



GCREA Newsline

February 2023
Volume 10 Issue 3

GWINNETT COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION GCREA.org

**2023
NEXT
GCREA
MEETING
FRIDAY
FEB. 17TH
10:20 a.m.**

**TPC Sugarloaf
Country Club**

**President:
Kimberly Rooker
President-elect:
Karen Efstration
Secretary:
Ellen Sumner
Treasurer:
Holly Gardiner**

**Fellowship
Support
Service**

From the President

Kimberly Rooker

From GREA

GREA 63rd Annual Convention

**Augusta Marriott at the Convention Center, Augusta, Georgia
May 2nd - 4th, 2023**

Dearest GCREA Members, please join us at this event. We need a strong presence for the Gwinnett unit at the Convention. It's all about the competition, and which units have more members cheering for their unit!! If you would like to become a member of GREA, don't wait, join now on the GREA website. Next follow the instructions below for registration to the convention. 2 nights and 3 days of great sessions, great door prizes, and great banquets at the Augusta, GA Marriott at the Convention Center. Please join us for GA Retired Educators in Fellowship, Service, Support, and fun!!

Here are the instructions on how to register: The 2023 GREA Convention Registration form is online. Additionally, the form is available on our website (gcrea.org). Just click on Membership to get a drop-down menu. Then click on GREA. You will see the red banner on the homepage of the GREA website. Click on it and a form will be downloaded. Click on "About" and "Forms" and you can download the form. Click on "Events" and click hotel picture and you can download a copy. This link form also has a link to the hotel registration website. The "reservations" link at the bottom of the registration form takes you to the hotel rates for our event (\$149 per night). It is important to note when you go on the website hotel reservations are selected for May 1-4. If you will be arriving May 2, simply click on May 2, 3, & 4 to reserve your room for two nights.

WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

As a new year rolls around, we tend to rethink the old year past and try to make a new start in the new year. Now, I am NOT talking about going on a diet or taking up hiking or renewing that gym membership or even cleaning out a closet or two. I AM talking about looking up friends and colleagues you have not been in touch with for a while. What better way to renew friendships and brighten someone's day than to send a card or make a phone call? If that friend happens to be a retired educator, this is a perfect opportunity to tell him/her about GCREA and invite him/her to a meeting. Oh, but how can you do that gracefully? Well, here are some suggestions: Tell them that...

- This is a great chance to see colleagues from years past.
- We meet in a beautiful country club setting.
- We share a delicious hot meal.
- We hear very interesting and informative speakers.
- We support the next generation of teachers through our scholarship program.
- We contribute to a worthwhile Humanitarian cause like the March of Dimes.
- We continue to support our school system by helping with projects like the Bookmobile.
- We still make a difference in the lives of children/students.
- We want YOU to join us too!

So, now that you are armed with these talking points - in addition to all your catching up conversation - I hope you will make a resolution to call someone perhaps once a month and spread the news about what a wonderful organization we have. I challenge each of you to also make the effort to attend the next meeting and see for yourself what so many of our members are missing. Let's try to fill the Sugarloaf Country Club meeting room with laughter, chatter, and lots of retired educator friends - not just this month, but every meeting month! I'm just saying.....

Blessings from your Membership chair

Terrie Adkins

Change in February Program

Dr. Gray had a conflict and Joe Boland graciously offered to attend our meeting, with his wife Melinda. Inviting a GREA Officer is another requirement on the way to the Unit of Distinction Award. Joe will talk about March of Dimes and GREA membership. GREA has set a record this year for new memberships across the state!

We also have a wonderful program by our own member Mike Weinroth - about the Rosenwald schools and possibly an update from the Hooper Renwick Library Museum Commission. You will be receiving the RSVP Invitation within the next few days.

Thank you for your support! Kimberly Rooker, President GCREA

This was shared by one of our member, Laura Raiman, at our January meeting.





Dear GCREA Members, please give. March of Dimes is the chosen Humanitarian Project for GREA in 2022-23. Giving to the March of Dimes in Ga will count as a GCREA local service project. It will support moms and babies. Please support this Humanitarian Project with your donations.

There are several ways to accomplish the giving, either by shopping our Fundraisethebar through GCREA, by giving directly to March of Dimes, or giving by check through GCREA.

So ♡ Valentines gifts are waiting for you to purchase for loved ones and friends. Amazing soaps 🧼 and shampoo bars are available on the link below. Your order will ship right away. The fundraiser ends on February 9th at midnight. [March of Dimes](#) will receive 50% of your purchases for vegan, pure, handcrafted soaps made by Wit & Bubbles*. These soaps are gentle and smell amazing!

*Wit and Bubbles soaps and shampoo bars are vegan, cruelty-free, phthalate-free, paraben-free, gluten-free, sulfate-free, SLS/SLSA-free, and artificial colorant-free.

Click the link below and enjoy shopping! 50% will come to GCREA, then we will send it to GREA. Thank you! ♡ <https://www.fundraisethebar.com/gcrea>

To give directly to the March of Dimes go to this GREA link, download, and print the form, include your personal check, then mail it to the designated address on the form by April 1st, 2023. **However, if you donate directly to March of Dimes by mail, Gwinnett will not get credit for the \$ amount. It will go automatically to GREA.**

<https://www.garetirededucators.org/view/download.php/about/forms/2022-23-march-of-dimes-donation-form>

If you choose, you could write a personal check to GCREA and indicate that it is for March of Dimes in the memo section in the bottom left corner of the check. You can bring it to the February or March meeting or mail it to: GWINNETT COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION ~ P.O. Box 47, Grayson, GA 30017

Please mail contribution before April 1st. In April Holly will send a check from GCREA for all the monies collected this way. This will allow GCREA to get credit for that amount.

Blessings, Kimberly Rooker, President GCREA, 2022-23

Fellowship and Fun at our December Meeting and Luncheon



Welcoming New Members



Mara Eva Cline, Miss Atlanta's Outstanding Teen, sang during lunch.



Honoring Local Law Enforcement at January Meeting and Luncheon

Guest Speaker-Captain Mary Williford of GCPS Safety and Security
Special Guests Major Jordan Griffin GCPD and Officer Aaron Brinkman GCPS SRO



Editor's Note:
The next edition of the Newsline will be published April 1, 2023
Deadline for articles is March 23, 2023
sharonlarkin1826@gmail.com