**President’s Message**

*Dear Member,*

*Greetings from the Executive Board of the North Fulton Retired Educators Association! Welcome to our 2023-2024 year of information, projects and social activities, all planned to promote the welfare of retired educators and friends of education in the North Fulton area.*

*The North Fulton Retired Educators Association (NFREA) is our local unit of the Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA), which was founded in 1958. The NFREA was established in 1972 to offer support and fellowship with other retirees, to promote awareness of benefits and opportunities for retired educators, and to keep an eye on state legislation that might negatively impact the Teacher Retirement System (TRS). NFREA cooperates with all local, state, and national organizations that promote advantageous legislation and works towards the defeat of legislation harmful to retired educators.*

*Our meetings are planned to provide informational time, opportunities for service to education and our community, and plenty of time for socializing, making NFREA an organized framework through which retired educators can continue to grow and serve.*

*This Handbook has been produced to help you become better acquainted with NFREA. This book will share with you a little of our history; meeting dates, times and locations; by-laws; policies; activities and the benefits you gain by being a member.*

*No handbook can answer all the questions you might have so should you have a question, please let us know by emailing* vbankston@hotmail.com.

*Thank you for joining NFREA. I hope you will join me in answering the call of our state organization’s theme this year (Get on the Bus!) by bringing a friend and getting actively involved in our club.*

*Vivian Bankston*

*2023-2024 NFREA President*

 Fellowship Service Support

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**Meeting Site and Information**

To be announced

**Meeting Dates**

September 20, 2023

October 18,2023

December 13,2023

February 21, 2024

April 17,2024

May 8,2024

Conversation begins at 11:00 with meeting beginning at 11:30. Menus provided for lunch selections with each member responsible for payment of his or her lunch.

**History of NFREA**

The Fulton County Retired Teachers Association was started on April 23, 1972 when a group of retired teachers met with Ruby While Brown presiding. This was a very large group. It was decided that since there were so many people from the two areas of Fulton County, the group should be divided in order to make the meetings more meaningful to all. The North Fulton teachers met December 12, 1972 and organized as a separate unit. The South Fulton organization was established in August of 1973.

The North Fulton unit of the Georgia Retired Teachers Association – Unit 3, Area XII, began as a loosely knit organization. It provided an opportunity for retired teachers to meet and enjoy the fellowship of other retirees. The first organizational meeting was held at Roswell Elementary School in Roswell, with Emory Lunsford presiding. At that time, there were no elected officers. After Mr. Lunsford, Mildred Moore served as the leader for three years. Nell Thompson worked very closely with her during this important time, when many changes were taking place concerning the pensions of active and retired teachers. An important year for the retired teachers was 1978. Under the leadership of Cecil Jackson, the organization gained recognition as a more viable and cohesive unit. In 1998, the name was changed from “Teachers” to “Educators” by the state organization. As technology developed in the new century, NFREA streamlined and improved processes. The aim of the organization remains the same, though: to bring together retired educators for fellowship, support, learning, service to the community, and working to protect and improve benefits for all retired educators.

