



The Retired Educator

Vol. XXV Issue 2

Winter 2022-23: Dec., Jan., Feb.

OCREA General Membership Meetings

10:00 a.m.
(11:30 Feb & May)
First Thursday of
each month
Sept.–May
(no mtg. January)

Location

Church on the
Drive, 1914
Edgewater Dr.,
Orlando 32804

2022-2024

Theme

OCREA - Shaping
the Future

February 2 Meeting

11:30 Potluck

OCREA Website

ocreafl.org

Facebook

OCREA

FREA Website

frea.org

FREA Convention

May 16-18, 2023
[https://
www.frea.org/
convention/](https://www.frea.org/convention/)

Message from the President

**OCREA - Shaping
the Future** — Our
September speaker
Ellen James shared
how our Scholarship
Program is helping to
mold the futures of its
recipients.

Sara Trollinger, in
October, spoke on
how *House of Hope* is
shaping the lives of
misguided youth. Our
November speaker
Michael Clark will be
speaking on “Juggling
Your Future.”

Our upcoming
Programs should
entertain you. Read
the Vice President’s
article to learn what is
coming.

Attend our meetings
to hear how your
Board continues to
support our unit.

Check out your
member yearbook for
all information at your
fingertips.

Our **FREA Fall
Symposium** was a
success with over a
dozen OCREA
attendees. Cathy

Thompson, District 8
Director, did a great
job as organizer.

Encourage your
retired educator
friends to join us.
Bring one with you to
our meetings and field
trips! We continue to
Shape the Future.

**Christie Woods,
M.Ed.**



**Check out our FaceBook page
OCREA for pictures & infor-
mation on current events.**



Sara Trollinger, House of Hope



OCREA... Shaping the Future

Vice President and Programs Chair:
Janice Quint

Join us in November, to hear Michael Clark, a juggler and financial advisor, speak on "Juggling Your Future."

As always, our December and February meetings feature OCPS music students and our over 90's birthday celebration. There is no January meeting.

5th Grade Essay Contest

Chair: Debbie Smith

For a second year we will be participating in The Florida Retired Educators Association annual 5th grade essay contest. Students are asked to describe an experience or experiences with a grandparent(s) or grandparent figure(s).



The winner at the state level is awarded a cash prize of \$150. Locally, we have contacted 5th grade teachers at 12 elementary schools and media specialists district wide to get the word out. Essays are limited to 500 words and are due to the OCREA committee February 15, 2023.

We have secured a family 4 pack to Fun-Spot for the winner.

This is a great opportunity to recognize achievement and an opportunity to let the public know about our unit.

Contact Debbie Smith if you know of a 5th grade class that might want to participate.

kenanddebbiesmith@icloud.com

Hospitality: Suzanne Lincoln, Chair



As Hospitality chair, I'd like to thank all who have attended our meetings in our new location.

So far this year we enjoyed the refreshments in September brought by your board members and in October by those whose last names began with A - D.

Refreshments for the General Meeting go by last names.

- November: E-J
- December: K-M
- January: NO Meeting
- February: Pot Luck
- March: N-S
- April: T-Z
- May: End of the Year luncheon.

November:

- **Greeters:** Fran Burns and Jane Barry
- **Thought for the Day:** Mr. or Mrs. Gardepe
- **Table Decorations:** Suzanne Lincoln

December:

- **Greeters:** Leanne Isaacson and Patricia Johnson
- **Thought for the Day:** Val Dobson
- **Table Decorations:** Jennifer Cunningham

January: NO MEETING

February:

- **Greeters:** Sharon Kochlany and Brenda Alston
- **Thought for the Day:** Richard Gomer
- **Table Decorations:** Sue Brown

**2022 VOLUNTEER HOURS
REPORT FORM**

Return to Joanne_Canarelli_jbc610@outlook.com

NAME: _____

Month(s): J F M A M J J A S O N D
(circle the above months)

Religious _____

Literacy _____

Environment _____

Ecology _____

Library _____

Personal Help _____

Hospital _____

Nursing Home _____

OCREA/FREA _____

Shopping _____

Schools _____

Other Projects _____

Total Hours: _____

Youth Hours: _____

**Retired Educators
Foundation of Orange
County (REFOC):
Janice Quint,
Scholarship Chair**

The Retired Educators Foundation of Orange County ended the school year by giving out academic scholarships to ten students from five high schools in Orange County.

We also awarded twelve technical scholarships to students at the Orange County Technical Colleges. We are so

proud to support these wonderful students.

In addition, two Educator Scholarships were awarded last fall. which brings the grand total of all the REFOC scholarships to \$36,000.00.

We are extremely pleased to support all these individuals in their academic journeys.



**Volunteer Services:
Joanne Canarelli, Chair**



A bit of goods news 😊. Our OCREA has reached 4,411 volunteer hours through September 2022. Let us recall our motto, ASK-ANY SIMPLE KINDNESS for the community in the little or big

acts that we perform. Remember shopping or telephone contact counts. Contact me by email or by submitting your volunteer hours on the forms available at our cheerful meetings. Happy Holidays!
jbc610@outlook.com

Notice: Field Trips November 10 and February 9. See below.

Cultural Affairs: Anne Gardepe, Chair

Are you ready for some “extracurricular” activities with OCREA?
Add these dates to add to your calendar:
November 10, 2022, 10 a.m., Holocaust Memorial Resource Center of Florida, 851 North Maitland Avenue, Maitland. No charge. Donations accepted. 12:45: Lunch at Antonio’s Market and Café (Downstairs), 611 S. Orlando Avenue, Maitland.
February 9, 2023, 10 a.m., Orlando Wetlands Park, 25155 Wheeler Rd Christmas, FL 32709. Tour with the McNamaras. Picnic lunch afterward. BYOL.

