

The Bell Ringer

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 36 Number 2 December 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The key to retirement is to find joy in the little things. {Susan Miller}

Greetings KCRSP Retirees,

I hope each of you is finding **JOY** in your retirement and especially this beautiful autumn season. It also gives me great **JOY** in welcoming our new members **Joanne Coveney, Lee Loller, and Brenda Shorter**. Kent County is also the only county in the state where **all** of our prior year's members have renewed their membership with **MRSPA/KCRSPA**.

Please be sure to have read your BY-LAWS by our December luncheon. We will need to vote on them. There is one change in **ARTICLE 5-FINANCE, second bullet. It will now read:**

An audit of the financial records of this Association shall be made every two years.

We want to thank Pat Clarke for auditing our financial records.

Billie-Lynne Roberts, our Community Service Chair, will be collecting community service hours from our members. **Please look on the back of your Luncheon Menu and complete the form. Please return your menu choice and the form to Eileen Hahn.**

I want to thank Ruth Wilson for organizing our trip to the American Music Theatre. If you would like to reserve a seat for next year, please call Ruth soon. The date for next year's trip is the second Wednesday in November.

Our Holiday Luncheon will be here very soon! We will once again have our "**Chinese Auction**" which raises money for our Scholarship Fund. It will be held at CRYCC on **Thursday, December 4th**. Join us at 11:00 for some fellowship time while sipping some "Holiday Wassail." The meeting will begin at 11:30. **Be sure to bring non-perishable food items, children's books, winter hats and mittens for the Food Pantry.**

Hope to see everyone at our Holiday Luncheon... be sure to beautifully wrap your Chinese Auction item and let's begin to **ENJOY** in the season!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING to everyone. We all have so many things to be thankful for!

Nancy



10/02/14 KCRSPA Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Harrington at 11:40 at Waterman's Restaurant in Rock Hall, MD.

President Nancy Harrington welcomed State Delegate Jay Jacobs, MRSPA area director Dorothy Palmer, Program Specialist from Big Brothers Big Sisters Nicole Benner (granddaughter of Bess and Art Engle) and the following newly retired school personnel: Lee Loller, Joanne Coveney, Ellen Chamberlin, Sharon Gordon, and Brenda Shorter. We said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and ate a delicious lunch including crab dip, crab cakes, pulled pork and chicken salad.

Business Meeting:

Audit: Nancy read the audit report which was written by Pat Clarke, an accountant. Our books are in order.

Membership: Our local membership numbers are stable, but we are always doing the three R's – Recruiting, Retaining and Regaining members. The membership goal for the MRSPA this year is 15,000 and there are presently 14,938 members. Fay Miller asked the new retirees to join and to give her their information today. Fay Miller distributed the new directory which includes information about members, committees, the by-laws and a birthday list. It also includes a list of benefits for unified members. Fay recommended the travel deals. To access MRSPA information online, use your membership number which is listed in the directory.

Website: Barbara Wheeler distributed cards with our web address which is KCRSPA.org. She reminded us that part of our mission is to advocate for children.

Lancaster trip: Ruth Wilson reported that the Nov. 5 trip to Lancaster is full, but members may sign up for next year's trip. Proceeds from the trip are contributed to the KCRSPA Scholarship fund.

MRSPA Area Director: Dorothy Palmer gave remarks. She is retiring this fall.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: Nicole Brenner, program specialist announced that Big Brothers Big Sisters has been reactivated in Kent County as of January 2014. She encouraged us to volunteer. She said young people in Kent County are coming to the organization at an alarming rate. Volunteers would meet with young people twice each month. Her job is to match young people to volunteers. Contact information for Nichole Benner is:

nbenner@biglittle.org

443.783.8166

410.543.2447

200 W. Main Street 3rd Floor

Salisbury, MD 21801

Scholarship: Billie Lynne Roberts reported that we awarded two \$1200 scholarships in 2014. She encouraged all to donate to the fund. She said that the 50/50 raffle and the Lancaster trip were also fundraisers for the scholarship fund.

Community Service: Margie Baker thanked us for supporting her and nominating her for the Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. Billie Lynne reminded us to keep track of community service and announced a new user-friendly form for doing so.

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By-Laws: Margie Baker asked us to review the new By-laws, which are in the directory. We will vote on these at the December general meeting.

Senior Discounts: Margie Baker handed out brochures about senior discounts in Kent County. She encouraged us to use these. You must request the discount to receive it.

50/50 raffle: Peachy Moore won the 50/50 raffle.

Hospitality: Bonnie Smith and Emily Massey did a beautiful job with the chrysanthemum centerpieces and the fall candy and candle favors. The chrysanthemum center pieces were raffled off at the end of the meeting.

Next General Meeting: December meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014 at the CRYCC. We will hold a Chinese Auction as a fundraiser at the meeting.

DISCOUNT!

Check out ABENITY on your MRSPA website for special offers for you.



Birthdays

NOVEMBER

Bonnie Smith 11/3
Herman Gay 11/4
Sarah Jastram 11/15
Nancy Miller 11/15
Lloyd Taylor 11/24
Susan Clark 11/25

DECEMBER

Elaine Holden 12/1
Ray Clarke 12/7
Eileen Hahn 12/7
Doreen Schively 12/16
Judy Ames 12/27
Charlotte Potts 12/30

Scholarship Fund

In the past, KCRSPA has asked members to contribute a gift of \$25 each year to help support the scholarship fund. Last year we received some generous donations. Many thanks to those who made a contribution. Your gifts make it possible for our group to support students entering the field of education. **Please think about supporting our fund this school year and use the form provided.** Educators need to be in the forefront of supporting education.

Scholarship Donation Form

NAME _____

DATE _____

Amount _____

In honor or memory of: _____

Thank you for your support.

Checks may be made to KCRSPA and mailed to:

Jean Foreman

8531 Broadneck Rd.

Chestertown, MD 2162

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association Perks & Discounts

Check out the abenity website. There are lots of discounts available to Maryland Retired School Personnel Association members. You could earn back the cost of your membership.

members@abenity.com

In Memory of Sue Quinn

Sue was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA as Suzanne Thompson. She had one brother, Joe, with whom she was very close. She visited Kent County while growing up and met her husband, Dan Quinn. After their marriage she became a farmer's wife working with Dan on their farm in Kennedyville. They raised their five children on the farm. The family attended church in Kennedyville where Sue remained active until her passing. After losing her husband, she left the farm and began driving a school bus for thirty years. Next she began working for LaMotte Chemical for eight years. Upon retirement, she joined KCRSPA enjoying the luncheons and activities. Sue will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS, Terri Mullikin

Terri will be a member of the Consumer Education Committee for MRSPA.

Visit these WEBSITES

www.MRSPA.org and
www.KCRSPA.org

Effective January 1, 2014, all retirees participating in the KCPS health care plan received new membership cards and information concerning the mail order Prescription Drug Plan. CVS Caremark is CareFirst's exclusive pharmacy claim processor. Members who take advantage of the mail order prescription service will receive their drugs through CVS Caremark. Members need to register with CVS Caremark.

Terri Mullikin
5885 Cottage Avenue
Rock Hall, MD 21661