

# Levy-Gilchrist Retired Educators Association

February 2020

## OFFICERS:

President, Scholarship, & Website—Paula Marczynski

VP — Rick Reed

Secretary —Karen Philman

Treasurer — Larry Bachle

Volunteer Services—Harriet Bachle

Legislative Representative—Alphonso Johnson

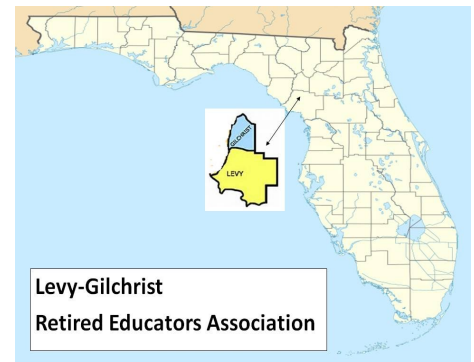
Sunshine & Shadows—Betsy Scott

## COME JOIN US!

Levy and Gilchrist counties are located in rural north central Florida. The Suwannee River forms the western boundary of both.

We meet on the **3rd Monday** September thru May at **10:30 a.m.** at **The Gathering Table** restaurant in Chiefland. **We welcome all retired school personnel living in our area, no matter where you worked.**

The Levy-Gilchrist Retired Educators Association is a unit of the state-wide **Florida Retired Educators Association.**



## Schedule of Events:

- **Mar 16 — SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT (PAULA MARCZYNSKI), Rick Reed, host**
- **Apr 20 — Field Trip, Cora Lord, hostess**
- **May 12-14 — STATE FREA CONFERENCE, Plaza Resort and Spa, Daytona Beach**
- **May 18 — ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND REPORT ON STATE CONFERENCE, Sue Reed, hostess**
- **JUNE & JULY — NO MEETINGS**

## FEBRUARY

We had a very informative meeting this month. **Paula** reported **Mikayla Armstrong** is our new local scholarship winner from CMHS. **Rick** and **Sue** went with Paula to interview Mikayla. The results from her interview were submitted to the FREF office for consideration for the state scholarship. Mikayla will attend next month's meeting with her school counselor.

We received our \$75 Unit Grant funds from the state and we used it to purchase a banner and information cards to post around the community and to distribute to new retirees. Thank you **FREA** for making this possible!



**Alphonso** made a presentation for **Black History Month** and per requests in the past, he made it on HIS life. He has truly led an interesting and spectacular life and we are proud to have him as a member of our unit!



## L-GREA Activities

### JANUARY

Several items of interest were dealt with at this meeting. **Rick** brought an updated version of our unit by-laws. After some discussion, we approved the changes and he will submit this to the state.

**Paula** mentioned the unit grant offered by the state for public relations and suggested we apply for it in order to purchase a unit banner and cards to distribute to potential members. She will submit the grant and follow through on getting the items.

The program for the meeting was a presentation by **Paula** on how to navigate the FREA website. It included highlights of the different drop downs and gave specifics on how to login to the members only section.

Door prizes were won by **Rick, Paula, Karen, Teresa, and Cora.**

### DECEMBER

Our December meeting is our social meeting for the year. Everyone brings a gift for the White Elephant gift exchange. It's a lot of fun watching people scramble to get a gift they like! Our special guests for the meeting were our District IV representative **Alonzo Braddon, Jr.** and his wife.

### NOVEMBER

Following the opening devotion, pledge, singing of God Bless America, and the minutes, **Larry** talked about moving our funds to a different location due to the monthly fees that are eating away at our balance. We found one that doesn't charge fees, so we voted to take the necessary steps to make the move.

Committee Reports: **Paula** reported that the all of the school guidance counselors and the two school superintendants had been emailed the information for the FREF Florida Future Teacher scholarship and our \$500 scholarship. Hopefully we will get applicants this year. She also brought some ideas for the unit grant, including a proposed banner to use to promote our group at events. After some discussion we decided to proceed with applying for the grant. **Harriet** reminded us that Volunteer Services forms are due at the next meeting.

Our program was presented by **Megan Hall**, Director of the Harmony Pregnancy & Resource Center in Chief-land. She talked about the program and resources available to the community and what type of donations they could use.

Door prizes were won by **Alphonso, Rick, Mary Jo, Karen, & Sue.**

## L-GREA Activities cont.

### OCTOBER

We discussed the Membership Unit grant offered by FREA and talked about ways we could implement it to benefit unit growth.

We welcomed guest **Teresa Ozment** to the meeting.

Our program for this month was by Gilchrist County School Superintendent **Robert Rankin**. He spoke on some of the changes that have taken place in our county schools and how current events have impacted them. We enjoyed the update and seeing him again.

Door prizes were won by **Larry, Sue, Teresa, Mary Jo, and Harriet**.

### SEPTEMBER

Members were reminded to bring in new books for the **Margaret Poppell Literacy for Life Project**. Books can be turned in to **Karen Philman**, drive chairperson. **Paula** has updated the list of guidance counselors for the area high schools and will contact them about our scholarship opportunity for students interested in going into the field of education.

We discussed the upcoming District IV meeting in Ocala. **Alphonso, Karen, and Paula** plan to attend.

Our program this month was on school safety, focusing on the Guardian program and School Resource Officers. Gilchrist County Sheriff **Bobby Schultz** gave a very interesting presentation and we learned a lot about the program as well as other issues. Thank you for all you and your officers do for us!

Door Prizes were won by **Mary Jo and Alphonso**.



### AUGUST

We met on August 19th to plan our events for the year. These are posted on the **Schedule of Events** — **be sure to always check there for any additions or changes throughout the year.**

After the business was taken care of, we enjoyed the wonderful buffet at The Gathering Table.