

## President's Message

**Candy Gale**

Hillsborough Educators Association - Retired

Dear Ones,

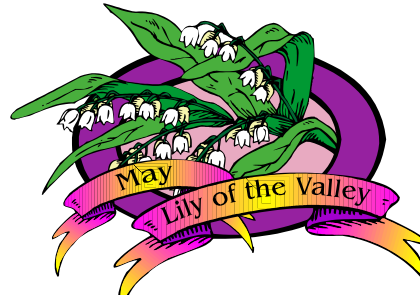
This will be my last HEA-Reporter as your president. Circumstances are requiring me to take on added responsibility in my church, my winter retreat and my co-housing community. You deserve to have a president who is committed and has the time to devote to keeping HEA-R vibrant and I need more hours in my day.

I have called my last board meeting [link](#) for May 3 at 9:30 where I am stepping down and according to our bylaws, our Vice President, Sue Huttig will be your new President. The board will then appoint a new Vice President.

On May 19 we will be voting for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Chair and District 2 Director. Please consider stepping up. All active members who are present will be eligible to vote.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor, either yourself or another member who agrees to carry out all of the duties of the office. If you are unsure about the duties please contact the Election Committee for a list of duties. The Chairperson is Yvonne Lyons: email [ylyonstt@gmail.com](mailto:ylyonstt@gmail.com).

You may reach me at (813) 317-7660 or [cigid@me.com](mailto:cigid@me.com) ~ Candy



## Happy MAY Birthday!!

- Shirley West 1
- Linda Lusk 3
- Martha Coulter 4
- Cynthia Bauer 8
- Marlene Sacarello 8
- Norma Killebrew 10
- Christine Middendorf 12
- Fran Roberts 13
- Lavern Holloman 17
- Adis Choundas 19
- Myrtle Guarino 20
- Nita Gary 21
- Jill Kinney 22
- Cheryl Kobres 22
- Marie Carothers 23
- Norma Goff 24
- Joan Anderson 28
- Mary Jane Brock 31
- Merrilyn Crosson 31
- Linda Price 31

Let Jim know if we missed your birthday.

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**Welcome**

**New Members!**

Lillian M. Rentas  
Armetta Jackson

On April 21 we heard from UF history professor **Paul Ortiz**, a third-generation veteran, a leader in FEA's United Faculty of Florida, and author of ***Emancipation Betrayed, the Hidden History of Black Organizing in Florida***. He spoke about the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Massacre, the leaders in the Black community, and events leading up to that day. He answered questions about voting rights, personal histories, and current events.

On March 17 we enjoyed a tour of **USF Botanical Gardens** led by director Laurie Walker. We didn't cover all 16 acres and 3,000 plants but did see cycads, cactus and succulents, bamboo, grasses, wetlands, pollinators, and orchids. The gardens and gift shop are open Tuesday to Saturday 9-3 pm.

**Volunteer Hours** for April can be sent to Jim Roney at 813-205-5669 or [jimroney53@gmail.com](mailto:jimroney53@gmail.com). Record your help for charities and faith groups, friends and neighbors, extended family, and community organizations. Forgot to send in previous months' totals? Do it now!

**Annual Membership renewals** were sent out via email. Annual dues are still only \$56. Visit [neamb.com](http://neamb.com) for details on member benefits such as home, car, and health insurance, credit cards, loans, and savings accounts, travel and shopping discounts. Send a check for **\$56** payable to **HEA-R** & send to Marilyn Crosson, 1708 Woodbine Drive, Brandon, FL 33510.

Our school district needs help! Please call **Gov DeSantis** and ask him to release federal Covid-19 relief funds for our public schools. Call him at **(850) 717-9337**. Thanks to everyone who contacted their state legislators these past three months. We'll have a summary of the results at our May meeting.

The May 19 HEA-R meeting speaker has not been confirmed yet. It will be a Surprise!! We will elect officers and select delegates for this year's FEA-R meeting. Here's the link to the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78049993600?pwd=dkZvQ1RDVUFZUG5sbW81WGtoRnFVZz09>

## 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, to learn more about their programs, and to see vibrant watercolor paintings.

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



Donate online today –

<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/oasis-network-of-new-tampa-inc>

Every child deserves the **opportunity** to have their basic needs met.

### **Tribute in honor of Tom Michel:**

Tom was one of our members who was the heart and soul of HEA-R. He was one of the founding members of HEA-R and loved to see the development and growth of this organization. Tom served as our Secretary/Treasurer for many years. When I was elected president, Tom was my mentor and a loving friend to me and to all members of HEA-R.

Tom passed away on December 26, 2020.

I miss him, his wisdom and sense of joy!

Merrilyn. [crossonmerrilym@gmail.com](mailto:crossonmerrilym@gmail.com)

### **Dorothee Baker**

*a longtime HEA-R member (cousin to member Juanita Cook), died April 4, 2021 at her home. Her husband died last year in August 2020.*

*They leave behind two adult children and a four-month-old grandson. Send condolences to her son George Baker III at 705 E. Eskimo Avenue, Tampa 33604.*