

SOUTH PINELLAS COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 48 NUMBER 6
Gail Weston, Editor

March 2018
Paula Walker, Labels



President's Message



MARK THESE DATES

Greetings SPCREA Members, Supporters, & New Retirees

Thank you, Jane Lee for an interesting and most informative talk about Friendship Force. Learning about new ways to travel is always helpful and fun. What an awesome concept...hosting, guiding, and entertaining as well as being hosted, guided, and entertained. What a way to learn about diverse cultures! A real-life experience for all.

Our March celebration will feature Pat McClary from OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). He will present a mini lesson entitled "Spanish for Fun."

March is also the month we elect new officers for SPCREA. The slate of officers is listed in this newsletter. We will also be taking nominations from the floor.

A new challenge...Find ten four leaf clovers in this newsletter, come to the meeting March 8th, win a prize! We are going to have a fun time...bring a friend. Do not forget Friends of Strays is our Project Cheer opportunity.

If you have not had a chance to purchase your FREF Extravaganza tickets, they will be on sale again. Tickets are \$10.00. I am looking forward to seeing you all on March 8th at the Big Apple for our sixth meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything you need. My email is westong65@yahoo.com and phone 727-365-5498.

Gail Weston, President



SPCREA Executive Board

Gail Weston, President
westong65@yahoo.com
Vicki Coleman, President-elect
vickilcoleman49@gmail.com
Cheryl DiCicco, Recording Secretary
pdicicco@tampabay.rr.com
Jim Moore, Treasurer
moore4688@aol.com
Anita Shoby & Pat Crooks,
Corresponding Secretary
anitashoby@yahoo.com
gardenbug1@tampabay.rr.com
Brenda Guinn Past President and
Nominations moebrend@live.com
Paula Walker, Membership
pmcwalker1@mac.com

SPCREA MEETING DATES AND PROGRAMS - 2017 -2018

March 8th – OLLI mini lesson w/ Walt
March 15th - Executive Board Meeting at St. Pete. College Library at 10:00 AM
March 21st – Fashion Show at Freedom Square
April 12th – Speaker from the Botanical Gardens Center
April 19th - Executive Board Meeting at St. Pete. College Library at 10:00 AM
May 11th – Military Program
May 17th - Executive Board Meeting at St. Pete. College Library at 10:00 AM
May 23rd-25th – FREA Convention at the Hilton in Altamonte Springs

OUR MEETING PLACE IS: Big Apple Buffet, 1030 58th St. N. (Tyrone Gardens Shopping Center) St. Petersburg

OUR MEETING DATE is the 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 11:00 A.M.

SPCREA Board Meetings - 3rd Thursday of the month. 10:00 am SPC Library, 750 66th St. N.



President Elect Report – Vicki Coleman

What a wonderful opportunity last month, to hear Jane Lee share about Friendship Force! This non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian organization promotes global understanding across the barriers that separate people in 60+ countries. Sharing meals, conversations, experiences, and routines in relaxed environments sounds like an inviting way to accomplish the Friendship Force mission. It was encouraging to hear that there are many roles members can fill. Being a driver or a guide for guests also sounded like good options in addition to being a host. Thank you, Jane, it is good to know that opportunities which expand our life experience are so readily available and that they can mean something positive for the world we inhabit.

At our March meeting we will welcome Pat McClary from OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). He will present a mini lesson entitled “Spanish for Fun.” Mr. McClary, a retired Spanish teacher, just finished a four-week class of this material. I, personally, look forward to experiencing what an OLLI class is actually like. Muy bien! Donna Dowd will also speak for a few minutes about future class opportunities.

February clothing donations were dropped off at CASA. Unfortunately, there were only three items for Britt House, so they were also given to CASA. February was a very light month for donations, so it seemed more prudent to combine the number of items. Thank you to the generous souls who donated money (\$60.00). That was also greatly appreciated.

At our next meeting we will collect for “Friends of Strays”. This non-profit, no-kill facility insures that abandoned animals get the chance to have a full life in a forever home. The positive emotional, psychological, and physical support we humans receive from these creatures far outweighs any negatives, feel free to read the research. Food, toys, towels, little blankets, utensils like bowls, kitty litter, money, etc. are all welcomed!

HAPPY ST. PATTY’S DAY!



Hope to see everyone there!

CULTURAL AFFAIRS – Phyllis Hand

March 21st Fashion Show at Freedom Square on **March 21st - 11:15** More to follow. We do need volunteers for models. Let Cheryl DiCicco know if you would be willing to serve

Teaser: With hopes of a Tampa Bay Event for all the REA units, Jane Lee and I went on a Miss Daisy Tour in New Port Richey. As soon as we were on the Cottee River with the breeze blowing gently on our faces, I could feel myself relax and soak in the beauty of the homes of famous stars from years ago: Esther Williams, Charlie Chaplin, Lucille Ball, Johnny Cash & June Carter. We headed up the river with Captain Jack narrating and navigating; then turned back and went all the way out into the Gulf for a close look at the stilt homes fishermen once built. It was a most relaxing, enjoyable, and informative change-of-pace, well worth the \$25. We also checked out a lovely restaurant nearby called *Catches* as a place to gather after the cruise. This is meant to “wet” your appetite; . .

