

Newsletter of the Chatham Retired Educators Association



Upcoming Events

November 5, 2023
Retired Educators Day

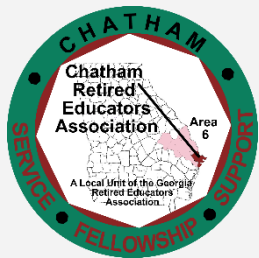
November 7, 2023
Election Day

November 11, 2023
Veterans Day



November 13, 2023
CREA Meeting

November 23, 2023
Happy Thanksgiving!



The November Chatham REA monthly meeting was called to order by President Carrie Howard at Carey Hilliard's Restaurant. After everyone recited the "Pledge of Allegiance" Mrs. Rosa Jackson brought the inspirational reading and Invocation. Chatham REA thanks All Veterans for their Service! Everyone born in November received a "Happy Birthday" gift from Birthday Chairperson, Mrs. Barbara Caughman.

A Proclamation from Governor Brian Kemp designated Sunday, November 5, 2023 as **Retired Educators Day** in Georgia. Chatham REA received Proclamations from the following: **Savannah City Council, Chatham County Commission, Savannah-Chatham Board of Education, Bloomingdale City Council, Garden City Council, Pooler City Council, Port Wentworth City Council, Thunderbolt Town Council, and Tybee Island City Council.** CREA members worshipped at St. Paul C.M.E. church, and other churches throughout the city and state!

Our November featured speaker was Margaret Coker, Editor-in-Chief of *The Current*, a non-profit news organization that provides original, in-depth watchdog journalism affecting Savannah and Coastal Georgia. She shared information about their research to report news that is transparent and unbiased.

The December meeting will be held on 12/11/2023, at the West Broad Street YMCA, and will feature a holiday celebration.. Registration begins in person at 10:30 am, and the meeting begins promptly at 11:00 am!!

Each One, Bring One.....Encourage someone to Join Chatham REA!!

November
Guest
Speaker



Margaret Coker
Editor-in-Chief
"The Current"



"Chatham REA 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.



CREA supports the Humanitarian Project of GREA President Joe Boland Totes for Tots



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



**Mrs. Carrie Howard
President
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Savannah, GA 31416
carrieruffinhoward@gmail.com**

"Like" us on Facebook

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





President Carrie Howard was presented with the Proclamation for Retired Educators Day from the Savannah-Chatham BOE on November 1, 2023



CREA Worshipped at St. Paul CME Church for Georgia Retired Educators Day on Sunday, November 5, 2023



President Carrie Howard was presented with the Proclamation for Retired Educators Day from the Savannah City Council on November 9, 2023



President Carrie Howard was presented with the Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from the Pooler City Council on October 16, 2023



President Carrie Howard was presented with the Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from the Chatham County Commission on November



President Carrie Howard was presented with the Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from the Bloomingdale City Council on October 19,



President Carrie Howard was presented with the Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from the Port Wentworth City Council on October 26,

The Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from the Tybee Island City Council was received on October 12, 2023.



The Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from the Thunderbolt Town Council was read on November 8, 2023.



President Elect Princetta Simmons was presented with the Proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators Day from Garden City Council on November 6, 2023



Minutes, October 9, 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 and a conflict at the Elk's Lodge.

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

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

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

Presentation & Approval of Minutes: Ms. Moyer presented the September 11, 2023, Minutes. The appropriate motions were made and the September Minutes were accepted as written.

Presentation & Adoption of Budget: Mrs. Ellis presented the proposed 2023-2024 budget with the changes discussed at the last meeting. The appropriate motions were made and the proposed budget was adopted with the necessary changes. Mrs. Ellis then gave the September Financial Report. The bank, checkbook, and ledger all balanced at \$6984.74. The report was filed for audit.

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

President's Report (Emailed): Mrs. Howard prepared for, held, and attended meetings, including one with the new Superintendent of SCCPSS; sent information to members; recruited new members and updated the membership roster; finalized the meeting place for the Retired Educators' Day service; sent letters of invitation to newly retired educators whose emails were provided; and sent pictures of items for the silent auction to the committee chair.

