

The Bell Ringer

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 340 Number 2 February 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Friends,

I hope you are enjoying the winter days, I know most of us are ready for spring. We would like to welcome two new members, Amy Crowding and Deborah Morris to our association. We are sorry to tell you Betty Barbe is now in Colorado living with her son. This is her address if you would like to send her a card: Betty Barbe, %John Barbe, Milano Lane, Longmont, CO 80503. I know she would like to keep in touch with our group.

Our Christmas luncheon at Heron Point was great. Our next luncheon is March 7 at Heron Point featuring a buffet, with more details in this newsletter. We hope you will make a reservation for you and a friend and come enjoy a meal together with friends.

March 1 is Dr.Seuss day in our



March 1 is Dr.Seuss day in our elementary schools. Some of our members will be reading Dr. Seuss books to the students in the three elementary schools. Kathy Clark is in charge of this project.

We are in need of members to fill some positions in our group. Fay Miller will be our president next year, which means we need a vice-president. Jean Foreman is giving up treasurer, so we need someone to take the treasurer.

We also need someone for legislative because Bette Barbe was our representative for this position. We need members who are willing to help in order to keep our association going and active. Please help.

Our membership committee is very involved in working to recruit new members. If you know of someone retired from our county or a friend who worked in Kent County Schools please encourage them to join us.

I encourage of you to donate to our Scholarship Fund which helps high school graduates from Kent County High with their education. If we have the funds, more than one is awarded.

I look forward to seeing you at our luncheon March 7, 2019.

Jean L. Wright, President

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.

COME CELEBRATE

Part of our program will include pictures of our Dr. Seuss Days in the elementary schools, and a scrapbook of events in which our members have participated. Join us at our March luncheon and see what your friends have been doing.

Protecting your tax records is easy and practical with these tips from IRS.gov:

?? Always retain a copy of your completed federal and state tax returns and their supporting materials. These prior-year returns will help you prepare your next year's taxes, and receipts will document any credit or deductions you claim should questions arise later.

?? If you retain paper records, you should keep them in a secure location, preferably under lock and key, such as a secure desk drawer or a safe.

?? If you retain your records electronically on your computer, you should always have an electronic back-up, in case your hard drive crashes. You should encrypt the files both on your computer and any back-up drives that you use. You may have to purchase encryption software to ensure the files' security.

?? Dispose of old tax records properly. Never toss paper tax returns and supporting documents into the trash. Your federal and state tax records, as well as any financial or health record should be shredded before disposal. If you are disposing of an old computer or back-up hard drive, keep in mind there is sensitive data on these. Deleting stored tax files will not remove them from your computer. You should wipe the drives of any electronic product you trash or sell, including tablets and mobile phones, to ensure you remove all personal data. Again, this may require special disk utility software.

The IRS recommends retaining copies of your tax returns and support documents for a minimum of 3 years to a maximum of 7 years. Remember to keep records relating to property you own for 3 to 7 years after the year in which you dispose of the property. Three years is a timeframe that allows you to file amended returns, or if questions arise on your tax return, and seven years is a timeframe that allows filing a claim for adjustment in a case of bad debt deduction for a loss from worthless securities.

KCRSPA, General Meeting Minutes, December 6, 2018

The meeting was convened by president Jean Wright in the Heron Point dining room in Chestertown, MD at 11:20 am. We said the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 31 members and guests attending.

Vice President Fay Miller reported on the new health insurance and encouraged us to keep all new documents on file.

V.P. Miller also welcomed retired superintendent and member Dr. Lorraine Costella. Fay read a letter from retired superintendent and member, Bonnie Ward. Dr. Ward sent information about the \$500 scholarship donation made by members Lorraine Costella and Bonnie Ward and also their friends, Anne Hummer, Pat Custer, Jean Flory, and Mary Ellen LeDuc. Bonnie Ward was recognized as being Citizen of the Year in Sussex County, Colorado. Congratulations to Bonnie!

Sue Coleman, Sunshine Committee Chairman, reminded us to contact her if there is an occasion to send a card to a member or a member's family. Her email address is magpiesuze@gmail.com. Sue also reported that she had recently visited Thelma O'Grady "Miss Nick" in Elkton. "Miss Nick" is 90 years old and had worked in Kent County for 43 years as a teacher and for 22 years as a volunteer.

