



# *Brevard Federation of Teachers*

## *Retired Chapter News*

### *"Retired, Not Expired"*

Volume 23, Number 5  
Mar. 2019

## *The President's Missive*

--Joan Taddie

As retired teachers, we can remember that February was the month when the color red bedecked our classrooms as our students gleefully prepared for the Valentine's Day festivities. But this February, the color red and Valentine's Day were more somber than festive. This February 14<sup>th</sup> marked one year since the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, where within six minutes, 17 students and staff lost their lives and 17 more were injured when a gunman opened fire.

The color red still fills our schools, as teachers wear Red4ED t-shirts reminding everyone that they still do not have a contract and that they are at impasse with the School Board. Thank you to the many BFTR members who support our local BFT's efforts to support Brevard's teachers by wearing red and attending the rallies at School Board meetings. Rally #3 will take place on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 pm. On March 4<sup>th</sup> there will be sign waving from 4-6 pm at SR 50 & SR 405, SR 520 & SR 3, Eau Gallie & US1, and Minton & Palm Bay Road.

We had a wonderful meeting in February with lots of terrific speakers. Thanks to our new Palm Bay City Councilman Kenny Johnson for coming by to thank our members for all the help they gave him during the 2018 election. He talked about the issues he is working on and what he has accomplished so far, including having teen representatives from Palm Bay as special advisors to the Council.

Thanks also to Fran Baer for arranging to have Linda Meeunberg from the Floridians for Dental Access explain why two million children on Medicaid in Florida need licensed Dental Therapists. Our featured speaker, Cathy Boehme gave an informative talk on learning to Fight Institutional Racism by Promoting Cultural Competence. Thanks to all who contributed to this outstanding meeting!



### **Next Meeting--Thurs., Mar. 7, 2019**

BFT Office, 1007 S Florida Ave. Rockledge, FL 32955

11:30 Brown Bag Lunch

12:15 Business Meeting

1:00 Guest Speaker: Ray Herz

Topic: History of currency in Florida

Our March program will be about the history of currency in Florida (1817 -1935). The history of Florida as a territory and state is profoundly tied to the history of its currency. Prior to the Civil War there was no national currency and any bank could print its own money regulating in a chaotic system with banks failing after an average of 3 or 4 years. A series of national banking acts were passed during the Civil War and over the next few decades the banking system became more stable.

Our speaker, Ray Herz, began collecting coins at the age of five. He grew up in Florida, and is currently an officer of the Greater Jacksonville Coin Club and a member of three other coin clubs on Florida's east coast. He is an avid researcher on many numismatic topics and has given presentations to numerous clubs throughout the state and at state conventions for over 15 years and at national numismatic conventions as well.

## Membership News

--Sheila Cootes

No “official” new members at this time, but one is in the near future. If you were at the February meeting, you shared the space with this “almost” member.

**Life members** pay only \$30 “local dues.” **Annual membership is now \$76** (\$30 of that amount stays with BFTR). PLEASE, annual members, consider changing to the “life” status. It still costs \$350 and we (BFTR) will pay your local dues the year you become a “life member.” **Save \$46 per year (plus the \$30 we “give” you for that first year’s local dues).** We will be glad to accept the \$350 amount in two or three (your choice) installments.

(Note: The “life” is in reference to state and national dues. That’s why “life” members still pay local dues. “Annual” also has to do with state and national dues.)

**Last chance--Life membership will be \$400 next year. Now is the time to switch to life status if you are an annual member.**

Membership questions? Just call or text (321) 427-7808 or e-mail ([scootes@earthlink.net](mailto:scootes@earthlink.net)).

## Political News

--Patty Farley

The Legislature has been working in committee for the last few months and will very soon go into session. On the first day the Governor will give his State of the State address and it is assumed he will have to discuss his shifting vast amounts of educational funding from public to private charter schools and into private school voucher programs.

In the last month we have seen new bills to allow guns on college campuses and a bill to arm teachers both advance out of committee. These bills are drawing a lot of attention and debate. FEA is making strong stands against their passage.

