



The Chalkboard

CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION

▫ VOLUME 33 NUMBER 3

Elkton, Maryland

February 2020

▫ **2019 – 2020 OFFICERS**

President: ????????

Immediate Past President: Anne
Humphrey

Corresponding Secretary: Betsy Van
Culin

Recording Secretary: Sally Haberl

Treasurer: Tony Mattern

Newsletter Co-editors: Gretchen
Ginder and Signe' Mika

▫ **Useful Web Sites**

Consumer Protection:
www.usa.gov/topics/consumer.shtml

<http://www.weather.com/weather/hurricanecentral> Information to help you plan for bad weather



Cecil Retired School Personnel Association

▫ **2020 Census Maryland**

The United States is required to perform a national count of all people living in each state every ten years. The 2020 census impacts Maryland in several important ways. The census determines representation in Congress and impacts local legislative districts, is the basis for funding critical programs and services, and assists local decision-making for economic development, school construction and transportation projects, as well as public health. Your census form can be done in three ways – by mail, phone and online.

The U.S. Census Bureau must keep all information confidential, including a resident's citizenship, income and other sensitive personal data.

The Census is **IMPORTANT, EASY AND SAFE!**

▫ **Legislative News**

The MRSPA legislative committee held it's first workshop for the year in the fall. I was unable to attend, however, Shirley Hicks and Jan Fraser represented our county. Shirley gave an excellent report at our fall luncheon and reviewed the Legislative Priorities for 2020 - Pension Protection remains to be our number one priority.

As you are aware, the Legislative Assembly convened on January 8th. The state committee will meet on January 21st to review bills submitted and take action on bills that will affect our members. I encourage everyone to visit the MRSPA website and click on legislation to stay informed. (www.mrspa.org) If we need to take immediate action on legislation, I will inform members on our website.

CCRSPA MINUTES – December 10, 2019

The group gathered at 11:00 at Rising Sun Banquet Hall. President Anne Humphrey called the meeting to order at 11:09. Everyone participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First time attendee, Donna Rice, was introduced as were any guests in attendance.

The minutes from the September 10, 2019 meeting were approved.

Kay DiStefano was thanked for the wonderful job she did taking minutes at the September meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report – Tony Mattern reported we have \$600.00 less than the last report. We still have money. See the website for his report.

Benefits – Paul Humphrey stated that a flyer is available at CCPS Benefit's Office or online about the Aetna Medicare Advantage **Resource for Living** program. He hopes to get someone from the Benefits Office to come to our next meeting to answer questions about Aetna.

Community Outreach – Paula Sheldon and Jan Yuninger had a tote available for collecting hats, scarves, gloves, and books. Paula had forms available for members to record their volunteer hours. The forms will also be available at the February meeting. Members were encouraged to complete the form reporting their hours as the volunteer hours are reported to MRSPA in March.

Consumer Education – Tony Mattern referred members to our website to see the current information. He also thanked Jan Yuninger for her help to the schools in our county. Anne Humphrey added that Paula Sheldon and Jan Yuninger contact the school nurses to see what needs the children in the schools might have. We supply shoes and clothing items, not just coats, when the need arises.

Legislation – Shirley Hicks and Jan Fraser attended a meeting for Linda Elwood. There will be a meeting in Annapolis on March 3 to talk to our legislators about our priorities. If interested in attending, please let Linda Elwood know. An AARP representative was also at their meeting. AARP advocates for those 50 and older. They are working on lowering prescription costs, protecting elder abuse, and sustaining our pensions. Information was shared about the budget plan for July 1- June 30. More detailed information can be found on our webpage.

Membership – Sherry Lewis is contacting many people about becoming a CCRSPA and an MRSPA member. There are four perspective people retiring in February. She will contact them in March about joining. The membership year is May – May, so she encourages people to join in May. We currently have 275 members in our local organization.

Public Relations – Gretchen Ginder mailed 108 Chalkboards for our December meeting. This is half the number mailed from last year. If you are not receiving your Chalkboard online, please consider doing so. Anne thanked Shirley Montgomery for doing the email blasts.

Scholarship – This year CRSPA offered three \$100.00 mini-grants for Cecil County teachers. Charlene Metzger said there were eight applicants. The committee thoroughly discussed the various applications. They were looking at the number of students the grant would impact. The grant needs to be used by the end of this school year. The recipients were: Thomas Porter, an English teacher from RSHS. He was getting a one-year subscription to Storyboard, that would be used by 150 students. Jennifer Fox, an Art teacher from Elkton High School, was purchasing canvases for neo-expressionist self-portraits. The final mini-grant was awarded to Scott Delloso, an English teacher from PHS. He is purchasing two standing desks. The committee hopes word will spread, and we will have more applicants for next year's mini-grants. Anne Humphrey thanked the committee members for the time they spent looking at the applications. She also explained the accountability for the mini-grant recipients. A report and pictures are to be given to the Scholarship Committee before the end of the school year.

