



Informer

August 2011

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 37, Issue 1

**Officers
2011-12**

President Bob Kanach

President

Robert "Bob"
Kanach
(410) 693-7396

President Elect
Vacant

**Immediate Past
President**
Ione Williams
(410) 647-3283

Recording Secretary
John Hammond
(410) 674-2484

**Asst. Recording
Secretary**
Lonnie Kelly
(410) 647-9489

Treasurer
Donald Smith
(410) 757-2249

Assistant Treasurer
Patricia Ericson
(410) 969-5610

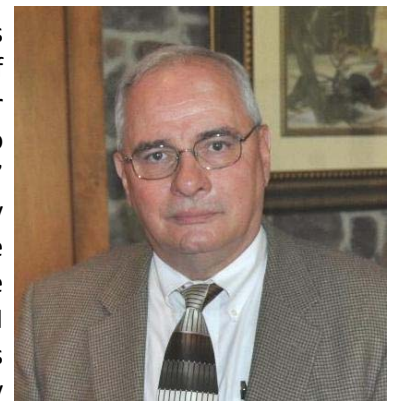
**Corresponding
Secretary**
Charles Toth
(410) 227-0985

AARSPA - Riva Road
For Information
(410) 222-5000

I want to begin my first message as your president by thanking Ione Williams, our current Past President for all her work and dedication this past year. Through her leadership we celebrated our seventieth anniversary as an organization serving the retired personnel of the Anne Arundel County Public School System. We have begun moving our organization into the 21st Century while attempting to keep in mind those of us who are less technically oriented. I hope to continue our efforts to incorporate technology where appropriate and to enhance our exposure so that the citizens of Anne Arundel County know who we are and what we represent.

As I stated in my remarks at the last luncheon at Renditions, it is vitally important that we bring into our organization

the most recent retirees from the school system. If we are to perpetuate our organization, we need to attract these "younger" people. If my memory serves me, there were over 250 retirees from the school system this year. I urge you current members to invite these newly retired people to our organization. Consider bringing one or two to a luncheon meeting so that they can see how much fun we have and how much we do not only for the school system but for the community at large. Encourage them to sign up and become active members of both the Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association (ARSPA) and the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA), our parent organization. Share with them this copy of **The Informer** and send them to our website, www.AARSPA.org to obtain a membership form and join.



Speaking of our website, I want to thank Annette Smith and Bev Paul, both relatively recent retirees, for accepting my request to become our webmasters. As soon as we purchase the necessary software, they will be updating the website so that all our members can keep abreast of the current happenings. I also want to express my appreciation to those members who offered to continue or to accept leadership roles on our Executive Board. There is not enough space in the article to list all 29 of these active members but
(Continued on page 4)

CONSUMER UPDATE

Checking your Blood Pressure

To get an accurate reading:

1. Be sure that you have emptied your bladder, a full bladder can affect the reading.
2. Avoid smoking, drinking anything caffeinated and exercising for at least thirty minutes before the test.
3. Keep your feet on the floor for five minutes prior to the test.
4. During the test keep still and rest your arm on a table so that it is at heart level.

Diabetics and Diet Soda

If you give up high-fructose corn syrup (HFCS) which is found in most non-diet sodas, don't switch to diet soda. Diet sodas actually can cause weight gain by boosting insulin production.

A study published in *Diabetic Care* found that drinking diet soda every day increased the risk of type 2 diabetes by as much as 67%.

If you crave sweet bubbly beverages, pour one inch of pure fruit juice in a glass and then fill it with carbonated water.

Insurance 'Deal' Might Cost you More

If you are an AARP member you are always hearing or seeing pitches for insurance. There is nothing wrong with the insurance, but it may not necessarily be the best deal for you. To form a marketing relationship with you, insurers pay royalties or fees, which "produce substantial revenues for the sponsor." Before you jump into getting insurance because an association sponsors it, you should not assume that this is the best deal. Comparison shop or contact the state's insurance agency. This can be done online.



Dates to Remember

There are some changes, so please mark your calendars now!