Are you interested in making a difference? Call your local members of the Florida legislature and voice your displeasure with these bills. If you can afford a short trip to Tallahassee, consider volunteering and working with the Working Family Lobby Corp for a week. Contact me for more information at this email address [Pfarley\\_101@hotmail.com](mailto:Pfarley_101@hotmail.com)

### **Florida State Senate:**

District 14—**Tom Wright**

Phone: 850-487-5014

386-304-7630

[wright.tom@flsenate.gov](mailto:wright.tom@flsenate.gov)

District 17--**Debbie Mayfield**

Phone: 850-487-5017

321-409-2025

[mayfield.debbie@flsenate.gov](mailto:mayfield.debbie@flsenate.gov)

### **Florida House:**

District 50—**Rene Plasencia**

Phone: 850-717-5050

321-383-5151

[Rene.Plasencia@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Rene.Plasencia@myfloridahouse.gov)

District 51—**Tyler Sirois**

Phone: 850-717-5051

321-449-5111

[Tyler.Sirois@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Tyler.Sirois@myfloridahouse.gov)

District 52—**Thad Altman**

Phone: 850-717-5052

321-409-2022

[Thad.Altman@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Thad.Altman@myfloridahouse.gov)

District 53—**Randy Fine**

Phone: 850-717-5053

321-409-2017

[Randy.Fine@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Randy.Fine@myfloridahouse.gov)

## Field Trips

--Lin Herz

### **March Field Trip**

On March 22nd we'll be going to the Foosaner Art Museum and Historic Rosseter House, which are both located in the Eau Gallie Arts District (EGAD.)

We'll be meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the Foosaner Art Museum, located at 1465 Highland Avenue in the Eau Gallie section of Melbourne. The current exposition is of world famous collage artist Derek Gores. Derek has exhibited his collages all over the world. Because our President Joan Taddie is a friend of Derek's, he has agreed to guide us through his work. (Cecily Cain taught Derek at Satellite High!)

There is free parking on the street and in the lots beside and behind the museum.

After the museum, we'll be having lunch (around 12:15-12:30) in the EGAD. Nearby restaurants are Squid Lips, which is on the water, Anaya Coffee, a small gourmet coffee shop that serves 2-3 different lunches a day. It has indoor and outdoor seating, The Cottage Irish Pub, which is on Highland Avenue close to the Rosseter House, Mario's Italian Restaurant, and Starbucks on the southwest corner of Eau Gallie Blvd. and U.S. 1.

After lunch we'll be going to the Rosseter House. (For more information go to [rossetterhousemuseum.org](http://rossetterhousemuseum.org).) The Rosseter family, already deeply rooted in Florida history since the Colonial era, arrived in the town of Eau Gallie in 1902. "Today the Rosseter House and surrounding properties stand as a living reminder of Florida's past and the people who made it home in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century. The Rosseter House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places."

For those who are not able to do much walking, they can meet us inside the Rosseter House itself, after lunch. (There is even an ADA wheelchair ramp.) For those able to do a bit more walking, we'll meet at the Roesch House across the street from the Rosseter House to begin our tour and then tour the Rosseter House, gardens, the Houston family cemetery, and the garage, where they have a Model T. Cost to tour the Rosseter House is \$8.00 per person. If we have ten or more people, the cost is \$6 per person.

To RSVP or if you have any questions, please email or text Lin Herz, at 321-960-8194 or [lin32905@gmail.com](mailto:lin32905@gmail.com) by March 15th.

### **April Field Trip**

In April we'll be taking the "Island Boat Cruise" along the "Thousand Islands" of Cocoa Beach. This is a marvelous narrated tour where you will see stately homes on the water, as well as our native flora and fauna. You'll see mangroves, dolphin, and manatee, and a myriad of beautiful birds. You can read more about it at <http://www.islandboatlines.com>.

We'll be eating lunch at 11:30 a.m. at a location TBA.

Afterward we'll meet for the boat cruise at the Sunset Waterfront Grill and Bar Restaurant, 500 West Cocoa Beach Causeway (520), Cocoa Beach, Florida. Park in back of the restaurant. We're taking the boat cruise boat cruise at 1:00. It's a two-hour cruise.

I was able to negotiate a group rate of \$25 per person for the boat cruise. If we have 40 people or more the rate goes down to \$20 each.

Please choose the date you prefer for this field trip and RSVP by to Lin by March 31.

Tuesday, April 2nd

Tuesday, April 16th

Thursday, April 11th

Wednesday, April 17th

## Read, Recycle, and Reward Program

--Rita Hewett

Here is our new schedule. Your help is very much needed. Please let me know if you can make it.