Social – Diana Lohr reported we had a good crowd at our December meeting. There is a possibility that our February meeting will be held at the School of Technology.

Travel – Fred Metzger said ten folks attended the National Parks trip this fall. The scenery was wonderful, the weather was great, and everyone had a good time. Hill Travel gave our organization a check for \$450.00. Fred is planning a day trip to St. Michaels on May 20. The bus would leave North East Plaza at 8:30. We would be at St. Michaels around 10:30. There is much to see, plenty of shopping and wineries to visit. There is also the possibility of taking an hour steamboat cruise. The bus would leave St. Michaels at 4:00 and return to North East at 6:00.

Additional Information:

- Marie Madron attended a County council meeting about the importance of completing the 2020 census. (Every Marylander not counted costs the state approximately \$18,250.00 over 10 years.) She also said the state is paying \$19.00/hour for volunteers to help with census taking.
- Anne Humphrey shared information about our first evening reception at the Wellwood in the fall. Eight people attended and everyone had a good time. It provided an opportunity to visit with fellow retirees. She hopes we can hold another one in the spring and possibly go on a boat ride. She also stated that the biggest reason to join MRSPA is the protection of our retirement money. The state controls our pensions. There are approximately 14,000 MRSPA members. Dues to be a member of CCRSPA and MRSPA cost \$55.00/year. Please consider becoming an online dues paying member. The cost of the dues would come out of your July retirement check.
- This is Anne's last meeting as president of CCRSPA. She is the public relations chairperson for MRSPA and is on the board of directors for MRSPA. We need a president. Please step forward and volunteer to be president. We are also in need of a nominating chairperson.
- The meeting was adjourned and the blessing was given for our luncheon.

OFFICERS NEEDED

Our organization is *still* in need of a President-elect and a nominating chair. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions.

COMING EVENTS

- February 4, 2020 Executive Board Meeting
- February 25, 2020 Luncheon Meeting
- May 5, 2020 Executive Board Meeting
- May 19, 2020 Luncheon Meeting
- September 1, 2010 Executive Board Meeting *
- September 22, 2010 Luncheon Meeting *
- * subject to change

CCRSPA Officers & Committee Chairpersons

OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	???????????????
<u>Past President</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Corresponding Secretary</u>	Betsy Van Culin
<u>Recording Secretary</u>	Sally Haberl
<u>Treasurer</u>	Tony Mattern

COMMITTEE

<u>Community Outreach</u>	Paula Cobb Sheldon
<u>Education/Protective Services</u>	Tony Mattern
<u>Legislation</u>	Linda Elwood
<u>Membership</u>	Sherry Lewis
<u>Nominating</u>	???????????????
<u>Benefits</u>	Paul Humphrey
<u>Programs</u>	Mary McCleary"
<u>Public Relations & Communications</u>	"Betsy Van Culin
<u>Publications</u>	Gretchen Ginder and
<u>"Signe' Mika</u>	
<u>Scholarship</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social</u>	Diana Loht

CCRSPA TREASURER'S REPORT

BALANCE: June 30, 2019	\$6,839.53
SUB TOTAL INCOME	\$4456.65
SUB TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3707.15
Net Balance	\$749.50
CD at Cecil Bank	\$11,195.09
Balance on Hand	\$18,784.12

*Latest available information.



A BIG THANK YOU!!!

Thank you for your generous donations to the raffle table in December. Our members continue to donate to our amazing raffle table. (I want to thank all of those who help facilitate the raffle table and raffles during my absence.)

Please join us in February to participate in our raffle table drawings at the School of Technology!

Mary McCleary, Raffle Chairperson

REMINDER

Please remember to bring a canned good or non-perishable food item to the February Luncheon for the **Agape Program!**

We provide a bag of food for the weekend to each child identified by the guidance counselors. A typical bag contains a can of pasta with meat, 2 soups, 2 fruits (applesauce, etc.), 2 snacks (goldfish crackers, cheese crackers, etc.), and 2 breakfast items. Our volunteers deliver these bags to the schools.

Please remember that children as young as 4 carry these bags home on Fridays. We cannot send regular size cereal boxes, large canned items, or large bags of snacks. All packages are opened and individual bags/boxes of items are sent home.

