

Past-Presidents Honored at Annual Luncheon

Honoring the past presidents of BCREA was a major part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration which has been an ongoing theme at each meeting this year and will continue for the 3 remaining meetings. There are 9 of the 25 past-presidents who are still living. The six pictured here are all still active members who contribute in countless ways to the success of BCREA.



Front: Frances Smoot; Rear, L-R: Diane Texter, Margarite Falconer, Darcy Drago, Linda Horton and Kathlyn Barno.

Lillian Small introduced each past-president in order of their service, gave a tid-

bit or two about them and

presented each with a white orchid plant. The three who weren't able to attend were Doris Emmett, Madeline Martin and

year thanks to the committee chaired by Anne French who emceed the event. Members of the committee include Lillian Small, Louise Costello, Mary Ellen Fowler, Juli Patten, Marsy Smith, Susan Lochrie, Carol Roland and Echo Heyer who have been working on it since last April. Thanks also to Missy Belsito for donating the orchids.

Among the prizes in the Scholarship Fundraiser were gift certificates, Chinese memorabilia, beautifully decorated gift baskets and home decorations. Perhaps the most unusual and definitely among the most valuable was the "Pot of Gold," conceived by Anne French and won by LuAnn Comes! Committee members were asked to bring their loose change to fill the pot! Even though there were lots of pennies along with quarters, dimes and nickels, it turned out to contain \$104.46! Lucky LuAnn!

March 3 Meeting

Time: 11:45 am

Place: Deicke Auditorium

Address: 5701 Cypress Road

Plantation

(1 block off Broward at Royal Palm)

Program: Identity Theft

Business: Nominating Committee Report



March 17 - St. Patrick's Day



March 27 - Happy Easter!

Bring to meeting:

Service Hours Reports!!

A dish to share
 New /Gently Used books for children

Blankies & Pillows

Labels for Education

Aluminum pull-tabs

Coupons for our troops

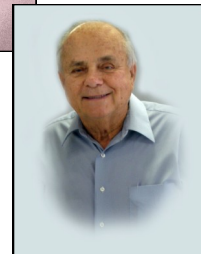
Old eyeglasses & Cell phones

Books & Magazines

Fiftieth Anniversary celebrations have been occurring at every meeting this



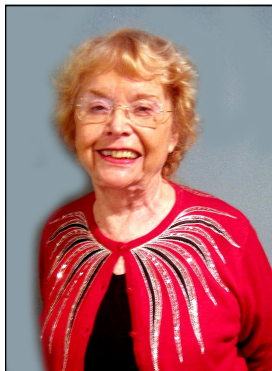
Tom Drilling.



President's Corner

Our Fiftieth Luncheon Celebration was wonderful! We had fun. Many thanks to **Anne French** and her committee who had many ideas for this special celebration. All of the living past presidents were contacted and invited to the luncheon in their honor.

The presidents in attendance were **Kathlyn Barno, Darcy Drago, Frances Smoot, Linda Horton, Margarite Falconer** and **Diane Texter**. Each wrote a summary of some of the things that were accomplished during their tenure. **Lillian Small** gave a



beautiful reading of the achievements. Each past president was presented with a lovely, growing orchid. In the end the past presidents turned the table on us. They got together and presented us with a check for \$300 for the scholarship fund.



There was great joy in seeing people move around the room and greet old friends.

That's what makes the luncheon such a happy occasion. A new way to distribute the door prizes was

introduced. We put our tickets into gift bags beside the prizes that we wanted. When I became president elect I went over the names of all the members. There were



many people I did not know. I decided I would make my theme as president "Connections." The BCREA 50th Anniversary Luncheon was great in doing just that. Like the old saying, "Old friends are like gold and new friends are like silver" and we proved just that. The luncheon provided a wonderful vehicle for meeting old friends and a forum for making new



friends.

A special thank you to the group: I love the white orchid you gave to me and it was really a nice surprise. *Echo*

President-Elect's Corner

Judging from the singing along and tapping of feet at our banquet, I think most attendees will agree with me that **The Miami-ans** barbershop quartet was a success at February's banquet.



While this month's meeting may not be so entertaining, I promise it will be extremely important and I strongly encourage all

members to attend. We will be hearing from a representative from the Florida State Attorney's Office who will be discussing ID Theft which is now recognized as the most prolific crime against elders. Topics that will be discussed are ways to safeguard your assets from identity theft and avoid other financial scams.

On a personal note, my experience serving on federal grand jury has enlightened me as to how easily the scam artists lure in sophisticated, intelligent victims like you and me.

If it is at all possible, make it to March's meeting.

Carol

Smoot, Drago Present Memorial Service

Each year at the February Luncheon, BCREA takes time to remember the members who have passed away in the previous year.

Frances Smoot first read a poem entitled "Do Less." And then as **Darcy Drago** read each name and told a bit about them, Frances lighted a candle for each one. This year the 8 who were hon-

ored were **Joanne Davis, Al Giles, Ken Hendricks, Bill Kaelin, Helen Mitchell, Joe Vargo and William "Red" Wilson**.



Membership

954-525-8503

slochrie@bellsouth.net

Chairman: Susan Lochrie



PAY DUES FOR 2016 - 2017

Dues are \$35 for State FREA Dues and \$15 for local BCREA dues, totaling \$50 per year

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 state-wide 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.

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

*Happy Birthday to our
Birthday Club
(members over 85!)*

- Grace Vaughn 3/2
- Mary Jane Kirkley 3/19
- Warren Cox 3/20
- Ethel Gerakas 03/20
- Frankie Foeman 3/27



Thinking of You...

