

Newsletter of the Chatham Retired Educators Association



Dates To Remember

May 7-9, 2024

GREA Convention
Athens, GA

August 2024

CREA Leadership Team
Meeting

September 9, 2024

CREA Meeting

October 14, 2024

CREA Meeting

November 11, 2024

Veterans' Day

November 11, 2024

CREA Meeting

November 28, 2024

Thanksgiving Day

The final meeting of the Chatham Retired Educators Association for 2023-2024 was called to order by President Carrie Howard on Monday, April 8, 2024, at the Rebecca Padgett Event Center. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chaplain Rosa Jackson shared an inspirational poem and prayer. Birthday Chairpersons Barbara Caughman and acknowledged members born in the month of April. Committee Chairs presented reports. The Chatham REA Officers for 2024-2025 were installed by Area VI Director Dr. Connie Cooper.

Congratulations to the 2024-2025 Chatham REA Officers:

President- Mrs. Princetta Simmons

President- Elect Dr. Gordon Baker

Secretary- Ms. Gail Moyer

Assistant Secretary- Mrs. Alvernia Jackson

Treasurer- Mrs. Wilmotine Ellis

Assistant Treasurer- Mrs. Mary Shank

Parliamentarian- Mrs. Johnye Gillans

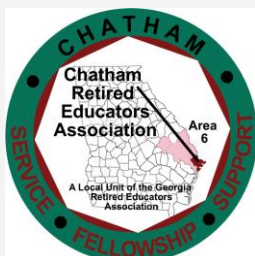
Chaplain- Mrs. Rosa Jackson

Past President- Mrs. Carrie Howard

The Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA) Convention will be held at the Classic Center in Athens, GA on May 7-9, 2024.

We wish our Chatham REA members a wonderful Summer and look forward to seeing you at our first meeting for the new year, which will be held on September 9, 2024.

*Dr. Brenda L. Roberts & Omie Flournoy
CREA Public Relations*



GREA President Goals:



- Stay in our lane.
- Totes to Tots - \$35,500,
- Membership - 35,500- just over 7% growth
- Fellowship - Get on the Bus - go somewhere together.
- Communication - Board/ website info.
- Leave the bus clean - be a good steward- great organization, great bus drivers, strong membership, solid finances, active local units.

CREA supports the Humanitarian Project of GREA President

Totes to Tots 

CREA President Goals

- Contribute \$525 to Totes to Tots
- Membership recruitment of 7%
- Provide professional and social programs for retired educators.
- Purchase a plaque in the Georgia Retired Educators Museum.

CREA provides tabs to support the local Ronald McDonald



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

CREA provides school supplies for local students.



CREA supports the healthy development of children



Nurturing Children...Strengthening Families

Contact CREA



Mrs. Carrie Howard
CREA President
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@Chatham Retired Educators Association



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<https://www.facebook.com/Chatham-Retired-Educators-Association-1627759420832957/>




As we come to the end of the 2023-2024 year, I must take the time to say “Thank you” to all the outstanding members of Chatham Retired Educators for the work you put in during my term. The state and local goals were presented, and you exceeded the call of duty to meet each requirement. From donating school supplies to Christmas treats and supplies to bottle taps for the Ronald McDonald House to Safe Shelter and the Tom Austin House, you were there. Chatham was there, from “Totes for Tots” to the plaque for the state museum. So, how can I thank you for all you have done with only words?



I sincerely thank each of you, my elected officers, for your remarkable performance and unwavering support. Your leadership and dedication have been instrumental in our achievements. To those of you who were appointed officers, your readiness to step in and help whenever needed has not gone unnoticed. And to the committee chairs, your diligent work in preparing and presenting your reports on time, with clarity and conviction, has been commendable.

Thank you, members, for your presence when we decided to meet in person. With each meeting, more members attended, some even joined, and you fully cooperated with the programs presented.

Thank you to all nine municipalities in the Greater Savannah area for recognizing the commitment and work of the retired teachers so that each community recognized the retirees during Georgia Retired Educators Week.

Finally, a special thank you to the owner and operator of the Rebecca Padgett Event Center, who generously opened her doors so that we could have a spacious and beautiful meeting place without the unit's expense.

To the incoming President, may you continue to have all the joys and success I had and even more.

ChathamREA cannot be beaten!!!!

Carrie R. Howard, 2023-2024 President

Minutes, March 11, 2024

Call to Order and Welcome: President C. Howard called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Adoption of Agenda: The appropriate motions were made and the agenda was adopted with flexibility.

Pledge of Allegiance: The members recited "The Pledge of Allegiance".

Inspiration & Invocation: Mrs. R. Jackson gave the Invocation and Inspiration.

