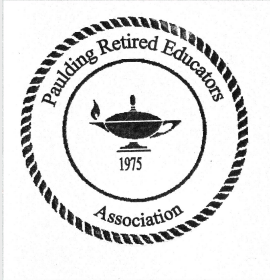


NEWS & VIEWS



Sept. 14, 2023

PREA Meeting: September 14
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:

Jeaneen Camp, Leah Smith
and Barbara Cohran

Program: PREA Scholarship
winners and Guest Speaker
Burton Turner -Director of
Employee Services for
Paulding County Schools

Get On The Bus

Fellowship Service Support

President's Message:

Welcome to PREA for the 2023-2024 school year! We have a great mix of new and returning members.

To our newest members...I'll bet you are surprised to know that when you became a member of GREA (aren't you smart!) you became a member of our local organization, Paulding Retired Educators Association.

I am Laura Weiss, and I am extremely humbled and honored to serve as your president. You belong to a unique group.

Our members are the most active and generous people in the country. We adopt a school each year and provide them with school supplies, gift cards and hygiene items. We award scholarships to individuals seeking to pursue degrees in higher education, and thus impact students. We bake homemade deserts for our newly retired teachers to enjoy at the retirement luncheon. We support Paulding Helping Hands with food, clothing and household items. PREA also supports the goals of our parent organization, GREA.

At the GREA Convention in May, I was proud to bring home to our Unit ELEVEN awards! Please come to our meeting on September 14th to see them all. Our awards came from many diversified areas such as Public Service, Public Relations, Communication, Scrapbook, Newsletter, Membership, Scholarship and more. Surely you can find your niche in PREA.

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Visit our web page:
www.pauldingrea.org

The web page has an updated copy of the Handbook (with our by-laws) as well as helpful forms.

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

If you are a first year member, dues are waived.

Please consider a contribution to our **Scholarship Fund**. 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.

GREA has a new president, Joe Boland. The motto for his term in office is "Get on the Bus." Some of his stated goals are:

- Stay in our lane
- Make \$35,000 in contributions to Totes to Tots
- Increase membership by 7%
- Fellowship-Get on the Bus-go somewhere together
- Leave the bus clean-be a good steward

Over the past year we received recognition for our service to our schools and educators by the Paulding Board of Education. I continue to be 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.

Following are some goals and meeting guidelines for the year.

- *Keep all members safe
- *Keep our PREA Unit active and growing
- *Keep all members informed in order to protect our pension and our health benefits

Of course the best part of our meetings is the fellowship we enjoy. We love to eat and talk!!!

At meetings we are continuing the "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 Totes for Tots. So bring your stories and your dollars.

This year we are supporting :

- *South Paulding Middle School

*Paulding Helping Hands

*Totes for Tots

If you are able, please bring something to every meeting for one of our humanitarian causes. For the month of September we are collecting school supplies for South Paulding Middle School. Some of the supplies requested include book bags, mechanical pencils and the usual composition books, colored pencils and so forth.

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

Warmly,

Laura



August Planning Meeting members begin our collection of school supplies for South Paulding Middle.



Please join us on Sept 14, 2023 for our first meeting of this year! Burton Turner will be our guest speaker. Burton is the Director of Employee Services for Paulding County Schools.

2023 PREA Scholarship Winners:

Adriana DePierre, works at Hutchens Elementary as a parapro in Kindergarten. She is getting a degree in Elementary Education.

Jessica Estes, works at Ragsdale Elementary in First Grade. She is getting a Master Degree in K-6 Math.

Laura Hartman, works at McClure Middle School teaching 6th Grade Social Studies. She is getting a Masters Degree in Education.

Lauren “Taylor” LaFevre, works at Burnt Hickory Elementary as a K-2 self contained teacher of Autism students. She is getting a Specialist Degree in Special Education.

Look forward to meeting the Scholarship Winners at our Sept. 14, 2023 meeting!

A very important announcement: Beth Black and Patti Swift are our new Presidents Elect! They will take the vows of their office at our November meeting. They are taking over for our dear member, Susan Lester.

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

GREa Website: garetirededucators.org

2023 -2024 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, GA 30141

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

Current Members: Please send your dues to our treasurer or pay at the next meeting.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

\$_____ \$10 for Yearly PREA Dues **(Free for New Retirees the first year)**

\$_____ Donation to the Scholarship Fund

I would like my donation to the Scholarship Fund to be in honor or in memory of

Total amount enclosed: \$_____ (Make check payable to PREA.)

