

The Bell Ringer

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 341 Number 34 May 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I pray this message finds all of you safe, well, and enjoying partial freedom. I must admit that after all of the news media hype and general virus worry I am a tad bit uncomfortable about going out in public. Now the hair salon..... I have no qualms about that trip! In fact I am jumping for joy at the thought of it! I can hardly recognize the person I see in the mirror each morning. Scott calls how we all look "The Corona Look." Bbody asked me if I was old when I saw him the other day. Ouch! (Reality hurts!)

Right now, as I write this, I am sitting on my screened porch looking at the sun sparkle off the river and listening to the light breeze rustle through the tress. Great reminders of who is in charge and that someone has our back through all of this.

Now down to real business. The Local Association Project Award winners have already been selected. Names will be announced in the



upcoming MRSPA Newsletter. The winners of the 2019-2020 Membership Awards will also be announced in this newsletter. I am frowning which may give you an indication of how we did. We had some deaths in our membership and although we have picked up new members, Nancy and I were not able to round up enough new members to earn our award again this year. Soooooo our work is cut out for us next year. Nancy and I will try our hardest to regain our first place but we will need all of you to help us round up new members. I never knew I was a competitor until we

started winning this award. When I got one taste of winning I just wanted it again and again! Please help!

I would be remiss if I closed this message without thanking all of my local executive committee members. As soon as Faye gave me the news that I would be president of KCRSPA each and every one of them felt and embraced my trepidation about taking this roll and have stepped up BIG TIME to help see that all is running smoothly and that this newsletter has all of the information it should contain. All seems to be great. (Fay, if something is not right, let me down softly or just let me bathe in my bliss!)

Speaking of Fay, I have spoken to her a few times and her health updates are sounding good. As most of you know, Fay suffered a fall which caused fluid to build up on both sides of her brain. She has now had surgery to remove the fluid off both sides. She had a followup CAT Scan and that showed that there is a bit of fluid remaining. The prayer is that this will dissolve and not be a problem. Fay's headaches have subsided and her mobility is getting better. She was having an issue with the top of her body wanting to go one speed and the bottom another. Now, we all know how Fay likes to keep moving so I am sure this was a problem. I talked to Fay recently and, even though she is still using a walker, the good news is that her top and bottom are now communicating better. She walks every day. Fay is also still fighting the powers that be to try to get KCRSPA a proper tax ID number. This has been ongoing for about two years. Fay will let us know when it is resolved.

Sorry this is so long. I will close now. Stay well and safe and enjoy getting back into a new normal.

Because of all of our restrictions, the Annual MRSPA Business Meeting was held as a teleconference on May 13th. It included only the board of directors. Below, please find the summary of the meeting that Wanda Twig sent to the local presidents.

Good Afternoon Local Presidents.

As promised, here are the highlights of the 2020 MRSPA Annual Business Meeting for your information.

1. All members of the MRSPA Board of Directors participated on the teleconference on Wednesday May 13, 2020 as approved by the Board of Directors and membership. The meeting was chaired by President Ann Marie Downey.
2. The Minutes of the May 8, 2019 Annual Business Meeting were reviewed and approved as written.
3. The March 31, 2020 Treasurer's Report was reviewed and will be filed for audit.
4. Nominating Committee Chair, Charlie Gable, presented the slate of officers and the two candidates for non-board member of the Nominating Committee. Each was declared elected by acclamation by the president.

Dr. Debbie Chance, Talbot County, will serve a two - year term as Vice President.

Janet Williams, Baltimore City, will serve a one-year term as Secretary.

Joyce Cummings, Baltimore County, will serve a second year as a non-board member on the Nominating Committee.

Sharyn Doyle, Anne Arundel County, will serve her first year as a non-board member on the Nominating Committee.

5. Finance Committee Chair, Dr. Stephen Raucher, presented the Proposed 2021 Budget. It was approved as presented.

6. President Ann Marie Downey thanked exiting members of the Board for their service. They are: Sharyn Doyle, Secretary; Area III South Director, Bev Yurek; Harold Siskind, Chair Member Benefits Committee; Ruth Clendaniel, Chair Membership Committee; and Judy Reiff, Chair Travel Committee. All leaders and staff were thanked for the service, as well.

7. The Board of Directors approved a \$500 donation to the Maryland Food Bank to support the MRSPA Community Service Committee's Virtual Food Drive in honor of our 75th Anniversary and to help families across Maryland during the coronavirus pandemic.

8. Following the meeting, the MRSPA Raffle Winners were drawn. The raffle was overseen by Tillie Barckley, Scholarship Committee Chair who was assisted in the MRSPA office by Russ Wright, member from Montgomery County, and MRSPA staff member Frankie McDonnell. MRSPA staff member Shirl Scanlon took photos and video of the drawing.

The winners are as follows.