Marjuree Larin
Nancy Ruiz



To see all the photos from the luncheon, visit our website at <http://browardrea.org>

Click on
[Photos on Shutterfly](#)



Information Services

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



Congratulations to our 50th year Anniversary Luncheon Committee. What a big bang that was! After fifty years we are still very much in the limelight. By now, I am sure we are back into our daily routine of fitness and healthy eating.

This is the time of the year when we've got to pay Uncle Sam. Don't forget about that. If you haven't done so as yet, it is now time to get all of your documents in order and talk to your tax person.

One of the things that a large number of people have in common is arthritis pain. It has been found that exercise and stretching can help to relieve the pain. UCLA

rheumatologist John Fitzgerald states that the more muscle you put around a joint, the more support you give it and more muscle helps to build stability and prevent falls. He states, however, that you should start with some understanding of the signals your body sends you if you are over exercising. "In general, exercise should be supervised by a physical therapist or a well-informed trainer." Once you know what exercises to do Dr. Fitzgerald suggests that you start slowly and gradually build up your endurance,

Until next month, be happy.

Kathlyn

Friendship

Chairman: Julia Penley
561-465-2739 jgpen581@aol.com



Hello Everyone!! Our 50th BCREA year celebration is going fast!! But as they say "time flies when you're having fun!" This year has been a fun one with all the different ways we have celebrated our organization. In February our "Scholarship Luncheon" was a fun event and now we are heading into our final meetings of this special year. Please continue to let me know of any member who is celebrating a special event in their life, become ill, or has lost a family member, so I can get a card out to let them know we are thinking of them. For me, it has been fun sending out birthday

cards to our 85+ members as so many of them are enjoying a long, happy life up into their 90's and beyond! Often they send me a card thanking me for letting them know that their friends at BCREA are celebrating with them! Here's to a long and happy, healthy life for us all! Please continue too to keep in your thoughts and prayers some of our members who have lost family members this year or have become ill. **Nancy Ruiz** is still in the hospital after her recent surgery and it looks as if she will be there for a while as she slowly continues to recover. Happy Spring!! Happy 50th to us all!!!

Julia

14 Ride the Murder Mystery Train

On January 22, in spite of sometimes hurricane-like conditions, 14 hardy members and friends trekked to Ft. Myers for their sleuthing adventure on the Murder Mystery Train. They gathered in pouring rain at 11 am in front of Macy's to await their intrepid leader **Judy Edwards** who got caught in I-95 traffic after an accident. She arrived around 1:15 and they made it to Ft. Myers by 5! The group included 9 members and 5 friends! They dined on prime rib, salmon or chicken and all the accompaniments - including a glass of wine!



The cost of the BCREA Newsletter is underwritten by:



Bright Star
CREDIT UNION

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Serving Broward Educators Since 1946



Volunteer Services

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



Our March meeting is our last call for community service hours to be included in our annual report to FREA. Remember to include travel and prep time. Any hours reported after this meeting will be included in next year's totals.

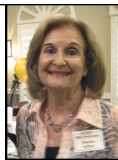
Our Volunteer of the Year nomination for District 10 is also coming up. In addition to the number of community service hours reported, the effect of the service on an individual, group or organization is also evaluated. Volunteering for more than one organization is a plus as is some type of service to BCREA.

Our last group service project of the year will be in April when we will collect supplies for the Florida Humane Society.

Darcy

From the Treasurer

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



Thanks so very much to BrightStar Credit Union for the generous check of \$2000 presented at our Annual Scholarship Luncheon. This money is used to publish our Newsletters, Directory, and other organizational expenses. We are grateful for BrightStar's sponsorship and appreciate the collaborative support of our liaison **Marjuree Larin**.

At the same luncheon, the Scholarship Fundraiser was the most successful ever! We collected a RECORD \$920, which is very close to providing for a single \$1000 scholarship. Kudos to **Anne French** for not only organizing the event, but also for designing the auction which

brought in such a large amount. Credit, of course, goes to the lunch attendees for such generosity. It was an amazing show of charity on everyone's part. In an unexpected surprise, an additional donation was presented by **Margarite Falconer**, on behalf of the past presidents. The \$300 gift was given as initial funding for a Past Presidents' Scholarship. Much gratitude is expressed to our past presidents! Our goal of providing scholarships has been enhanced by the kindness of our members and BrightStar! We appreciate the following donations, some given in lieu of attending the luncheon:

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

Bev's Bytes.....

954-587-9275 HapiHopi@aol.com



Thanks to **Anne French** for chairing this year's luncheon. Great job! And the food was, as always, 5 stars! There were 119 tickets sold for the event. We missed **Marjuree Larin** at the luncheon. She had to jet to California to be with her mom who is ill. Even though she couldn't be with us she made sure we had centerpieces for the tables - she hired someone else to do them! There are a few luncheon photos on the next page. Sorry I don't have room for the table photos! See them on **Shutterfly!**

And that's the last byte for this month! *Bev*

Scholarship Donations

Donor

Lu Ann Comes
Dorothy Howard
Juli Cole Patten

In Memory of

Joanne Davis
Joanne Davis
Joanne Davis

Undesignated Donations

Myken Brady	Carol Call	Carol Fisher
Sylvia Milks	Amanda Miles	Judith Pine
Robin Reinhold	Carol Roland	
Glenn Sanderson	James Etta Warner	

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

**Scenes from the
50th Anniversary Luncheon**

FREF Extravaganza - Last Chance!!
Deadline: February 25
Tickets - Only \$10.00

Buy your tickets **NOW** for a Chance to WIN:
\$500 Cash - 1st Prize
\$300 Cash - 2nd Prize
\$200 Cash - 3rd Prize
\$100 Cash - Guaranteed Prize to a winner
in District 10: Dade, Broward or Palm
Beach.

Donations are used to fund scholarships for future Florida
teachers. Buy Tickets by filling out the form below and send
by February 25

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 _____

