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# BTU RETIREES NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1 issue 4 November/December 2017

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## Board of Directors 2017-18

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Notes from the president, Carol Fischer:

Dear Retirees,

Here we are in November already and the weather the past few days has been cool- a break from record-breaking heat we have had all summer(But there is no climate change). I hope you are all recovering or recovered from Hurricane Irma and that you did not have much damage. BTU and AFL-CIO gave out small amounts of money to some who applied for help. The unions also helped Texas and are and will continue to help poor Puerto Rico. I cannot imagine living without electricity, drinking water and telephone for such a long period of time as the island residents are going to have to endure, I think we here in Broward and palm Beach were lucky in comparison to our neighbors to the South and North of us.

A big thanks to Betty, Susan, Sue , Kate and Nancy for all of their help to make our Membership Only Luncheon at Tropical Acres a bi=g success .Everyone said the food and service was really good. Kate's centerpieces were a great hit and those who got one were really happy. A thank you to all the members who helped us put out things on the tables. For those who missed the luncheon we will have another one in December and I hope you can attend. The League of Women Voters did a

great job explaining Charter Schools using research data., The conclusion- they are not better than public schools and as a result of so many of them, they are segregating the public schools gain., Thank you to all the members who came out to kick off our 2017/18 year of activities

This past weekend, Caryl Hattan, Susan Pignato and myself went to the FEA Convention in Orlando to represent BTU/R. Rick Reese also went as a result of his winning a spot from the statewide retirees election for delegates. I also, at the last minute, wound up going to the Democratic State Convention with Caryl and Susan who were scheduled to go. As a result of all that I heard I can tell you that everyone is going to have to help elect those that will be supporting teachers, public education, some kind of affordable health care, and continuing social security and Medicare. In order for BTU/R retirees to be better informed and help reach out to our elected officials and our community BTU/R is forming an action cadre of interested members.

I am hoping that many of you come out to the activities planned for you each third Wednesday of the month. We tried to plan those that you said you liked. We put out a survey to find out what you want but not many people filled it out .I found that most of you did not want to spend more than \$25.00 for an activity- although many of you want to go to Fairchild Gardens- it would cost at least, \$20 for transportation and then the cost of admission. Your board will continue to look for interesting things to do- let us know what you want and will see if it is feasible.

Remember, you are all welcome to go to the Tuesday Group: Book Club, Movies, Canasta and Mahjong on consecutive Tuesdays of the

month. If you are a new member, you will make new friends and meet old ones.

Retirees were also invited to the BTU Open House to see the improvements to our union hall- new paint, furniture and carpet. The food trucks provided food. Were also invited to the BTU picnic at the new Broward Regional Park in Lauderhill. IO attended both and enjoyed both of them. The other BTU/R members who attended these activities also said they had a good time.

Retirees, BTU/R does not support a party- but supports issues that benefit public schools and public school teachers, The Democrats, right now, are the party that supports the teachers. I feel very anxious with what I see going on all around me and it would be remiss of me not to mention what we see. Unions are under attack all over the country and here in Florida. Public schools, Social Security and health care and taxes are also being attacked.

Things are changing fast- or so it seems to me( and again for me) not for the better. As a retired teacher that once taught government and economics and as a member of BTU/R I just need to encourage all of you to work to preserve unions. It was unions that got us planning periods, duty free lunch, even 5 day workweeks, and 7 1/2 hour days. Teacher pay in Florida ( and Broward) may not be good but think where it would be without your union.

Who you elect has a direct effect on your life and your children's lives- please keep informed and help spread the word.

In case I do not see you or speak to you, I want to wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, Happy

Chanukah and Kwanza and of course, a very happy healthy New Year

In solidarity,

Your proud President

Carol Fischer

### MOVIE CLUB

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Tamarac Café and Diner ( SW corner of Nob Hill and McNab ) Come join us ! We schmooze, eat lunch and get to see some terrific movies. For more information call Marilyn Boudin at 954-472-3381

Canasta and Mahjong players also meet. Call Marilyn for times and locations.



