



# GCREA Newsline

November 2020  
Volume 8 Issue 2

GWINNETT COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION GCREA.org

**2020  
NEXT  
GCREA  
MEETING**

**Friday Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>  
11:00  
Virtual Meeting  
via ZOOM**

**Details to be emailed  
to you.**

**President:  
Penny Clavijo  
President-elect:  
Tina Duncan  
Secretary:  
Ellen Sumner  
Treasurer:  
Debra Ault-  
Butenko**

**Fellowship  
Support  
Service**

## From the President Penny Clavijo



Greetings Fellow GCREA Members,

Happy Fall to you all!! What a grand welcome to the fall season we have had with such lovely weather and the amazing Harvest Moon that lit up the sky the first days of October. Fall is my favorite time of the year, and I have been enjoying this time of the year as much as possible: a hiking getaway to Blowing Rock, NC; driving the Blue Ridge Parkway; and of course, indulging in a Pumpkin Spiced latte or two. I hope you are making memories and time to enjoy this beautiful season as well.

This letter will serve as my November Newsletter greeting, so you will see it again in the next few weeks online in our November Newsline, which you can view online November 1 on our website: [www.gcrea.org](http://www.gcrea.org). I wanted to mail it to you earlier to give you all the red ribbon enclosed for you to wear on November 1, 2020 in recognition of Retired Educator's Day. Please wear your ribbon proudly on November 1, 2020. Take a photo of you wearing your ribbon that we can post on our webpage and FB page. You may send your photo of you wearing your red ribbon to our webmaster, Anne Gregory at: [abcrvn@gmail.com](mailto:abcrvn@gmail.com), or our Facebook Manager Linda Mason at: [ljmason135@comcast.net](mailto:ljmason135@comcast.net). Thank you for showing your pride in GCREA, GCPS and celebrating our great profession.

Enclosed you will find information regarding altruistic projects that our organization is supporting this year and how you can volunteer to support these important events and represent GCREA together to help others in our community. Though we have not been able to meet in person due to COVID-19, I have enjoyed communicating with you all electronically, getting your phone calls, and seeing your photos on our

website. Your insight, participation, and your continued support of these projects is greatly appreciated.

First, our Fundraising Campaign this year in lieu of our annual Silent Auction will allow all members the opportunity to donate to scholarships that support teachers who are currently teaching, as well as those who are studying to be an educator. All members who donate will be included in a raffle drawing for a weekend trip to The Jekyll Island Club hotel on Jekyll Island, Georgia for a weekend of your choosing. Second, our Fundraising Campaign will allow us to sponsor at least one, hopefully two, schools with the GCPS Book Mobile. We all know the importance of reading and having a strong foundation and exposure to literacy at an early age. Your support of this fundraiser will help to ensure books are getting to the students who need them most. See the enclosed Flyer for details on how YOU can donate to support these volunteer initiatives for GCREA.

Third, you can participate virtually in the Alzheimer's Association Walk scheduled for Saturday, November 7, 2020 in Duluth, Georgia. See the enclosed Flyer and our GCREA website for details on how to register online with the Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association Team to contribute. Jan Calkins is our TEAM Captain. We have raised over \$3000 so far, more than halfway to our goal of \$5000.00. Donate by November 1, 2020.

Our membership campaign is going strong, and we are making gains on reaching our 7% increase goal. Terrie Adkins, our Membership Chairman, will share detailed updates at our November, 20 virtual meeting.

Our November 20 meeting will be a **VIRTUAL** meeting at 11:00am using ZOOM. We plan to have several guest speakers to share updates and information regarding TRS, GRS, AMBA and hear from our Committee Chairmen and Executive Board. Details will be emailed to you and will also be on the GCREA website.

I appreciate you and your continued support of the Mission and Goals of GCREA.

## Upcoming Events

### Retired Educators' Day

November 1, 2020  
Wear your red ribbons.

### Election Day

November 3, 2020  
If you have not yet voted, get out and VOTE.

### Walk to End Alzheimer's

November 7, 2020  
See flyer inside for info on how to join the team or donate.

### Virtual meeting

November 20, 2020  
1:00 via ZOOM.

