



May-September  
2023

## Polk County Retired Educators Association Unit II Dennis Quisenberry Jr.-President



### "PCREA News"

President: Dennis Quisenberry Jr.

Vice-President: Thaddeus Davis

Secretary: Twanna H. Davis

Treasurer: Perry L Blocker

**IT IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW  
YEAR.  
OCTOBER 2023.**



*This is a photo of the FREA Conference Hotel from across the bay. This newsletter highlights the May meeting and a great State Conference.*

*A message from our President....*

**Dennis Quisenberry Jr.**

Greetings From The President,

Well, are you ready for another year. Your officers are doing a great job and we are looking forward to 2023-2024. You are important to PCREA Unit II. For it to prosper you must volunteer and get more involved. There are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved. We are looking forward to this year continuing working with you. Remember we are stronger when we work together. **REMEMBER** We all must work to increase our membership if our unit is to continue. Thank you for all you do.

Dennis Quisenberry, Jr-863 412-2920



**Polk County Retired Educators Association Unit II**  
**Dennis Quisenberry Jr.-President**  
**Thaddeus Davis-Vice President and Program Coordinator**

*Meeting Place: Hurst Chapel A M E Church, 875 Avenue O, NE, Winter Haven, Florida*  
*Breakfast at 9 A.M. Meeting: 9:45 to 11:30 A.M.*

<i>October 2, 2023</i>	<i>FREA State meeting Report-Delegates/School Supplies/Books Collections</i>
<i>October 15, 2023</i>	<i>Retired Educators Day –CELEBRATE (3RD Sunday in October in Florida)</i>
<i>November 6, 2023</i>	<i>Health Initiative and Toy and Food Drive. Bring Books, Toys and Canned Goods</i>
<i>November 7, 2023</i>	<i>ELECTION DAY-VOTE!</i>
<i>December 4, 2023</i>	<i>Holiday Celebration and Luncheon</i>
<i>January 8, 2024</i>	<i>PCREA Unit II Fun auction/Please bring Auction Items and baked Goods for the Auction</i>
<i>February 5, 2024</i>	<i>Black History Celebration – Extravaganza Tickets available.</i>
<i>March 4, 2024</i>	<i>Election of Officers for 2024-2026</i>
<i>April 1, 2024</i>	<i>Necrology Service</i>
<i>May 6, 2024</i>	<i>End of Year Luncheon</i>
<i>May 14-16, 2024</i>	<i>FREA Convention, Saddlebrook Resort, Wesley Chapel Florida</i>
<i>June –September 2024</i>	<i>Have a Great Summer!!!</i>

*Dennis Quisenberry, Jr., President* *Thaddeus Davis, Vice President*

**We are planning great meetings this year. It all comes down to the preparation of the Board and all the volunteers. Thank you to everyone who comes early to set up , brings a gift, collect money and all the other things that makes our meetings fun. Thank You. The May meeting is always fun because we get to celebrate another amazing year in PCREA UNIT II.**



The FREA State Conference was held at the Bluegreen's Bayside Resort and Spa in Panama City Beach, Florida. The resort is beautiful and it is a great place to have a conference. The conference was well planned and there was great food and fun activities. Thank you to all the FREA officers and staff.



Linda Stephens-West and I were the PCREA Unit II representatives attending the FREA State Conference.



Linda Stephens-West was elected District 8 Director. Linda is a retired educator of Polk County Schools. In her 30 years in the system she served as Health Coordinator and as assistant principal. She served as President of the PCREA Unit I from 2018 to 2022. Linda says that she is excited to be serving on the state level and is looking forward to using her leadership skills to further the goals of FREA and representing District 8. Congratulations.

*The Memorial service is always impressive. We must always honor our members for their service. The evening meal was preceded by a "Mullet Toss" Yes we actually tossed (fake) mullet. Interesting. It was a great conference at a beautiful location.*



FREA has secured a new partnership with AMBA. They have been a great partner. Check out their products.

*The winner of the mullet toss was proud of his prize.*

Harriett Jenkins is our President Elect. The FREA State Conference is closer to home next year at Saddlebrook in Wesley Chapel. Start planning now to go.

May 14-16, 2024.

The May meeting is always important because we celebrate another successful year. Dennis thanked everyone who has stepped up and took on one of areas of responsibilities. We had a special luncheon to remember 2022-2023.



*Thank you Dennis, for acknowledging our volunteers.*



Polk County Retired Educators Association Unit II  
Gene Huckabay, Newsletter Editor  
2117 Kirkland Lake Dr.  
Auburndale, FL 33823

### **"PCREA News"**

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Vice President: Thaddeus Davis  
Secretary: Twanna Davis  
Treasurer: Perry L. Blocker

Many thanks to all of Our  
Contributors & Our Editor, Gene  
Huckabay

Please share with us any  
articles, pictures, events, or  
announcements, the  
Newsletter is only as good as its  
contributors. Send to :  
genehuckabay@hotmail.com  
Mail to: 2117 Kirkland Lake Dr.  
Auburndale, FL 33823

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### ***Our Mission.....***

Our Mission is to promote the well-being of retired educators; encourage community service by supporting public education; and to disseminate information to members and the public through publications, programs and projects at the state and local levels.

### ***FREA Facts.....***

We are a 12,000 member organization that welcomes all retired professional educators as well as active educators and other school personnel.

We are the State professional organization whose primary purpose is to represent retired educators.

We are affiliated with the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA), which is a division of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

### ***What is PCREA Unit II?***

The Polk County Retired Educators Association Unit II represents the retired educators of Eastern Polk County. We meet the first Monday of the month from October through May for breakfast/lunch and have friendly conversation and also meetings to discuss programs and topics of interest. Please come and join us for great food and interesting and informative programs. For more information please contact Shirley Thomas **Membership Chair** at [shirleyburdenfoster@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleyburdenfoster@yahoo.com) or Gene Huckabay, at [genehuckabay@hotmail.com](mailto:genehuckabay@hotmail.com).

### **Come join us at our fun and informative meetings.**

You may win a gift from your table host, the Mystery gift, or other prizes. You will meet dedicated retired educators, hear informative speakers and programs and make new friends. Join us and get involved in the various service projects such as Literacy for Life, collecting food for the folks in need in our area and supporting schools and educators.

