

## President's Message

Merrilyn Crosson  
Hillsborough Educators Association Retired

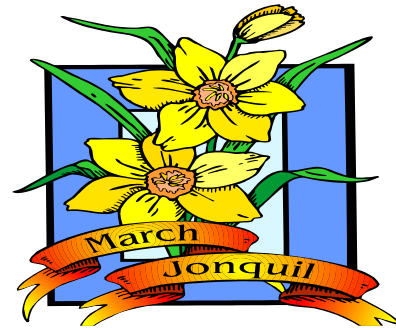
Thanks to the help of Sharon Hogan, Sue Huttig, Bob Minthorn, and Carl Crosson for helping me to spread the word about our great organization at the District's Retirement Seminar! We had a prime location at this event and we received many positive responses that evening. I received an inquiry the very next morning from an employee who was given our literature. Participation in this annual event is crucial for our organization's growth.

This year we have added 26 new members including the three now members listed in this newsletter. This is the largest increase in membership this early in our membership year. Please keep our organization growing by asking a friend who is retired to come to a meeting and check us out. Remember, if that person does join, you will be entered in a drawing for recruiters. Unfortunately, we have not had any members to recruit a new member since our last drawing.

On February 28 we hosted the first Regional Retiree Meeting. Thanks to Sharon Hogan, John Manning, Linda Price, Carl Crosson and your president for calling NEA retired members who currently live in our area and inviting them to this meeting. This was a combined meeting of retirees from Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas County. This was arduous work, dealing with an outdated list.

We did have a wonderful meeting and received lots of information about Social Security, Retirement issues, and many ways to continue to remain active and informed. Thanks to all of our HEA-R members who came to this meeting to support our efforts. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments and meeting many members from our neighboring counties. We did have a few retired members who retired from other states.

You may reach me at 679-1643 or  
[merrilynkay@aol.com](mailto:merrilynkay@aol.com)



## Happy Birthday!

### March Birthday Wishes

**Edward Hess 03/01**

**Lavinia Wade 03/02**

**Dee Perry 03/04**

**Martha Kinsey 03/05**

**Mirta Martinez 03/05**

**Veronica Banks-Baity 03/08**

**Gladys Mitchell 03/09**

**Wendy Carnahan 03/12**

**Barbara Henderson 03/14**

**Linda Harmon 03/24**

**Barbara Blanchard 03/28**

**Ed Fabian 03/29**

**Please let me know if I failed to list your birthday. My contact information is listed at the bottom of the President's Message.**

## News You Can Use

This month we return to the Instructional Services Center, located at 2920 N. 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Tampa. Although the meeting begins at 10:00 AM, please plan to arrive by 9:45 AM to enjoy visiting with your fellow members and enjoying the delicious refreshments. At this meeting our speaker will be Mr. Jim Vuille who will give a presentation on Meditation for your Health.

Although we usually meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, our meeting in April will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, April 9. At this meeting we will tour the beautiful USF Botanical Gardens. We will have more information available in the next newsletter.

I have appointed the election committee for this year. Yvonne Lyons will chair the committee. The other members who have agreed to serve on this committee are Alma Bowers and Cheryl Kobres.

The offices up for election are as follows: President, District 1 Director, and Membership Chair. All of the current officers are eligible to run for re-election. The committee will poll each of the current office holders to determine their wishes. Also, any member who is in good standing can be nominated to run for any of these offices.

The Election committee will present the slate of nominees at the April meeting and the election will be held at the May meeting.

## Community Outreach

Please bring items to the meeting to assist the many families that Beth El helps each month.

**Food Items: (Please note underlined items are a priority. They are asking for 1 lb. bags of rice and beans, and the 14 oz size of fruits and vegetables.)**

Spaghetti sauce w/meat  
Canned Sloppy Joe  
Peanut butter  
Non-fat dry milk  
Pasta/Macaroni  
Instant grits  
Graham Crackers  
Mayonnaise  
Rice  
Canned vegetables  
Evaporated milk

Canned Chili  
Canned meats  
Juices  
Jelly  
Cereals  
Instant oatmeal  
Sugar  
Coffee  
Canned fruits  
Pinto beans  
Meseca flour

### Personal Items:

Priority needs are: toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, linens, and towels.

### School Supplies:

Due to the transient population that they serve, they are always in need of replenishing their supplies: Notebook paper, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, washable markers, and folders are always appreciated.

## New Members

Gregory Jewell

Burton Neumeier

Charles Thompson