PALM BEACH COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

MARCH - 2023 - BLAST



February's luncheon featured a fascinating explanation of the origins of "Critical Race Theory" and its impact on our school system.

For March, "Women's History Month", we will feature *a speaker from AARP* who will discuss **"Scams Targeting Senior Citizens"**. In the last FREA BULLETIN, pages 12 &13 have additional information.

We will also have a memorial program to take time to remember our friends and members who have passed during the last year.

March Luncheon Meeting is on THURSDAY, March 9th at 11:00am at Fountainview - 111 Executive Center Dr. WPB Cost \$15

We continue to enjoy our "Sandwich Buffet" which allows us to not only enjoy a yummy lunch, but also keeps costs down.



Come early for the "Early Bird" drawing! Bring: unused eye glasses and door prizes. If you have not heard from your caller, please notify Germaine (germainerichards@comcast.net) H-561-753-3665 or C-561-386-0695 by <u>March 1st</u> if you plan to attend.

Last call for the Water Taxi Boat Tour - Thursday, March 23, 2023 - \$30 pp - noon - 2:00pm

<u>Extravaganza tickets</u> are \$10 each. Make checks out to FREF. This donation supports the Foundation which awards State scholarships. **Raye Johnson** is doing a fine job selling the tickets! So far we have sold 31 tickets - that's \$310! Your name will be included in a drawing at the state convention for cash prizes -- First place is \$500! The tickets will be available until the April meeting.

Speaking of **APRIL** -- put aside your new and unused (and never will be used in this lifetime) items for the **HULLABALOOZA**. This is our annual unit scholarship fundraiser. Previous items have included jewelry, china, wine and glasses, purses, scarves, home items, etc.

Flora Jackson delivered our Valentine's Day cards to the VA Hospital to be placed on the meal trays on Valentine's Day. THANK YOU, Flora!! and THANK YOU to all who brought in the many cards!



PBCREA pens are available for a minimum \$2 donation. This goes directly to our unit scholarships.



We were excited to receive 10 entries for the <u>5th Grade Essay Contest</u>. THANK YOU to the members who read and ranked them! We have an entry for the State competition for a first place prize of \$150!

For those of you who<u>vote-by-mail</u> (VBM), you MUST complete a new registration. All old VBMs expired December 31, 2022. Be prepared to renew this registration every 2 years. The form requires either your driver's license number or the last 4 digits of your social security number. BOTH are recommended. You can register online: votepalmbeach.gov or call 561-656-6200.

\$\$ 2023 - 2024 FREA & PBCREA Membership Dues \$\$

Dues for this membership year start in March, 2023. It's a good idea to pay early, if possible, before June 30, 2023. If you pay early now, you save FREA the cost of mailing a reminder to you. By paying \$45 to PBCREA, you have only one check and one mailing. You can even pay at our luncheon meetings. Your state FREA dues -\$35- will be sent to the state office by the treasurer. The remaining \$10 is for the PBCREA unit expenses.

"Members may choose to automatically have their dues charged to a credit card annually and not have to worry about whether or not they have paid each year. Unit local dues can be paid at the same time as well as optional donations. The process is safe and easy. Unit dues will be sent to the units in a timely manner. A recent study indicates that about 80% of non-renewals are simply a case of "I forgot!" For members who wish to sign-up using a credit card but are not sure how to do so, call the office 727-577-6400 and they will assist you.

If you receive a reminder from state FREA to pay dues, please remember to add the local dues of \$10 to the payment in the appropriate space.

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!\*!\*!\*! 2023 FREA State Convention !\*!\*!\*!
MAY 16-18, 2023
Bluegreen's Bayside Resort and Spa

#### Panama City Beach

#### \$167.00 per night

#### \*\*This price is good also for 3 days before, and 3 days after, the Convention\*\*

PBCREA is allotted 2 delegates for the convention. Each delegate's responsibility is to vote on about 3 issues which are brought to the assembly floor. Delegates must attend a minimum of 2 nights. Each delegate gets one night paid by the association and pays \$167 for the second night. Delegates must be a member in good standing. If you are interested, contact Germaine Richards - 561-753-3665 - no later than March 1, 2023.



On-line registration can be found on the FREA.org website for all attendees.

#### **PBCREA By-Laws receive an update**

When the pandemic began three years ago, many units within FREA held meetings via zoom or other internet programs. That approach helped us weather those difficult years and stay in touch through technology. As we emerge from that period, FREA leadership has requested that units review their By-Laws and update accordingly to reflect the success of electronic participation in Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings by codifying that approach for taking action and making decisions.

Accordingly, the PBCREA Board of Directors passed a motion at its February 7 meeting to authorize electronic participation for the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

The revised text of Article III (OFFICERS) section B (Duties of Officers) paragraph 6. (Board of Directors) is as follows:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers together with chairmen of all Standing Committees. The Board shall meet before all general membership meetings and at such other times as they may be called by

the President to consider all business that may affect the organization. The Board shall have the responsibility of arranging the program for the regular

membership meetings. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting

of the Board of Directors may be taken by means of electronic communication.

Participation in a meeting by these means shall constitute presence in person at

a meeting. Any action taken by the Board of Directors during the meeting under

this section shall be duly recorded among the minutes of the proceedings of such

meeting. The minutes of such meeting shall be distributed to the officers of the

association. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the

organization. Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Executive Committee may be taken by means of electronic communication.

Participation in a meeting by these means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting. Any action taken by the Executive Committee during the meeting under this section shall be duly recorded among the minutes of the proceedings of such meeting. The minutes of such meeting shall be distributed to the

officers of the association.

Although we look forward to the time when all involved feel comfortable in participating in-person at Board of Directors or Executive Committee meetings, we have now officially authorized the use of electronic communication as a technique for actions taken.



Lots of Information!!

### Hope to see you THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023!!







frea.org

## palmbeachcoretirededucatorsassociation