1. Spa Basket – 3rd Place Prize - Pat Nottingham, Worcester County
2. Sport Basket – 3rd Place Prize - Lynne Bratten, Wicomico County
3. Wine Basket – 3rd Place Prize - Beverly Dunham, Worcester County
4. Movie Night Basket – 3rd Place Prize - Nancy Gordon, Frederick County
5. Cooking Basket – 3rd Place Prize - Barbara Short, Caroline County
6. Maryland Basket – 2nd Place Prize – Janet Williams, Baltimore City
7. \$300 Cash – 1st Place Prize – Linda Shank, Washington County

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Premium	\$3,500	\$2,399 / \$2,499	\$1,050

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Kent County Retired School Personnel Assoc. General Meeting

March 5, 2020 Luncheon Meeting at The Country Club

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 AM by Sue Crooks our President.

Welcome: We all stood for The Pledge Allegiance.

We had 30 member's and 1 guest present.

Agenda: Approved by Fay Miller and second by Margie Baker.

Minutes: Edwina Walters presented and they were approved by Ray Clark and seconded by Jean Wright.

Treasure Report: Emily Massey was not present, but she had sent her report. Motion to accept was made by Kathy Clark and seconded by Ray Clark. Jean Wright sold 50-50 Ticke

Presidents Report: Sue Crooks she told us we needed a Vice President for our group.

Legislative Committee: Betty Weller

Today is Lobby Day in Ann. Kirwin Bill is out of committee yesterday. No bills this time on our Pension.

Trips and Events: Nancy Harrington reported we are going to The American Music Theater on Nov. 4,2020. The Show is called "Deck The Halls". After the show we will going to have lunch at "Millers" and then we can do some serious shopping. Mark your calendars now.

The Community Little Library at Worton Park is doing well, come this Spring we will have one in Millington.

Membership: Update, please welcome Christina Johnson and Marie Fenner our newest KCRSPA/MRSPA members. We also want to welcome Joan Wise as a local member, We now have 98 members and 7 local members. MRSPA is still offering "Switch and Save". You will need to complete the 2020-2021 Dues Deduction Authorization Form, which is available on the MRSPA website under Switch and Save. Treat yourself to a cup of coffee or tea or latte with the \$10.00 you save.

Scholarship Fund: Billie Lynn Roberts was not in attendance, so Charlotte Potts who serves on this Committee reported she has received one application for our Scholarship and she

Knows of two more coming. It was voted on in our Executive meeting and approved that we give Cailley Cochran a Mini Grant from our group, Cailley is a Special Ed. Teacher at H.H. Garnet Elem. School, we will present it to her at her school, because attend today.

Guest Speaker: Wayne Gilchrest who is Director of Sassafras Environment Education Center at Turner's Creek. They work with the students and teachers from the classroom as an extension. They are looking for volunteers. We suggested maybe having a "Retired Teachers Field Day. He will send us a schedule and we can Email.

Reminders Kathy Clark told us about Dr. Suess Day that was Tuesday past, we had 10 reader's in the three Elem. Schools.

Lunch was served after Margie Baker gave grace. After lunch we played our Game "Who Is The Mystery Retiree. Winnie Walters got it right, she received a St. Patricks Day gift.

Announcements: Ruth Wilson scared about a trip to Hillwood Estates & Museum and Gardens in They have two seats. Rosemary Brown is at a nursing home, sorry I didn't get an Address. Jean Wright did the drawing for the 50/50, Fay Miller won and gave it back to the Scholarship Fund. A sum of \$110.00. Table arrangements od spring flowers were won by Debbie Smith, Karen Dize, Peggy Smith, Ray Clark, Glen Micheals, Bonnie Smith and Nancy McCoy.

Adjournment: 1:50 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Edwina W. Walters, Secretary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Here are the retired educators we are celebrating May through August. Not only for their date of birth, but we are celebrating their collective contributions to others. Have a Joyful Day KCRSP members.

MAY

Nina Burt 5/7
Billie L. Roberts 5/7
Joyce Powell 5/9
Sharon Gordon 5/17
Ann Moss 5/18
Mark Schivley 5/19
Fay Miller 5/23
Miriam Spriggs 5/27

Karen Dize 5/29
Joe Massey 5/31

JUNE

Nancy Harrington 6/7
Carole Lupis 6/11
Larry Adams 6/18
George Jastram 6/20
Peggy Brown 6/28
Mary Sieman 6/29

JULY

Robert Tyson 7/1
Ruth Jackl 7/4
Debbie Morris 7/8
Jean Foreman 7/9
Marlene Vosberg 7/12
Emily Massey 7/12
Evelyn Schauber 7/17
Marsha Miller 7/19
Bonnie Rose 7/23
Sharon Steward 7/24
Nancy McCloy 7/26

