# NEWS & VIEWS



#### Sept. 13, 2022

PREA Meeting: September 13 at First Baptist Church fellowship hall at 10:30am.

Bring a snack or refreshments to share if you would like and wear masks at your own discretion.

#### **Host/Hostess:**

Retha Tibbitts and Gloria King

Program: PREA Scholarship winners and CASA

# **Empowered to Serve**

Fellowship Service Support

President's Message:

I am Laura Weiss, and I am extremely humbled and honored to serve as your president. I came to Paulding from Douglass County in 2003, and retired in 2018 after teaching first at South Paulding Middle School and lastly at Scoggins Middle School.

From the moment I met the members of PREA I felt welcomed. Everyone was so helpful and nice. You made me feel at home. I was and am enormously impressed with all the good work our members do to serve our schools and our community. Being a part of PREA means we are still impacting the lives of students, parents and citizens.

Here's my point. You all should be VERY PROUD of being a PREA member, and should "toot your own horn" for your contributions to the group efforts. Tell everyone you know about your part in PREA and brag on what other members are doing too. I was privileged to attend the GREA Convention in May. I brought home to our Unit ELEVEN awards! The GREA awards we received are Unit of Distinction, Unit of Excellence, Handbook Participation, History Participation, 7% Growth, Newsletter Participation, Officer Information, Public Relations, Scholarship participation, Scrapbook participation, and Volunteer Service. These are because of YOU!

It would be thoughtless of me to go any further without recognizing our leader for the last two years-Gloria King. She listed the following goals for 2020 which we carried over into 2021.

Visit our web page: www.pauldingrea.org

Remember our local community project to support **Helping Hands of Paulding County.** 

Please bring donations or consider volunteering. Contact Reva Burks at 770-443-1230 for more information.

We will collect membership dues of \$10 at our Sept. meeting. If you cannot attend, please send your check to our treasurer:

# Sandy Parson 123 Legends Way Hiram, GA 30141

Please consider a contribution to our **Scholarship Fund** also. You may indicate on the memo line how much for each. You will find the form at the end of this newsletter. You can also make a scholarship donation in honor or in memory of someone. We will notify the family of your contribution.

- \*To keep all members safe during their pandemic
- \*To keep our PREA Unit active and growing
- \*To keep all members informed in order to protect our pension and our health benefits

I think you would agree with me that she met and exceeded her own expectations. Who could have known the challenges she would face, and how she would stand up to such adversity with dignity, calm and perseverance.

I would like to keep her same goals as my guidelines and would like to add one that Gloria could not pursue because of Covid. That is to enjoy the fellowship of our members. When I met with the Executive Committee members in August to plan for this year we discussed and decided on the following:

- 1. We will have only one meeting time, 10:30 a.m., for our meetings this year.
- 2. We will have food at all our meetings. Pot luck, bring what you like, any kind of food or snack will do. If you cannot bring something to every meeting, that's fine. We are sure there will be enough to enjoy. Just bring Yourself for a good time of fellowship.
- 3. We are starting a "Brag Bucket". For one dollar you can brag to the group about your new grandchild, a graduation, etc. Proceeds will be divided between Paulding Helping Hands and March of Dimes. So bring your stories and your dollars.

There are a couple of other changes of which you should be aware. GREA no longer requires members to log volunteer hours (yea!). They now require we, as a group, show we contributed to our schools, community, and one other humanitarian cause. This year our contributions are going to:

- \*Allgood Elementary School
- \*Paulding Helping Hands
- \*March of Dimes

If you are able, please bring something to every meeting for our humanitarian causes. For the month os September we are collecting school supplies for Allgood Elementary School.

I am excited about this upcoming year and can hardly wait to see you all again soon.

Warmly,

Laura





Executive Committee Members at August meeting.



Our Officers: Sandy Parson, Gloria King, Laura Weiss, Leah Smith, and Susan Lester



2022 PREA Scholarship Winners:

Philip Delgado, North Paulding High School. Philip teaches ESEP interrelated Math.

Jennifer Lenman, Jones Middle School. She is a Para Pro and is going to get a Bachelor's Degreee in Middle School Science with a concentration in Social Studies.

Chynna Stevens, 5th grade teacher at Union Elementary. She is getting a Master's Degreee in Elementary Education.

Looking forward to meeting the Scholarship Winners at our Sept. 13, 2022 meeting!

Please join GREA and Recruit fellow retirees to join GREA and PREA.

GREA Website: garetirededucators.org

## 2022-2023 Paulding Retired Educators Membership Form

PREA President : Laura Weiss not2bz4u@bellsouth.net Cell: 404-316-7164

Send this application with Dues and/or Donations to our treasurer:

### Sandra Parson 123 Legends Way Hiram, GA30141

New Retirees: Join GREA and get the first year of PREA membership free. Please return this form with no money so we have your information for our newsletter and membership lists.

Please make checks payable to PREA