



The Bell Ringer

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 44 Number 6 November 2022

Each year the Chestertown Schooner Sultana organization has 'down-rigging', to prep the vessel for winter storage. The Downrigging is a weekend long festival featuring many activities for the public. Arguably one of the most exciting features of the weekend is the presence of a number of tall ships at the dock area of Chestertown.

This year there were six tall ships present. Among the ships was the newly finished Dove. The remake was built at the Maritime Museum at St. Michaels. The ship is an early 17th-century English trading ship, one of two ships which made up the first expedition from England to the Province of Maryland.

Dove was one of the two ships that began the Maryland Colony. This remake was completed this year and will be berthed at St. Mary's, MD.



CLAPPER

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The riggings provide subject matter for many photos. Shown here is the Kalmar Nyckel and the Dove.

Notes from the Editor -

I am hoping to see many of you at the December General Meeting at Chester River Yacht & Country Club, CRYCC. There's a choice of three menu items, so there should be something all will like. See the Reservation form on the last page. Send it in ASAP so we can have a head count by deadline.

Besides, this is the luncheon where we have the always exciting Basket Raffle!!! There is reason to believe we will have a great collection of VERY INTERESTING BASKETS to win. Tickets are purchased at the luncheon for \$1 each or \$10 for the length of my arm. The money goes to my favorite cause - the Scholarship Fund! Have to be there to win!

Otherwise, this issue has the usual items as the KCRSPA is busy as always. Check the reports from treasurer, Membership, hospitality, and birthdays.

Also, check the article on the insurance. There have been some changes. I know not all members are in the school health insurance, but many are.

A special thank you to Brenda Shorter for taking minutes and transcribing from the October meeting.

Also, we have lost a couple of members and there are memorials to those members. A thank you to the members who wrote the memorials.

Glenn Michael, Editor

KCRSPA Minutes from Oct. 6, 2022 General Meeting:

We met on Oct. 6, 2022 at 11:00 am on the scenic deck of the Kitty Knight House in Georgetown, MD.

- Our luncheon meeting began with a presentation from Ms. Alicia Siegrist who is the Vice Chair of the Institute of Adult Learning. This institute is a non-profit organization for adults 50 and over from the Mid-Shore area "who share a love of learning and a desire to socialize...two vital components to aging well, as documented by numerous studies." (Alicia Siegrist-IAL).

- Next, Susie Schauber presented sailing information since she has been sailing for over 50 years! She handed out a brochure and a magazine on sailing and delved into the history of the canoe and sail racing.

- Sue Coleman presented beautiful potted plants to each presenter.

- There were also crafty gifts presented to our newest members of the association: Denise Jones, Janice Steffy, and Terrence Moody.

- Nancy Harrington mentioned there was only one seat left for the American Music Theatre bus trip for this November. Also, Nov 9th is the next American Music Theatre bus trip.

- New Business (there was no old business): Sue Crooks stated we need to be more visible in our schools so there was an idea of presenting hygiene packets to our schools and Garnett Elementary did express a need for such items as hygiene packets. Ruth Reed also mentioned that the Interact Club, sponsored by Ida Nabb at KCHS, has a need for supplies to help our hurricane/tornado damaged areas of the US.

- Flo Terrill will be hosting a "trunk or treat" gathering at Garnett Elementary on Oct. 14th

- Our next business luncheon will be on Dec. 1st (and not the 7th as noted on our candy packet from Oct. 6th).

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda W. Shorter 10/6/22



End 2022 Celebrating DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December Birthdays
 Ray Clarke 12/7
 Eileen Hahn 12/7
 Doreen Schivley 12/16
 Richard Walters 12/17
 Charlotte Potts 12/30

HAPPY NEW YEAR BIRTHDAYS 2023

JANUARY
 Carole Coleman 1/12
 Denise Jones 1/19
 Ann Thomas 1/27
 Christine Hackett 1/31
 Glenn Michael 1/31

FEBRUARY
 Paul Blumberth 2/3
 Susan Crooks 2/4
 Edwina Walters 2/7
 Betty Weller 2/20
 Terri Bostic 2/21
 Cheryl Saunders 2/28

MARCH
 Jed Howell 3/5
 Patsy Reihl 3/14
 Lee Hunley 3/19
 Nina Newlin 3/20
 Geraldine Pauls 3/21
 Dale Atkinson 3/24
 Sylvia Maloney 3/26
 Trudy Anderson 3/26



KCRSPA celebrates you with a card for your birth date and recognizing the years of your important life. If your address changes, please contact Sue Coleman by calling: 410-648-5252 or email magpiesuz@gmail.com.

