



# Decatur-DeKalb Retired Educators Association

A unit of the Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA)

## Member Handbook 2020-2021

*Fellowship . . . Service . . . Support . . .*

**Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA)...**



**Georgia Retired Educators Association**

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**Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc.:** GEM donations are tax deductible. Make checks payable to Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc. and mail to GREA.

**GREA State Convention:** May, 2021 (Specific dates TBD), Augusta, GA

**GREA Bulletin Schedule:** July, October, January, April

### **GREA Mission Statement Adopted January, 2002**

The GREA Mission shall be to unite retired educators in Georgia for fellowship, support, and educational/community service and to improve benefits for all retired educators through cooperation with local, state and the national organizations.

## **Unit History and Past Leadership...**



The Decatur – Dekalb Retired Educators Association was organized in the Spring of 1959 by Pauline Burks as the Decatur, Dekalb, Rockdale Retired Teachers Association (DDRTA). Since then Rockdale has organized its own association. The name was changed in 1998 to Decatur-Dekalb Retired Educators Association (DDREA). The DDREA unit has provided five state presidents: Hannah Flanigen (1967-1968); Elizabeth Davis (1968-1970); Henry Eddleman (1978-1979); Narvie Harris (1995-1996); and Gerry Tilson (2000-2001).

### **Former DDRTA and DDREA Presidents**

Pauline Burks (59-64)	Narvie Carne (85-86)
Emily Stark (70-71)	Margaret Kerr (88-89)
Sybil Lambert (71-72)	Lillian Cantrell (unknown)
Mary Freeman (72-73)	Kai Yong (2002-03)
Hannah Flanigen (73-74)	Betty Wilson (2003-04)
Henry Edelman (74-76)	Carolyn Burnette (2004-05)
Harold Smith (77-78)	Isabelle Holston (2005-06)
Patsy Elrod (78-79)	Linda Lowery (2006-07)
Sue Bess Robison (79-80)	Patti Ireland (2007-09)
Walter Henderson (80-81)	Shirley Lee (2009-10)
Florene Hudson (81-82)	Diann Hudson (2010-11)
L.D. Langley (82-83)	Patti Ireland (2011-14)
Margaret Bloodworth (83-84)	Betty Matthews (2014-16)
Cecil Pinkerton (84-85)	Patti Ireland and Pat Warthan (2016-17)
Vernon Carne (85-86)	Diann Hudson (2017-19)
Jesse Walker (86-87)	Rosalind McIntyre (Acting President) 2019-2021)

The unit purchased commemorative bricks for the Georgia Retired Educators Museum, Inc. (GREM) in honor of each DDRTA/DDREA or Georgia Retired Educator Association (GREA) President who came from this unit. Many other members also purchased bricks. We were thrilled to see them at the opening of the GEM on April 30, 2017.

## Officers and Coordinators for 2020-2021...



<b>Officers/Coordinators</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
President	Rosalind McIntyre (Acting Pres.)	<a href="mailto:rm.atlanta11@gmail.com">rm.atlanta11@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	TBD	
Secretary and photographer	Shirley Lee	<a href="mailto:shirleylee@icloud.com">shirleylee@icloud.com</a>
TRS and Legislative Representatives	Linda Williams Pam Reinhart	<a href="mailto:Lpw120@aol.com">Lpw120@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:pamreinhart@yahoo.com">pamreinhart@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Peggy Skillman	<a href="mailto:margaret.skillman@att.net">margaret.skillman@att.net</a>
Immediate Past President	(moved out of state)	
<b>Committees</b>	<b>Coordinators</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
Membership	Debbie Torbush	<a href="mailto:debbietorbush@bellsouth.net">debbietorbush@bellsouth.net</a>
Sunshine (Inspiration & Hospitality)	Priscilla Williams	<a href="mailto:pcw4118@outlook.com">pcw4118@outlook.com</a>
	Joyce Johnson	<a href="mailto:joycejay02@gmail.com">joycejay02@gmail.com</a>
Publicity	Nancy McCall	<a href="mailto:mcsmith92@aol.com">mcsmith92@aol.com</a>
Scholarship	Pat Warthan	<a href="mailto:pwart@aol.com">pwart@aol.com</a>
Community Service/DEAM	Rick Muska	<a href="mailto:rckmuska@bellsouth.net">rckmuska@bellsouth.net</a>