Book/Bag   Matching   Days   at   Clearlake  
Education   Center   Room   116  
1225   Clearlake   Road   in   Cocoa  
10:00am to 4:00pm:

Fri., Feb. 22

Fri., March 15

Fri., Apr. 12

Fri., May 24

If you can help any days, please let Rita Hewett know at (321) 720-3683.

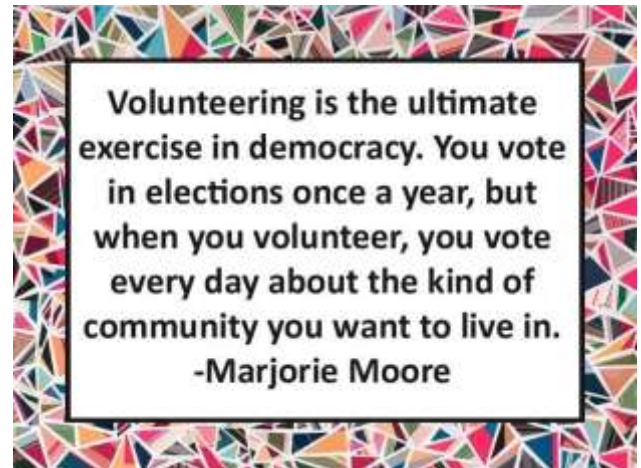
These ladies, Nancy Alderman and her sister Julia Hagadorn, sew their joy to help promote reading. They sew hand made creative bookmarks and adorable stuffed animals. They donated over 300 bookmarks and books to our book program.



## Volunteer Hours

--Susan Vincent

Please report your hours to me by email at [snv1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:snv1@cfl.rr.com) Please put volunteer hours in the subject line. Remember you can report hours to community projects, churches, helping the sick, etc. We only had 150 hours reported last month. I know you are doing much more than that!



## You

*By Edgar Albert Guest*

You are the fellow that has to decide  
Whether you'll do it or toss it aside.  
You are the fellow who makes up your mind  
Whether you'll lead or will linger behind  
Whether you'll try for the goal that's afar  
Or just be contented to stay where you are.  
Take it or leave it. Here's something to do!  
Just think it over — It's all up to you!

### **Help Wanted by BFT**

March 4 Sign Waving:

Shift 1: 4-5 pm

Shift 2: 5-6 pm

North Area: SR 50 & SR 405

Central Area: SR 520 & SR 3

South Area: Eau Gallie & US1

For more info call 636-3323



# Brevard Federation of Teachers-Retired Chapter News

## OFFICERS

## CALENDAR

<b>President:</b>	<b>Joan Taddie, <a href="mailto:jtaddie@cfl.rr.com">jtaddie@cfl.rr.com</a></b>	<b>Mar. 7, 2019 - Meeting – BFT office</b> <b>11:30 Brown bag lunch</b> <b>12:15 Business meeting</b> <b>1:00 Speaker—Ray Herz</b> <b>Topic: History of currency in Florida</b>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	<b>Bettie Bailey, <a href="mailto:baileybettie@yahoo.com">baileybettie@yahoo.com</a></b>	
<b>Co-Secretaries:</b>	<b>Anne Byrd 452-6837</b> <b>Debbie Sandstrom 961-6033</b>	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Susan Vincent, <a href="mailto:snv1@cfl.rr.com">snv1@cfl.rr.com</a></b>	
<b>Membership Chairman:</b>	<b>Sheila Cootes 427-7808</b>	
<b>Sunshine Coordinator:</b>	<b>Eva Slaughter 724-0702</b>	<b>Next meeting - Apr. 4</b>
<b>Program Coordinator:</b>	<b>Lin Herz, <a href="mailto:lin2@cfl.rr.com">lin2@cfl.rr.com</a></b>	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Nancy Johnson 725-3504</b>	

### Membership Application

I want to join BFT/R for the 2018-2019 School year and receive membership benefits. Enclosed please find a check payable to BFT/R for:

#### New Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual dues \$76.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime dues \$350.00  
(state and national)

#### Renewing Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual dues \$76.00 (For non-life members)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime dues \$350.00  
(state and national)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Local dues \$30 (For lifetime members only)  
(Must be paid each year)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

How do you choose to receive your newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Postal mail

Former School \_\_\_\_\_ Subject /Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and mail it and your check to **Sheila Cootes, 3737 Sunward Dr., Merritt Island, FL 32953.** (or just give it to her at one of our meetings)

**Brevard Federation of Teachers  
Retired Chapter  
1007 South Florida Avenue  
Rockledge, FL 32955**