If a member is sick or loses a loved one, contact Sue so she can send a card from KCRSPA.

KCRSPA Treasurer's Report

Checking Account

Starting Balance as of August 31, 2022		\$13,073.45
Income		
09/05/2022	Trip and State Checks	\$295.00
09/13/2022	Trip and State Checks	\$455.00
09/23/2022	Trip Check	\$110.00
09/23/2022	Trip and State Checks	\$345.00
	Total Income	\$1,205.00
Expenses		
09/05/2022	Kitty Knight House (deposit)	\$250.00
09/14/2022	Suzanne Coleman (sunshine – stamps, cards)	\$103.43
09/22/2022	Nancy Harrington (invit., copies, stamps, local cop.)	\$19.26
	Total Expenses	\$372.69
Starting Balance as of August 31, 2022		\$13,073.45
	Total Income	\$1,205.00
	Total Expenses	- \$372.69
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2022		\$13,905.76

KCRSPA Scholarship Fund

Business Savings Account		
Starting Balance as of August 31, 2022		\$2,555.90
Income		
09/06/2022	Scholarship Donation Check	\$50.00
09/13/2022	Scholarship Donation Check	\$25.00
09/23/2022	Scholarship Donation Check	\$25.00
09/23/2022	Scholarship Donation Checks	\$150.00
09/30/2022	Interest Compounded	\$0.13
	Total Income	\$250.13
Expenses		
		0
Starting Balance as of August 31, 2022		\$2,544.90
Total Income		\$250.13
Total Expenses		0
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2022		\$2,795.03
(Includes Lorraine Costella Scholarship Money - \$1,000.00)		

MEMBERSHIP INFO

We want to welcome Terence Moody into our membership. So glad you have joined MRSPA/KCRSPA. We also want to welcome Sue Clark back to Maryland. Unfortunately, our membership has dropped somewhat. There is still an opportunity for unpaid members to rejoin the association. Please go to the MRSPA website www.mrspa.org/switch-and-save. Please consider renewing....remember MRSPA ensures and protects the funding of your pension/retirement trust fund. Just a reminder: KCRSPA is still in need of a Secretary. Please consider "stepping-up."

LITTLE LIBRARY

Our Little Libraries are flourishing! We have had several donations of adult and children's books. At our last luncheon, we collected \$25 from the sale of books. I will use the amount to purchase Middle and High School books. Thanks to Terri Mullikin and Denise Jones for the support in the book donations.

AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE

Our trip to Lancaster to the American Music Theatre will give our Scholarship Fund approximately \$400. Next year we will be attending the theatre on Wednesday, November 9th. Mark your calendars now!

Community Service

Many of our members are doing valuable volunteer activities in the community. We have nominated Terri Mullikin as our member to be recognized for outstanding service. Her name and activities will be submitted for this year's MRSPA Volunteer Service Award and to the MD Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

Nancy Harrington and Terri Mullikin have been instrumental in developing and maintaining Little Libraries around Kent County. Students and adults borrow the books for free. At this time there is a library box in Worton, in Rock Hall and in Tolchester. Several members help to maintain the boxes.

Another service project is being organized by Sue Crooks to supply personal products for students at Garnet Elementary School. Sue will be reporting on this outreach project in the newsletter.

Thank you for your service.

Scholarship Committee Report

Your gifts to the Kent County Retired School Personnel Association Scholarship Fund are appreciated and important to our mission. It is through such donations that we are able to continue awarding scholarships to Kent County High School seniors. Thank you for your support.

The executive committee decided to list the names of donors in the newsletter beginning in 2023. Individual receipts are available upon request.

Many thanks to all who have made donations to the fund this year and in the past.



