



The Retired Educator

Vol. XXII

September—October 2019

Issue 1

**OCREA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
First Thursday of each month Sept.—May (except January)**

College Park United Methodist Church
644 W. Princeton St., Orlando

Located on the corner of Princeton and Edgewater Dr. Entrance is across from Publix on Harvard at the back of the church. If the parking lot is full, parking is available along Harvard.

Thursday, September 5, 2019

10:30 AM (Social Time begins at 10:00)



Program: History of Orange County

Speaker: Michael Perkins, Executive Director of Orange County Regional History Center

Refreshments provided by OCREA Board Members

At each meeting we will collect items to benefit The Russell Home and Ronald Mc Donald House. Thank you for your generosity!

Thursday, October 3, 2019
10:30 AM

Program: *Sarah Charleton: A Woman of Colonial America*

Speaker: Anne Gardepe

Refreshments: Members whose last names begin with A—D
(please bring your items by 10:00)

OCREA Website: www.ocrea-fl.org

Message from the President

The adage that time flies much faster as we get older seems to be true. It seems that I blinked, and my first year as president of OCREA was over. It was never really over, however, as your board has been working diligently over the summer preparing for the 2019 - 2020 year. The programming committee under the direction of Dr. Gayle Hodges, OCREA Vice-President has planned a wonderful venue of speakers and entertainment for our monthly meetings. Anne Gardepe, OCREA Cultural Affairs Chairperson, has been arranging for field trips that will provide you exciting opportunities to learn and grow while interacting with your peers in a social environment that allows you to get to know one another better.

Many of your board members have been working behind the scenes putting together the yearbook, the first newsletter, the musical entertainment, and the budget. OCREA's board members are dedicated and work arduously. I ask you to thank them when you see them. Remember, they volunteer their incredible talent and time to make OCREA impactful, viable, and successful.

Our new theme for the 2019 – 2020 year, thanks to the suggestion made by Debra Dykes Kornhaus, is “OCREA: Our Past Builds Our Future.” Now is the time to make the contributions of OCREA's past to mean something by planning for OCREA's future. I am challenging each one of you to reach out to friends, family members, and other community acquaintances inviting them to join OCREA. We tend to forget or perhaps not even know that anyone can join OCREA as an Associate Member. Think of people you interact with at your place of worship, while you are volunteering, when you are at a gym, while on vacation, or even while in a doctor's waiting room. They are all potential OCREA members! Although we would love them all to become active members attending our meetings and/or field trips, they are welcome to join us as Associate Members knowing that they are contributing to scholarships for future and present educators and supporting local charities. Anyone who cares about education and their community is a potential OCREA member. It would be wonderful if each present member signed up a new member. Just think of how many potential new friends we could have.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we will be selecting a new charity to sponsor this year. We will be requesting your suggestions at the first meeting. Last year we voted on the Russell Home. Many of us took advantage of the field trip to the Russell Home to see first-hand the children we were assisting through our donations. OCREA members can be proud that last year we voted to focus on this wonderful non-profit organization that provides a loving and nurturing environment for atypical children. We made a difference in the lives of those children. We will also continue to sponsor the Adult Literacy League and the Ronald McDonald House.

September 5th will be here before we know it, so I am going to conclude this message by encouraging you to enjoy the rest of your summer traveling, reflecting, reading, gardening, or just relaxing with friends and family. I look forward to seeing you again as we continue to build OCREA's future.

Sincerely,
Dr. Sharon Kochlany
OCREA President

Message from our Vice President and Program Chair: Dr. Gayle Hodges

I want to welcome you back to the 2019-20 membership year. I hope that you had a restful summer and are looking forward to the coming year. The program committee met several times during the summer to plan an amazing program for all of us.

The theme for the year will be “OCREA: Our Past Builds the Future”. We chose this theme because we felt it was important to look at the past and at the present to guide us into the future. We wonder about the future of our association, public schools, our community and our lives; but before we talk about the future, we need to look to the past first.

