



# *The Retired Educator*

Vol. XXIII

November, December 2020; January 2021

Issue 2

OCREA Website: [ocrea-fl.org](http://ocrea-fl.org)

FREA Website: [frea.org](http://frea.org)

**OCREA  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**  
First Thursday of each month Sept.—May (except January)

**Attention:** Due to COVID-19 our November and December general meetings will be held via ZOOM. You will receive instructions on your email that we have on file on how to join us. There is no general meeting in January.

**Our Theme for the Year is  
OCREA: Mosaic of Cultures—One Goal**

**Thursday, November 5, 2020  
10:30 AM via Zoom  
Program: Kishos Desai will speak about  
India**

**Thursday, December 3, 2020  
10:30 AM via Zoom  
Program: Holiday Celebration**

**January 2021: No Meeting**

## Message from the President

As the nation moves into fall/winter we reflect how different the last six months have been from previous years. There was no NBA bubble in which basketball players lived together and all games were played in the same location. The sports venues did not have to pipe in crowd sounds to give the impression that several thousand persons are right there. That the Disney Marathon Run was not a virtual event in which you run in your location and reported your time. Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is not 2 blocks long and the balloons are being pulled by motorized vehicles and not a group of dedicated balloon handlers. Most musical programs for the holiday season will probably not happen. Just as I start to get really depressed about all the things not happening, I turned my television on and there on the screen is College Football. Well maybe the differences for this year are not as far reaching as I was getting depressed about. Yes, they are different, but the human spirit strives to continue to move forward and adapt to the events that impact our daily lives.

The Board of OCREA has done the same thing. Remember from our classroom days the motto that was said over and over, "*Be Flexible*". So, we have adapted to the times we are living through. Because the church that we meet at was closed for four months, the choices we as an organization had was to go digital or not meet. We went digital. Although the building is now open the restrictions would hamper us from meeting. The maximum group at this time allowed to meet is 25 people. Since our meetings usually have 45-50 people at a time, I opted to stay in the digital platform a little longer. We all hope to have face to face meetings in the spring sometime.

The first two programs revolved around the theme, *OCREA: Mosaic of Cultures-One Goal*. We were informed about several South American cultures and Poland. In November we are going to be introduced to India and countries around India. In December we have holiday music from students of OCPS. But as you know with the adaptations the schools have to make this year this program may need to be adjusted. Our program committee is working on an alternate program that stays within our theme and celebrates the holiday season.

The OCREA Board wants to wish each one of you peace and health for the holiday season and upcoming year. Remember that we don't meet in January so that we can all recover from the holiday season.

See you in the new year.

**Gayle Hodges, President OCREA**

## **REFOC Scholarship Committee: Janice Quint, Chairman**

The REFOC Scholarship Committee is pleased to conclude the 2019-2020 scholarship year. It has been a rewarding year! We started off with giving two \$2000 Educator Scholarship awards to Carmen Benitez Gotay, a Spanish teacher at Apopka High School, and Lily Thompson, a reading teacher at Dover Shores Elementary School. We awarded the Earnest and Ruth Hawk Scholarship of \$2000 to Ashley Morn from University High School. Twelve Academic Scholarships were presented to students from 6 high schools. We ended the year granting 12 Technical Scholarships of \$1000 each to students from the five orange County Technical Colleges. This is a total of \$40,000 in scholarships! Way to go Orange County Retired Educators!

## **FREA Scholarship Committee: Richard Gomer, Chairman**

What is FREF? Florida Retired Educators Foundation (FREF) is an autonomous branch of FREA. FREF provides scholarships, grants, and financial crisis support to past, present, and future educators and school personnel. Previously, OCREA Members made donations for the Ernest and Ruth Hawk Scholarship.

Monies were collected in the Little Red Schoolhouse. In lieu of the collections, OCREA Members volunteered to participate three times this year in the Adopt-A- Precinct Program. Precinct volunteers' compensation will be donated for FREF Scholarships. OCREA Members can make FREF donations by mailing their individual checks, made payable to OCREA,

to: OCREA P.O. Box 678236 Orlando, Fl. 32867-8236. Remember to write FREF Donation on the check's Memo Line.

