

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER, 2023
BLAST**



We hope everyone had a safe and healthy summer and you are ready for a fun and informative season starting with our OCTOBER meeting!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

11:00AM

GOLDEN CORRAL BUFFET RESTAURANT

10100 Fox Trail Road S

Royal Palm Beach

****Corner of Okeechobee Blvd. & SR7****

****behind Ruby Tuesday****

Cost is approximately \$15 payable to the restaurant
(Senior Citizen drinks are free)

If you aren't eating, you must pay for a drink.

When you come through the line to pay, please follow directions to come directly to the meeting room. Do not gather lunch items yet.

We will have part of the program before eating.

JEFFREY JESSE, our AMBA Benefits Adviser and LEXIE MOWERY, AMBA Regional VP, will give an overview of available benefits and will have a gift card raffle. YOU may be a lucky winner!!

Just a reminder - there is no taking food out of the restaurant. Please select just what you will eat while attending the meeting. Thank you.

PLEASE BRING YOUR DOOR PRIZE OFFERINGS

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**VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Tracey Lamport [tracey.lamport@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:tracey.lamport@palmbeachschools.org)**

**Need for reading and math volunteers for Jupiter Middle School  
- Hours 4:15 - 5:20pm**

**Terry Elder [TElder@aarp.org](mailto:TElder@aarp.org)**

**Volunteering at the VA Hospital**

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MALTZ JUPITER THEATRE

We were able to procure additional tickets for "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" - Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 - 2pm matinee! There are 8 tickets available at \$59 each. The deadline to have your money to Janet Ford is this coming FRIDAY, Sept 29, 2023. Act FAST if you want to see this wonderful performance! We have to pay the balance owed by Oct.6, 2023.



Fraud Prevention

Watchdog Alerts

Phone Scams: Robotexts Are On The Rise!

How It Works

- You receive a text message claiming to be a legitimate business or government agency.
- You could be warned of an urgent issue with your bank or retail account or a shipment.
- Or the message tries to entice you with the promise of free prizes, gift cards, coupons or deals.
- You'll be instructed to click a link to learn more, pursue an offer or resolve a problem.
- You may also be asked to provide personal information—such as your banking info, credit card number or Social Security number.

What You Should Know

- Criminals use caller ID spoofing to make the text appear to be coming from a trusted or local source.
- Clicking a link may take you to a spoofed website that looks real but isn't, such as that of a financial institution. If you attempt to log in, the criminals can steal your username and password.
- Other links might install harmful malware on your phone that steals your personal or financial information without you realizing it.
- Beyond suspicious or mysterious links, warning signs of fraudulent texts include urgency, misspellings, sales pitches and misleading or incomplete information.
- Remember that government agencies almost never initiate contact by phone or text.

What You Should Do

- Do not engage with texts from unknown numbers or others that appear suspicious, even if the message says you can "text STOP" to avoid more messages. (This confirms your number is active, which will lead to more scam texts.)

- Avoid clicking on links from texts; rather, type the web address into your browser directly, use your app if that's an option, or call the "sender" using a verified phone number.
- Never share sensitive personal or financial information by text.
- Report texting scam attempts to your wireless service provider by forwarding them to 7726 (or "SPAM").
- Filter out junk texts by updating your phone's messaging app settings, using call-blocking services through your wireless carrier, or installing call-blocking apps.

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Check Your Voter Registration

Did you know that new election laws mandate that voters must renew their mail ballot requests every General Election cycle? That means, any Vote-By-Mail ballot requests made prior to the November 8, 2022 General Election have expired; therefore, you must complete a new Vote-By-Mail ballot request for the 2024 elections. My fellow Palm Beach County Constitutional Officer, Wendy Sartory Link, Supervisor of Elections, has produced a very informative video that details what you need to know about requesting a Vote-By-Mail ballot. I encourage you to visit <https://youtu.be/ZyNtsgJ-nyo> to watch this important video and then submit your Vote-By-Mail ballot request online at [www.VotePalmBeach.gov](http://www.VotePalmBeach.gov) or by calling Wendy's office at 561-656-6208.

The 2024 election cycle will be here before you know it, so now is the time to request your Vote-By-Mail ballot!

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FREA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization. What does that mean for you? We all know what those two terms mean. But as a refresher, here are the definitions according to the Merriam Webster Online Dictionary. Non-profit: non·prof·it ,năn-'prä-fət def: not conducted or maintained for the purpose of making a profit Nonpartisan: ,năn-'pär-tə-zən def: not partisan especially: free from party affiliation, bias, or designation

Why should you care? Because, in good faith, you send us your dues every year. Non-partisan: As an FREA member you pay dues to FREA. The \$35.00 a year that you pay goes to a myriad of different locations, but for only this purpose: To fulfill the FREA Mission. (You can read the mission statement below.) We work very hard to be good stewards of your faith, and your treasure. We represent all voices. When we are in Tallahassee representing you, we are there not to promote a person or a party, but to advocate for our members. We are there to protect your pension; to protect the integrity and quality of Florida Education; and to ensure that those issues that guarantee quality of life to retirees are heard.