Executive Board Meetings

Central Office, 10:00 a.m.
 July 21, 2011 - Center 3
 October 13, 2011 - Conf. Room 1
 January 5, 2012 - Conf. Room 1
 February 9, 2012 - Center 3
 April 12, 2012 - Conf. Room 1
 June 14, 2012 - Center 3
 July 12, 2012 - Center 3

General Membership/Luncheon Meetings

September 8, 2011 – Snyder's Willow Grove, Linthicum, MD, 9:45 registration, meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.
 (Note: By-laws voted on; location change from last year)
 November 10, 2011 – Center of Applied Technology - North, Linthicum, MD; meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. (location change from last year) *(Meal prepared and presented by the students; a tour of the facility follows.)*
 January 26-27, 2012 – Naples, Florida *(This is a tentative date for now; more information in next newsletter)*
 March 22, 2012 - Michael's Eighth Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD; meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

May 17, 2012 – Renditions Golf Course, Davidsonville, MD, 9:45 a.m. registration; meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

Special Events

September 13 -15, 2011 - MRSPA Convention 2011 at Wisp Resort Hotel & Conference Center, McHenry, MD
 October 6, 2011 - Leadership Workshop at MRSPA Odenton Office, 8:00 a.m. (tentative)
 October 20, 2011 - Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame Awards Luncheon at Michael's Eighth Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD (Inductee - Tom Neuenschwander)
 November 5, 2011 - Pre-Retirement Conference at Severna Park High, 8:00 a.m.
 November 17, 2011 - MRSPA Legislative Workshop, Miller Senate Office, Building, 8:00 a.m. (tentative)
 January 24, 2012 - United Seniors Rally in Annapolis
 May 8, 2012 - MRSPA Annual Business Meeting, Michael's Eighth Avenue, 8:00 a.m. (tentative)

Educator and Employee of the Month Selection Committee Honored

Five active members of AARSPA meet monthly to select a teacher and employee of the month who are in turn recognized at a Board of Education meeting. The retired committee members are: a Middle School Assistant Principal, a Middle/High

School Music/Band Teacher, an Elementary School Teacher, an Elementary School Teaching Assistant and a High School Counselor.

This is one way that retirees are "giving back."

On June 1, 2011, the Anne

Arundel County Board of Education, after recognition of the employees, presented an engraved brass bell to the chair of the committee, Anthony Anzalone, in recognition of the "Dedicated Service to the Anne Arundel County Public Schools."

CATN requires extra lead time for the purchase of food items for our luncheon; thus, the early cut off. DO NOT mail reservation now. WAIT and MAIL on OCTOBER 1st.

Parking: Park and enter the front door (park in the lot directly in front of the main entrance). Anyone with mobility issues can be dropped off at the left of the building (transportation wing).

There will be CAT-N staff and possibly SkillsUSA students to direct everyone to the cafeteria.

November Luncheon and General Membership Meeting **Center of Applied Technology - North** **Thursday, November 10, 2011**

800 Stevenson Road Severn, MD 21144

Registration: 9:45 – 10:30am

Business Meeting: 10:30 – 12:00pm

Luncheon: 12:00 – 12:45pm

Entertainment: 12:45 to 1:30pm

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From Route I-97

* Take exit 12, New Cut Road and head toward Papa John's Farm/Vegetable Stand - **not** toward Glen Burnie

* Take the 1st RIGHT onto Stevenson Road (If you reach Grover Road, you've gone too far)

* 800 Stevenson Road will be on the RIGHT (If you reach McNelin Way, you've gone too far)

(Call the school at (410) 969-3100 if necessary)

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON RESERVATION

DEADLINE – October 18, 2011

No refund after October 18, 2011

PLEASE NO WALK-INS

Name of person(s) attending _____

Phone _____

No. of reservations _____

Cost is \$25 Amount Enclosed _____

Two Entrée Choices:

___ Chicken Cordon Bleu ___ Baked Stuffed (crab meat) Flounder

Each entree served with steamed broccoli and herb wild rice, coffee, iced tea and water

Dessert options (please pick one)

___ Caramel apple puff – soft puff pastry filled with sliced baked apple and sauce

___ New York style cheese cake (homemade)

___ Chocolate mousse

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AARSPA AND MAIL TO Ms. Pat Ericson, 8223 Grainfield Road, Severn, Maryland 21144.