Please let me know of interesting events coming up. Your name will be added as a contact name for each event suggested. Thanks.

Phyllis Hand (727) 328-1410 handnhand@tampabay.rr.com

COME JOIN YOUR UNIT ON FACEBOOK

Open your Facebook account

Do a search for South Pinellas County Retired Educators and All School Personnel

Click on it

You can then check the box (request to join group)

You will then receive your acceptance into the group.

After that, look on the group’s page to see what is being posted



Please take a moment to join our Facebook page. At this time, we have 104 members who have joined. Make our numbers grow.

Project Cheer

In March we will be donating to Friends of Strays, Inc. which is an animal shelter in St Petersburg. It is a private non-profit organization that receives no government funding. They have been saving homeless, abused, and neglected dogs and cats in Pinellas County and beyond for 40 years. Their success depends largely on donations from the community. Their web address is www.FriendsofStrays.com. Suggested donations are: paper towels, dust pans and brooms, 13 and 50 gallon trash bags, laundry detergent(pods preferred, any brand), scoopable unscented litter, wash cloths, unscented baby wipes, surgical gloves, heating pads, copy paper, postage stamps, scotch tape, small metal bowls, harnesses, post-it-notes, dog/cat toys, small scratchers for cages- for stretching and scratching, Hill's Science Diet food for adult cats and kittens, or cash donations.

April

Free Clinic

May

Veterans Abilities Guild



We are collecting drink tabs for the Shriners Hospital for Children. We will have a donation jar at all meetings, so please save your tabs from drink cans, soup cans, tennis ball cans, or other sources. They will be taken to a local Masonic Lodge. They are then sent to the Shriners Hospital. They are sold and the funds are used to support children in need of care.



We are also collecting Box Tops for Education for our schools. If you have Box Tops on items you buy, they will benefit our children. There will be a container for you to drop them into.

We are again in need of someone to take over the Project Cheer Committee. Please consider helping us with this volunteer opportunity.

SLATE OF OFFICERS for 2018 -2020

PRESIDENT – Vicki Coleman moves from President-elect

PRESIDENT-ELECT – Cheryl DiCicco

TREASURER – Jim Moore

RECORDING SECRETARY – Katie Sistar

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Anita Shoby & Pat Crooks

PAST-PRESIDENT – Gail Weston moves from President

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Suncoast Chapter 176 Council for Exceptional Children will be in need of persons to conduct classroom observations of candidates for Exceptional Student Education Teacher of the Year. It would involve going to the candidates' schools and observing for 40 to 50 minutes or so. There are 2 classes of candidates: one is ESE teacher of the year who is a veteran teacher and ESE rookie teacher of year who has no more than three years of ESE classroom teaching. Observations will be conducted during the first weeks of April. If you can give a half day (or an entire day) to conduct observations, it will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jan Wallis at retirededucator@mac.com or 727-409-2449

FEBRUARY MEETING PICTURES



Jane Lee talking to the members about Friendship Force



Thank you, Jane Lee, for your presentation on Friendship Force! What a way to travel and meet new friends, as well as learn about diverse cultures!



Jim Moore, Hazel Walker, and Carol Huber



Brenda Guinn and Helen Shaw



Edith Christensen w/ members

SCHOLARSHIP FASHION SHOW AND LUNCHEON

Come join the 2nd Fashion Show for SPCREA Local Scholarships on Wednesday, March 21st. Enjoy a lunch served by Freedom Square and enjoy spring/summer fashions from Bon Worth as modeled by own members. For just \$10.00 you enjoy a tasty lunch, spend time with friends, and support our local scholarship fund. **TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AT THE MARCH 8th MEETING.** Purchase tickets from Cheryl DiCicco or Jan Wallis at the March meeting. You can also contact Cheryl DiCicco at pdicicco@tampabay.rr.com or Jan Wallis at retirededucator@mac.com if you are not at the meeting. You might want to check with Cheryl if you wish to model for the fashion show.

MEMBERSHIP – Paula Walker

It is time to start renewing dues for 2018 - 2019

It is time for members to start renewing their dues for the 2018-2019 year. FREA will be sending out dues bills the beginning of May. Since it is so expensive to send out dues reminders, FREA is asking the local units to start collecting dues now.

SOUTH PINELLAS COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS
TREASURER REPORT

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE as of 12/31/2017		\$2857.40
INCOME		
Local dues	10.00	
FREF	5.00	
Local Scholarship	42.00	
TOTAL INCOME: 12/31/17 –1/31/18		\$57.00
EXPENDITURES		
FREA (state dues)	140.00	
January newsletter (printing)	25.93	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 12/31/17 –1/31/18		\$165.93
BALANCE on 1/31/2018 (Checking)		\$2748.47
BALANCE on 1/31/2018 (Savings)		\$729.90

Present funds for FREF member donations is \$185.00
Present funds for local scholarship is \$859.00

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Moore, Treasurer



If you have money for Jim Moore, please put it in an envelop or attach a note to it so he knows who it is from and what it is for.