**DDREA Meetings will be held via ZOOM virtual meetings platform during the 2020-2021 program year to address the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**Board Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (October, December, February, and April, 2:00 PM, via ZOOM electronic meeting platform

**DDREA General Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday (September, November, January, March) at 2:00 PM and (December and May) at 12pm via ZOOM electronic meeting platform

**Area 13/14 Joint Meeting:** All in-person, joint meetings cancelled due to COVID-19

**GREA State Convention:** May, 2021 (specific date TBD), Augusta, GA [NOTE: DDREA will contribute peanut snacks.

**DDREA Website:** [www.ddrea.org](http://www.ddrea.org)

**DDREA E-Mail Address:** [d.d.r.e.a.2016@gmail.com](mailto:d.d.r.e.a.2016@gmail.com)

**DDREA Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1012, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30086

## DDREA Unit Goals for 2020-2021...



**TO** attain a 10% increase.....

.....in DDREA local unit membership by fostering relationships with retirement coordinators with the City of Decatur Schools and the DeKalb County School District, and  
.....of DDREA members in the Georgia Retired Educators Association (GREA) by emphasizing benefits associated with GREA membership.

**TO** increase community awareness of DDREA activities, retired educators' service and accomplishments, and to make DDREA more visible in the Decatur City Schools and the DeKalb County School District through marketing and public relations strategies highlighting programs, member volunteerism, and fellowship.

**TO** provide current and relevant information about legislative issues affecting retirees, and to encourage DDREA members to maintain regular contact with legislators to voice opinions regarding [proposed] legislation.

**TO** continue to raise funds to support the endowed DDREA Scholarship Fund at GSU—Perimeter College campuses.

**TO** develop leadership and enrich the DDREA organization by recruiting and training members who will volunteer to serve as DDREA officers and coordinators.

**TO** maintain and update the DDREA website that provides retirees with information about the DDREA organization and links to resources that support retiree quality of life.

# Calendar for 2020-2021...

[NOTE: Speakers proposed; none confirmed.]



## July, 2020

- July 16: DDREA Planning Board Meeting (FreeOnLineCalls.com)

## August, 2020

- August 13: CALLED DDREA Board Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM) Speaker: Dr. Ursula Thomas, GSU—Perimeter College Teacher Mentor Program

## September, 2020

- September 17: General Membership Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM) Speaker: TRS/Legislative Representatives

## October, 2020

- October 8: General Board Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM)

## November, 2020

- November 1: Georgia Retired Educators Day in Georgia (acknowledged at local place of worship)
- November 19: General Membership Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM) Speaker: Amy Shea

## December, 2020

- December 17: Holiday Luncheon, 12pm (ZOOM) Speaker: DDREA 2020 Scholarship recipient

## January, 2021

- January 21: General Membership Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM) Speaker: DDREA Members share their COVID-19 Sanity Stories

## February, 2021

- February 11: DDREA Board Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM)
- Organization of Nominating Committee for DDREA April elections

## March, 2021

- March 19: General Membership Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM) Speaker: DDREA Members share their community service activities
- Presentation of Slate of Officers for 2021-2022

## April, 2021

- April 8: DDREA Board Meeting, 2pm (ZOOM)
- Election of DDREA Officers for 2021-2022

## May, 2021

- May (specific dates TBD): GREA State Convention, Augusta, GA
- May 20: End of Year Luncheon w/installation of Officers, 12pm (ZOOM) Speaker: Mary Frances Early (UGA's School of Education eponym)

## July, 2021

- July 1: Annual Report and Scrapbook page submitted to GREA
- July 15: Annual Planning Meeting, 2pm (medium TBD—in-person or ZOOM)



# By-Laws...



## Decatur-DeKalb Retired Educators Association, Inc.

Adopted July 11, 2007

### Article I: Name, Mission, and Motto

- A. The name of the organization shall be the Decatur-DeKalb Retired Educators Association, hereafter referred to as DDREA.
- B. The DDREA Mission shall be: The Decatur-DeKalb Retired Educators Association is committed to uniting retired educators in Georgia for fellowship, support, and continued educational and community service. Policies and objectives of the organization will seek to improve benefits for all retired educators through cooperation with local, state, and national organizations.
- C. The DDREA Motto shall be: Let's Connect and Serve.