___ Check here if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.

___ Check here if an Emeritus Member. (age 90+)

New Members And 2011 Directory

A cordial welcome to our newest members. Be sure to look for them in the directories available in November. If you want one, please send your name and phone number to: AARSPA Membership Committee, 121 River Road, Edgewater, MD

21037 or email membership@aarspa.org

** Help defray postage; let me know and you can pick up your directory at the November General Member -ship/Luncheon meeting at the Center of Applied Technology - North.*

New Members 3/22/11 - 6/30/11

Patricia Adkins
Dennis Freeman
Elizabeth Leventry
Linda Minnis
Catherine Spore
Larry Walker
Nola Warren
Alice Washington
Kay Weinstein
Donna Williman
Alicia Youngbar



(Continued from page 1)

without these volunteers our organization could not exist. We still have a few positions vacant at this time and if you feel you might want to take a leadership role in our organization, please contact me at rkanach@verizon.net. Currently, the following positions are vacant: President -Elect, Consumer Education Committee, Community Service Committee, and Program Committee. Feel free to email me, or talk to any member of the Executive Board if you need further information about any of these positions

There will be a few changes to our general luncheon and meeting schedule this year. Please

mark your calendars with these date and locations:

- September 8, 2011 - at Snyder's Willow Grove in Linthicum (this is a change from past years). See reservation form on page 8.
- November 10, 2011– at Center for Applied Technology - North in Severn (this is a new location for a luncheon and meeting). See reservation form on page 3.
- January 26 & 27, 2012 – our annual "South" meeting will be held in Naples, Florida this year.
- March 22, 2012 – at Michael's Eighth Avenue in Glen Burnie
- May 17, 2012 - at Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville

We are very excited about our luncheon meeting at CAT-N as it will be prepared and served by the Culinary Arts students on site. The menu looks to be outstanding.

Lastly, I want to remind everyone of the MRSPA Convention 2011 to be held at Wisp Resort Hotel and Conference Center, in McHenry, Maryland, from September 13 through 15, 2011. Registration forms are available at www.mrspa.org or by calling the MRSPA office at 410-551-1517. Looking over the agenda for this conference, it looks to be an interesting event with both business and fun items nicely incorporated.

By-Laws Changes to be voted on at September 8th Meeting

The following is a summary of the changes that the By-Laws Committee proposed with modifications made by the Executive Board of AARSPA. After each proposed change is the recommendation of the Executive Board:

Amendment 1

Article II, Section 1c – Purpose - [Change the wording to correct an incorrect title]

“Anne Arundel County Public Schools Retirement/Pension Systems to Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.”

The Executive Board recommends the **APPROVAL** of Amendment 1.

Amendment 2

Article III, Section 1a – Membership - [Change the wording to correct an incorrect title]

“Maryland State Teachers Retirement/Pension System to Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.”

The Executive Board recommends the **APPROVAL** of Amendment 2.

Amendment 3

Article III, Section 1b – Membership - [Change the wording to correct an incorrect title]

“Maryland State Teacher Retirement/Pension System to Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.”

The Executive Board recommends the **APPROVAL** of Amendment 3.

Amendment 4

Article III, Section 2a – Membership - [Delete the entire section as it is inaccurate]

“Associate Membership may be accorded, upon payment of dues; to current employees en-rolled in the Maryland State Teachers Retirement/Pension System and their spouses.”

The Executive Board recommends the **APPROVAL** of Amendment 4.

Amendment 5

Article V, Section 1h – Duties of the Officers, the President - [Add: Change the wording to reflect a later proposal that the President serves a two year term.]

“Serve as Past President one year beyond the two consecutive years as President.”

{{The Executive Board does not feel the President should serve a two consecutive year term.}}

The Executive Board recommends that Amendment 5 **NOT BE APPROVED**.

Amendment 6

Article V, Section 2a – Duties of the Officers, the Immediate Past President [Change the wording to correct an incorrect alignment]

“Be the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee for the election of officers.”

The Executive Board recommends the **APPROVAL** of Amendment 6.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Amendment 7

Article V, Section 2b – Duties of the Officers, the Immediate Past President [Add new duties to the office of the Immediate Past President]

“In an emergency situation, the Immediate Past President shall preside at meetings of the Association, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.”

{{ This organization does not have a Board of Directors and this amendment does not address the President–Elect 's availability.}}

The Executive Board recommends that Amendment 7 **NOT BE APPROVED.**

Amendment 8

Article V, Section 2b – Duties of the Officers, the Immediate Past President [Add: Clarification of the duties of the Immediate Past President in the absence of the President and the President-Elect]

“In the event that the President and the President-Elect are unavailable, the Immediate Past President shall preside at the meetings of the Association and assume the powers designated, and perform the duties of the President.”

The Executive Board recommends the **APPROVAL** of Amendment 8.

Amendment 9

Article V, Section 3a – Duties of the Officers, the President-Elect - [Add: Change the wording to reflect a later proposal that the President serve a two year term.]

