

Newsletter of the Chatham Retired Educators Association



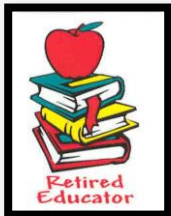
Upcoming Events

October 9, 2023
CREA Meeting

October 1-31, 2023
Breast Cancer
Awareness Month



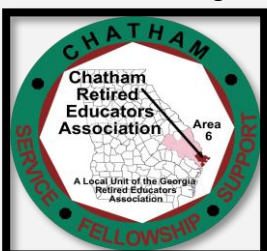
November 5, 2023
Retired Educators Day



November 11, 2023
Veterans' Day



November 13, 2023
CREA Meeting



The October Chatham REA meeting was held on Monday, October 9, 2023 at New Light Baptist Church, with President Carrie Howard presiding. All members celebrating birthdays in October were recognized by Birthday Chairpersons Beverly Copeland & Barbara Caughman. The Necrology Committee presented the list of deceased CREA members and district employees, and a moment of silence was observed.

The October featured speaker was **Debra Singleton** from the Neighborhood Improvement Association (NIA).. She shared information about programs offered by NIA, such as Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), First Time Home Buyers, Housing Counseling, and how to obtain Affordable Housing. Her main focus was on how Seniors are impacted by the new IRS laws, how to detect scammers using fake charities, and how Seniors can benefit from using VITA to prepare their tax returns.



Proclamations for **Georgia Retired Educators Day** have been approved from: the City of Savannah, Chatham County Commission, Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education, Town of Thunderbolt, Garden City, Pooler, Tybee Island, Port Wentworth, and Bloomingdale. President Howard has received Proclamations from the Tybee Island and Pooler City Councils. She will be presented with proclamations throughout the months of October and November 2023. **Georgia Retired Educators Day** will be observed on **Sunday, November 5, 2023**. CREA members will worship at **St. Paul CME Church, 1801 Barnard Street, during their 8:00 am service.**

CREA has an **email address and website!** Send correspondence to Chathamrea21@gmail.com, and go to www.chathamreaonline.com to check out our website!

“CREA Leads the Way”

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

**Humanitarian Project of
GREA President
Joe Boland**



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 House.



CREA provides school supplies for local students.



CREA supports the healthy development of children




Ways to Contact CREA
Website: www.chathamreaonline.com
Email: chathamrea21@gmail.com



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President
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Retired
Educators
Association**



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



**Chatham Retired Educators Association
Minutes, September 11, 2023**

Call to Order & Welcome: President C. Howard called the meeting to order and welcomed us. She explained that we had to change venues due to insufficient numbers for Carey Hilliard's. It's Hat Day!

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Mrs. Howard led "The Pledge of Allegiance".

A 9/11 Tribute: Members viewed a video in remembrance of the 9/11 attacks.

Inspiration & Invocation: Mrs. R. Jackson led the invocation and inspiration.

September Birthday Celebration: Mrs. Caughman recognized those with September birthdays, and the members sang Stevie Wonder's rendition of "Happy Birthday".

September Fellowship: President Elect P. Simmons discussed seven ways to improve memory, and the members played memory games.

Presentation & Approval of Minutes: Secretary Moyer reminded members of her new email address- moyerga13@comcast.net. She also reminded officers and committee chairs to send in their reports the Wednesdays before our meetings. Send them to President Howard at carrieruffinhoward@gmail.com and to chathamrea21@gmail.com. Since she and Assistant Secretary Washington could not attend the August Transitional Meeting, there are no written minutes. There is a video of the meeting. Ms. Moyer presented the April 10, 2023, Minutes. The appropriate motions were made and the April minutes were accepted as written.

Reading of Correspondence: Mrs. A. Mitchell read thank you notes from Mrs. McCullough and the family of Deacon Eddie Johnson.

Presentation & Adoption of Budget: Mrs. Ellis presented the proposed 2023-2024 Budget. There was discussion about the rising cost of postage. Dr. West will donate 100 stamps to Dr. Roberts and to Dr. Best. Mrs. D. Wilson suggested putting the \$200 postage into contingency. She also stated that contingency should be 10% of the budget, but we have only \$300 in that fund. The appropriate motions were made and the proposed budget was adopted with the necessary changes. Mrs. Ellis then gave the August Financial Report. The bank, checkbook, and ledger all balanced at \$5969.74. The report was filed for audit.

President's Report (Emailed): Mrs. Howard prepared for, held, and attended meetings; sent information to members; recruited new members and updated the membership roster; ordered GREA Retired Educators' Day ribbons; and sent sympathy cards on behalf of CREA for deceased educators.

GREA and CREA Goals: Mrs. Howard went over GREA's and CREA's goals. The GREA president's charity is Totes for Tots. He wants to raise \$5,500, and CREA's part is \$525. *Today is Hat Day, and Mrs. Howard thanked members who wore hats. *We will continue to collect school supplies and treats, to collect pop tabs, and to donate Christmas items to Austin House, Park Place, and Greenbriar. Mrs. Howard encouraged members to vote in upcoming elections. She appointed Dr. B. Roberts to plan a preretirement workshop.

GREA Convention Overview: Mrs. A. Mitchell showed pictures from the May convention. She discussed the various events and listed all the awards CREA received.

Membership, Local: Mrs. Annette Smith welcomed new members, Ms. Moore and Ms. Brown-Jones. Mrs. Smith encouraged us to recruit.

Membership, State: Mrs. Dottie Platts reported 12 new GREA members. Please continue to recruit.

Necrology: Mrs. Howard read the names of retired educators who passed from April through August.