Memorials

G. Robert Tyson

Remembering Bob....

Finding the words to express all the ways in which Bob Tyson touched the lives of those around him is like finding a way to count all the drops of water in the sea. How does one measure the life of a man who had such a wide range of interest, abilities, beliefs, strengths, and talents, a Renaissance man, a man for all seasons?

His professional life as a teacher of mathematics and sciences blended magically with his love of and talent for music and this remarkable combination opened to him so many doors and opportunities to share all his knowledge and gifts with the world. His approach to life was straight forward, direct, honest, discerning and candid but well balanced with his generous, thoughtful, and compassionate devotion to his family, friends, and community. These qualities gave those who were part of his life a sense of worth, comfort and trust.

He gave thirty years of his professional life to the education of the young people of Kent County not only through the classroom but also through his contributions to the teachers' association and his work with community groups. Bob held his students to a high standard and cared very deeply that they work to their fullest potential. His teaching style was sometimes stern, sometimes whimsical, and his work with students extended beyond the walls of the classroom as he shared his talents as musical director and pianist for KCHS musical productions. Many in our community came to know Bob as he served his church as organist, choir director, vestry member and altar guild member while also acting as an accompanist for various other choirs. He helped to plan and champion the acquisition of the now famous organ that graces Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Chestertown. He was part of Chestertown's Historic District Commission, served on the Church Hill Theatre Board and both he and his wife, Helen, hosted many a reunion get togethers for their Washington College classmates on Reunion Weekend.

With family and friends, he revealed his love of travel, particularly to England, and cherished the opportunity he had on one of his cathedral tours to play the organ at Westminster Abbey. Some people hold their hobbies closely, privately, but Bob shared with so many of us his interests and talent for gardening, sewing, and woodworking. Bob very generously built sets and made costumes for theatre productions at KCHS and CHT, for example, the kilts for the men of Briagdoon and the gowns and tunics for the musical Camelot. He also shared his multiple talents through personal gifts for family and friends, including making needlepoint church kneelers as memorials and sewing Juli's wedding dress.

But most of all, he lived life to its fullest each and every day. He will be missed greatly, but those of us who had him in our lives are truly blest as Bob was not only friend, but family to all of us. God bless you, Bob.

Sylvia S. Maloney
Julianne Maloney Clifford, PhD



Mary Metzger

To know Mary Metzger was to know a gracious lady, kind always and willing to lend a helping hand. To know Mary as a teacher was to know a kind and sweet educator, always with her student's best interest at heart. Planning lessons, using her incredible organizational skills, to best serve those curious minds was always her first priority. She was a willing mentor to all those colleagues who wanted to learn a little something from a master teacher! Mary now spends her days enjoying gardening, reading and all the pleasures heaven has to offer. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Mary Seaman

Medical Coverage for KC Retired Education Personnel

If you are on the Board of Education insurance plan as your Supplemental to Medicare, then you should have recently received a notice from Labor First, the company that manages the insurance for the Kent County Board of Education, as well other counties in the ESMEC, Eastern Shore of Maryland Education Consortium.

In that notice it states that – “Your new medical benefits will be provided by CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Group Advantage (PPO) Plan and your Prescription benefits will continue to be provided by Express Scripts Group Medicare PDP effective January 1, 2023.”

At first glance my reaction was, “oh no, another change”, but thinking we had BCBS before and it was generally accepted at most places, and was good service, maybe things would be okay.

But then, in my case, I received an email letter from my doctor’s office, which said, “...we are not accepting Medicare Part C programs (Medicare Advantage).”

I called Labor First and they going to call the doctor, and report back to me, which they did, to say they were working on the issue. I also called the HR department at the Board of Education office where I talked with Bryn Kibler, also later to Dan Hushion. Both expressed genuine concern over this change in insurance acceptance.

Finally I had an appointment with my doctor and I asked about the situation. Yesterday I received an email from the office manager saying that the “office will continue to see our current Kent County Public School Retiree patients under the CareFirst BCBS Advantage Plan.”

What could have been a disaster, at least for me with my numerous health issues, was resolved by diligence of the people at Labor First, the concern and effort of Bryn and Dan, but also the care and concern of the doctors in the practice.