Items we need include: Canned beef and pasta (Beefaroni, spaghetti & meatballs, etc.) Single-serve cereal and Granola bars



MEETINGS

**FEBRUARY LUNCHEON
REMINDER**

Please remember to bring a canned good or non-perishable food item for the Agape Program to the February Luncheon Meeting.

MAY LUNCHEON MEETING

Mark your calendar! Plan to attend and keep in touch with CCRSPA friends at the May 19th luncheon.

Members who want to get on our electronic CCRSPA distribution list need to send their email address to Shirley Montgomery at smmontgomery@verizon.net or to Tony Mattern at ContactUs@CecilRSPA.org

February Luncheon Meeting

Cecil School of Technology

912 Appleton Road

Elkton, MD 21911

February 25, 2020 - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Menu

Vegetarian Ziti

Chicken Strips

Tossed Salad, Green Beans,

Apple Sauce and Rolls

Cake

Price per person \$20.00, Please Pay at the Door

RSVP by February 18, 2020

Tours of the school will be available.



Clip and Send

Price per person is \$20 at the door, but you must RSVP. Email, call or send reservation by **February 18, 2020** to: Diana Lohr at 8810 Walther Blvd., Apt. 2201, Parkville, MD 21234, Phone Number 443-756-4497 or email: dklohr@verizon.net

****IF YOU RSVP, THEN YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR LUNCH EVEN IF YOU DON'T ATTEND****

LUNCHEON RSVP FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2020. DO NOT SEND MONEY. PLEASE PAY AT THE DOOR

MY NAME _____ MY GUEST _____

Retirement Memoir

Let me start by saying that, as a good friend of mine told me, I initially flunked retirement. I officially retired after 31 years as the Media Specialist at Bohemia Manor Middle/High School on July 1, 2004 but I agreed when the CCCTA president asked me if I would fill in for the office manager when she took some extended vacations with her grandchildren. That lasted until the following March when she decided she liked her vacations so much that she would retire so I became the full-time Office Manager for ten years.

Since I really retired in May of 2014, I have relished in catching up on so many of the books I didn't have time to read when I worked as a media specialist; going horseback riding; completing needlepoint projects; taking up photography; working out at Healthy Lifestyles Fitness Center and traveling both in and out of the country. I meet with fellow retired media specialists for our bimonthly lunches and have recently joined the Cecil County Retired School Personnel Association as well as the Women's Civic League of North East. I have volunteered at Fair Hill International, which supports Union Hospital and decorate Christmas trees every year for the CASA Festival of Trees to raise money for the Court Appointed Special Advocate program. I have recently joined the Board of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Cecil County, a program that provides a free book every month to registered children between the ages of 0 and 5 years of age to advance early childhood literacy.

So, after a failed start, I have fully enjoyed being able to do what I want to do when I want to do it. Yeah Retirement!

Donna Rice

Community Outreach Committee

Donations received from the December luncheon have been delivered to the following schools in Cecil County to the nurses' office with supplies that were requested. We have been to Gilpin Manor, Bayview Elem., Thomson Estates Elem, Cecilton Elem., Bainbridge Elem, and Elkton High School. Each school showed appreciation and gratitude to our organization.

Please remember that service hours for volunteering will be collected at our February luncheon. From this information, we will be nominating one of our members for Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame and MRSPA Individual Community Service award.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Sheldon

Special Request

Did you know there is a program in Cecil County to help connect adults ages 55 and older with volunteer opportunities? The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program – or RSVP – is a federal initiative coordinated locally by the Cecil County Department of Community Services. RSVP volunteers serve in a variety of ways in our County, including working with children (early childhood and elementary age) and youth (middle school students), meeting the needs of homebound seniors through transportation and meal delivery services, and providing support for local non-profit organizations. And if that isn't enough for you, we have another exciting venture: the 55+ Volunteer Leadership Program, which will convene for 6-weeks in May/June of 2020. Interested? Want to know more? Give us a call and we'll be glad to chat with you!

For more information, contact:

Krista Gilmore, kgilmore@ccgov.org or 410-996-8416

Stephanie Kennedy-La Rosa, skennedy@ccgov.org or 410-996-8439

Membership News for February

**** Reminder to contact us to receive the Chalkboard via your email?** From our luncheon in December you heard Gretchen tell us how the number of Chalkboards sent has been largely reduced, we thank you all who made the change. We hope more members who receive email service as a way of communication, will add our newsletter as one.