Presentation & Approval of Minutes: Ms. Moyer presented the February 12, 2024, Minutes. The appropriate motions were made and the February Minutes were accepted.

Reading of Correspondence: Mrs. P. Simmons reported that the Georgia Retired Educators Foundation, Inc., wants each unit to donate \$100 so that GREF can award 25 \$1000 scholarships to teachers. GREF will also have a silent auction to raise money. Mrs. Howard asked the members what action they wanted to take. It was decided to wait until after the Treasurer's report. * Savannah Schools Federal Credit Union will meet on March 19, 5:30 P.M., Johnson High, to celebrate 70 years. * Mrs. P. Simmons read a thank you card from the family of Mrs. Sula Hall. * CREA may buy a plate for the Georgia Retired Educators Museum.

Financial Report: Mrs. Ellis reported that as of February 29, 2024, the checkbook, ledger, and bank each have a balance of \$7309.08. The report was received as information and filed for audit. Mrs. Howard informed us that the money left over from the caterer bought this morning's breakfast items. Mrs. D. Wilson asked whether the GREF donation could come from our contingency fund. Mrs. Ellis said there is enough money. Dr. Baker moved that CREA use \$100 from the contingency fund for the GREF, Incorporated, donation. Mrs. A Mitchell made the second, and the members voted unanimously to do this.

March Birthday Celebration: Mrs. Caughman recognized members who have March birthdays. The members sang Stevie Wonder's rendition of "Happy Birthday".

President's Report (Emailed): Mrs. C. Howard attended the 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration for Rev. Chester and Mrs. Wilmotine Ellis. They are members, a past president, and current treasurer. Mrs. Howard attended the presentation celebration of Eddie Lee Marsh as National President of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. Mrs. Howard participated in Election Training for the upcoming Presidential Election. She mentored students at Groves High and at the STEM Academy, recruited new members, e-mailed CREA reminders to members, prepared the agenda for the March meeting, and emailed letters of invitation to newly retired educators. Mrs. Howard participated in Executive Board Meetings of National Council of Negro Women, Area IV Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., Dr. M. L. King Observance Day Association, and the Baroness Club.

Area Director's Report: Mrs. A. Mitchell reported for Dr. Cooper. She reminded us that all reports are due April 1, 2024. She asked us to please attend the May convention. She informed us that we did not reach the 7% increase in GREA membership, and so we did not obtain Unit of Distinction.

Program: President Elect Simmons introduced our first speaker, Mrs. Cathy Mendelsohn, who spoke to us on how to outsmart scammers. She is in the Georgia Attorney General's Office in the Consumer Protection Division. She discussed information about scams and also gave us a book, *The Georgia Consumer Protection Guide for Older Adults*.

Our second speaker was Ms. Lisa McKenzie with AMBA. She discussed various benefits and gave us a handout with additional information. Ms. McKenzie also reminded us that we may recruit people who did not work in a school system to be GREA Associate Members. They count toward the goal of a 7% increase in GREA membership.

Membership, Local: Ms. A. Smith reported two new members, Deborah Moore and Dr. Thomas Williams. Ms. Smith thanked us for all we do to help.

Membership, State: Mrs. Platts reported that we have a total of 33 new GREA members, but we did not reach our goal. She thanked us for recruiting. She also recognized several more Emeritus members.

Necrology: The members observed a moment of silence while Mr. Howard read the names of those who passed.

Newsletter & Public Relations: Dr. B. Roberts reported she emailed CREA Connections Newsletter to members and mailed them to members without email, submitted an article to the *Savannah Tribune*, submitted pictures to GREA's Facebook page, and updated CREA's Face Book page.

Webmaster's Report: The CREA website has been updated with information concerning the March meeting. Pages for January and February, 2024, have been created. Dr. Baker thanked Dr. Roberts. There is a link to registration forms for the convention and hotels on the website. Also, there is a list of restaurants in Athens.

Spotlight Ads: We have raised \$800. Those who donated will receive a special appreciation gift at the next meeting.

New Business

Nominating Committee Report: The members of the Nominating Committee are Ms. O. Flournoy, Mrs. A. Mitchell, Mrs. K. Jinks, Dr. T. Thompson, and Mrs. R. Jackson. Ms. Flournoy presented the slate of officers for the 2024-25 year. The floor was opened for additional nominations, and Mrs. Howard called for nominations three times for each position. Since there was no Assistant Secretary/Correspondence Secretary on the slate of officers, a nomination came from the floor. Mrs. Alvernia Jackson was nominated. With the appropriate motions, the floor was closed to additional nominations. Mrs. DeLoach made the motion and Mrs. Singleton made the second to accept the slate of officers for the 2024-25 year. The members voted unanimously to accept this slate. The elected officers for CREA's 2024-25 year are

President-Elect: Dr. Gordon Baker
Secretary: Ms. Gail Moyer
Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Alvernia Jackson
Treasurer: Mrs. Wilmotine Ellis
Assistant Treasurer: Mrs. Mary Shank

President-Elect Princetta Simmons will serve as President. President Carrie Howard will serve as Immediate Past President. The installation of the officers will occur at the April meeting.