Area Director: Dr. Cooper thanked us for all we did last year and our attendance at the convention. The 2024 convention will be in Athens, GA. The Area Meeting had good attendance. Dr. Cooper explained GREA President Boland's charity choice, Totes for Tots. CREA's contribution is \$525. This is Dr. Cooper's last year as Area Director.

Program: President Elect Simmons introduced our speaker, Debra Simmons, Director of Neighborhood Improvement Association. Ms. Simmons discussed NIA's main programs: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, first time homebuyers' classes, housing counseling, and affordable housing developer. She spoke at length about VITA and how scammers use fake charities to defraud us.

Agenda/Report Changes: President Howard announced that committee chairs must send a report to be on the agenda. If you have nothing to add to the report, you do not come to the podium. If you have a change, let us know, and you will have 1 ½ minutes to announce the change.

Membership, Local: Mrs. A. Smith is sending cards and making calls. Please continue to recruit.

Membership, State: Mrs. Dottie Platts reported 15 new GREA members. Please continue to recruit because we need 52 new GREA members.

Necrology: Mr. Howard read the names of retired educators who passed while the members observed a moment of silence. He discussed how the Necrology Committee shows respect to retired educators, district staff, and their families.

Newsletter & Public Relations: Dr. B. Roberts reported she mailed and emailed the September CREA newsletters to members; updated the CREA Facebook page; requested GA Retired Educators' Day Proclamations from various local governments; is making a schedule for the President and President Elect to receive the proclamations; submitted CREA newsletter to GREA Facebook page; and submitted an article to the *Savannah Tribune*. Every local government has agreed to provide a proclamation for Georgia Retired Educators' Day.

In Touch: 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 13 meeting. We are asking members for a \$20 donation. Thank you to those who have donated so far, and special thanks to the members who donated **\$50**. A big thank you to Virginia Edwards Maynor for donating **\$100!** We need \$700 more. Students' applications are due November 1.

Spotlight Ads: Dr. West explained the goal of the ads and the form we submit. She has a button for those who participated last year.

Volunteer & Community Services: Mrs. D. Adams' report stated that a group volunteer opportunity should be announced at the next meeting. Please keep up with the date, venue, and the number of hours you volunteered. If you have questions, contact Mrs. Adams at 912-663-2309.

Website: Dr. Baker's report thanked Dr. Roberts for providing pictures for the site. The site now has the new Chatham REA logo, thanks to Barbara Nanney of Henry County. The October and November meetings are listed. There is a page tab for the September meeting. The September newsletter has been added, as well as pictures from the September meeting. The website is www.chathamreaonline.com

Special Recognition: Mrs. Howard recognized Mrs. McCullough for her many years of service.

Retired Educators Day: We will worship together on November 5, 2023, St. Paul CME at 8 A.M. The church is located at 1801 Barnard St. Wear your ribbons.

Reminders and Announcements: President Howard recognized first time attendees. * Text Mrs. Howard if you are attending a proclamation presentation. * Vote November 7. * The next meeting will be in the banquet room at Carey Hilliard's on Waters Ave. We will check with GREA about insurance so we can go to the Elks Lodge. * We are still collecting school supplies, pop tabs, and Christmas items. * Several members shared their good news. * If you didn't get a chance to bring your favorite dessert recipe, please send it to Mrs. Howard. There are three desserts for you to have after the meeting.

Silent Auction Committee: Dr. Grant explained how the silent auction works. She is getting bidding sheets. It ends in December.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were awarded.

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

Adjournment: Mrs. Howard adjourned the meeting.