Billie Lynne Roberts, Scholarship Chairman, is seeking nominees for the MRSPA Service Award and for the Maryland Senior Citizen of the Year. She also reminded us that members may volunteer to work in assembling and distributing holiday food baskets on December 17, 2018 at 8 am. Billie Lynne reported that KCRSPA donated \$50 to the holiday food basket drive.

Nancy Harrington distributed the new 2018 – 2019 KCRSPA Directory. A phone tree was also distributed. This tree will be used to notify members of important events.

Jean Foreman reported that KCRSPA will no longer be involved with the Cliff School. That property has been sold and is now a private property.

Nancy Harrington reported that the Little Library Project will be established in Worton, MD, but the date of establishment has not yet been decided.

We honored our emeritus members, Peggy Smith and Rosemary Brown.

After a delicious lunch, we celebrated the holidays with Christmas carols, led by Jeannette Ryan. Carole Lupis arranged for Jeannette to join us. Thank you, Carole.

Bonnie Smith presented each attendee with a beautiful poinsettia. Thank you, Bonnie, for this generous and thoughtful gift. Kathy Clark, Bonnie Smith and Nancy McCloy made the beautiful

Christmas centerpieces which were awarded to members by lottery. Many thanks to Kathy Clark, Bonnie Smith and Nancy McCloy for making our holidays even brighter. A silent auction, arranged by Nancy McCloy, Sue Schauber, Nancy Harrington, Jean Wright, Kathy Clark and others, was held. Auctioned items included items donated by members and by local businesses (Luisa's, Acme, and Pip's Liquors, Kings Towns Tractor, Schauber Lumber). Proceeds from the auction were \$136.

An additional fundraising activity, a used book sale, was arranged by Emily Massey. Proceeds were \$31.

Margie Baker reported that Community Food Pantry contributions at the October general meeting were 43.8 lbs. of food and 12 books.

President Jean Wright adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Bostic

Nominations

We need nominees for Vice President, Legislative Chairman, and Treasurer.

Food Pantry

Donations from the December 2018 general meeting were: food, 67.8 lbs.; books, 14; crayons, 2 boxes; socks, 2 pairs; boys briefs, 5; scarf and glove sets, 1; hat and gloves sets, 2; jacket 1; watch, 1.

The donations made at the October 2018 general meeting were 43.8 lbs of food and 12 books.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa W. Bostic, Secretary

Minutes of the KCRSPA February 7, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting

President Jean Wright convened the meeting at 10 a.m. in the KCPL annex building.

Jean Foreman, Jean Wright, Nancy Harrington, Winnie Walters, Fay Miller, Nancy McCloy, Charlotte Potts, Lee Hunley, Kathy Clark, Terri Bostic, and Margie Baker attended.

We said the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the 11/01/18 Executive Committee meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Jean Foreman reported a treasury balance of \$7065.21. The Scholarship Fund balance is \$5250.58. \$1000 of that amount is the balance in the Lorraine Costella Scholarship Fund. Fay Miller suggested that we encourage each and every member to make an annual contribution to the scholarship fund. This request will be placed in the newsletter.

President's Report

On Friday, March 4, 2019, there will be an MRSPA Lobby Day in Annapolis. No one from KCRSPA has volunteered to attend.

On May 8, 2019, the MRSPA Annual Meeting will be held at the Comfort Inn in Bowie, MD. Sue Crooks, Nancy Harrington, Jean Foreman, Margie Baker, Winnie Walters, and Lee Hunley will be our delegates. Fay Miller will be attending as an MRSPA past president and will represent us as well.

There will be an MRSPA presidents' meeting on March 13, 2019. Fay Miller and Jean Wright will be attending.

Raffle tickets are available for the MRSPA Scholarship for employees who want to become teachers. Each year, an informational letter about this scholarship goes to county school superintendents and HR directors. We discussed the possibility of bringing this scholarship to the attention of school principals.

Old Business

Fay Miller reported on the progress of the KCRSPA 501(c)(3) application. She reported that Bruce Hemple, a lawyer in Elkton, has helped her with the process pro bono. KCRSPA has already become incorporated. The final step will be the submission of the 2/7/19 Executive Committee minutes and a letter stating that the application has been approved by KCRSPA. Fay reviewed several changes in the wording of our by-laws which were made to comply with the 501(c)(3) requirements. Fay thanked Nancy Harrington, Terri Bostic, Jean Foreman and Billie Lynne Roberts for their help in gathering the documents and information necessary for this process. Fay Miller moved to accept the suggested changes in the by-laws and to apply for the

Section 501(c)(3) status and to pay the IRS the \$400 application fee.. Nancy Harrington seconded the motion. The vote to approve this motion was unanimous.