State Museum: Mrs. D. Wilson informed us that the museum is closed for the convention. We will try later.

GREA Convention & Transportation: Approximately eight people will attend the GREA Convention. Officers must complete registration forms today. CREA has a 15 passenger van. The cost is higher with fewer people.

Reminders and Announcements: Turn in your volunteer logs. * If CREA sponsors something school related, GREA will reimburse us \$250. Ms. R. Jackson, Ms. Flournoy, Mrs. A. Mitchell, and Mrs. Johnson volunteered to look into this. * Mrs. M. Miller had a follow up comment about AI scams. She suggested we create an emergency code word with our families. When a scammer calls and doesn't know the code word, you'll know the call is fake.

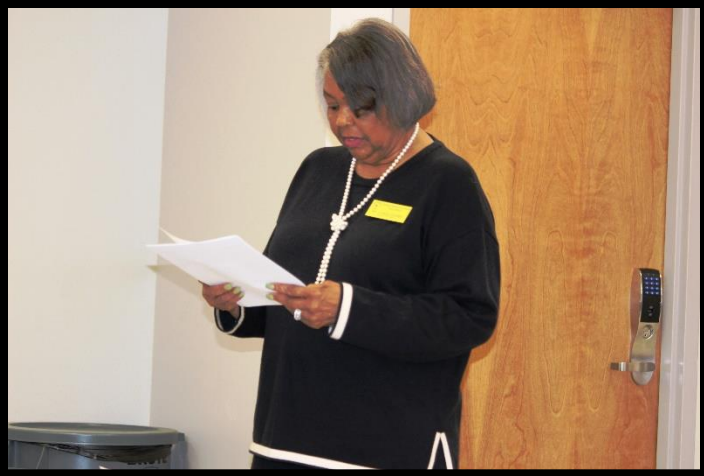
Door Prizes: The Scholarship Fund raised \$187 today. Please bring your door prizes next month.

Closing Prayer: Mrs. R. Jackson gave the closing prayer.

Adjournment: President Howard adjourned the meeting.

Attendance: 52

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Moyer, Secretary
moyerga13@comcast.net



***Dr. Cooper Swearing in
24-25 CREA Officers***



***President Howard passes the gavel to
President Simmons***



2024-2025 Chatham REA Officers

<i>President</i>	<i>Mrs. Princetta Simmons</i>
<i>President-Elect</i>	<i>Dr. Gordon Baker</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Ms. Gail Moyer</i>
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	<i>Mrs. Alveria Jackson</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Mrs. Wilmotine Ellis</i>
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	<i>Mrs. Mary Shank</i>
<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>Mrs. Rosa Jackson</i>
<i>Past President</i>	<i>Mrs. Carrie Howard</i>
<i>Parliamentarian</i>	<i>Mrs. Johnye Gillans</i>

Congratulations!

"Chatham REA Leads the Way"

NECROLOGY March 2024

Louise Evans
Lunchroom Manager

March 3, 2024



Please observe the deadline at the end of each month for reporting deaths.

Mr. Arthur Howard- 912-663-6692

Mrs. Geneva Golden- ggolden22@comcast.net or 912-398-8570

Happy Birthday CREA Members!

Virginia Maynor April 1

Kathye Jinks April 9

Clifford King April 28

Carrie Manigo April 24

Dr. Connie Cooper April 25

Cecile Burke April 30

Sarah Jackson

May 19

Betty LG Morgan

May 30

Dr. Virginia Morrison June 17

Carolyn Daniels June 19

Dr. Gordon N. Baker June 30

Lucille Bacon July 7

Omie Flournoy July 7

Beverly Copeland July 7

Carrie Howard July 15

Lawanda Ransom July 16

Johnye W. Gillans July 17

Arthur Howard July 26

Dr. Sandra McCord Best July 27

Mary Shank July 27

Dr. Pamela West July 29

Eunice Washington August 2

Jessie C. Deloach August 3

Audrey B. Singleton August 9

Geneva Golden August 5

Janie B. Bruen August 10

Susie Williams August 10

Felecia Roberts August 17

Angela Mitchell August 24

Alfreda Goldwire August 26

Annette Mitchell August 29