“The President-Elect shall begin serving at the start of the President’s second term.”

{{ The Executive Board does not feel that the President should serve a two consecutive year term.}}

The Executive Board recommends that Amendment 9 **NOT BE APPROVED.**

Amendment 10

Article IX, Section 1 – Elections - [Change: The term of office of the President is changed from one to two years.]

“The term of office of the President shall be two (2) consecutive years. Elections and Installation of the President shall be held in May every other year. The President will serve one year beyond the two consecutive years as Past President.”

{{The Executive Board does not feel that the President should serve a two consecutive year term.}}

The Executive Board recommends that Amendment 10 **NOT BE APPROVED.**

Amendment 11

Article IX, Section 2 Elections - [Change: The term of office of the President-Elect is changed from one to two years.]

“The term of office of the President-Elect shall be two (2) consecutive years. The election and installation of the President-Elect shall be held in May at the start of the second year of the President’s two–year term.”

{{If approved as written, there would be a conflict between the terms of the President and President–Elect.}}

The Executive Board recommends that Amendment 11 **NOT BE APPROVED.**

Remembrance/Sunshine Committee

Member Deaths

John Anderson
 Laurence Berns
 Sandra Bicksler
 Dorothy Bunker
 Joan Fairhurst
 Nancy Gaston
 Eunice Gerwig
 Robert Harrell
 Doris Jackson
 Henry Renkiewicz



Family Members' Deaths

Pat Emory - brother
 Sue Hines - brother
 David Lombardo - son
 Betty Moreland - brother
 Van Pindell - brother-in-law
 Emily Renkiewicz - husband
 Davidson Watts - wife

Please save this list to notify us of get wells, birthdays, anniversaries, and deaths of our members.

Nina Griffith: Death Notices

Home phone: (443) 304-2266
 email: Bear1134@aol.com

Dianne Rogers: Get Well/Thinking of You/Anniversaries

Home phone: (410) 647-7585
 email: wwdsrogers@verizon.net

Millie Zipay: Birthdays

Home phone: (410) 760-2684
 email: mz2teach@aol.com

Spotlight on Otho Johnson



The story of Otho's career and life reads like a history of struggles balancing education, community and family. He says that his inspiration came from his father and Otho is driven by the belief that all people share

certain core values, goals and work tirelessly to unite God's people together.

He graduated from Bates High School and Bowie State Teacher's College. After graduation, he served in the Army. Following his service he obtained a teaching job in Anne Arundel County. While teaching, he earned a Master's Degree in Administration. He served as principal until his retirement.

His wife, Gloria is also a retired teacher. They have 1 son, 3 daughters and 2 grandchildren.

Otho has served as president of AARTA (now AARSPA). He has served on the Education and Protective Service Committee (now Consumer Education). He will no longer serve as chair of the committee, but will continue to be active in the Association as well as church and community.

A Cleanup Day on June 11, 2011

at the Anne Arrundell Free School



(LtoR) Max Muller, Bob Kanach, Mike Kearney

Marie Diamond



State Superintendent Retires

As of June 30, 2011, Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick retired as State Superintendent of Maryland Public Schools. She served as State Superintendent since 1991. Dr. Bernard J. Sandusky, former Superintendent of Queen Anne's County Public Schools, was appointed as Interim Superintendent. A nationwide search will be conducted to fill the position.

AARSPA's Chorus wins MRSPA's Community Service Award



"The MRSPA 2011 Local Association Community Service Award is presented to the Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association (AARSPA) *Voices in Melody* chorus. The chorus is composed of 30 members of AARSPA and is currently under the direction of Tom Neuenschwander. *Voices in Melody* is an ongoing project with weekly rehearsals at an Anne Arundel County school. Performance locations include senior centers, assisted living and rehabilitation centers, churches and the Anne Arundel County Public Schools."

Out of seven nominations for the annual MRSPA 2011 Community Service Award at the annual MRSPA business meeting on May 10, 2011, our AARSPA chorus, *Voices in Melody*, was announced the winner of the Community Service Award. The following announcement appeared in the MRSPA program booklet:

The chorus began in 1986 under the first director, Lois R. Hendrickson, who was director for over 20 years. After Lois retired, William "Bill" Kerns took over the directorship of the chorus. Both of these previous directors are now deceased.

SEPTEMBER'S Luncheon and General Membership Meeting



On Thursday, September 8, 2011, we will have our luncheon at Snyder's Willow Grove in Linthicum, Maryland.

