

# Levy-Gilchrist Retired Educators Association

**JANUARY 2022**

## OFFICERS:

President & Website—Paula Marczynski

VP & Scholarship — Rick Reed

Secretary — Karen Philman

Treasurer — Larry Bachle

Volunteer Services—Harriet Bachle

Legislative Representative—Alphonso Johnson

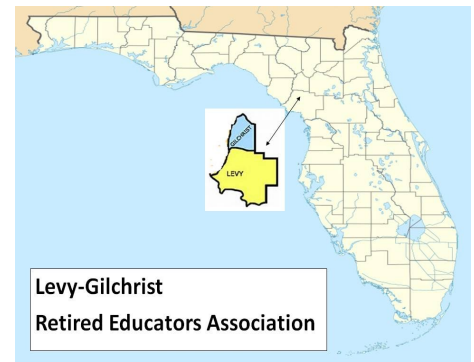
Sunshine & Shadows—Cora Lord

## 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:

- **FEB 21 — Black History (Alphonso Johnson); Sue Reed hostess**
- **MAR 21 — Scholarship Recipient (Rick Reed); Alphonso Johnson host**
- **APR 18 — T-shirt Quilt drawing FB Live (Rick Reed); Larry Bachle host**
- **MAY 17 — Election of Officers**
- **MAY 23-26 — State FREA Convention**
- **JUNE & JULY — NO MEETINGS**

## JAN

**Paula** was presented with an opportunity for a fundraiser for our local scholarship fund. **Project Repeat**—a company that creates beautiful quilts using people's own t-shirts—offered us a gift certificate to raffle off as a thank you to their customers over the past ten years. Tickets have been ordered. As soon as they arrive, we will distribute them to members. If you know of anyone who would be interested in purchasing a ticket, please contact members listed at the top of the page. We will draw a winner at our April meeting via **Facebook Live**.



**Lorrie Lee** from the Gilchrist Public Library presented an interesting program on the library and what it has to offer our citizens.

Door prize winners were **Betsy, Larry, Paula, Lorrie, Rick, Karen, Alphonso, and Nancy.**

## L-GREA Activities

### DEC

This was our social event of the year. Everyone brought a gift for the White Elephant exchange and it was fun waiting to see who would finally end up with which gifts after members selected from all opened gifts (or an unopened one) during their turn.

We wish **Harriet** good wishes as she deals with health issues.

### NOV

Our program this month was Christmas Card crafts.

### OCT

**Rick** updated his plans for contacting school counselors about the college scholarship program. Members were reminded to keep records of volunteer activities and to turn in their totals at the end of the year.

**Alphonso** reported on legislative updates and distributed information on the new legislative text alert feature for smart phones. **Karen** and **Paula** talked about the Fall Symposium zoom meeting and shared information presented there. Rick provided every attendee with a door prize — a choice of homemade cinnamon rolls or potted mums.



Our program was presented by **Chris Cowart** and **Dr. Jim Surrency**, the school superintendents of Levy and Gilchrist counties. They talked about the challenges and changes going on in their respective counties. It was a very informative session. Paula presented them with a notebook of materials highlighting FREA programs and contests of interest and benefit to teachers and students, and membership applications for future retirees.



## L-GREA Activities cont.

### SEP

We welcomed guest **Nancy Rowe**.

**Paula** shared information about the upcoming District IV Fall Symposium, which will be virtual again this year. Our designated dates are Oct 12 & 13, but we can attend the another districts's sessions if it's more convenient, but everyone needs to register. Officers will soon receive emails with more details. Some members asked if we could use the computers at the Bell Library for this. Paula will make arrangements.

Our program was presented by **Katie Zeile** and **LeAnne Hawk** of the *Guardian Ad Litem* for the 8th Judicial Circuit. It was very informative. We discussed ways we could help with resources.

Door prizes were won by **Alphonso, Cora, Harriet, Larry, and Nancy**.

### AUGUST

This was our organizational meeting for the fiscal year. Several suggestions were made and members volunteered to contact the individuals involved. The changes will be updated and shown in the box on the first page.

### MAY

Following our opening procedures, we had committee reports. **Harriet** reminded us to continue keeping track of our volunteer hours. **Alphonso** gave an update on the legislative session and how it impacted our retirement.

**Karen** and **Paula** gave an update on the FREF gift basket they are working on; **Cora** will bake cookies to include before they leave for the convention.

Election of Officers: all officers agreed to continue in their same positions for the next two years. The only change was to switch the Scholarship chair to the Vice President.

After the meeting, we enjoyed the buffet at The Gathering Table.