### Article II: Objectives

The objectives of DDREA are the following:

- A. To provide an organizational basis for a continuing identity with the educational profession and to promote the improvements of education both locally and statewide.
- B. To promote programs beneficial to retired educators.
- C. To encourage better fellowship among retired educators.
- D. To promote public relations which present the image of aging retired educators with dignity, independence, and purpose.
- E. To encourage active educators to prepare financially and emotionally for retirement.
- F. To work with all concerned, particularly the legislature, to improve retirement benefits for Georgia's retired educators.

### Article III: Governance

The DDREA shall be governed by its Bylaws.

### Article IV: Membership

**Section 1:** The fiscal and membership year shall begin on June 1 and end on May 31 of the following year.

**Section 2:** Membership dues shall be established by the DDREA Governing Board.

**Section 3:** Membership shall be composed of retired educators and friends of education who pay dues annually, or who have paid a Life Membership fee.



**Section 4:** Emeritus membership shall be granted to a current member of five years when she/he reaches age 90 and notifies the Membership Chair. An Emeritus Member will not be required to pay annual dues.

**Section 5:** Disability membership shall be granted any member who becomes physically or mentally unable to sustain regular membership. The President shall present evidence to the Board determining need. A disabled member will not be required to pay annual dues.

**Section 6:** A Member shall cease to belong to the organization by submitting a written notice to the DDREA President or by failing to pay dues within a membership year.

**Section 7:** Membership dues are paid to the Membership Chair. Life Membership monies are to be invested and may be used in annual budgeting if needed.

#### **Article V: Officers and Duties**

**Section 1:** Officers of DDREA shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

**Section 2:** The DDREA Governing Board, hereafter referred to as the Board, shall consist of the Officers and committee chairs who are in attendance at board meetings.

**Section 3:** Election of DDREA Officers

- A. The President and Vice President shall be elected annually by the membership for a one-year term and will be eligible for reelection.
- B. The President will serve as Immediate Past President following the completion of the term.
- C. The Recording Secretary shall be elected by the membership for a one-year term and is eligible for reelection.
- D. The Treasurer shall be elected by the membership for a one-year term and is eligible for reelection.
- E. A Nominating Committee, appointed by the Board, shall be announced in February. The slate of nominees shall be submitted at the March meeting, elected at the April meeting, and installed at the May meeting. New officers will assume their duties in June.
- F. A member in good standing of the DDREA shall be eligible for nomination and may be elected upon receiving a majority of the votes cast.

**Section 4:** A vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the Vice President who will complete the term. Vacancies in the offices of Vice President, Recording Secretary, or Treasurer shall be filled by the Governing Board.

**Section 5:** Duties of the Officers

**A. The President shall:**

1. Preside at all meetings of the association.
2. Appoint the committee chairs and members of the committees with input by the Board and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. Selection of chairs will be made during the June Board meeting.
3. Call special meetings of the Board.
4. Make recommendations to the Board for programs of action.
5. Develop a budget with the Board at the August meeting following installation and then present the final budget to the membership at the first meeting in the fall.
6. Make a written report of activities of the year for the DDREA History.

**B. The Vice President shall:**

1. Consult with the Board in planning programs for the year.
2. Become President when the presidency becomes vacant during a term of office.
3. Assist the President in the execution of the duties of the presidency and perform other duties as may be delegated by the President.
4. Preside at meetings in the absence of the President.
5. Take photos at the General Membership Meetings.

**C. The Recording Secretary shall:**

1. Keep the minutes of Board and General Membership meetings and pass the record of all minutes along to his/her successor.

