



The Chalkboard

CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 34 NUMBER 1

Elkton, Maryland

September 2020

2020 – 2021 OFFICERS

President: Anne Humphrey

Immediate Past President: Kathy Mullen

Corresponding Secretary: Betsy Van Culin

Recording Secretary: Sally Haberl

Treasurer: Tony Mattern

Newsletter Co-editors: Gretchen Ginder and
Signe' Mika

Scholarship Awarded

The Cecil County Retired School Personnel Association awarded a \$2000 scholarship to Aleshia Shires. Aleshia graduated from Rising Sun High School, attended Cecil College, and is now at Salisbury University. She is a junior, and is majoring in Elementary Education. Aleshia is the 49th scholarship recipient since 1987.

Attached is a picture Aleshia Shires (front and center) also shown are the scholarship committee members.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello - it's me again! I have decided to stay on until next spring to help us get through this crazy time. I am still looking for a replacement however!

It has been impossible to plan any luncheon/meetings at this point. Since we are all in the special age bracket, we want to be absolutely sure that we can all be safe. We will keep watching the data and listen to the Governor.

We have most of our projects on hold for now but when schools can reopen, we are sure there will be needs. If you can find it in your heart to donate to our "Kids Fund" we would be very appreciative! You can send a check to Tony Mattern or contact any officer.

Meanwhile, if there is anything we can help you with, please contact any of the officers. Hope to see you all soon!

Anne Humphrey

CCRSPA hopes that all of our members are keeping safe and healthy during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Keeping busy is a great way to help feelings of isolation and improve your health and mind.

Visit <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov> for more information.

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

September luncheon has been canceled for this year.

CCRSPA MINUTES – February 25, 2020

The group gathered at 11 AM at Cecil County School of Technology. Past-president Kathy Mullen called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM. Everyone participated in the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests Eileen Long, Thomas Sheldon, and Alan McCullough were introduced along with first time attendee Mel Bacon.

A correction to the December 10, 2019, minutes was made. Membership to CCRSPA and MRSPA is from July - July and not May - May as stated in the 12/10/2019 minutes. The minutes were approved as corrected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Benefits - Paul Humphrey announced that Dr. Mae Alfree would be at the September meeting to answer questions about the Aetna Medicare Advantage Plan. The following handouts were available from Aetna: “Budget Boost Save with the Aetna Discount Program” and “Peace of Mind Resources For Living” is here to help. “Group Hug: Choosing the Right Care for an Older Adult Resource Guide” is available upon request from Aetna by calling 1-866-370-4842.

Treasurer’s Report - Tony Mattern reported we are doing well. We have \$19,058.00 combined in a CD and the bank account.

Community Outreach - Paula Cobb provided forms for members to report their volunteer hours, where they volunteer, and in what capacity. She thanked Jan Yunginger for all of her help with the Community Outreach Committee. Kay DiStefano volunteered to join the committee. If anyone else would like to join this committee, please let Paula know. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Consumer Education - Tony Mattern stated the March and April reports are on the web.

Legislation - Linda Elwood reported there are over 3,500 bills that have been submitted. The majority of the bills that MRSPA is supporting involve abuse and neglect of seniors, assisted living programs, and outreach programs that will help educate healthcare providers about cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer’s and other types of dementia.

Membership - Sherry Lewis announced we currently have 275 members. Please encourage retirees to join our organization and bring a new retiree to one of our meetings.

Nominating - We are in need of a nominating chairperson, a president, and a president- elect.

Publications - Gretchen Ginder thanked Sherry Lewis and Anne Humphrey for doing the last newsletter.

Luncheon - Diana Lohr thanked Marie Madron for everything she did in organizing and scheduling this meeting at the School of Technology.

Scholarship - Charlene Metzger stated an updated application for our Memorial Scholarship is now on our website. The committee has decided against sending copies of the scholarship announcement and applications to over 30 colleges. Information about the scholarship has been sent to all branches of the county library to post, an article has been sent to the Cecil Whig, and current CCPS employees have been notified of the scholarships.

Travel - Fred Metzger provided information about a bus day trip on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, to St. Michaels, MD. The bus will depart from the North East Shopping Plaza near the Burger King at 8:30 AM and return at approximately 6:00 PM. The cost of the bus will be \$50.00 per person. You will be on your own to stroll around town. There is also the possibility of a cruise on the Patriot at an additional cost of \$22-\$25 depending on your age.

Social - Mary McCleary thanked everyone that provided raffle items, provided food for Agape, and for purchasing raffle tickets that benefit our scholarship fund and Kids Fund. She also introduced Mr. Mel Bacon, Executive Director of the Cecil County Farm Museum.