## **Adopt a Precinct**

OCREA has adopted Precinct 301 located at the Beardall Senior Center near Downtown Orlando. OCREA received \$1350 due to the efforts of the following members volunteering their time during the August primary (pictured from left to right): Debra Dykes Kornhaus, Jennifer Cunningham, Judith Hays, Christie Woods, Gayle Hodges, and Kim Stutsman.



## **2020-2012 OCREA Budget: Jennifer Cunningham**

The budget was approved at the General Meeting held on October 1<sup>st</sup>. If a member would like to look at the budget, please email our treasurer, Jennifer Cunningham, at [cunninghamjj49@gmail.com](mailto:cunninghamjj49@gmail.com)

**Congratulations to member H. Fred Dietrich III!**

**Fred's life story is now on YouTube. Look for "2020 Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame/Hugh Fred Dietrich III".**

## A Revision in the Bylaws

Updated FREA Bylaws were adopted at the May 2019 FREA Convention. Each particular FREA unit was asked to review their own bylaws to be in agreement with the updated FREA state bylaws. Ellen James and Prince Kelley met in early summer to update Article VIII, Dissolution of the Association as requested by FREA. Our old version is on page 37 of the Yearbook if you would like to compare how the new bylaw differs. The revision reads as follows:

### DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

DISSOLUTION: Upon dissolution of this Association, (1) the Executive Board will notify the FREA President, the District Director, and the Executive Director after payment of all liabilities of the Association. (2) Careful consideration shall be given to the manner in which those members desiring to maintain membership in FREA are advised on how to do so, and the ability to transfer to other units. (3) Any remaining assets in the unit treasury after all bills have been paid, shall be sent to FREA. (4) The most recent copy of the Unit Articles and Bylaws shall be sent to the FREA office and made available if a unit wants to reactivate. (5) The charter must be returned to FREA.

A vote to approve the updated revision will be held at the next general membership meeting.

## Cultural Affairs 2020-2021: Anne Gardepe, Chair



On **December 9**, we have a rare opportunity to visit **Pompeii: The Immortal City**, an exhibit at the **Orlando Science Center**. We will meet at the Science Center desk at **10 AM** for a tour that can take up to 2 hours. The senior cost is \$15 and includes Pompeii and one movie: Cinedome or Digital Adventure Theatre. Parking is \$5. A lunch venue will be determined later. I will need your **entry fee by October 30**, please. Check made out to Anne Gardepe, 1107 Salerno Ct., Orlando, 32806. [If you are a member of the Science Center, your visit should be free. Please email me for information.]

FYI When entering the Science Center, there will be a temperature check and face coverings must be worn.

Questions: email me at [annegard64@gmail.com](mailto:annegard64@gmail.com).

Haven't you missed live theater? I surely have! Let's plan to see "**A Raisin in the Sun**" together at **Garden Theatre**, Winter Garden. I have reserved 15 seats for **Saturday, March 6, 2021**, at 2 PM. Lunch will be somewhere in the vicinity. Senior group ticket is \$22.50. For now, just **save the date**. I will have more information for you later.



**FYI** The **Orange County Regional History Center** has a new exhibit---*Yesterday, This Was Home, The Ocoee Massacre of 1920*---from October 3, 2020 until February 14, 2021. There are several events related to it that you may want to check out at [thehistorycenter.org](http://thehistorycenter.org).

## Information Services: Debra Dykes Kornhaus, Chair

Seasonal Greetings to OCREA General and Associate Members!

As time falls back and the seasons change, remember to make your wellness changes. In addition to changing your smoke alarm batteries, restock your G.O. (Get Organized) bags with masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, and more to protect yourself, your loved ones, and pets during the Hurricane season. Storms canning changes quickly; review your Preparation Plans. Assess your Health and Safety Plans. Medicare Enrollment begins on October 15, 2020. Did you know that FREA's partner, **Florida Retirement Group**, has Medicare Benefits and resources for members? Visit the websites: [freabenefits@gmail.com](mailto:freabenefits@gmail.com) [www.FLRetirementGroup.com](http://www.FLRetirementGroup.com).

