

FORSYTH COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

THE BEACON
September 2020



#GREAIstheBEST #FellowshipServiceSupport #CheeringForGREA
#JoAnnTomlinson, GREAPresident

NOTE FROM BRENDA

To use a quote from Thomas Paine, "These are the times that try men's souls." We are experiencing such times again. Please be assured that FCREA will continue to provide you with fellowship and opportunities to serve our community in safe ways.

Our Leadership Meeting was held on August 21st at Lanierland Park to discuss plans for the year. Allen Money will be sending you information about our four upcoming Zoom meetings, which can be accessed by

your phone, Kindle, IPAD, laptop or computer. (We do have the ACE Cafeteria reserved for 2021 meetings just in case we are able to resume normal activities next year.)

Because of the pandemic, GREA and therefore FCREA, will have the same officers and projects as last year. GREA waived the new installation of officers for our unit. Additionally, our budget will remain the same as last year. As of July 31, 2020, our balance was \$4,871.17. Due to Covid-19, our membership goal for this year has been reduced by GREA to 7% or 29 new members. If we can achieve this percentage, then we will receive \$100 from GREA. This summer, Carla Sisk and Pat Crocker prepared new membership packets for our latest school system retirees. These were distributed at the drive thru ceremony which was held on August 11th.

Special thanks to our officers, leadership team and members from last year. FCREA was awarded another Unit of Distinction by GREA. As always, Amanda Wilson produced an outstanding scrapbook to represent our efforts.

I know this has been a trying year for all of us. Just want you to know how honored all the officers are to be selected by you and we will do our best to uphold the standards and traditions of past leadership teams.

Take care.

Brenda Gossett, FCREA President

NOTE FROM AL

I have our team registered for the October 3rd Alzheimer's Walk. This year we are the FCREA Beacons so if you would like to go ahead and join the team, go to www.alz.org/walk, scroll down and click on Find A Team. This will bring you to a box where you can type in our team name (FCREA Beacons) click on the yellow Search button, this will bring up a page with our team listed - just click on our team name and it will bring up a page where you can join our

team. If you don't want to navigate through that, let me know and I will be glad to add you to the team.

Plans are to do our walk here in Forsyth County at Central Park on Saturday, October 3rd at 10:00 am - no need to go to Gainesville. I have reserved the Youth Activities pavilion at Central Park for us to use as a meet up location and we may want to have some bottles of water,

granola bars etc. for our walkers. Somebody may even want to bring a corn hole game or some other type of tailgating/yard game. We may as well try to make it a fun time for all.

Al Money, Vice-President

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Even though we are navigating limitations due to Covid-19, it is important for FCREA to continue our mission to serve others in our community. The following community service projects for FCREA for 2020-21 were discussed and approved at our Leadership Team meeting on August 21:



- October 3rd - Alzheimer Association Walk at 10:00 a.m. at Central Park
- November - Donations of food items for The Place
- December - Donations of books and toys for the Forsyth County Fire Department Holiday Toy Drive
- May - Sponsorship of refreshments for the Retiring Educators Reception

FCREA will have our own Alzheimer Association walk to raise funds for the Alzheimer Association on Saturday, October 3rd at Central Park. Please plan to come out and walk with us as we support our GREA project.

We are asking our members to take donations directly to The Place during the month of November. I will send you a list of needed food items in our November newsletter. For our December Santa's Helpers project, FCREA members are asked to donate books and toys to the Fire Department headquarters in your community.

For both donations-based projects, please let the recipients know that your donations represent the Forsyth County Retired Educators Association. Also please get pictures of your donations with the recipients for our scrapbook. Pictures should be sent to Amanda Wilson's email: amandawlsn51@gmail.com

In May, we will sponsor the reception for retiring educators. We will again provide refreshments at the event and invite retirees to join FCREA and GREA. The date of the reception will be set later in the year.

I am looking forward to our continued support of our community during this "anything but normal" year!

SUGGESTED OFFERING

For The Place

- ✓ Frozen Turkey Breast (3lb.)
- ✓ Green Bean Cans (2)
- ✓ Cream of Mushroom Soup Cans (2)
- ✓ Corn Cans (2)
- ✓ Stove Top Stuffing Box (1)
- ✓ Gravy Jar (1)
- ✓ Pumpkin Pie Mix Can (1)
- ✓ Evaporated Milk Can (1)
- ✓ Ready Made Pie Crust (1)
- ✓ Jiffy Corn Mix (2)
- ✓ Cranberry Sauce Mix Can (1)
- ✓ \$20-25 grocery gift card for family to purchase perishables

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD

While Covid-19 may have impacted our ability to participate in some activities, FCREA members continue to volunteer in our community in many different ways. We serve others in our churches, schools, civic organizations, nonprofits, etc. Please take the time to record the dates and activities in which you volunteer from March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021.

I will collect this data from you in February, so we can report them to GREA for the Community Service Award at the GREA State Convention. You do not need a special form to record your volunteer activities. Simply keep a list of your activities and dates. I will ask that you send your list to me in February, so that I can compile our number of hours and activities. I will submit our totals to GREA by March 1st. Thank you for your volunteerism and valuable contributions to our community.

Linda Lang
Community Service Committee Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Carla Sisk and Pat Crocker, co-chairs of the Membership Committee, ask that you contact them if you know anyone who has retired from teaching and not a member of FCREA. Pat and Carla will be sending out personalized invitations to potential members

In keeping with our requirement of turning in volunteer hours to Linda, Amanda Wilson requests that you send any pictures you might have of you participating in your volunteer work to her so she can include them in our FCREA scrapbook. Her email is amandawlsn51@gmail.com

VOTING INFORMATION

Absentee Ballots Begin Mailing	9/15
Last Day to Register to Vote	10/05
Early Voting Begins	10/12
Saturday Early Voting Begins in All Counties	10'24
Last Day of Early Voting	10/30
Election Day	11/02



OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Rev. John Lummus, age 95, of Cumming, GA, passed away on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. John was born in 1925, to the late John Wesley and Lillie Mae Lummus. He was a member of Longstreet Baptist Church in Cumming, GA. John touched many lives through his years of service as a pastor, teacher, educator, and mentor. He was a World War II Navy veteran. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and friend to many. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lois Lummus; grandson, Andrew Wesley Lummus; sisters, JoAnn Hughes, Stell Lewis, and Kate Lummus.

He is survived by his children, James (Kathy)

Lummus, and Deborah (Harold) Shadburn; grandchildren, Jessica Lummus, Chris (Mary) Shadburn, Anna (James) Mundy, and Adam (Brittany) Shadburn; great grandchildren, Lucas, Johnathan, Andrew, and Liam; along with many other loving relatives and friends.

A celebration of life service will be held at a later date with friends and family.

Graveside Service for Rev. Lummus can be viewed here <https://youtu.be/vV59GdYSFx0>

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Georgia Baptist Children's Home in honor of Rev John Lummus.



HAPPY FALL BIRTHDAYS!

**Becky Roper
Carla Sisk
Clara Mae Cox
Clara McNeal
Claudia Billington
Diane West**

**Eleanor Hutto
Elizabeth Nix
Gail Frederick
Jerry Hogan
Johanne Daigh
Judi Jenkins**

**Kathy Vail
Linda Lang
Nancy Clackum
Susan Steffey
Tony Allen**

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARK STARK CHEATHAM

Congratulations to Mary and Paul Cheatham, who were married in a small family wedding on August 15th. We wish you both the best!