Additional Information:

- Kathy Mullen announced the annual MRSPA meeting would be held on May 13. Ten members from our organization can attend. Please see Kathy Mullen or Anne Humphrey if interested in attending.
- Kathy Mullen thanked Anne Humphrey for her years as president of our organization, and she presented her with a gift of appreciation.
- We are in need of a president, president-elect and nominating chairperson for our organization.
- Tony Mattern will post information on our Facebook and web page for a Car Fit program provided by AARP.
- Marie Madron stated there is a need for census takers in the county. Our county can lose \$1800/person a year for ten years if not counted in the census.
- .Mary McCleary was very positive about the \$100.00 mini-grants our organization provided to three teachers this year and hopes we will continue providing mini-grants next year.
- Betty Moore has been nominated by our organization for the MD Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. She is currently the Farm Bureau Person-of-the-Year for Maryland.
- Sally Haberl provided information about the volunteer leadership program for those 55 and older offered by the Cecil County Department of Community Services.
- Mel Bacon presented much valuable information about the Cecil County Farm Bureau. A committee is writing curriculum for third and fifth grader field trips to the Farm Museum.
- Following the meeting and luncheon, tours of the School of Technology were provided.
- After the meeting, attendees could also stop in the Farm Museum.

Kathy Mullen adjourned the meeting at 11:57 AM. Paul Humphrey gave the blessing for our luncheon.

OFFICERS NEEDED

Our organization is *still* in need of a nominating chair. Please consider volunteering for this position.

One of our members will be celebrating a very special birthday soon. Peg Bailey, will turn 100 this Fall. She was an English teacher and guidance counselor at Rising Sun High School. Her address is:

Peg Bailey
P.O. Box 117
Rising Sun, MD 21911

CCRSPA TREASURER’S REPORT

BALANCE: June 30, 2020	\$7,261.92
SUB TOTAL INCOME	\$30.31
SUB TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$0.00
Net Balance	\$7292.23
CD at Cecil Bank	\$11,381.81
Balance on Hand	\$18,674.04

*Latest available information.

CCRSPA Officers & Committee Chairpersons

OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Past President</u>	Kathy Mullen
<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>	Tony Mattern
<u>Programs</u>	Mary McCleary
<u>Public Relations & Communications</u>	
Betsy Van Culin	
<u>Publications</u>	Gretchen Ginder and Signe’ Mika
<u>Scholarship</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social</u>	Diana Lohr

August deals include:

- Maryland Tax-Free Week—August 11-17, 2020
 - School supplies
 - Patio furniture
 - Outdoor toys
- National Waffles Week—Check around August 24th for some chains offering free waffles.
- In-season fruits and vegetables are on great prices in August!
- Not sure where to buy local produce? Just check out the website at <https://marylandsbest.maryland.gov/> to find your local farmers’ market! It’s easy and your support means a lot! You can find vegetables, fruits and even seafood by checking out this great website! Just enter what you’re looking for into the search engine on the website and enter your location! It will bring up a list of local Farmer’s markets!

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association
CONSUMER CONNECTION

Legislative Report

The MSRPA Legislative Committee met virtually twice this summer. We discussed talking points for a virtual meeting with Travis Trejo a staff person from Delegate Andy Harris’ office. We expressed concerns dealing with Nursing Home and Other Residential Care Facilities, Federal Support for State and Local Governments, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Unfortunately, he would not give specific comments on many issues for Delegate Harris, but he did agree that broad ban is necessary especially for the Eastern Shore.

As you probably already know, Governor Hogan vetoed almost every bill that included a significant cost due to a definite shortage of funds. Virginia Crespo feels that when the 2021 Legislative Session meets again a major focus will be to override the governor’s vetoes especially the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. Concern is many districts have already reduced education spending so funding this bill will be a major challenge to locals.

In addition, the committee discussed changing the date of Legislative Workshop to January and we reviewed the Legislative Priorities Brochure and recommended changes for 2021.

Community Service Committee

The MRSPA Community Service Committee met on Thursday, April 9, 2020, via conference call to discuss the nominees for Local Association Project and Individual nominees. Because the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) is not being held in its usual format, the winners are announced for you here. This information will be shared in writing in our MRSPA newsletter and on the ABM Program book insert, as always. Program books with inserts will be shared via US Mail with all delegates to the ABM when the MRSPA office reopens.

Additionally, certificates and prizes will be presented at the July Presidents' Meeting or the next large gathering of local leaders. Please recall that the Individual Award winner will also be the NRTA Andrus Community Service Award winner for MRSPA this fall. *Details about the winner's community service will be included in the insert in the ABM Program book.* Please let us know if you have questions.