I am planning a play matinee in April. There are a few from which to choose. Details after the first of the year.
I hope you can join us for any or all! Bring a guest if you like. Contact:
annegard64@gmail.com



Membership: Kim Stutsman, Chair

What is the advantage of being a member of OCREA?

I can answer honestly from my experience that the first thing that comes to my mind is the friendships that I have made.

When I joined, after being asked to come to a meeting by my dear friend, Madelyn Gaston, I gained additional friends with whom I had much in common. Those friendships have deepened

over the years. Not only do we share the bond of teaching and education, but the love of retirement, interest in cultural activities, sharing of travel experiences, love of books, and love of family.

I continually look forward to meetings where I learn more about our greater Orlando and Orange County community, including how to reach out to organizations that need volunteers and other worthwhile support. Having common interests

and sharing with one another and supporting one another is one of the greatest joys of being a member of OCREA and FREA.

I hope as you read this you are reflecting on your own experiences as a member of OCREA. Won't you reach out and invite someone to come to one of our meetings? They will be forever grateful that you wanted them to join you in the activities of this worthwhile organization.

I am looking forward to seeing you and a friend soon.

OCREA Membership Application
Hand out the application below and invite a friend to a meeting!



**Orange County Retired Educators Association
Membership Application
Unified Dues (FREA/OCREA): \$55.00 Annually
July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023**



Date: _____		_____ New _____ Renew
<input type="checkbox"/> General Member: Retired School Teacher, School Administrator, School Transportation, School Maintenance, School Cafeteria, School Para, etc.		<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member: Any person not affiliated with a school system but wants to support the mission of the Association may apply for membership.
FREA Benefits are fully available to ALL General or Associate members.		
Name and Title		Phone – Cell preferred
Mailing Address		Birth Month and Year
City	State	Zip
E-mail address: _____		
Unified FREA/OCREA Dues: \$ <u>55.00</u> Legislative Donation: \$ <u>4.00</u> FREF donation: \$ _____ OCREA - Ernest & Ruth Hawk Scholarship donation: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____	Please make check payable to OCREA. Mail to: OCREA PO Box 678236 Orlando, FL 32867	OR Pay with *PayPal by sending money to treasurer.ocrea@gmail.com. *If paying with PayPal, please add an additional \$2 to total to cover processing fees.

Legislative Donation: OCREA and FREA are your advocates regarding your pension and the future of education in the State of Florida. Donate to support our efforts on behalf of all present/future Retired Educators, and other beneficiaries of the Florida Retirement System like First Responders. All donation money will be used in a non-partisan way. **Have questions? Contact Jennifer Cunningham - OCREA Treasurer at 407-712-4529 or email cunninghamjj49@gmail.com**

Addition Financial



Member Referral

It's true, friends make life richer... When you refer friends or a family member to Addition Financial, you can earn up to \$300 and they can earn up to \$300! Now that's true friendship. Visit any branch or AdditionFi.com/ReferAFriend to learn more!

Don't sweat it. We'll help you own your business space

It can be difficult to have a temporary location while trying to grow your business. That's why we want to take the burden

of renting your business space and help you own it instead.

Contact us today by emailing: BusinessServices@AdditionFi.com or call us at 407-896-9411 x2489

HELOC in your equity

Inflation's on the rise – but so is your home's equity! Take advantage of a low-rate home equity line of credit and lock in your amount while it's high. Plus, we'll pay up to \$1,000 in closing costs!

Whether making home improvements or consolidating debt, you can make your money go further with a low-rate HELOC!

Visit any branch or AdditionFi.com/HELOC2022 to learn more!

Convenient Appointments Available

We have reopened our branches for service at the teller line with limited capacity. For your convenience, we encourage you to schedule an appointment.

Visit AdditionFi.com/Appointment to book your appointment today!

Addition Financial Holiday Closures

Friday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving Day

Monday, December 26 in observance of Christmas Day

ADDITION FINANCIAL SPONSORS THE OCREA NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU!

Information Services: Pat Franklin, Chair

News for you!!

If you are looking for a good investment, consider I Bonds. For more information, go to www.treasurydirect.gov. There are restrictions on purchasing, but the interest rate now is 9.6%.

This Autumn don't FALL for scam artists.

Join or check that you are still a member of the National Do Not Call Registry by going to www.donotcall.gov/verify.



Make sure no one gets the paperwork on your property and sells it without you even knowing about it! Add your name to the list at www.propertyfraudalert. You will get a confirming email and then be alerted if someone with your name records a sale in Florida.

Also don't fall for that bank scam. Your text message will look like it is from the bank saying someone is trying to access your account. Even if you type STOP you are engaged. They will target you and try to get you to send money to Zelle (or another cash app) to stop the scam. Don't do it!

**ORANGE COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS
ASSOCIATION
PO Box 678236
Orlando, FL. 32867**

Address Service Requested

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #494
Orlando, FL**

Notice: Join us at our meetings the 1st Thursday of each month, except for January.

2022-24 Officers

President
Christine Woods

Vice-President
Janice Quint

Recording Secretary
Fran Burns

Corresponding Secretary
Joanne Canarelli

Treasurer
Jennifer Cunningham

Directors

2021–2023
Anne Gardepe
Judith Hays
Kay Wing

2022–2024
Dr. Sharon Kochlany
Suzanne Lincoln

ExOfficio
Dr. Gayle Hodges

THE RETIRED EDUCATOR

Published in
September, December & March

**Orange County Retired
Educators Association**
PO Box 678236
Orlando, FL 32867

Editors
Yearbook – Jennifer Cunningham
& Dr. Kim Stutsman
Newsletter - Christie Woods

Sunshine Contact
Joanne Canarelli