Fay Miller reported that there are still many questions surrounding the new health insurance. Many of the questions concern the Humana prescription coverage. Questions should be directed to Labor First. The contact information will appear in the newsletter.

Newsletter

Newsletter items are due by Monday, February 11, 2019.

Program

The March general meeting will be at Heron Point on Thursday, March 7, 2019. We voted to have a lunch buffet. At the meeting we will poll members about whether they would like to have a breakfast buffet sometime in the future.

Community Service

Dr. Seuss day will be on March 1, 2019 at all three elementary schools.

The deadline for the nominations for the MD Senior Citizen Hall of Fame is April 8, 2019.

Nancy Harrington is the KCRSPA nominee this year. Congratulations, Nancy!

Membership

Jean Foreman reported that Betty Barbe has moved to Colorado to be near her family. Her contact information is: 4020 Milano Lane, Longmont, Colorado 80503, 303-772-4905. We are sorry that Betty will no longer be able to attend our meetings and we recognized the great and many contributions that Betty has made to our organization. Best of luck to Betty!

Nancy Harrington reported that we have two new members, Amy Crowding and Deborah Morris. At this time, we have 97 members, including 5 emeritus members, and 5 local members. Nancy Harrington and Sue Crooks distributed copies of the KCRSPA Membership Action Plan. The plan was approved by a unanimous vote.

Legislative

We need a new chairman for the Legislative Committee, since this office was formerly held by Betty Barbe.

Consumer Education

MRSPA publishes a consumer education brochure and we will look into distributing this via email blast.

Welcome New Members
KCRSPA wants to
welcome **Deborah Morris,**
Amy Crowding, and
Dorothy Ringgold to our
group. Thanks so much for
joining this very busy, fun,
active group of retirees.

DIRECTORY INFO

At our holiday luncheon,
a 2018-2019 directory was
passed out. If you didn't get
one, please let Sue Crooks or
Nancy Harrington know and
you will receive one.

There were several
changes and corrections that
needed to be made. Please
add these corrections to your
directory:

Suzanne Coleman
maggie@gmail.com

Lorraine Costella
costella@goucher.edu Birthdate:
4/25/36

410 778 6837
410 708 6837
Birthdate: 6/1/39

James Lupis jimilupis@vanoo.com

Emily Massey
443 480 3922

Billie Lynne Roberts
443 480 5583

Evelyn Schaubert
suzyschauber@gmail.com

Bonnie Smith
410 778 2628

Ruth Wilson
410 708 2027 {new number}

Deborah Morris
13019Goose Down RD.
Worton, MD 21678

Amy Crowding
25237 Porters grove RD
Worton, MD 21678

Dorothy Ringgold

members. Hope to see all of you at our next luncheon.

One of our dear members has moved away this past winter... Betty Barbe. Betty was our Legislative Chair and also one of our MRSPA Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame Honorees. She was a Character Count Coach at Galena Elem. School and a member of the Chorale. We will miss you Betty and hope you will enjoy your new home.

**Betty's new address:
4020 Milano Lane
Longmont, Colorado
80503**

Community Food Pantry

REMINDER

Please don't forget to bring your non-perishable food items and children's books to the luncheon. All the items will be donated to the food pantry.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

Jed Howell 3/5
Patsy Reihl 3/14
Olythea Hunley 3/19
Virginia Newlin 3/20
Geraldine Pauls 3/21
Dale Atkinson 3/24
Slyvia Maloney 3/26

APRIL

Julia Blake 4/3
Peachie Moore 4/3
Jean Wright 4/11
Linda Wesley 4/15
Barbara Gillin 4/19
Joanne Coveney 4/22
Lorraine Costella 4/25
Sue Bedwell 4/29

MAY

Nina Burt 5/7
Billie L. Roberts 5/7
Joyce Powell 5/9
Sharon Gordan 5/17
Ann Moss 5/18
Mark Schivley 5/19
Fay Miller 5/23
Miriam Spriggs 5/27
Joe Massey 5/31
Kathleen Jones 5/31



