**Bryan and Evans Retired Educators Association**

**September 10, 2013 Minutes**

President Barbara Estes welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year and gave a special welcome for our first time members. The blessing was given by Alice Barnes and we had brunch and visited.

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Estes and we said the Pledge of Allegiance. Dorothy Geter presented an inspirational moment on Psalms 23. President Estes reminded us to update our information and if we wished to pay the local dues of $20 directed us to Anne Sanders. She also reminded us that we could buy raffle tickets for $1 for door prizes from Olivia Harvey to fund our Education Gift Fund.

James Twiggs was introduced and presented a program on membership. He oversees the membership in 6 districts for GREA. He commended BEREA for becoming a Unit of Distinction last year. A unit has to gain 10% in new members to receive this honor. The slogan for retired educations is fellowship, service, and support and he encouraged us to continue to live up to this slogan. There are 134 active units within the state and 23000 members. The goal for next year is 24000. Mr. Twiggs invited us to the ground breaking of the museum which will be in Gainesville on September 29, 2013 at 3 pm. This will be the only museum in the state dedicated to education and was completely funded by the retired teachers in our state.

President Estes asked if there were changes needed to be made in the written minutes from April 9, 2013. There was a misspelling and that was corrected. It was also pointed out that after the April meeting Delores Fields resigned from the position of secretary and it is now filled by Alice Barnes. President Estes thanked Delores for her many years of excellent service as secretary. The minutes were then approved.

Anne Sanders said that the treasury for BEREA is balanced and as of 9/10/13 we have a balance of $764.79. The treasure’s report was approved.

The list of BEREA Committees and members was presented by President Estes and each attendee was given that list in her packet of information. The Sunshine Committee reported Mrs. Harn, a dedicated member, is in failing health and appreciates cards. Anne Miller can provide an address for anyone wishing to send her a card. Two members recently passed away, James Hite and Lillie B Hayes. The motion was made and passed to send donations in their memory to the museum. Avis Hagan and Mrs. Harn were also mentioned for Unit Emeritus recognition. This is a special recognition given to members who are 90 years or older and have been members for at least 5 consecutive years.

Under old business it was pointed out that 4 BEREA members attended the State Convention for GREA and that our unit received several awards. We still need someone to volunteer to fill the post of President Elect for 2013-2014. The group approved the change presented by the planning committee to have 6 meetings a year. Each attendee was given a schedule of the meetings.

Under new business Anne Miller reported that the VI District Area Meeting was a success. She said there were about 90 attendees. This year each local unit is asked to participate in a Dimes for Charity collection. The funds raised will be given to a charity the local unit chooses. Georgia Retired Teachers Day is November 3, 2013. We were all asked to encourage any retired educators we know to become members of GREA and BEREA if they have not already joined.

President Estes thanked Nancy Page for organizing the Brunch.

The meeting was adjourned and door prizes were presented.

Secretary,

Alice Barnes