Registration----- 9:45-10:30
Meeting ----- 10:30-12:00
Lunch ----- 12:00-12:45
Entertainment ---- 12:45-1:30

PLEASE NO WALK-INS

SEPTEMBER'S LUNCHEON RESERVATION DEADLINE AUGUST 19, 2011

Name of person(s) attending _____

Phone _____ No. of reservations _____

Cost is \$25 Amount Enclosed: _____

Three Entrée Choices: (Check one)

_____ Chicken with Cornbread Stuffing _____ Crab Cake

_____ Prime Rib

Each entrée is served with baked potato, salad with Ranch or Italian dressing, warm apple pie and coffee or tea.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AARSPA AND MAIL TO Ms. Pat Ericson, 8223 Grainfield Road, Severn, Maryland 21144.

_____ Check here if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.

_____ Check here if an Emeritus Member. (age 90+)

ONLY IN EDUCATION

This will be the first of memories from Sarah Shannon. This was before digital cameras.

"I was teaching in the annex at Jessup. The building is now the YMCA. There were three rooms. Because of the "open space" program, a wall was opened up between two rooms so the two sixth grade teachers could work together. Don Dickerson, a young man, and I were working together. Don was due to be supervised by Winifred Fowler. He had an excellent camera and intended

to take pictures of the students as part of his plan for his lessons with the students. I could see him working away and taking shots. After Mrs. Fowler left, Don came rushing over to me in my area. 'Boy, am I glad that's over,' he said. 'I was late this morning and did not have time to stop for film at the store.' I said, 'Do you mean to tell me you were snapping all those shots without any film?' Don answered, 'Yes'."

It's a good thing Mrs. Fowler didn't ask to see those photos.



* Please send your stories to:
 Betty Ann White, PO Box 6573
 Annapolis, MD 21401-0573 or E-mail:
 bettypurple@verizon.net



Scholarship Fund Donation

Scholarships are of the utmost importance to ensure the contribution of quality teachers entering the education profession.

I wish to make a donation to the scholarship fund.

Donation Amount is: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

for:

_____ birthday _____ an anniversary

_____ other (please indicate) _____

Please make checks payable to:

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
 or / for

Tax Deductible Donations, make checks payable to:
 21st Century Education Foundation, Inc.

Mail all checks to:

Karlie Everett
 725 Warren Drive
 Annapolis, Maryland 21403

Name and address of the honoree.

We will inform the honoree(s) and/or the family of the deceased that a gift has been made to the scholarship fund.

Send notice of my donation to:

Name _____

Address _____

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

For questions, please contact:

Karlie Everett • karlieeverett@verizon.net • 410-268-8656

The 21st Century Foundation, Inc., is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, charitable organization, donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. A copy of the foundation's current financial statement is available upon request by contacting the 21st Century Education Foundation at 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (telephone: 410-222-5370). Document and information submitted to the state of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage. *DPS/CH 1395/28a (Rev. 1/11)*

Scholarships for Scholars Awards



The winners of the AARSPA Teacher Education Scholarships: (L to R) Kaylie Elizabeth DeNuto of Chesapeake High School, John William Allyn of Broadneck High School, and Delany Brook Gunther of Old Mill High School with AARSPA Scholarship Chairman, Karlie Everett.

The awards ceremony took place at the Chesapeake Arts Center on April 26 and was sponsored by Scholarships for Scholars, Inc. Twenty-six scholarships with a total value of \$115,000 were awarded that evening. The scholarships are awarded each year to students who have demonstrated exceptional abilities in specific disciplines and who have also contributed to their schools and to the community-at-large. The students and their families were our guests at the May AARSPA Luncheon in Davidsonville.

May 10th Annual Business Meeting of MRSPA at Michael's Eighth Avenue from AARSPA



(L to R) Row 1: Betty Ann White, Alicia Hardisky, Thelma Auman, Lonnie Kelly Row 2: Carla Duls, Bob Kanach, Max Muller. Not pictured: Anthony Anzalone, Matilda Barckley, Earnestine Butler, Joseph Butler, Sandra Edmonds, John Hammond, Berlie Henderson, Susie Jablinski, Estelle Johnson, Dianne Rogers, William Rogers, Shirley Thomas, Virginia Crespo



Bonnie Brose, MRSPA President and Michelle M. Shearer, Speaker of the Day, who received both the Maryland and the National 2010-2011 Teacher of the Year awards.



Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association

2644 Riva Road

Annapolis, MD 21401