**D. The Treasurer shall:**

1. Sign all checks. There shall be additional Board-approved signatories who shall be eligible to sign in the event of the Treasurer's absence.
2. Present financial reports bi-monthly to the Board and at the nine monthly membership meetings.
3. Provide recommendations to the Board for investment of funds.
4. Have all financial records reviewed annually by the Board, and they will become a part of the Secretary's report to the Board and the membership at the close of each fiscal year ending May 31.

**E. The Governing Board shall:**

1. Consist of all elected officers and the chairs of any committees who may be present.
2. Work with the President to carry out the mission of the organization, support or propose new ideas, approve the President's appointments of committee chairs, review committee reports, the budget and financial reports, and make decisions on proposed activities.

**Article VI: Committees**

**Section 1:** Committee Chairs: The term of office for each committee shall terminate with that of the President; however, any chair may be eligible for reappointment for additional terms.

**Section 2:** Committees

- A. **Legislative Committee:** The committee will represent DDREA at Legislative and TRS meetings. They shall keep the membership aware of TRS Health Benefits, GREA Legislative Goals, Legislator contact information, and encourage members to actively lobby legislators to advocate for specific bill passage.
- B. **Membership Chair:** The Chair shall maintain current membership data, keep the members informed on membership matters, provide an attendance sign-in sheet at the General Membership and Board Meetings, and update name tags as needed. All DDREA members shall be responsible for membership recruitment, engagement, and retention.
- C. **Public Relations Chair:** The chair is responsible for gathering and sharing information about DDREA to the membership via email, the DDREA Website, and bi-annual newsletters, and to the general public by writing articles for news outlets.
- D. **Sunshine/Inspiration/Hospitality Chairs:** The Chairs shall acknowledge and respond to celebratory and challenging occasions in the lives of DDREA members, promote fellowship, provide inspiration, recognize membership achievements, and honor recently deceased members. They will write Thank You notes to our monthly speakers. The Chairs will also solicit

refreshments from the members for the monthly meetings, and provide set-up and clean-up. If the membership chooses to have a luncheon, the Chairs will serve as the liaison to the caterer.

- E. **Scholarship Chair:** The Chair serves as the liaison between DDREA and the GSU/Perimeter College Director of Development. The Chair shall spearhead annual fundraising campaigns to contribute to the DDREA Scholarship Endowment and report the status to the membership. The scholarship recipient will be invited to the May meeting for recognition.

#### **Article VII: Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the Association shall be from June 1 to May 31 of the following year.

#### **Article VIII: Funds and Accounts**

**Section 1:** The Board is hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion to create and maintain special funds and accounts.

**Section 2:** A review of all funds and accounts of the association shall be made annually by the Treasurer at the end of the fiscal year

#### **Article IX: Meetings**

**Section 1:** The General Membership Meetings shall occur on the third Thursday at 2:00 p.m. during September through May of the following year, unless otherwise announced. The Board may call special membership meetings at the request of the President and two other Board members.

**Section 2:** The Board meetings shall be held bi-monthly on the second Thursday at 2:00 p.m. unless otherwise announced. The President may call special Board meetings.

#### **Article X: Parliamentary Procedure**

**Section 1:** At meetings of the membership, those members present shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 2:** At meetings of the Board, those members present shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 3:** Any amended Bylaw shall become effective the day following adoption.

**Section 4:** Except as provided in this document, all questions of parliamentary procedure relating to the association shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

#### **Article XI: Dissolution**

This Association may be dissolved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a DDREA General Membership Meeting with no parts of its funds or property distributed to or among its members. After payment of all indebtedness, surplus funds and properties shall be used in accordance with the mission of the Decatur-DeKalb Retired Educators Association in such a manner as determined by the Board provided such distribution is not in conflict with dissolution procedures as prescribed by the IRS and Georgia State Law, or these Bylaws.

Approved by the DDREA Board on July 11, 2007

Amended on August 25, 2010

Amended on March 10, 2011

Revision approved on January 16, 2020