

# HEA Reporter

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February 2024

## President's Message

Sue Huttig

Hillsborough Educators Association-Retired

**Happy Ground Hog Day.** It's hard to believe the Holidays have come and gone and the month of January has flown by. Our speaker in January was Attorney John Sakellarides. He Spoke to us about wills, trusts and estates. John explained why *These five documents are essential for all of us to possess.*

- 1) Durable Power of Attorney
- 2) Health Care Surrogate
- 3) Limited Will Declaration
- 4) Selection of Guardian
- 5) A Will or Trust

He offered examples and suggestions about each of these items and answered numerous questions. . John will meet with HEA-R members at the CTA office. Please contact the HCTA office for more information. There is a discount for us.

Please join us for our February 21, 2024 meeting.

This month's speaker will be Walt Belcher. He was a reporter And Columnist for The Tampa Tribune for 35 years. Now he is a board member of the Florida Storytelling Association and performs at Festivals in Georgia, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Florida. Walt tells personal stories, tall tales, and stories about Old Florida.

Thank you to all who gave money last month to *Beth-El Farmworker Ministry*. We collected \$62.00.

## VICE PRESIDENT' S REPORT —STEPHEN TABIN

February is a month for LOVE. Wishing all of you a Happy, Healthy and Lovely February. Unfortunately, many of us have Lost a loved one or someone special to us. In order to keep our Love kindled, we must rely on our memories. Here is hoping you and yours have Great Memories of those happy times and events for now and the future.



## Happy Birthday!

- 01 Geneva Murphy
- 02 Jean Clements
- 05 Estela Cubano
- 06 Janet Naaktgeboren
- 08 Nancy Bolen
- 10 Linda Pasetti
- 15 Katherine Ederhard
- 15 Rhoda Garcia
- 17 Mary Gonzalez
- 21 Aura Perez
- 23 MaryAnne Pothier
- 24 Sharon Hardy
- 24 Jim Roney
- 25 Mirta Martinez
- 26 John Brown
- 26 Mary Brumley
- 26 Helen Spieler

Please let us know if we missed your birthday.



## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED

Several members of your Leadership Team (Stephen Tabin, Barb Toepke, and Suzy Buchanan) set up tables and distributed HEA-R pamphlets at the Hillsborough County's Public Schools' Annual Retirement Seminar at the end of January. We sat and stood by the front entrance and spoke with 200 or more potential Retirees, trying to recruit them for HEA-R. We had a very positive response from everyone. Perhaps you too can join us at the Seminar next year.

Our next business meeting of HEA-R will again be held at the HCTA building on Habana Street in West Tampa on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 10 AM with another great speaker. Try to arrive fifteen minutes early to socialize.

## TREASURER'S REPORT -BARBARA TOEPKE

**Membership** forms can be found at HCTA.org. Scroll down to find HEA-Retired and then join or renew. Contact Barb at [btoepke504@gmail.com](mailto:btoepke504@gmail.com) or call 813-439-7481.

**Volunteer Hours** can be sent to Norma Goff at [ngoff48@gmail.com](mailto:ngoff48@gmail.com) or call 813-431-0314. Count your hours spent helping family, friends, faith groups, and community organizations

**FEA-Retired** is our state organization. Don't be fooled by mail from "FREAA" asking us to pay with a credit card to join. They have no benefits like FEA, NEA, and AFT.

**Take Action with FEA** every Tuesday for **Power Hour** at 5:30. FEA staff explains bills in the legislature and ask us to call or email committee members on one or two topics. Go to [feaweb.org](http://feaweb.org) to sign up.

**Legislative Bills of Concern:** **HB 49** rolls back child labor laws that limit workdays and hours for 16-17-year-olds during the school year. **HB 109** says that teachers can't vote on school conversions to charters, and may force districts to give them land. **SB 7000** allows multi-year contracts but raises student test performance from 33% to 50% of teacher evaluations. **SB 7004** does not require private schools with public funds to be graded A-F or to share test scores.

**Black History Month** will celebrate the Arts with a movie screening and panel discussion on Thursday, Feb. 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the CTA building. *10,000 Black Men Named George* tells the story of the Pullman Porters' union organizing.

## Community Outreach

**Beth-El Farmworker Ministry** in Wimauma serves their community with family support and case management, health care, education, and hunger relief. Visit their website at [www.beth-el.org](http://www.beth-el.org) to donate and to learn more about their programs, and to see vibrant watercolor paintings.

<https://www.facebook.com/befarmworker/>

*We also take up a collection at each in person meeting.*

OASIS (Outreach Assisting Students In Schools)

<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/oasisnetwork-of-new-tampa-inc/egift-cards-tofeed-students>



## CALL to ACTION by HCTA

Please join Laura Tucker on February 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the CTA building. We will be phone banking asking CTA members to sign up for e-dues. Our goal is to have 60% of our members signed up as soon as possible. Please RSVP NOW as dinner will be provided. Call 813-238-7902. You can also email [HTCA@HCPS.NET](mailto:HTCA@HCPS.NET)