Newsletter & Public Relations: Dr. B. Roberts reported she mailed and emailed the summer CREA newsletters to members; set up technology for Executive Board meeting; took pictures at the Area 5 & 6

meeting in Statesboro, GA; updated the CREA Facebook page; and requested GA Retired Educators' Day Proclamations from various local governments.

In Touch: Dr. Sandra M. Best's report stated that Mrs. Golden had surgery in August. She is recovering and needs continued prayers. Please let Dr. Best know of any members who are ill, recuperating, or hospitalized. Call 912-596-6602 or email mccord4621@comcast.net

Scholarship: Mrs. Singleton reported that scholarships will be awarded at the November meeting. We are asking members for a \$20 donation. Thank you to those who have donated so far, and special thanks to the member who donated **\$50**. As chairman of the committee, Mrs. Singleton stated she would donate \$50 today. Applications will be given to the colleges by September 30.

Bylaws: Mrs. Gillans asked members to submit any changes to the Bylaws to her.

Spotlight Ads: Dr. West reminded us to do Spotlight Ads.

Volunteer & Community Services: Mrs. D. Adams' report stated that volunteer hours will be done the same as last year and we should keep up with our hours. If you have questions, contact Mrs. Adams at 912-663-2309.

Webmaster: Dr. Baker is revising the website and working on a new logo. He needs a list of last year's deceased members and of Spotlight Ads. The website is www.chathamreaonline.com

Formation of committees: Mrs. Howard reminded committee chairs to submit their reports on the Wednesday before the meeting. *CREA is having a silent auction through December. Mrs. Howard explained how it works and what the money will be used for. Dr. K. Grant, Dr. P. West, and Mrs. P. Simmons agreed to serve on this committee. *Volunteers are needed to bring door prizes. To sign up, please put your name, phone number, and email on the form Mrs. E. Washington is passing around. *Mrs. Caughman, Mrs. Martin, and Mrs. Shank agreed to serve on the Recognition of Past Presidents committee. * Please turn in your birthday form to Mrs. Caughman.

October Meeting: The members agreed to try to meet at Carey Hilliard's banquet facility on October 9, 2023, at 11 A.M. We need 60 people to agree to eat in order to get the facility.

Retired Educators Day: We will worship together on November 5, 2023. Ribbons will be available at the next meeting.

Reminders and Announcements: Dr. Tom Lewis announced a talk by an historian from Non-Boring History. He will talk about John Wesley and George Whitefield. It will be held on Tuesday, October 24, at 7 P.M. at Wesley Oak Church or Asbury Memorial Church.

September's Special Recognition: Today we remembered September 11. It's also National Hat Day. Members wearing hats stood & told why they chose that hat. Mrs. Howard won the hat contest.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were awarded.

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

Adjournment: Mrs. Howard adjourned the meeting.

Attendance: 41

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

The President's Corner

The evening is coming earlier and getting brisker. Autumn is coming. I always look forward to our holiday meetings in November and December. Mark your calendar for the receipt of nine proclamations, our meetings and our silent auction. Get your bids ready. We look forward to seeing you!

For those unable to attend our last meeting, you missed a wonderful program with guest speaker, Ms. Debra Simmons from the Neighborhood Improvement Association who relayed invaluable information about income tax preparation and first-time home buyers.

I invite everyone to visit the website, at <https://www.chathamreaonline.com> . to keep abreast of our activities both past and coming. If you are not “online”, you can access the information by snail mail. Dr. Roberts will be happy to assist you, I'm sure.

As we prepare for our November meeting, I encourage “Each One, Reach One.” Bring someone, for our voice is only as strong as our membership and we want to continue to be a voice in the community.

Finally, if you are a member of CREA, you also belong to Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) and can take advantage of its many services, including discounts, educational webinars, financial / investment planning, insurance plans, and Medicare planning.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on November 13, 2023.

Carrie R. Howard, President

NECROLOGY-

May-September 2023

May 2023

May 12, 2023	Teacher	Eugenia F. Maurice
May 20, 2023	Media Specialist	Katherina S. Robb
May 20, 2023	Director of Main	Frank Hendrix

June 2023

Alan Berrong	Counselor	June 15, 2023
Berdina Hendry	Bus Driver	June 24, 2023
Adrienna Eason	Special Education Teacher	June 26, 2023
Sandra D. Taylor	Teacher	June 26, 2023

July 2023

Tonia Miller	Teacher	July 9, 2023
Sarah Vaughn	Teacher	July 18, 2023
Joyce Nelson	Para-Ellis	July 23, 2023

August 2023

Jane M. Cacey	Teacher	August 21, 2023
Jamello Merrell	SPED-Para	August 26, 2023

September 2023

September 3, 2023	Custodian	Gary Hom
September 18, 2023	Paraprofessional-Howard	Mary Butler
September 26, 2023	Nutrition Assistant	Charlotte Driggers



Please text information about deceased members to 912-663-6692.



OCTOBER 2023

<i>Rosa Jackson</i>	<i>10/1</i>
<i>Dr. Henrietta Gray</i>	<i>10/13</i>
<i>Walter Grant</i>	<i>10/16</i>
<i>Gail Moyer</i>	<i>10/16</i>
<i>Melinda Miller</i>	<i>10/18</i>

“Hope You Enjoyed Your Special Day!!”

CREA Connection- A Newsletter of the Chatham Retired Educators Association
Scenes from the October 9, 2023 Meeting



CREA President Howard



**CREA Speaker Debra Simmons (L)
with President-Elect Princetta
Simmons**



**CREA Emeritus
Martha McCullough**



**Dr. Connie Cooper,
Area VI Director**



**President-Elect Simmons
introduces Speaker**



**CREA Speaker
Debra Simmons**

