



HEA-Reporter

HILLSBOROUGH EDUCATORS
ASSOC. - RETIRED

President's Message

Sue Huttig

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president for the 22-23 school year. Enjoy your summer and we will see you back in August. Our first HEA-R meeting of the 23-24 school year will be at the CTA building on August 16, 2023, 10 a.m.

A Retirement Reception was hosted by HEA-R after the last CTA meeting on May 11, 2023. Thank you to HEA-R members Suzy Buchanan, Marilyn Dupree, Norma Goff, Nancy Tokarz, Patti Griffing and Barb Toepke who greeted CTA reps and invited them to take membership information for those they know who are retiring this year.

Your Board will be busy at work during the summer planning for speakers and outings for the year. We are happy to have Sue Harmon elected as our new Program Chair. She will be assisted by Cheryl Kobres. Please take some time to send myself or Sue Harmon your suggestions for speakers and outings that interest you.

Congratulations to the newly elected (and re-elected) members of the HEA-R Board: Vice President Stephen Tabin; Treasurer Barb Toepke; Secretary Greg Pennington; District Director 2 Marilyn Dupree; and Program Chair Sue Harmon.

Remaining in their positions for another year are: President Sue Huttig; Membership Chair Suzy Buchanan; and District Director 1 Norma Goff.

In addition to the above positions, Norma Goff was appointed by me to serve as a CTA Liaison along with George Schultz. Secretary Jim Roney and District Director Harrietta Willis are finishing their terms. Thank you both for jobs well-done!

Member Spotlight

Jim Roney

Jim Roney was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He arrived in Tampa in 1971 and earned a BA in Elementary Education from USF. After working as a paraprofessional in Pinellas County for one year and briefly teaching in Pasco County, Jim began substitute teaching in Hillsborough County.

In 1978, he was the third male hired by Hillsborough County Schools to teach Kindergarten. He worked in the following Hillsborough County Elementary schools: Lutz, DeSoto, Wimauma, Cahoon (for 24 years), Sulphur Springs and Thonotosassa.

He taught Kindergarten (for 22 years), First Grade, Third Grade and was an Elementary Technology Resource Teacher for 7 years. An active member of the Kindergarten Steering Committee, Jim taught numerous trainings as well as oversaw a Kindergarten Professional Study Day.

He served as a CTA Executive Board member as well as a member, Vice Chair and Chair of the FEA Elections and Credentials Committee for 15 years. He represented Hillsborough CTA members at several NEA RAs. He served as a subcommittee chair for the 2006 NEA RA Host Committee who met in Orlando.

In 1983, Jim earned his Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from USF and achieved National Board Certification in 2007. He retired in 2015.

He joined HEA-R as a Pre-Retired member in 2013 and has served on the HEA-R Board and recently finished 5 years as Secretary.

Jim and his husband Paul D'Agostino recently celebrated their 6th wedding anniversary. Through this marriage, Jim now has 3 adult step children, 5 step grandchildren and 1 step great grandson.



We want to hear from you!

Click [here](#) to complete our member survey and tell us what social activities most grab your interest for 2023-24.

We welcome any ideas about potential speakers for monthly meetings. Please e-mail your suggestions to [Sue Harmon](#) and indicate what organization the person represents and their contact information. Remember, we don't schedule those wishing to sell products.

SAVE THE DATE:

Member Meetings, 10 a.m.

Aug. 16

Sept. 20

Oct. 18 Picnic

Nov. 15

Dec. 13 Holiday luncheon

Welcome, New Members:

Cecilia Edmiston

Lisa M. Gwinn

Celebrate these birthdays with Rep. Kathy Castor

Medicare turns 58, July 30th and Social Security, 88, August 14th. These two programs are earned benefits paid through taxes on our income. They are not entitlements!

Join Rep. Kathy Castor, whose district includes parts of Hillsborough and Pinellas counties, at her office in St. Petersburg, Aug. 1, 10 a.m. Call Barb at 813 439-7481 to carpool and for more info.

