

# NEWS & VIEWS

## Nov. 11, 2022

Our next PREA meeting will be Nov. 11, 2022 at 2:00 pm. This meeting will be held at First Baptist Church Dallas in the fellowship hall.

No food or drinks will be served at this meeting. Please wear masks whether vaccinated or not.



## Empowered to Serve

## Fellowship Service Support

### President's Message:

Dear Paulding Members,

I do hope you had a beautiful Christmas with family and friends. Christmas of 2020 was a challenge. We need to be with the ones who are dear to us during the holiday season. We can be thankful for the blessing of a very different Christmas this year. May 2022 be the year of our best health and NO Covid!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2022 at 2:00 pm. Our speaker will be our new superintendent for Paulding County, Mr. Steve Barnette. He will share his vision on how to meet the diverse needs of our students with programs available in our county. I have also asked him to share about the challenges of educating our students during Covid. We will wear masks whether vaccinated or not. We will not have any food or drinks at this meeting.

GREA currently has over 31,000 members. Around 500 members pass away each year. We need to keep this organization strong to protect our pension and health

**Important Dates:**

JANUARY 1, 2022 HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!

JANUARY 11, 2022 PREA  
MEETING AT 2:00 AT FBCD

MARCH 8, 2022 PREA  
MEETING MEMORIAL  
SERVICE AT 10:00

APRIL 7, 2022 CLUSTER  
MEETING IN  
CEDARTOWN, GA AT 11:00

MAY 3-5, 2022 STATE GRE  
CONVENTION STONE  
MOUNTAIN, GA

benefits. PLEASE speak up and encourage retirees you may know to join GRE. I will then call them and invite them to our Paulding meetings.

Our GRE President, Dr. Henrietta Gray, has selected the March of Dimes for her humanitarian project. This charity continues to lead the fight for the health of all moms and babies. Please be generous and support this worthy cause. Make your Checks payable to PREA. We will then send one check in March from our unit. You may bring your check to our meetings or mail it to: Sandy Parson 11 Clonts Road Douglasville, GA 30134. Indicate on the memo line that it is for the March of Dimes.

Helping Hands of Paulding also needs our support especially during these winter months. We will continue to accept checks and food donations at our meetings. If you cannot be at our meetings, please consider sending them a check and let them know it is from a Paulding retired educator. Here is their address: Helping Hands of Paulding County PO Box 1130 Dallas, GA 30132. The main location is at 228 West Spring Street in Dallas. They take food donations from 8:30 until 3:30 on Monday-Friday. They need canned vegetables, fruits, and meats. They need beans, rice, spaghetti sauce, breakfast items such as grits and oatmeal, and personal care items.

Have you had a change of address or phone number? Do let TRS, GRE, and State Health Benefits Plan of Georgia know. It impacts your monthly pension check and your insurance coverage.

Here's to a wonderful 2022 filled with great health for us all!  
Warmest regards,

Gloria King 404-583-4042

## Photos from our November Meeting



## PREA Member Serving Our Community by Gloria King

Retha Tibbitts lived in Dallas, GA most of her life. She graduated from Georgia State and worked with at risk students in jeopardy of dropping out of high school. Her goal was to get them into a vocation program and have them continue with the academic subjects until graduation. She spent her entire career at Paulding County High School.

Retha has an amazing talent for knitting. She has donated numerous scarves to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and homeless shelters. She also makes knitted bags which are used to easily hold a Bible. Many of our members have one of her bags for their own personal use. These bags have also been stuffed with toiletry items for those at the Homeless Coalition in Douglasville. Prior to the pandemic Retha volunteered at the food pantry in Douglasville. She has served as President of our Paulding Unit and has worked tirelessly for many years on our handbook. She is currently recovering from her second knee replacement surgery. We look forward to seeing Retha at our January meeting. Thank you, Retha, for turning a talent into a blessing for so many.



2021-2022 PREA Membership Application

Send your application below to:

Sandra Parson, 11 Clonts Road, Douglasville, GA 30134

2022 Retirees: Join GREA and get the first year of PREA membership free!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ \$10.00 for dues

You may also donate to the Scholarship fund.

\_\_\_ Scholarship fund in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to be in honor or in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_