FREA Mission Statement

- To promote the well-being of retired educators and school personnel by being a strong advocate for them and safeguarding the strength of the Florida Retirement System
- To foster good fellowship, by being welcoming to all, while growing our membership and thereby increasing our strength
- To encourage community involvement through volunteerism and literacy projects
- To disseminate information and materials to members to enhance their retirement lives
- To support quality education in the State of Florida

FREF Extravaganza 2018

Your tax deductible \$10 donation gives you the opportunity to win great prizes.

District prizes will be drawn from the tickets sold in each district.

Your cancelled check, or the top of the ticket, is your receipt.

Please make your check payable to FREF.

You do not need to be present to win.

Bring your checkbook or cash to the meeting February 8th to purchase your ticket



COMMUNITY SERVICE – VOLUNTEER HOURS -Pat Davey

FREA Mission: To encourage community involvement through Volunteerism and Literacy Projects

Have you submitted your hours yet?

Report Your SPCREA Volunteer Hours:

Name: _____

Month: _____ **2018**

Schools

- _____ Clerical, class assist, café, clinic, media center, Fundraising, maintenance, etc.
- _____ SAC/PTA, speaker, club sponsor, field trips
- _____ Mentor, direct work w/ children, sm. grps, etc.

Church

- _____ Administrative
- _____ Visiting shut-ins, collecting food/clothing, work with adults, maintenance
- _____ With children: education, choirs, child care

Medical

- _____ Hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, etc.
- _____ Transportation to and from
- _____ With children, (care for non-relatives)
- _____ All Children’s, Ronald McDonald House, etc.

Community Service

- _____ Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4H, etc.
- _____ Children’s sports leagues, (coaching referee, etc)
- _____ Food banks, thrift shops, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Clothes for Kids, etc.
- _____ Museum or theater docent, tour guide, advisory boards, Neighborhood Watch, etc.
- _____ Charity work
- _____ Manning “hot lines”, serving in jails/detention ctrs
- _____ Environmental, community clean-up, etc.
- _____ Animal shelters, wildlife sanctuaries, etc.
- _____ Voter registration, voting center work, etc.

Personal Help to Others (DO NOT include family members

- _____ Shopping, personal care, housekeeping, transport,
- _____ Babysitting, “foster” grand parenting
- _____ Banking, bill paying, correspond, companionship
- _____ Translating, bureaucracy navigating, etc.

Other _____

***** Please bring to the meeting or e-mail the info to Pat Davey at stingraydavey@gmail.com**

Change of Address Form: Have you moved lately or changed your phone number or email? If so, please let us know so we can send newsletters, information, and the directory. If you know of a member who is ill or has passed, please contact Paula. (727-321-1788)

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone# _____

Mail to: Paula Walker, 3600 15th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33713 OR send to

pmcwalker1@mac.com

THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS **JULY 1, 2018 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2019**

PLEASE CHECK YOUR LABEL ON THE NEWSLETTER WHICH INDICATES YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$45.00

Please check: New Member _____ Renewal _____ General Member _____ Associate Member _____

Who encouraged you to join? _____

Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Miss _____ Dr. _____ Other _____ Years of Service _____

YOUR NAME: _____ Date of Birth _____

Mailing Address: _____ Apt/Lot _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____
(9 Digit Zip Code Please)

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Newsletter preference:
Regular Mail _____
E-mail _____

SUMMER ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) What Months? _____

Street/Box/route _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Date Retired: _____ Retired from: _____

List Special Interests/Activities: _____

SPCREA Dues \$10 + FREA dues \$35 = \$45.00 \$ _____

FREF Scholarship Donation (optional) \$ _____

FREA Legislative Advocacy (optional) \$ _____

DATE: _____ TOTAL \$ _____ CHECK # _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SPCREA

AND MAIL TO:

Jim Moore, 4688 8th Ave. North, St. Petersburg, FL 33713-6115

LIFE MEMBERS--PLEASE SEND AT LEAST \$3.00 "FREF DONATION" TO SUPPORT FREF SCHOLARSHIPS

**SPCREA & FREA: Honors Your Yesterdays
Enriches Your Present &
Secures Your Future**

SOUTH PINELLAS COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

4688 8th Ave N.

St. Petersburg, FL 33713-6115

Hope to see you at our March 8th meeting!

BIG APPLE BUFFET

Tyrone Gardens Shopping Center
1030 58th Street North



Encourage your retired educator friends to join our group!
Bring a friend to our next meeting!

Want to know more? Visit the FREA website at www.frea.org

Scholarship Fashion Show and Luncheon



March 21, 2018

11:15

SOUTH PINELLAS COUNTY
RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

FREEDOM SQUARE,
SEMINOLE, FLORIDA