Rep. Castor had a 100% voting record on House bills important to seniors in 2022. Go to retiredamericans.org to look up Congressional voting records for all 50 states.



June

Sylvia Camp, Edgar Watkins: 2nd
Sue Huttig: 5th
Ibi Simon: 9th
Susan Ferrell: 14th
Jacqueline Amato: 19th
Patricia Hall: 24th

Sharon Dyal: 4th
Thomas Fillion: 6th
Jenelle Hopf: 11th
Janine Rose: 17th
Norma Bowles, Vilma Tamargo: 23rd
Armiee Gipson: 27th

July

Jacqueline Mentor: 1st
Jessie Finalyson: 8th
Barbara Toepke: 10th
Rosemarie Berrios: 13th
Arlessa Kubon: 16th
Yvonne Lyons, John Streater: 22nd
Harietta Willis: 25th

Nancy Lambert: 7th
Mary Woods: 8th
Jill McDannold: 11th
Carroll Mitchell: 14th
Marilyn Dupree: 19th
Donna Crowder: 23rd

New Teacher Free Market

Aug. 5, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. HCTA

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED, 8/4 & 5

New teachers will now be able to outfit their rooms with classroom supplies thanks to all of the donations received. There are two ways you can help make our Market a successful event. Complete this [form](#) to indicate when you're able to lend a hand. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

Questions? Contact Valerie Churchman, HCTA (813) 238-7902

Legislative Wrap-up

Florida lawmakers passed an extraordinary number of laws affecting educators, public education and students during the recently ended legislative session. The new laws take effect July 1.

Get the full run-down on what passed and what didn't, such as video cameras in classrooms, in FEA's annual End-of-Session Report [here](#).

From the V.P.'s Desk

-- STEPHEN TABIN

This month, the NEA is holding its Annual National Convention (NEA Representative Assembly) in Orlando. It is the largest democratic assembly world-wide. It meets to hear national speakers, news from throughout the United States concerning education and other important issues affecting all of us.

Members of HEA-R, Norma Goff, and Eura Robinson, are volunteering as members of the NEA Host Committee.

Stephen Tabin, your HEA-R Vice President, has been elected an NEA-R and NEA RA Delegate for 2023 by the NJREA (New Jersey Retirees), his former state prior to residing permanently in Florida.

Banned Book Summer Reading

The American Library Association has listed 13 of the [most banned books in America](#). Read a few and see what you think. Anyone interested in a banned book club?

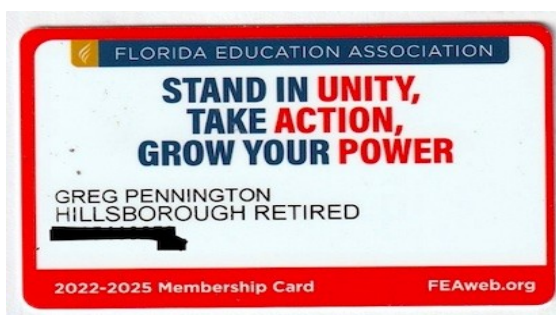
HAVE VOLUNTEER HOURS TO SUBMIT?

Count the hours you've spent calling and emailing legislators, plus your time helping family, friends, faith groups and community organizations. Document and send your totals to HEA-R Secretary, [Greg Pennington](#).

FEA-Retired reports on the total hours for all Florida retirees, calculates the value of our volunteering and announces it every year at the FEA convention.

Time to Renew your HEA-R membership

Click [here](#) (open/print membership application)



EXPLORE [MEMBER BENEFITS](#)

2023 FEA-Retired Innovative Grants

Each year, FEA-Retired recognizes and supports active FEA members with \$150 FEA-R Innovative Grants for projects to enhance efficient and effective teaching and student learning.

To donate to this fund, make checks of any amount payable to HEAR and mail to: Treasurer Barb Toepke, P.O. Box 360085, Tampa, FL 33673

Also, ask such organizations as your sororities and fraternities, civic and religious groups for their support.

Contact [Dale Sena](#) if you'd like to help with evaluating grants in September.