FREA has also partnered with AMB (Association Member Benefits Advisors). Did you know that AMBA offers low rates and excellent value for Dental and Vision Plans? Contact AMBA for comparison rates or to make changes to your plans: [MyAMBAbenefits.info/FREA](http://MyAMBAbenefits.info/FREA). Schedule time with your health providers to ensure you receive immunizations, medical examinations, and review your health assessments in a timely manner during the changing seasons.

Brain Health Challenges, fitness and health information, monthly Movies for Grown Ups, senior Virtual Events,

and more are offered by AARP. Visit [AARP.org](http://AARP.org) for details. Sign up for Newsletters that explore the arts, culture, recreation, travel, and more. Discover new topics:

[www.BeyondtheNest.com](http://www.BeyondtheNest.com)


[www.KidsOutandAbout.com](http://www.KidsOutandAbout.com)

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com>

May you maintain good health during the pandemic, and continue to overcome seasonal changes as fall and winter move forward from 2020 to the new year.

Stay safe OCREA Members!

## Volunteer Services: Joanne Canarelli

Hello  Friends of OCREA,

We are fast approaching the end of 2020.

At the end of the year, the books will be closed with all our generous "ASK- Any Simple Kindness" volunteer work hours. Your hours will be reported to District 8 Volunteer Services Chair. Those hours reflect your own generosity to others especially during the wake of this pandemic of Covid-19.

Please call me, text, or email me. All the information is in the yearbook.

Be well and blessings to you and your families,

[jbc610@outlook.com](mailto:jbc610@outlook.com)



NAME :
MONTH(s) :
Community/Civic:
Environmental:
Library:
Literacy:
Personal Help:
Hospital/ Nursing Home:
OCREA/ FREA:
Shopping:
Schools:
Other/ Project
Name:
Total for Month:
Thank you for your generosity!

## Membership: Judith Hays

Thanks to everyone for your OCREA Membership for the 2020-2021 year! Your dues help OCREA remain an active unit of the Florida Retired Educators Association (FREA).

During the pandemic, the OCREA has had challenges. There are no face-to-face meetings in group setting, as most of us are in the group most susceptible to COVID-19. Social distancing guidelines have made active recruitment difficult. We are now embracing technology by using "ZOOM" to facilitate meetings, so we remain viable, active, and informed of our association concerns.

As an OCREA Member, please consider becoming a personal recruiter. Ask other fellow educators to join OCREA: the newly retired, and those who have been out of the work force for a while. OCREA has unified dues with FREA, and our members continue to move forward. Better days are yet to come. Enclosed within this OCREA Newsletter is a membership application form. Please print a copy or two of the application to share.

	<h3>Orange County Retired Educators Association</h3>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New Membership</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Renewal of Membership</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>General Member</b> - Circle One: Retired School Teacher / School Administrator / School Transportation / School Maintenance / School Cafeteria / Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Associate Member:</b> Any person supporting the mission of the Association may apply for associate membership.		
<b>Circle One: Miss, Mrs., Mr., Dr then write Name: First, Middle Initial, Last</b>		
<b>Mailing Address</b>		<b>Apt</b>
		<b>City:</b>
<b>Home phone:</b>	<b>Cell phone:</b>	<b>State / Zip</b>
<b>E-mail address:</b>		
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Check #</b>	<b>Birth Year:</b>
FREA is your advocate regarding your pension and the future of education in the State of Florida. Would you like to support FREA's efforts on behalf of all present, and future Retired Educators, and other beneficiaries of the Florida Retirement System? This money will be used in a non-partisan way.		

<b>Make check payable to:</b>  <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">OCREA</div>	<b>FREA/OCREA combined dues for July 1-June 30: = \$50.00</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to support FREA's Legislative Advocacy: <span style="float: right;">\$4.00</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to support FRE Foundation: <span style="float: right;">\$ _____</span> <div style="text-align: right;">Total Enclosed\$ _____</div>
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**Mail to: OCREA, P.O. Box 678236, Orlando, FL 32867**

Have questions? Contact Membership Chair: Judith Hays at [haysj50@gmail.com](mailto:haysj50@gmail.com).