Non-profit: Did you know that FREA has only two paid employees? (Details are on our website at [frea.org/about us](http://frea.org/about-us).) Plus the salaries and benefits for the employees, your dues money pays for what it takes to run an organization of over 11,000 members (and growing). Computers, paper, postage, Zoom subscriptions, pens, toner, and so much more. But, FREA also has a Board, and the Foundation has Trustees. These are unpaid volunteers working very hard and spending long hours fulfilling the FREA Mission. FREA money pays for travel to meetings (much less travel since the inception of Zoom), but still some. Then locally we have the Unit officers, and the members of those units who get together as a community of retired school employees to volunteer in ways that support the FREA Mission.

Your dues are making a difference and helping us help you. Thank you!

Send your 2023-2024 Dues -\$45 - to

Janet Ford, Treasurer

715 Beech Road

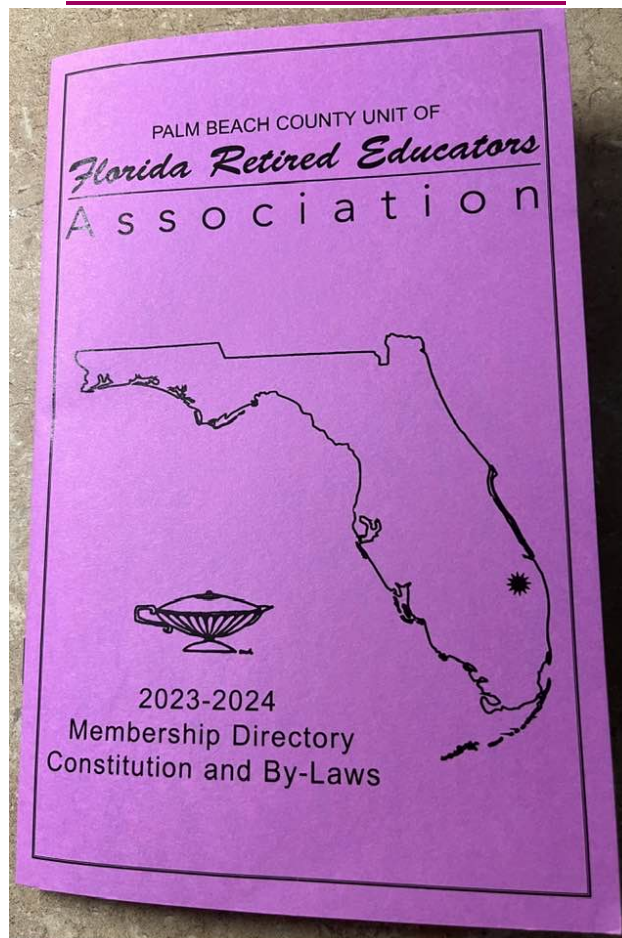
West Palm Beach FL 33409



The FREA Mission

- ♦ To safeguard the strength of the Florida Retirement System
- ♦ To support public education in Florida
- ♦ To provide fellowship opportunities
- ♦ To encourage community involvement
- ♦ To be a source of information and materials

A NEW UNIT DIRECTORY



WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE OCTOBER MEETING!

LUNCHEON MEETING DATES

AND TENTATIVE PROGRAMS

PLEASE BEAR WITH US AS WE ARE TRYING TO FIND A NEW MEETING PLACE. UNTIL WE DO, THE PLACE WILL BE ANNOUNCED EACH MONTH. IF YOU ARE AWARE OF AN ESTABLISHMENT THAT COULD ACCOMADATE APPROXIMATELY 30-40 MEMBERS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO ONE OF THE OFFICERS.

October 12, 2023 - Golden Corral Buffet Restaurant

AMBA Representatives / Meet & Greet/ Table Talk

November 9, 2023 - Election Office Presentation / Veteran's Day Observation /
Thanksgiving Observance

****Sue Colton, FREA District 10 Director,
will present FREA Unit Awards****

December 14, 2023 - Fun & Games / Santa's Visit

****Maltz Jupiter Theatre Outing for ticket holders****

January 11, 2024 - Election Information Presentation - League of Women Voters
Memorial Remembrance

February 8, 2024 - Black History Month

March 14, 2024 - HULLABALOOZA Scholarship Fundraiser

April 11, 2024 - Member, BRIGITTA McTIGUE, will present a Travel Log

May 9, 2024 - SCHOLARSHIPS - Volunteer and Caller Recognition

****Always the second Thursday of the month and you will receive a phone call from our wonderful
callers!****

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Check out [frea.org](http://frea.org) for all state information

Like us on Facebook : [palmbeachcoretirededucatorsassociation](https://www.facebook.com/palmbeachcoretirededucatorsassociation)