

## Pinellas Education Employees Retired

September 19, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am by PEER president Jana Maples.

Great crowd! Jana welcomed everyone back and thanked the hospitality committee and others who provided the breakfast items. New retired members were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves. Historic pictures of PCTA/PESPA members in action have been displayed on the walls of the meeting room. Please review the pictures and help identify those wonderful folks so name plates can be made.

**Members Present:** Kathy Schenato, Nan Lanham, Allin Turner, Carolyn Underwood, Marshall Koppel, Marjorie Merrill, Jerree Blanchard, Barbara Folder, Dave Byers, Sarah Byers, Martha Black, Cathy Mangin, Heather Rosenhoch, Helen Wanke, Gloria Smith, Dallas Schimke, Joanne Lentino, Elissa Harris, John Tomlinson, Lynn Bartlett, Diane Johnson, Tony Levy, Helen Lukavec, Colleen Howard-Wahls, Richard Smith, Cynthia (Cindy) Triffan, Kay Deegan. Marilyn Warner, Tina Allen, Linda Aston, Paula Gower, Nancy Cohen, Mary Miskin, Sylvia Macdonald, Pat Rinehart, Karen Campbell, Janice Koch, Karen Zwissler, Rob McMahon, Garth Albury, Daisy M. Albury, Doris Benjamin, Donna Grigas, Sharon Stern, JoAnne Wilson, Margie Stonom, Carole Pope, Jana Maples, Kim Shear, Marlene Brinkley, Sharon Flory

**Program:** "State of the Union" presented by Mike Gandolfo, PCTA President

**Agenda:** Motion was made, seconded, and approved with flexibility.

**Minutes:** Motion was made, seconded, and approved as submitted.

### Reports

#### President - Jana Maples reported on the following:

- Kathy Schenato was in attendance but unable to speak. Her husband, John, gave us an update on her condition. She is on the lung transplant list and can communicate with folks on her new computer voice assistance phone. She would welcome your calls.
- Several of our members were pictured on the cover of the summer issue of the NEA Today for NEA-Retired Members. The issue featured "Retiree Power... How NEA-Retired members are working to elect Hillary Clinton." Please see Jana if you wish to donate your issue. Several members of the "celebrities" families are asking for copies.
- Wendy Paser is currently in the hospital. She is unable to receive visits but would appreciate cards.
- Long-time teacher and active PEER Member, Esther Albertson passed away.
- Patti Lochner passed away on September 2, 2016. Her memorial service will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> in Lee County.
- Jana has several reports available for review. Please see her if you want to read the NEA DA report from Charles Moskowitz, the AFT Convention report from Rhea McKinney, the NEA Retired report from Marilyn Warner and/or the District 5 Director report (May-September 8 ) from Allin Turner.
- Thank you for your donations to St. Pete HS Devil's Closet
- For information on political issues from the League of Women Voters Guide go to [lwvspa.org](http://lwvspa.org)
- We received an AFT organization grant for \$950
- Referendum signs are available
- M.O.R.E. – sent 375 postcards. The lists are being updated. Please see Jana if you are willing to make calls inviting members from other states to join us if they currently reside in Pinellas.
- Raffle tickets are available for Lifetime Retiree Membership. The drawing will be held at the FEA DA.

**Vice-president Report – Carolyn Underwood** Newly elected VP Carolyn Underwood introduced herself and announced that at the next meeting she will be gathering ideas for future programs.

## **Treasurer Report – John Tomlinson for Richard Pope**

Operating Account 4,664.27, Savings Account 23,919.61 for a total of \$28,583.88

John presented the 2013-2017 budget which was moved, seconded and approved.

## **Membership – Jana Maples for Emilie Carter 329 members**

**District Director/Volunteer Hours/Food Bank – Allin Turner** reported that applications for the FEA-Retired Classroom Innovative Grants will be available. Last year we reported 14,483 volunteer hours. We collected 514 pounds of food for the RCS Food Bank. If you do not have a name tag please circle your name on the sign in sheet and he will have one for you at the next meeting.

**FEA-R President - Marilyn Warner** explained Blessing Bags and requested items. See Jana if you want to see the list of items needed. Bags are distributed to abused women shelters, the homeless and teens in trouble. She also reported that a drawing for school supplies and book donations will be held at the DA. She will be in Washington next week for training.

**Political Action/PCTA-PESPA PAC – Carolyn Underwood for Ethelstine Harris.** Collected \$127 in PAC donations at the meeting to assist our representatives to meet their PAC responsibility at the DA. Ethelstine will be collecting our annual \$3.00 PAC contributions at the next meeting.

**PEER Scholarship –Jana Maples for Terry Plaia** reported that Terry will be requesting volunteers for her committee to review applications and select next year's recipient.

**Pipeline – Marty Shapiro** is continuing to update member addresses, phone numbers and emails. If you are not receiving the Pipeline by email please contact Jana.

**Flea Market - Jana Maples for Linda McGeehan** The Flea Market was a huge success. Ninety-four teachers signed in to "shop". Jana asked all the volunteers to stand and be recognized. The committee thanked Mike Gandolfo for his support.

## **Unfinished Business**

- Delegate Assembly October 20-22 Retired Meeting October 20 The theme this year is "Every Student, Every School, Every Day". Our baskets are ready!
- Mentoring Jana asked for volunteers to sign if they already had a Level 2 clearance needed to work directly with students. Kali Davis has been assigned to a new liaison/coach position funded jointly by PCTA and the County to provide tutors/mentors for our identified schools. She has several needs beyond the normal volunteer expectations. Please see Jana if you are interested in an addition responsibility.
- Please begin to collect items to be used for the Read Across America/ Dr. Seuss event in March. Any Dr. Seuss item or gently used books are welcome.

## **New Business**

- 2016-17 Meeting Dates We discussed possible conflicts with our meeting dates. Although some may not be able to attend due to the conflicts (and we will miss anyone who cannot attend) it was decided to keep our third meeting of the month dates. People are used to that expectation and changes are confusing and result in low attendance.

## **Announcements**

- Joanne Lentino reported that she won the primary for School Board. She will need help in the General Election. Donations of time and money will be gratefully accepted. As the seat is a districtwide one, she needs support to fund her campaign mailer. Envelopes were available for donations.

- Kay Deegan reported the Democratic Party Headquarters in St. Pete is asking for volunteers to make calls for Hillary. Their address is 1638 9<sup>th</sup> St. N. Please call Madeline at 919-812-5885 to volunteer.
- Paid up membership and welcome luncheon followed the meeting.

**Next Meeting** October 17 Carolyn Underwood will preside over the meeting as Jana will be in Ireland.

Charity Donation for October will be the Ronald McDonald House

Adjourn: 12:14

Respectfully Submitted

Gloria Smith, Secretary