AUGUST

Elizabeth Knapp 8/5
Peter Ames 8/7
Donna Mills 8/8
Bess Engle 8/9
Lee Loller 8/11
Sandy Emory 8/11
Flossie Johnson 8/22
Joanne Clarke 8/25
Tom Groce 8/28
Debbie Smith 8/28
Mary Metzger 8/30
Margie Baker 8/30
Margaret Smith 8/31



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Scholarship Committee Report

We are happy to report good response to our scholarship program. Eight applications have been received. During these challenging times there has been difficulty finding a place to meet with committee members to review these applications. So we have been in a holding pattern waiting to see what the end of the school year will look like. I just learned that KCHS will be holding a virtual commencement and other activities for the graduating Seniors. A virtual awards ceremony is planned on the KCHS Facebook page for May 20 at 6:00 pm. At this point we are arranging to read and evaluate the applications so decisions can be made about the awards. I told the KCHS guidance office we will notify them and students of the awards in a few weeks.

Awards will be made from our KCRSPA funds and from the Dr. Costella fund. We are grateful for all your donations and look forward to future gifts that will allow us to continue our scholarship program.

Members are expected to contribute to this fund. If you have not made your tax deductible contribution for the 2020-2021 year, There is still time to donate

Mail to :Emily Masse
24704 Chestertown RD

Chestertown MD 21620

Scholarship Donation Form

NAME _____

DATE _____

Amount _____

Sunshine

Sue Coleman will send out birthday cards to KCRSP. If your address has changed, please contact her by calling 410-648-5252 or email magpiesuz@gmail.com. If a member is sick or has a loss, contact Sue so she can send a card from the KCRSPA.

Community Service Report

We nominated Jean Wright as our representative in The Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. The application has been received. At this time no selections >> have been made or announced. Thanks to Sue Crooks for her help with the process.

>>

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Welcome **Christina Johnson and Marie Fenner**, our newest KCRSPA/MRSPA members. We also want to welcome **Joan Wise** as a new local KCRSPA member. We have 98 members, 10 local members, and 4 Emeritus Members. It is also with great sadness in the loss of 3 members this year.

MRSPA is still offering "SWITCH and SAVE." You will need to complete the 2020-2021 Dues Deduction Authorization Form, which is available on the **MRSPA website under Switch and Save**. Treat yourself to a coffee, tea, or latte with the \$10.00 you save!

Lastly, MRSPA is continuing the \$10 gift card incentive to ANY member who recruits a NEW member who signs up for DUES DEDUCTION. Simply WRITE YOUR NAME on the application as the recruiter before sending it to MRSPA. MRSPA will send you a gift card.

AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE TRIP

"Deck the Halls" is the name of the 2020 American Music Theatre Show. Our trip is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 4th**. After the show, we will be having lunch at **"Millers"** and then do some serious shopping. The cost of the trip will be **\$100**. Remember, this trip supports our Scholarship Fund. So mark your calendar now for this fun trip. Contact Nancy Harrington if you are interested in going on our trip.....nmhar@verizon.net, 410 928 3273, or 443 480 1344.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The "Little Free Library" at Worton Park is really being used! Thank you to Debbie Smith and Sue Coleman for replenishing the library with some great books. We are in need of Chapter books for older youth. So if you are cleaning out a bookcase and would like to donate them to the Library let us know and we will make some arrangements to pick them up. It is also a possibility we will be placing one in Millington this summer.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

KCRSPA
Stay-At-Home Luncheon
June 4, 2020
Cancelled due to coronavirus

Since our age group is the most vulnerable, we thought it prudent to postpone any gathering until the Fall. (Which also seems to be in jeopardy now! Stay tuned...). Meanwhile, be safe and perhaps try the following:

MENU

- Appetizer:** Text a friend or family member to check in and see how they are.
- Choice of Entrees:**
- * Call someone you haven't spoken to in a while. Hearing someone else's voice lifts your spirits (and theirs, too)!
 - * Write a note/letter to someone you miss. Sharing photos also helps to bring them "near."
 - * Choose a different person on our phone tree each day to text or call. **Keep in touch with one another.**
- Dessert:** Keep a journal, Paint, take Pictures, clean Closets, bake Brownies to eat while you're doing any of these
- Beverages:**
- * Hot Toddy (hot tea and whiskey)—wonderful relaxer
 - * Bloody Mary (virgin or not)—use V8 juice for extra vitamins!
 - * Irish Coffee (coffee, whiskey, whipped cream)—great pick-me-up

All of these are excellent accompaniments while talking on the phone.
Be safe, stay healthy, and hopefully we'll see each other sooner rather than later.

The Food Pantry is still in need of your donations! Besides filling regular family needs, they also support the Backpack Program for students who need it now more than ever. You can drop off donations at Christ Methodist Church on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00. If you have donations but cannot get it to the Church, call either Nancy Harrington (410-928-3273) or Kathy Clark (410-778-2548). We will be happy to pick up your donations and deliver them to the Food Pantry for you.