### Thanksgiving

November 26, 2020



**GCREA Annual Fundraising Campaign**  
**Funding Scholarships and GCPS Book Mobile**



**We need you to help provide support through scholarships to current and future educators to enhance their academic, social, and personal development to ensure their success as an educator and to provide books to children to read at home.**

**Mail Check Donation to:**

**Debra Ault-Butenko**

**GCREA Treasurer**

**1905 Meyers Drive**

**Lawrenceville, Georgia 30045**

**By December 1, 2020**

**Make check made payable to**

**Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association**

**For: GCREA Annual Fundraiser**

**Tax Deductible Donation**

**This is in lieu of our Silent Auction due to COVID-19**

## HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR GCREA MEMBERSHIP LATELY?

So, you say, “What a question to ask!”. Of course, we have thought about our GCREA membership! Well, since we have not been able to meet since last February, maybe that question is not so strange. We miss our meetings and our friends and our activities. HOWEVER, our goals are still in place, our scholarships are still to be given and our volunteer work is still needed. So let’s think about GCREA for a few minutes. We need our organization to be strong and vibrant, especially during this time of sequestering. We need new members, and we need to keep our coffers filled.

Now I have another question for you – How long have you been a LIFETIME member? We have many Lifetime members, many of whom we never see or hear from. If you have been a Lifetime member for more than six years, your membership check of \$160 is no longer contributing financially to our present organization. If you are interested in keeping GCREA strong, perhaps it is time to rethink your membership. In addition to being a Lifetime member, you can also become an ADD member. This addition would simply deduct \$2.09 from your Gwinnett retirement check each month. That money is then sent to GCREA by the county each month. Several of our members have already made that move and it is a great help to our organization. If you are a Regular member paying your \$25 dues each year, you can convert to ADD anytime as well. This makes it so much more convenient to continue your membership without writing a check each summer. It is an easy move to make.

Here is how! Simply fill out the following form and send it to your Membership Chairman – which is ME! I will make sure it gets to the GCPS Retirement office and voila!, it is done. I hope you will give it some thought. And while you are thinking, ask a retired friend to join us too. ADD is the way to go! We will be meeting again in person someday and when we do, we will still be strong and vibrant! Retired teachers ARE classy – just no longer in a classroom!!

Many thanks and blessings from your Membership Chair - Terrie Adkins



Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gwinnett Automatic Dues Deduction**

My signature below authorizes GRS (Gwinnett Retirement System) to deduct \$2.09/month from my GRS pension payment. This authorization will remain in effect until I choose to terminate it by notice to the Treasurer of Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association.

I understand that this service is provided as a convenience for GCREA and its members by the Gwinnett Retirement System and that GRS assumes no responsibility for my membership in GCREA.

**All membership issues and transactions, including refunds, remain the sole responsibility of GCREA.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (REQUIRED)

\*\*Social Security OR School ID number\*\*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

Terrie Adkins  
3846 Carriage Gate Drive  
Duluth, GA 30096

# TOGETHER, WE CAN END ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

alzheimer's  association®

## THIS YEAR'S WALK IS EVERYWHERE.

This year's event won't be a large in-person gathering — instead, we invite you to walk in small teams of friends and family while others in your community do the same.

### Join your **Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association Team to Help End Alzheimer's**

## 2020 Walk to End Alzheimer's Gwinnett, GA Sat, Nov 7, 2020

We are a little over half way  
to our goal our **\$5,000**,  
and we need your help!

#### Next Steps:

Log In to: 2020 Walk to End Alzheimer's – Gwinnett, GA  
[or click here](#)

Click On: Register

Click On: "Yes" or "No" to answer the question regarding if  
you have walked before

Click On: Join A Team and type in *Gwinnett County  
Retired Educators Association*, or scroll to find our Team,  
*Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association*

Click On: Join

Complete the information requested about  
yourself and your donation.

You are now a part of our GCREA Team.

Thank you for joining us!

Team Captain: Jan Calkins, GCREA Past President • 404-731-5105 • [jcalk52@gmail.com](mailto:jcalk52@gmail.com)

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[alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)

WALK TO  
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THANK YOU TO OUR GCREA SPONSERS AND SUPPORTERS!

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Dentist - general practice

15 Collins Industrial Way Ste A  
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770-962-3191



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678-288-9770



**Teri Fox**  
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Buford, GA 30518  
Office: 770-972-7700

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Pkwy #102

Dacula, GA

678-714-0421



Gwinnett County Public Schools

**FOUNDATION**

**GCPS Foundation**

[www.gcps-foundation.org](http://www.gcps-foundation.org)

431 Old Peachtree Rd, NW, Suwanee, GA 30024

(678) 301-7287

*Support to improve the Educational Future of all Students*

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**Editor's Note:**

The next edition of the Newslines will be published February 1, 2021  
Deadline for articles is January 23, 2021  
sharonlarkin1826@gmail.com

Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association  
1826 Prospect View Drive  
Lawrenceville GA 30043

Please invite your friends  
to join us at our next  
meeting as we “Cheer for  
GREA (and GCREA!)”



#GREAistheBEST #FellowshipServiceSupport #CheeringForGREA  
#JoAnnTomlinson,GREAPresident