Attendance: 45

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





From The President's Desk- Carrie R. Howard

Greetings,

As November comes to a close, we look back on our accomplishments for the month. We have been the recipient of *nine* proclamations for Georgia Retired Educators Day on Sunday, November 5, 2023. We visited the *Tom Austin House* and the *Women's Abuse Shelters* to solicit their Christmas Wish list for their residents. We provided comfort to members who have had to deal with the homegoing of family members. We sent our Georgia State President Joe Boland requested donations for **Totes to Tots** and awarded a scholarship to a Georgia Southern scholar at the Armstrong campus. occur during the year, but through it all, the Lord has allowed us to continue to meet with our fellow members. Thank you to Mrs. Shank and her committee for completing the Past president's acknowledgment and Dr. Wilson for the information on a proposed trip to the Georgia Retired Educators Museum in Flowery Branch, Georgia.

Now, entering the Christmas season, we pay homage to our Lord and Savior, who has allowed us to "*come this faith by faith.*" We look forward to decorating the Christmas Tree at the Tom Austin house and providing for the nine residents there. The fifty-plus members at the Abused Woman Shelter are also awaiting our Christmas donations, which we will collect during our December meeting.

The meeting in December will be at the **West Board Street YMCA**, 1110 May Street, where we will hold our Holiday Social event. As decided during the November meeting, those who participate in the *Christmas Secret Santa* event are asked to bring a gender-neutral gift valued at \$20- \$25 dollars to the meeting. We also anticipate a performance by one of the local schools. A silent auction will also occur during the meeting, as well as a short presentation by a guest speaker. With that in mind, we ask that all Chairs prepare their written report and submit it to our CREA email, chathamrea12@gmail.com, no later than **December 6, 2024**.

If you were not present at the November meeting and would like to travel with us to Flowery Branch, Georgia, don't hesitate to contact Dr. Wilson or me so we may add you to the list. The trip will occur in January. Again, we remind all members to invite, invite, and invite any retiree to our December meeting. We are determined to meet the membership goals set by GREA. We are also collecting our flip tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, which we will present to them in April.

Continue to keep "*the reason for the season in mind,*" and we look forward to seeing you in December.

Happy Holidays!

Carrie R. Howard, President





NECROLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members:

- Janie Bruen**
- Geneva Golden**
- Arthur Howard-Chairman**
- Doris Stewart**

After the meeting of our local membership committee and local leadership team, we were able to report the following death to GREA:

- Delores Hardwick – July 7, 2020**
- Anna K. Fenn – January 28, 2020**
- Roddy J. Hatch – December 29, 2021**
- Pinkie W. Henry – September 6, 2020**

The Necrology Committee will continue to show respect by acknowledging retired educators, district staff members, and district workers.

The Necrology Committee will continue to show respect to GREA members with a sympathy card of condolence.

The Necrology Committee and unit president will continue to show respect to CREA members with a sympathy card and a resolution of condolences.

The Necrology Committee will continue to show respect to immediate family members of active CREA members with a sympathy card of condolence.....

Immediate family members are acknowledged as parents, spouse, siblings, and children.

October 1, 2023	Mrs. Elaine M. Myers	Islands Elem - Administrator
October 10, 2023	Mrs. Gladys Jackson	SNP Assist. Butler Elementary
October 12, 2023	Ms. Abigail Verdree	WFHS – Staff Member
October 16, 2023	Mrs. Karen Sikes	Charter School Liaison
October 23, 2023	Rev. Vernell Cutter	District Office-Speech

Our First Student Report:

October 2, 2023 Kshaun Allen WFSS Grade 9

The Necrology Committee shared respect to the family of Mr. Judge W. Oliver – husband of Theresa Heard Oliver – with a sympathy card of condolences. An E-Card was sent to Mrs. Dorothy Wilson in the lost of her brother.

Please support the Necrology Committee by sharing deceased members with the committee by texting:

912-663-6692

“Chatham REA Leads the Way”

November 2023 Birthdays



*Lynda Milner
Princetta Simmons
Wilmotine Ellis
Jere Williams
Isabelle Williams
Brenda Roberts
Kathy Grant*

*November 5th
November 8th
November 9th
November 10th
November 11th
November 12th
November 29th*

