

George Gott

Nancy Ruiz



In Memoriam

Louise Gott 10/14/13

Barbara Leon 12/18/13



Welcome New Members

Dianne Aucamp

Cynthia Boehmer

Barbara Flynn

Kim Frederick

Leatrice "Lee" Gallob

Marjorie Gregg

Gayle Grossman

Mary Love Johnson

Marilyn Anderson Smith

Judy Zelinski



Carol Chess won \$25

Sunshine Chairman **Nancy Ruiz** is an amazing person! Hospitalized since December 3, she is performing her duties in a "business-as-usual" fashion. Assisted by **Rosa Parra**, she is still sending out birthday cards to our Birthday Club - those 85 and older! And, she's reminding me of all the birthdays for each Newsletter! Hospitality Chairman **Martha Pipes** reported 120 attendees at the March meeting. A good contingent of those were "groupies" who came to see the **Villagers!** Win-



ners in the Scholarship Raffle were **Carol Roland**(\$20), **Carolyn Johnson**(\$10) and **Missy Belsito** won a flower arrangement contributed by **Carol Roland!** If you have any news about members - near or far away - please let me know. Happy Passover, Happy Easter, Happy Spring!

Bev's Bytes.....

954-587-9275
HapiHopi@aol.com



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 or mail it to me at:

Darcia Drago
4346 Carambola Circle North
Coconut Creek, FL 33066

FREF Extravaganza

Tickets - Only \$10.00 Buy your tickets now for a chance to WIN:

Grand Prize Visa Gift Card - \$500

1st Place HD Television (value \$400)

2nd Place iPad Mini (Value \$350)

3rd Place \$150 Cash

4th Place \$100 Cash

Donations help to provide scholarships for students planning to major in education. Buy Tickets at the next meeting or fill out the form below and send with a check to:

Anne French
1017 NE 28 Drive
Wilton Manors, FL. 33334.

Make your check payable to FREF (Florida Retired Educators Foundation).

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

The cost of the BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by:



954-486-2728 • Online at BSCU.org

Serving Broward Educators Since 1946

- DATED MATERIAL -
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



Julia Penley helps set up



Alyce Aspler wore shamrocks



Missy Belsito won flowers



Kiss Me! I'll be 100 in August!



Seen at the meeting



From the Treasurer

Marelise LeClerc
 954-962-7343 Flsun1@comcast.net



As you send in your dues for the 2014-2015 year, I would like to suggest you include an additional \$5, \$10, \$20 or more for scholarships. So many of you have been doing that in the past few weeks, and it is most appreciated for our scholarship fund. Also, if you earmark a scholarship donation in memory or in honor of a named person for \$20. or more, I will send a card to the family (or the honoree) in your name. If that is the case, please send the address where I should send the card. Donating in someone's name is an added special, thoughtful action. Thank you to all members listed at right for scholarship donations recently made:

Marelise

Scholarship Donations

Donor

Milton Brantferger
 Linda Combs
 Doris Cotnoir
 Echo Heyer
 Linda Marable
 Ronald Mayhew

Marilyn Williams

In Memory Of

Kay Vetro
 Lillian Lampkins
 Edith Rogers
 Conrad Milks
 Agnes Schnierer
 Artis "Jack" Hall, Willie
 "Luwegi" Lewis, John Sands
 Rita Burns

Unspecified Donations

Susan Barber	Mary Jo Bell	Carol Call
Bobbie Lou David	Maureen Dinnen	Carol Fischer
Eleanor Gaston	Frances Ann Graves	
Echo Heyer	Marilyn Holmes	Ruth Hooper
Phyllis Kublin	Arline & Wayne McWhinney	
Toni Merton	Carol Pratt	Nancy Ruiz
Glenn Sanderson	Nancy Taylor	Runette Williams