## News from Addition Financial Credit Union

### **New branch locations.**

At Addition Financial, we're all about our membership. That's why we're expanding our branch locations so we can serve you closer to home. We introduced our new Eustis branch in September. But coming soon, you can expect a new branch in Kissimmee and an updated branch on UCF's campus.

Eustis Branch (Open now)  
15830 NW US-441  
Eustis, FL 32726

New Kissimmee Branch (Coming soon)  
3070 N Orange Blossom Trail, Kissimmee, FL 34741

UCF Campus Branch (Under renovation)  
12795 Aquarius Agora Dr, Suite 107  
Orlando, FL 32816-2100

### **Refinance your car loan at a low rate.**

Addition Financial always has competitive auto loan rates that are designed to save you money on interest or lower your monthly payment. But when you take advantage of our low rate auto refinance now through December 31, you'll unlock a bonus of \$200 cash back.\*

Apply today at [AdditionFI.com/AutoRefi](https://AdditionFI.com/AutoRefi).

\*Certain restrictions apply. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Loans are granted based on creditworthiness and the ability to repay. Set-up fee is \$45. The loan set up fee will affect the APR shown. Rate example of 4.40% APR at 60 months would be \$185.98 for each \$10,000 borrowed. Current auto refinance guidelines apply. Existing auto loans with Addition Financial do not qualify for this refinance offer. \$200.00 will be deposited in financier's AFCU savings account. If the account is closed within 90 days, the account holder will forfeit the incentive amount. Offer only valid on refinances of \$12,000.00 or greater. Limited time offer subject to change or withdrawal at any time; offer ends on or before December 31, 2020.

### **Earn 5x bonus points on every Amazon purchase.**

Unpack more points with an Addition Financial Premier Rewards Credit Card that offers 5x bonus points each quarter on a select category. Like 5x bonus points on every Amazon purchase between October 1 and December 31, 2020.

Plus, you get 3 points on travel, 2 points on gas & groceries, and 1 point on everything else. Apply today & get 10,000 Bonus Points!\*

Apply now and learn more at [AdditionFi.com/PremierRewards](https://AdditionFi.com/PremierRewards).

Minimum credit line of \$5,000 required to receive an Addition Financial Premier Rewards credit card. 5x bonus point category changes quarterly. Amazon purchase category valid October 1 – December 31, 2020.

\*Points received after \$1,000 in purchases made within 3 months of opening. Refer to [AdditionFi.com/Premier](https://AdditionFi.com/Premier) for details.

### **Get money-savvy with a free webinar.**

Every month, Addition Financial hosts free financial education webinars. Industry experts join us to talk about topics like estate planning, home buying tips for first-timers, car loans and more.

Check out our webinar this month (and register for free) at [AdditionFi.com/Webinars](https://AdditionFi.com/Webinars)

### **Even more great deals.**

Don't miss out on any Addition Financial promotions! Check in online at [AdditionFi.com/Promotions](https://AdditionFi.com/Promotions) to see everything we're offering this month.

### **Addition Financial Holiday Closures**

Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving Day  
Friday, December 25 Christmas Day  
Saturday, December 26

Friday, January 1, New Year's Day  
Saturday, January 2  
Monday, January 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**ORANGE COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS  
ASSOCIATION  
PO Box 678236  
Orlando, FL. 32867**

**Address Service Requested**

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***2018-20 Officers***

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Christie Woods

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Debra Dykes Kornhaus

**Corresponding Secretary**

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**Treasurer**

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***Directors***

**2019–2021**

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Kay Wing

**2020–2022**

Judith Hays

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***ExOfficio***

Dr. Sharon Kochlany

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**Editors**

Yearbook – Jennifer

Cunningham & Judith Hays

Newsletter - Kim Stutsman

**Sunshine Contact**

Marie Hernandez



In the event of inclement weather, OCREA will follow Orange County Public School System's decision relating to the closing of schools. If weather conditions have you questioning whether OCREA will meet, tune in to your local news to hear the decision of OCPS.