Our first two meetings will be delving into this community's past. September 5th will be our first speaker on the past. Mr. Michael Perkins, Executive Director of the Orange County Regional History Center, will speak on the “History of Orange County”. We hope that you will find the topic interesting.

Continuing with the past on October 3rd our own member, Anne Gardepe, will speak about “Sarah Charleton: A Woman of Colonial America”. We chose this presentation to show our national past. We hope these two programs will educate us about our common past.

I hope that you will take this journey with us this year and see how the past and present shape the future. See you in September.

REFOC Academic Scholarship Presentations 2019

The REFOC Scholarship Committee presented ten Academic Scholarship certificates at six OCPS high schools during Award Ceremonies: Boone, Edgewater, Oak Ridge, Timber Creek, University, and West Orange.

We were unable to get a picture at University High School which was presented by Fran Burns to Noah Harney.



Boone High School
Presenters: Marie Hernandez & Fran Burns
Winners: Caroline Casola, Wesley Harris, and Sydney Chamberlain



Edgewater High School
Presenter: Christine Woods
Winner: Angelina Day



Oak Ridge High School
Presenter: Christine Woods with Principal
Winner: Anthony Phagoo



Timber Creek High School
Presenter: Fran Burns
Winners: Sydney Dixon and Ashley Voglewede (not in attendance)



West Orange High School
Presenter: Janice Quint
Winners: Maximilian Mathers and Sofia Vescovacci

Volunteer Services: Joanne Canarelli

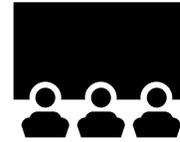
Welcome back to all faithful volunteers and to our new members.

All our volunteer hours are tallied and sent to the Great State of Florida to represent our retirees as contributing citizens to the betterment of the community.

Last year, the Association voted on two special recipients for our volunteer contributions of food and household items. The Russell Home for Atypical Children and the Ronald McDonald Houses appreciate your kindness.

Remember the acronym ASK - Any Simple Kindness makes us all good!

Please submit your May, June, July, August volunteer hours at the next informative meeting on the sheets provided, call me or email me. That information is provided in the OCREA member book.



**DISTRICT 8 LEADERSHIP
WORKSHOP
Osceola
Commission on Aging**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019

8:30-3:30

Join FREA District 8 members from Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk and Seminole REAs for fellowship, fun and learning. Breakfast and lunch are included with your \$25 registration. Registration forms and more detailed information will be available at our September meeting. Deadline to register is [October 1](#). See Cathy Thompson, District 8 Director, for more information.

Information Services: Debra Dykes Kornhaus

Greetings OCREA General and Associate Members!

The OCREA Information Services Committee welcomes you to the 2019 - 2020 year. As the fall season approaches remember to make preparations. Have you prepared your Go Bag to utilize during hurricane season? Did you remember to pack your FREA Membership card in your GO Bag? FREA members use their cards to access many benefits for themselves, and for their family members. FREA General and Associate members may take advantage of savings and discounts during all seasons of the membership year.

FREA's new benefits partner, Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA), offers discount options.

Utilize your FREA Membership card, and contact an AMBA agent: 1-877-556-4582 or myambabenefits.info/frea.

Do you need a replacement card or haven't received your new FREA Membership card?

Access the FREA websites: info@frea.org www.FREA.org

Have a wonderful season of savings with FREA Membership Benefits!

*OCREA Information Services Committee Chairperson:3
Debra Dykes Kornhaus
Unionlady4ever@gmail.com*

Membership: Cathy Thompson

Have you renewed your membership or joined OCREA for the first time? If not, do it **today**. Thursday September 5, 2019 begins our new year. For just \$50 a membership in OCREA and FREA helps the Florida State Retirement System support the Defined Benefit Program for retirees and their families’ efforts to seek additional increments for health insurance. OCREA, through its foundation (REFOC), awards scholarships to high school and technical school students, as well as teachers for post graduate studies. Join **today** to enjoy the camaraderie of colleagues, participate in social activities and field trips, and learn about various volunteer opportunities. I look forward to seeing you at “OCREA: Our Past Builds Our Future” **September 5th 10:00 am**, Welcome Reception. We meet in College Park Methodist Church’s social hall (located on the corner of Edgewater Drive and Princeton St). Membership applications will be available. Bring a friend!