**NFREA Past Presidents**

1972-75 Emory Lunsford 1992-94 Ann Bell

1975-78 Mildred Moore 1994-95 Ann Bell, Willa Largin

1980-82 Marion Dinkins 1995-97 Mary Ann Upchurch

1982-84 Mary Jane Miller 1997-98 Parrie Pinyan

1984-85 Cecil Jackson 1998-00 Janet Tolley

1985-87 Fred Guffin 2000-02 Betty Calendar, Charlotte, Richter

1987-89 Eleanor Burgess 2002—04 Abb Gunn

1989-90 Shirley Greer 2004-06 Charles & Jean McFarland

1990-92 Willa Largin 2006-08 Bobbi Wilbanks, Martha Paris

2008-10 Sandy Hanlon, Ellen Knouse

2010-12 Jeanne Wood, Nita Roberts

2012-13 Dawna Godfrey

2013-14 Barb Liptak

2014-15 Cheryl Williams

2015-16 Kathy Politis

2016-17 Sherrie Moss

2017-18 Vivian Bankston

2018-20 Susan Bates

2020-21 Mary Craven

2021-22 Latrelle Hinckley, Stella Boayue

2022-23 Nancy Shelley

2023-24 Vivian Bankston

**NFREA Leadership Team 2023-2024**

**President -** Vivian Bankston **Co-President-Elect** - Elizabeth Fogartie

**Co-President Elect** - Sherrie Moss

**Recording Secretary** - Debbie Reeves **Corresponding Secretary**- Paula Webb

**Treasurer** - Randee Nagler **Newsletter, Altruism** - Sherrie Moss

**Membership-** Jeanne Wood **Webmaster** - Cheryl Abbott

**Parliamentarian -** Nancy Shelley

**NFREA Committees 2023-2024**

Membership - Jeanne Wood, Chair

Publicity/Website/Welcoming - Cheryl Abbott

Scholarship - Randee Nagler, Debbie Reeves

Sunshine - Paula Webb

**GREA Officers 2023-2024**

**President** **President Elect**

Joe Boland Shirley Grant

jbboland@yahoo.com jefftgrant@windstream.net

**Executive Director**  **Past President**

Dr. William Sloan, Jr. Dr. Henrietta Gray

Phone: 770-540-9850 drretta3@aol.com

grea3@grea3.org

**Area 13 Director**

Sallie Mills

770-314-0200

mills\_sally@bellsouth.net

**Georgia Retired Educators Association**

4311 Falcon Parkway

Flowery Branch, GA 30542

770-287-7721

grea3@grea3.org

**Teacher Retirement System of Georgia State Health Benefit Plan**

Two Northside 75 Suite 500 Member Services: 800-610-1863

Atlanta, GA 30318 Website: shbp.georgia.gov

404-352-6500 Email: shbp.eligibility@dch.ga.gov

FAX 404-352-4885 Login portal: myshbp-ga.adp.com

Web: [www.trsg.com](http://www.trsg.com)

**NFREA GOALS FOR 2023-24**

Increase membership by 5% from the previous year’s membership.

Maintain a solid financial base by member contributions for the NFREA Scholarship Fund.

Increase number of local unit members joining GREA.

Encourage members to support the Totes to Tots, the GREA President’s designated charitable project.

Promote active membership through fellowship and interesting, meaningful programs.

Participate in a joint meeting or field trip with the South Fulton REA.

Monitor legislation and inform members of any changes that might be considered by the Georgia legislature that could affect retired educators.

Participate in the state designated day for recognition of retired educators in November.

Support the GREA museum project.

Increase awareness of retired educators within the community by participating in community activities.

Promote the services and benefits that are available to all educators through TRS, AMBA.

Submit documents to be a Unit of Excellence.

 **Fellowship Service Support**

**NORTH FULTON RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION**

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

**Revised August 2022**

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

**The name of this organization shall be the North Fulton Retired Educators Association.**

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

**The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to promote the welfare of retired educators and (2) to promote continued loyalty to the ideals of education.**

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

**Membership in this organization shall be open to any retired educator from any school system. Any person who is interested in promoting education may join us as a non-voting member.**

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

**The officers of this organization shall be (1) President, (2) President-Elect, (3) Corresponding Secretary, (4) Recording Secretary, (5) Treasurer and (6) Parliamentarian. The duties of these shall be the usual duties pertaining to such offices as defined in Roberts Rules of Order. The term of office shall be for two years, except for President, President-Elect, and Parliamentarian which shall be for one year each. There can be co-officers for any office except Treasurer. The slate of officers shall be voted on by the membership at the April meeting and installed in May.**

**ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

**The time, place, and frequency of meetings shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present.**

**ARTICLE VI – DUES**

**The dues ($20.00 per year, after September meeting, $25.00) of this organization can be paid annually beginning on May 1st. The dues year shall be from June 1st through May 31st. Dues shall be determined by a two-thirds vote at a meeting where there is a quorum present. A quorum shall be 20% of the membership as of September 1st**

**In addition to the local dues, members are strongly encouraged to join the Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA), our state organization. Dues for GREA are only $27.00 annually and should be paid directly to GREA accompanied by a completed GREA membership form. If you prefer, the dues can be automatically deducted each month from your TRS pension check. Membership forms are available from the membership chairman.**

**ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS**

**A proposed amendment or revision may be presented by any member at a meeting where there is a quorum (20% of the membership). The vote on the proposed amendment or revision shall take place at the next scheduled meeting. A simple majority of those voting is required.**