### BOOK CLUB

We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at the BTU office at 10:00 a.m.

November 14<sup>th</sup>- The Japanese Lover by E. Allende

December 5<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Saint and the Defectives by Julie Timmes

January 2<sup>nd</sup> the Devil in Jerusalem by Naomi Ragen

February 6<sup>th</sup> Never Broken... Songs are half the story by Jewel



### BIRTHDAYS

November 1<sup>st</sup>- David Newman

November 4<sup>th</sup>- Betty Bunnell

November 11<sup>th</sup>- Madeline Wilk

November 13<sup>th</sup>- Nelson Small

November 21<sup>st</sup> Barbara Flynn

November 21<sup>st</sup>- Betty Mendillo

November 22<sup>nd</sup>- Eileen Kimmich

November 28<sup>th</sup> Adria Lederman

December 4<sup>th</sup> Ronny Virgilito

December 5<sup>th</sup> Paulette Ballin

December 14<sup>th</sup> Susan Pignato

December 16<sup>th</sup> Earthalene Perry

December 16<sup>th</sup> Leslie Scutellaro

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MONEY FOR ALL EVENTS IS SENT TO SUE WARGA, our Treasurer, at 2639 Lee Street, Hollywood, FL 33020**

**November 15<sup>th</sup>**-Pot Luck/Game Day at the BTU office- 11:30. Cost is \$5. Canasta, Mahjong, Rummicube etc. Play or learn a new game.

**December 20<sup>th</sup>**- Holiday Party at McDivots at the Carolina Club. 11:30 a.m.- cost TBA

**January 17<sup>th</sup>**- BUNCO at the BTU office with Italian Lunch. 11:30. Cost TBA

**February 21<sup>st</sup>**- Sightseeing Tour on the Carrie B cost,time and location TBA

**March 21<sup>st</sup>**- Stage Door Theater "Nice Work", cost determined by the tickets we can get.. Lunch on your own with/without group.

**April 18<sup>th</sup>**- IMAX theater-TBA

**May**- End of the Year luncheon at the Grand Palms

Betty Bunnell has lined up tickets for the Smart Matinee series which are \$6 bargain cultural events at Parker and the Broward Center. More info to follow.

## PHOTOS

Monica Lynn , as always, provides us with great photos of our events.Check them out at <http://bturetirees.shutterfly.com>

## Reminder- VOLUNTEER HOURS

These are collected every two months:

October, December, February, April, June. These hours generate funds for us from the National NEA/FEA. .Volunteer hours are for any time you spend helping a non-family member- trips to the doctor, shopping, classroom, food bank, library etc. Send to Kate Alexander [kama1950@bellsouth.net](mailto:kama1950@bellsouth.net) or #954-475-2671



**Merry Christmas!**

## Dates of Note

November 1<sup>st</sup>- All Saints Day

November 5<sup>th</sup>- Guy Fawkes Day in Britain

November 9<sup>th</sup> Great Boston fire- 800 buildings destroyed

November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans' Day

November 23<sup>rd</sup>- Thanksgiving Day

December 7<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor Day

December 8<sup>th</sup> – National Brownie Day

December 12<sup>th</sup> Hannukah to Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>

December 13<sup>th</sup> National Ice Cream Day

December 21 Winter Solstice- the longest day

December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

## JUST FOR LAUGHS

### Don't Quote me:

I don't think there is intelligent life on other planets..Why should other planets be any different than this one.

I would never die for my beliefs because I might be wrong.

I don't think anyone should write their autobiography until after they are dead.

Sometimes I look at my children and think "Honey, you should have remained a virgin."

Honesty is the best policy...when there's money in it.

Why does Sea World have a Seafood Restaurant. Halfway through my fish burger I thought.. OMG I could be eating a slow learner.

### **DONATIONS**

Please bring non-perishable and canned goods to the Game Day to be used in the BTU food bank.

Also goods for the Humane Society are needed: paper towels, bleach, old cloth towels, dog toys, canned and bagged dog food, etc.

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