	Orange County Retired Educators Association	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of Membership		
<input type="checkbox"/> General Member - Circle One: Retired School Teacher / School Administrator / School Transportation / School Maintenance / School Cafeteria / Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member: Any person supporting the mission of the Association may apply for associate membership.		
Circle One: Miss, Mrs., Mr., Dr. then write Name: First, Middle Initial, Last		
Mailing Address	Apt.	City:
Home phone:	Cell phone:	State / Zip
E-mail address:		
Date:	Check #	Birth Year:
<small>FREA is your advocate regarding your pension and the future of education in the State of Florida. Would you like to support FREA's efforts on behalf of all present, and future Retired Educators, and other beneficiaries of the Florida Retirement System? This money will be used in a non-partisan way.</small>		
Make check payable to: <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">OCREA</div>	FREA/OCREA combined dues for July 1-June 30: = \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to support FREA's Legislative Advocacy: \$4.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to support FRE Foundation: \$ _____ <div style="text-align: right;">Total Enclosed \$ _____</div>	
Mail to: OCREA, P.O. Box 678236, Orlando, FL 32867 Have questions? Contact Membership Chair: Cathy Thompson at cthompson13@cfl.rr.com .		

By Laws

Because there was concern about the process by which the Bylaws Amendment was conducted at the May 2, 2019, OCREA general meeting a re-vote will take place at the September 5, 2019, general meeting. The amendment reads as follows:

“Any action required or permitted at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken by means of electronic communication. Participation in a meeting by this means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting. Any action taken by the officers during the meeting under this section shall be duly recorded among the minutes of the proceeding of such meeting. The minutes of such meeting shall be distributed to the officers of the association within 10 days of such meeting.”

Respectfully submitted,
 Ellen James and Prince Kelley
 By Laws Co-Chairs

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO of **Addition Financial**

As we take our next steps into the credit union's history, I would like to thank each of you for being a valued member of the **Addition Financial** family. 2019 is starting off as a milestone year for us, as CFE Federal Credit Union evolved into a federally insured, state-chartered credit union with a new name. However, as we enhance the credit union and continue to improve, one thing that will never change is our commitment to serving our members throughout their individual journeys. From helping you save for your future to working with you as you purchase your dream home, we want you to know that you can always count us in.

Our legacy of teaching and learning remains an important part of who we are as a credit union. Under the name **Addition Financial**, we hope to take the credit union that was founded by educators and better encompass our mission by being about and for education, starting with bringing financial success and education to everyone. Partnering with the local school districts, colleges, and universities will remain a focus of ours, and we look forward to continuing our strong tradition by bringing financial education to even more schools and organizations.

Everyone at **Addition Financial** is committed to helping our members create successful outcomes in their lives. We are enhancing our technology and will offer a new online platform for financial education with resources to assist members from the comfort of their own homes. In addition, our solutions-based website will allow us to do more to equip our members with the tools they need to make proactive financial decisions. While you work with us, we are putting new resources into the hands of our newly established Member Experience department, dedicated to you, our members, and will make decisions that benefit our members each and every day. **Addition Financial** is devoted to doing more to add value to our members' lives, while becoming more inclusive and offering our services to more people.

Our involvement in the community is stronger than ever. Earlier this year, we were recognized by Orange County Public Schools for our community outreach and our partnership with the school district. Later this month, we will receive the Harvey Milk Excellence in Business Award for our leadership in diversity and inclusion. Our Affinity debit card programs remain strong and let you choose an education partner to support through your transactions. We continue to operate nine student-run high school branches; we are finding new ways to partner with our school districts; and we serve as the Official Financial Institution of the UCF Knights, Preferred Credit Union of Seminole State College and Preferred Credit Union of Valencia College.