Hopefully there won’t be any more instances of non-acceptance. If you have a problem, contact Labor First and the HR department at the Board Office.



Opportunity for Community Service

At our last luncheon we discussed the idea of having an outreach that would directly help the students in Kent County Public Schools. We have been working with Flo Terrill, the Community School Coordinator to get this started. Flo suggested we start a hygiene project to be housed and used by students and families at Garnett Elementary school. The following is a list of needs that was generated from a survey given to the parents of children attending Garnett. We would like to start collecting items at the December KCRSPA Luncheon. Please donate to our outreach!

Thanks for making a difference for our local children.

The following is a list of needs. (Please donate regular size items rather than travel sizes)

Shampoo Conditioner Body Lotion Body Wash Toothpaste Toothbrushes Laundry Detergent
Laundry Sheets Sanitary Pads Brushes Combs Socks Deodorant



Scholarship Fund

Help us fulfill our mission to support high school students planning their college careers. It is through your donations that we are able to award scholarships to deserving Kent County High School students. These scholarships mean a lot to students and their families.

In the past 16 years our association has awarded more than \$30,000 in scholarships. These awards are made possible by our members who are asked to contribute \$25 annually. Many thanks to those who already made a contribution. Educators need to be in the forefront of supporting students.

***Remember: This is a major goal of our organization!
All donations allow us to continue the scholarship program.
Names of donors will be listed in the Newsletter.***

One student wrote : "Thank you for believing in me and my ability to succeed..."

Please think about a donation to our fund for the next school year and use the form provided.

Thank you for your consideration.

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 :

**Debbie Smith
200 Pear Tree Point Rd
Chestertown, MD. 21620**

Executive Committee 2021

President

Glenn W. Michael
23169 Old Fairlee Road
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fastaperture@gmail.com

Vice President

Nancy Harrington
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Past President

Sue Crooks
26895 Mallard RD 21620
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Secretary

To be appointed

Treasurer

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Nancy McCloy

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Bonnie Smith

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Sue Crooks

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Newsletter

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Terri Mullikin

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Nominations

To be announced

Scholarship Co Chairs

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Sue Crooks

26895 Mallard RD
Chestertown, MD 21620
susanlcrooks@yahoo.com

Charlotte Potts

PO Box 446
Chestertown, MD 21620
(no email)

Brenda Shorter

10387 Bunting RD
Chestertown, MD 21620
bshorter20@gmail.com

Sunshine

Sue Coleman
178 Birchwood Lane
Galena, MD 21635
magpiesuz@gmail.com

Trips/Social Activities

Nancy Harrington
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Edwina Walters

96 Midway Dr
Earleville, MD 21919
edwinawalters@rocketmail.com

WE STILL NEED A SECRETARY!



Pictures of a Luncheon



Many thanks to a new member Terence Moody for snapping a few images and sharing. It's tricky to chair a meeting and be able to take photos too.

It's also neat when our students come back to work with us in the schools. I'm not so sure about seeing them get old enough to retire as that puts things in a new perspective.

Bottom line, the photos show the fun and fellowship of the Luncheons. Join us for the December Luncheon. Reservation form is on the next page.

**KCRSPA
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022
at
Chester River Yacht & Country Club
Business Meeting begins at 11:15**

MENU

Choice of:

- * Garden Salad topped with Chicken / Rolls & Butter
- * Salmon with lemon-dill butter, served with Red Bliss potatoes and Broccoli
- * Sliced Roast Beef with mushroom demi-glace, Red Bliss potatoes and Broccoli

Dessert: Apple Crisp with Vanilla ice cream

Beverages: Coffee, Tea, Lemonade



Make checks payable to **KCRSPA** and return to
Kathy Clark 199 Rolling Rd. Chestertown, Md. 21620.

Responses must be in by **FRIDAY, NOV. 25. (\$25/person)**

Basket raffle tickets at the event will be \$1/each or an arm's length for \$10.
(We use Glenn's arm to measure!)

Circle one choice:

Salad w/Chicken

Salmon

Roast Beef

Name _____

Am't. Enc. _____

I need a ride _____ Phone No. _____

SEE YOU THERE!