Thank you to all the locals who submitted nominees for these important awards. Congratulations to all the winners!

Individual Community Service Award

Winner – Dr. Linda Lymas, St. Mary's County

Honorable Mention – Elizabeth A. (E.A.) Stonesifer – Montgomery County

Local Association Project Awards

Small Local – 1 to 199 Member

Dorchester County – “Book Buggy” – Books on Wheels!

Medium Local – 200 to 899 Members

Cecil County – Agape

Large Local – 900 + Members

Anne Arundel County – Books for Teachers

Membership News for September

**** Reminder to contact us to receive the Chalkboard via your email?**

**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

New Members

John Mazurick	Katharine Mazurick
Daniel Slak	Marilyn Bennett
Kathleen Lechette	Pamela Ratliff

CCRSPA Scholarship or Kids Fund Donation –
2020-2021

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.

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Johnson
1922 – 03/10/2020
CCRSPA Emeritus Member
Guidance Counselor at Chesapeake City HS and Bohemia Manor HS, English Professor at Cecil College

Ronald Davis
06/19/2020
CCPS Maintenance Crew

Elizabeth Goodale
08/15/1947 – 07/03/2020
Art Teacher (Local Member)

Ira Pierson, Jr
03/09/1947 – 07/17/2020
Custodian RSHS

John Boyd, Jr.
11/23/1945 - 7/18/2020
CCPS Maintenance, Cecil College as Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds

Elizabeth Susie
1933 - 08/05/2020
English Teacher EHS
CCRSPA Member

Mini-grants will not be offered in the fall. The Agape program is inactive until there are kids in school.

Trip to Alaska

Charlene and Fred are doing a Celebrity Alaska 6 day LandTour/7 day Cruise August 7-20, 2021. If anyone would be interested in coming along, please let me know. The price for a balcony, travel protection, and paid gratuities would be approximately \$9632.00 per couple. I can also price out an ocean view or inside cabin if you would like to know what that price would be. The land portion of the tour would start in Fairbanks. Hotels, tours, & transportation, are included. Your meals and any extra excursions would be at your own expense. Once we join the ship in Seward, your meals become part of the package, but you would need to reserve and pay for any shore excursions that you'd like to do. Alaska is a fantastic state to visit. This will be our 2nd time visiting, and we hope you will want to join us on this adventure. The land tour can sell out early because of limited availability. A deposit of \$500 will hold the booking for you. You can pay monthly, or any way you like.

You can also just do the cruise portion of this vacation. You would fly into Anchorage and transfer to the ship. I'd be happy to price that out as well.

There are 12 of us going so far, verandas are still available. However, if you would like an ocean view or inside cabin, we can arrange for that as well.

You can contact me at fred@hilltravelcentre.com or 443-350-5806.

Here is the schedule:

7 Aug.	Fly to Fairbanks - Pre Cruise tour 7B - Fairbanks Hotel	
8 Aug.	Riverboat discovery tour/transfer Fairbanks to Denali/Denali Park Village	
9 Aug.	Denali Natural History Tour/Denali Park Village	
10 Aug.	Rail PM - Denali to Talkeetna/Talkeetna Alaska Lodge	
11 Aug.	Rail PM - Talkeetna to Anchorage/Anchorage Marriott	
12 Aug.	Coach transfer Anchorage to Seward/Seward Wind Song Lodge	
13 Aug.	Resurrection Bay cruise/transfer to ship - Celebrity Millennium.	
13 Aug.	Seward	Depart 8 PM
14 Aug.	Hubbard Glacier (cruising)	2-6 PM
15 Aug.	Juneau	9 AM-9PM
16 Aug.	Skagway	7AM-8:30PM
17 Aug.	Icy Strait Pt.	6:30AM-3PM
18 Aug.	Ketchikan	9AM-6PM
19 Aug.	Inside Passage (cruising)	
20 Aug.	Vancouver, British Columbia	7AM Docking & transfer to airport

Volunteer News

Betty Moore is our nominee for the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. The MSCHF Induction Luncheon will be held on Thursday April 15, 2021, at Michael's Eight Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD. Michael's advised us that they had re-evaluated the status of our original date.

Paula Cobb Sheldon has kept busy making the cloth mask, over 200 so far for friends and family, doing puzzles, working around the house, and managed to go for a trip to the Poconos and another week trip with the family to Bethany Beach. She prepared home cooked meals, tried to keep safe, and kept on going! We have missed being with friends and volunteering as we did before all of this happened. Paula will contact the nurse coordinator at Booth Street, and see how or if donations for schools can still be done.