**ARTICLE VIII – ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**The president will appoint a nominating committee at the February meeting of each year to compile the appropriate slate of officers. (On alternating years President-Elect will be the only officer being elected.) In April, the committee shall submit a list of officers to be voted on at that time. The new officers will be installed at the May meeting and will preside at the first meeting in September.**

**ARTICLE IX – REIMBURSEMENTS**

**The local association will grant reimbursement for expenses as outlined in the yearly budget and incurred by duly elected officers or elected delegates attending meetings of a professional nature. Prior to any expenditure, a reimbursement form will be completed and submitted by an officer or committee member conducting business for the organization. The form will be signed by the president, president-elect, and treasurer. Annual GREA convention will be attended by the incoming President and President-Elect or designee(s).. Expenses to be covered by NFREA include: registration; room; convention sponsored meals; and gas for one round trip to the convention. Appropriate documents along with the completed reimbursement form must be submitted to the treasurer for reimbursement.**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

**Executive Board meetings will be called at the discretion of the President or simple majority of the elected board.**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Committee meetings will be called at the discretion of the committee chair.**

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS**

**The duties of president of the NFREA are:**

1. **To develop the agenda for each meeting.**
2. **To open the meeting at the appointed time by calling the meeting to order.**
3. **To announce in proper sequence the prescribed order of business, agenda, or program with existing orders of the day.**
4. **To recognize members who are entitled to the floor.**
5. **To state and put to a vote all questions that legitimately come before the group as motions or to table a motion that is not in order in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.**
6. **To expedite business in every way compatible with the rights of the members.**
7. **To declare the meeting adjourned when the members so vote or in the event of an emergency.**
8. **To oversee the Scholarship/Grants and Handbook Committees.**

**The president-elect shall work closely with the president and be actively engaged in items 1-8 above. The president-elect also serves in the absence of the president. If the president resigns or becomes unable to serve, the president-elect fills the unexpired term and fulfills all duties and responsibilities of the president. Other duties are:**

1. **To chair the Program Committee.**
2. **To oversee the Legislative and Newsletter Committees.**
3. **To attend the annual conference as the incoming president with the incoming president-elect.**

**The recording secretary is the recording officer of the organization and the custodian of its records, except those specifically assigned to others, such as the treasurer’s book. Duties**

1. **To keep a record of all proceedings of the organization.**
2. **To keep on file all committee reports.**
3. **To make the minutes and records available to members upon request.**
4. **To call the meeting to order in the absence of the president or president-elect.**
5. **To oversee the Scrapbook and Publicity Committees.**

**The corresponding secretary conducts the general and official correspondence of the organization in a timely manner. Duties are:**

1. **To oversee the Sunshine Committee and all sunshine activities and correspondence.**
2. **Oversee the Telephone and Hospitality Committees.**

**The treasurer is the officer entrusted with the custody of its funds. The duties are:**

1. **To deposit the funds in a timely manner and keep all receipts and vouchers.**
2. **To make a financial report at each meeting and a full financial report annually. If the treasurer is absent, for any reason, it is his/her responsibility to contact the president with the necessary information concerning the report.**
3. **To contact members with a written note if they fail to pay their dues.**
4. **To encourage all members to make expense requests promptly. All expenses for the current year must be submitted with the appropriate receipts by the end of the dues year to the treasurer in order for them to be honored.**
5. **To collect and record all membership dues and keep the official membership roll.**
6. **To oversee the Membership Committee and work closely with the Membership Committee chairperson.**

**The parliamentarian is the outgoing president and is the consultant who advises the president on parliamentary procedure and thus should be knowledgeable of Roberts Rules of Order. During a meeting the work of the parliamentarian should be limited to giving advice to the president and, when requested, to any other member of the organization if an error is made. Other duties include:**

**1. To chair the By-Laws Committee should one be deemed necessary.**

**2. To oversee the Reflections/Inspiration Committee.**

**3. Conduct a workshop prior to the first meeting for the Executive Board on**

 **Roberts Rules of Order.**

**(Note: The Goals should be listed in the Handbook on the page with the yearly budget and included in the first newsletter of the year.)**