As **Addition Financial**, our "count us in" mentality embraces our commitment to working alongside our members and empowering them to reach the solutions they need.

Every challenge. Every dream. Every day. Count us in.

I look forward to continuing this journey with you.

Kevin Miller

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING SHRED-A-THON EVENT

If you have documents that need to be shredded or electronics that needed to be recycled, visit our Operations Center (1000 Primera Blvd., Lake Mary, FL 32746) on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please keep the following in mind:

- Document shredding containers should not weigh more than 35 lbs. or contain foreign objects
- **Addition Financial** is unable to accept CRT monitors and tube-style televisions
- All hard drives in equipment will either be erased or shredded by Orlando Recycles, Inc.

Visit additionfi.com/shred for additional details.

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

Earlier this year, **Addition Financial** gave the big news to two Master's students and six incoming undergraduates: they'll be receiving our Joseph A. Melbourne Jr. Scholarship.

Incoming undergraduates will receive \$10,000 toward their education. Our 2019 winners are:

- Griffin Lay from Lyman High School
- Abby Runge from International Community School
- Haley Jorgenson from Timber Creek High School
- Grace Lia from Osceola County School for the Arts
- Phuong Thao Phan from Gateway High School
- Lacy Rose Morgan from Pine Ridge High School

Master's students will receive \$2,500 towards their education. Our 2019 winners are:

- Kayla Parrish
- Rachel Friant

STAMPS AND MOVIE TICKETS

Addition Financial will no longer carry stamps and movie tickets in our branches and ATMs. To view a list of all of our other membership benefits, visit AdditionFi.com/become-a-member

Addition Financial's Holiday Closing Dates:

Monday, September 2 – Labor Day

Monday, October 14 – Columbus Day

Cultural Affairs: An Exciting Start to the 2019-2020 Year!

To go along with our theme this year---OCREA: Our Past Builds the Future---we will celebrate the past with our first two outings. On Thursday, September 19, we will tour Casa Feliz Historic Home and Venue at 656 N. Park Ave., Winter Park. We will gather at 10 AM for the tour. No fee but a \$2 donation is suggested. Afterward we will have lunch at Tibby's New Orleans Kitchen at 2203 Aloma Ave., Winter Park. More information will follow regarding parking at Casa Feliz.

In October, our group will visit The Presidents' Hall of Fame in Clermont. The address is 123 N. Highway 27, 34711. The date and time are Friday, October 11, 10 AM. The group rate for adults is \$11.71. Optional lunch after the tour will be at The Crooked Spoon, 200 Citrus Tower Blvd., Clermont. Please put these dates on your calendar, come and enjoy!

(Other possible trips to look forward to are Ronald McDonald House, UCF Downtown Campus, Annie Russell Theater for "Mamma Mia" in the spring, and Give Kids the World)

Anne Gardepe invites you to sign up for one of her fall classes through Rollins Senior Enrichment Program:
Florida's Three Marjories, Westminster Winter Park, Fridays in September, time TBA
Colonial American Life from A to Z, Rollins Campus, Wednesdays in October, time TBA
<https://www.rollins.edu/evening/senior-enrichment-courses/>
or call 407-646-1577

"There is always room in the heart for one more friend." Anonymous

**ORANGE COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS
ASSOCIATION
PO Box 678236
Orlando, FL. 32867**

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Orlando, FL 32867

Editors

Yearbook - Lillian Vincent

Newsletter - Kim Stutsman

Sunshine Contact

Margie Wells



In the event of inclement weather, OCREA will follow Orange County Public School System's decision relating to the closing of schools. If weather conditions have you questioning whether OCREA will meet, tune in to your local news to hear the decision of OCPS.