****If there is a reason as to why you would like/need to continue getting your Chalkboard newsletter by mail, PLEASE contact us too. So as not to cause a problem for you,**

****Contact info**

Sherry Lewis 410-398-1337 chickeelewis@mac.com

Shirley Montgomery 302-731-5371 smmontgomery@verizon.net

*** Moving**, let us know, Gretchen Ginder or me (Sherry Lewis) if you should change your address, I will make sure that MRSPA receives it as well.

*** Members, continue to take advantage of getting free raffle tickets.** Bring a prospective new member(s) as a guest to our luncheon. **(Notify someone at the check in table or earlier to Diana)** Your **guest** can be someone who retired this year or someone who retired years ago. All CCPS employees are welcome to join, the more the better.” We hope that once they come and find out all about *what we do, visit with members, enjoy the meal* and possibly *be a prizewinner*, they will consider joining us in helping to support our community, too.

New Member - Eleanor M Pentz

In Memoriam

Ida Gordon
2/27/1927 – 10/26/2019
Teachers' Aid NEES

Valerie Morrison
passed 11/8/2019
AP English Teacher, EHS Teacher
of the Year 2010, MD Outstanding Teacher
using Technology 2009

Mary Hollister
8/27/1944 – 11/16/2019
CCPS Secretary

Joseph Brown
8/23/1944 – 11/22/2019
Teacher, CCPS Computer
Support Specialist, Mentor,
President for CCTF Credit Union

Esther McCarthy
4/21/1933 – 12/10/2019
CCPS of Education in Food Services

Linda Gubbine
7/3/1949 – 12/16/2019
Teacher, CCRSPA Member

Linda Wade
5/20/1945 – 12/29/2019
Teacher, Assistant Principal

Freda Fell
3/11/1933 – 1/7/2020
Teacher

St. Michaels Trip

The Cecil County Retired School Personnel Assoc. is sponsoring a bus day trip to St. Michaels, MD. The area is steeped in history dating from before the American Revolution. The ambiance of the colonial and Victorian-era charm is unmistakable and can be enjoyed throughout your day.

We'll be traveling Wednesday, May 20, 2020 from the North East Shopping Plaza. Plan to gather in the parking lot near the Burger King at 8:15 a.m. for an 8:30 a.m. departure. We should arrive around 10:30, parking near the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum and Patriot Cruises. You will be on your own to stroll around town.

Come and join us on the Patriot where you will experience the beauty of the Eastern Shore and the Miles River. On your trip you will see wonderful 200 year-old historic mansions and amazing wildlife. You will see two locations used in filming the movie "The Wedding Crashers." Patriot cruises has a 2:30 p.m. cruise, which will return around 3:45. Prices vary depending on your age, \$22-\$25. If there is enough interest in doing this, I'll call to try to get us a group rate.

We plan to board the bus at 3:45 p.m. for a 4 p.m. departure back to North East, with arrival around 6 p.m.

The cost of the bus will be \$50.00 per person.

Fred

St. Michael's bus trip: **Cut off date - April 1, 2020**

Name: _____

Cell # _____

Name: _____

Cell # _____

Email: _____

_____ I would like to do the Patriot Cruise.

CCRSPA Donation

(Please Clip and retain for your records)

Name _____

\$ _____ Ck # _____

Amount _____

Date: _____

Kids Fund Scholarship Fund

CCRSPA Scholarship or Kids Fund Donation – 2019-2020
Make check payable to *CCRSPA*, write “Scholarship” or “Kids Fund Donation” in lower left corner and mail along with this slip to Tony Mattern, 160 Willard Drive, North East, MD 21901-1631. Thank you. (*See Below)

Name _____ Amount \$ _____

In Honor or In Memory of _____

*REMINDER: A separate check for donations to the *Scholarship* or *Kids Fund* may be sent to Diana Lohr at 8810 Walther Blvd., Apt.2201, Parkville, MD 21234.

Mini Grant Recipients



Have nice things that you don't need/want/use anymore? If so, Mary McCleary wants to hear from you; she may be reached at 410-398-3556 or email Mary McCleary <mmcdairy@comcast.net>.

Purchasing Luncheon raffle tickets help support *Kids Fund* and the *CCRSPA Memorial Scholarship*. You benefit as well as a child who receives a new coat or scholarship because your donation\$ are tax deductible.

MOVING?

Don't forget to update address and phone info!

Name _____

New Address _____

New Phone # _____

E-mail address _____

Mail to: Sherry Lewis, 4793 Telegraph Road, Elkton MD 21921 or via email at chickeelewis@mac.com