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# BTU RETIREES NEWSLETTER

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## Board of Directors 2017-18

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Notes from the president, Carol Fischer:

January 2018

Dear BTU Retirees,

My wish for all of you and your families is a VERY HAPPY HEALTHY NEW YEAR. I certainly hope that 2018 treats the teachers and us seniors better than 2017 did.

Our Holiday Luncheon was well attended and the speaker Don Maines from the Sheriff's department was very informative. I was very glad to hear that the principals are now allowing him to speak at Broward schools on the dangers of the current drugs on the streets. The sing along put everyone in a festive mood. A big thank you to my Board for all of their hard work to help make BTU/R a successful organization Our January activity is January 20<sup>th</sup> will be BUNCO at BTU lead by our own BUNCO Queen Selma Keil. Secure your spot by sending \$12.00 to Sue Warga.

I am asking those of you who are able, to start participating in some political action.

We will be electing School Board Members in late August. There will be an election for Governor and Senate and House positions in November. There will be more changes in health insurance for our teachers and seniors. There may be major changes in our Social Security and in FRS. Right now our Florida Legislature is sending a Bill through to curtail unions by not allowing a union to deduct dues if the union membership falls below 50%. Another Bill wants to give vouchers to private schools that take a student that complained of being bullied. There will be training to help us be more effective in trying to get the people

elected that will help keep public schools public, fund public schools, and support Social Security and affordable health insurance and drugs. I will inform you when these training take place.

Susan Pignato and I have already gone to one. Susan Pignato is also the chairperson of the BTU COPE Committee and I am on that committee also. If you want to attend an activity to help reelect Nora Ruppert email me and I will forward the information to you when I receive it. BTU is also endorsing Jim Silvernale in Hollywood for School Board.

Just a reminder- that your dues to BTU/R gives you many, many discounts from FEA in all areas. Discounts on rental cars, restaurants, car insurance, house insurance, many stores, etc. - the list is really endless. You also receive magazines from FEA and NEA and AFT. Please encourage any teachers you know that have retired to join BTU/R. We have activities for all- Book Club, Movie Club, Canaster, and Mah Jong on Tuesdays. The third Wednesday of each month from September through May we have an activity planned for you-Mark your calendars.

January-BUNCO.

February-Boat ride (air conditioned)

March- Play at the Stage Door Theater

April-I Max Theater

May- End of year Luncheon- (Fashion Show)

If you have any ideas for an activity you would like to do let any of our retired board know. We will research it. We consider the number of people who are interested and the cost including transportation. Restaurants are becoming expensive so

we are trying to find restaurants that are under \$30- and it is getting very difficult

We will put our heads together and come up with some new ideas.

This year as we celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday in January let us remember the struggle for civil rights has not yet been accomplished. Let us

try and be civil to one another. Let us try and respect each other's views, as hard as that may be. Let us try and get all the facts and be better informed. Please encourage your friends and relatives to register to vote and then vote. This year you can register on line, and update your registration on line and request a mail in ballot that comes with a stamp on it.

For those of you who already vote by mail make sure the signature you used for your registration is the same as it is now-as it will be checked. You can request a form to update your signature. For all of you who are upset with the way things are going voting is the only way you can change things. I hope what I said in the last paragraph does not come across as preachy-I am just trying to get everyone thinking of what they can do, writing, emailing, calling, working with your union, working with a campaign, or donating to a candidate or cause. Just do something-anything you can- no matter how little and VOTE.

BTU has been very active in Broward County. Anna Fusco or BTU staff and or members speak at every school board meeting. They go to many functions, volunteer at numerous places and at the mobile food pantry or campaign. The BTU

blue logo apple shirt is seen everywhere. BTU is back in numbers. The membership is now at

11,000 and growing. To see what BTU is doing go to the website: [btuonline.com](http://btuonline.com).

If someone asks you how to join BTU/R tell them to fill out the membership form and send it with the \$70.00 dues to BTU- and put "Attention Holly: retired membership" on the front bottom left of the envelope. The membership card is important because we need your Birthdate, and contact information for FEA. We

use your telephone number and email and address to be able to contact you.

We do not or give or sell our membership list to anyone.

One more time a Very HAPPY HEALTHY New Year to all-Hope to see you at our activities.

Your Proud BTU/R 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.

January 9<sup>th</sup> the Devil in Jerusalem by Naomi Ragen

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

March 6<sup>th</sup> "Orphan #8" by Kim Alkemedede

April 3-"The Alice Network" by Kate Quinn

May 1- "Midnight in Broad Daylight: A Japanese American Family Caught between Two Worlds" by Pamela Rotner Sakamoto



### **BIRTHDAYS**

January 3<sup>rd</sup>- Diane Guzy-holt

January 7<sup>th</sup>- Russell Phillips

January 9<sup>th</sup>- Linda Toemmes

January 11<sup>th</sup>- Margaret Berman

January 11<sup>th</sup>- Deborah Glover

January 24<sup>th</sup>- Susan Gerber

January 26<sup>th</sup>- Brenda Blipman

January 31<sup>st</sup>- Natalie Godin

February 8<sup>th</sup> Joan Valant

February 11<sup>th</sup>- Elizabeth Young

February 11<sup>th</sup> Marcia Becker

February 12<sup>th</sup>g=- Susan Kaplan

February 18<sup>th</sup> Karen Fernander

February 19<sup>th</sup> Margaret Bell

February 22<sup>nd</sup> Estelle Holmes

February 27 Sue Warga

February 28 Ellen Stemmer

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**January 17<sup>th</sup>**- BUNCO at the BTU office with Italian Lunch. 11:30. Cost \$12

**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://bturetires shutterfly.com>

## Reminder- VOLUNTEER HOURS

These are collected every two months:

, 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

## Dates of Note

January 1<sup>st</sup>- New Year's Day

January 6<sup>th</sup>- Three Kings Day ( Epiphany)

January 14- Dress Up Your Pet Day

January 15- Martin Luther King's Birthday

January 24<sup>th</sup>- Gold Discovered at Sutter's Mill in California 1848

February 3- 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified- giving the right to vote regardless of color, race or previous condition of servitude. 1870

February 3- 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified giving Congress the right to collect taxes- 1913

February 12<sup>th</sup>- Abraham Lincoln's birthday

February 14<sup>th</sup>- Valentine's Day

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – George Washington's birthday.

## JUST FOR LAUGHS

Senility has been a smooth transition for me.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking in to a spider web.

I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented... I forgot where I was going with is.

- At one of our pot luck meetings, several people asked Natalie Godin for her wonderful recipe for **Mock Chopped Liver**- so here it is:

Ingredients;

4 onions

¼ cup oil

4 hard boiled eggs

1/2cup walnuts

2 cups canned green beans

½ cup canned green peas

salt and pepper to taste

Slice onions and saute in oil until carmelized .

Put all ingredients through a food processor.

Serve with crackers.