



I N F O R M E R

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association

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Issue 2

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Co-Presidents Deb Ahalt and Charlie Gable



After thirty-three days of 90 degree plus heat in June, July and August, are you ready for fall? We are beginning to see pumpkins and colorful mums. The leaves on our trees will soon be turning colors—welcome October!

COVID continues to offer its challenges. Close to fifty of our AARSPA members gathered for our meeting/luncheon at Kurtz's Beach on September 8th. It was a beautiful day, a great location and the food was very good. The next evening, we received an email from Kurtz's reporting that one of the servers had tested positive for COVID. Bob, Debbie, and Charlie contacted everyone who attended with that information and several of us were tested. The good news is that, as far as we know, none of those who attended tested positive. This may be further evidence that being vaccinated is a positive thing!

Carla Thomas, one of the Retirement Facilitators from the Benefits Office, shared with us that our health benefits would remain the same, with a slight increase in the premium that we pay for medical benefits for 2022. She announced that there were no changes in co-pays and no increase in premiums for dental and vision coverage. Retirees should receive their Open Enrollment Guides by the end of September. If you wish to make any changes in your coverage, forms must be submitted by mid-October.

School supplies were donated by members at the September meeting. The Community Service Committee determined that the supplies would be given to Maryland City Elementary in memory of Bonnie Schmeltz, a beloved past president of AARSPA. Pet supplies and toiletries were also donated.

Tillie Barckley, our Scholarship Committee Chairperson, informed us that AARSPA collected \$650.00 from our fundraiser at Garry's Grill in Severna Park. Another scholarship fundraiser will be held at the Killarney House Pub in Davidsonville on October 12 from noon until closing.

The Membership Committee reported that we have picked up about 25 new members since July 1 and that we had received contact information for 252 new retirees. Please encourage your friends who are retired to join AARSPA (\$15) and MRSPA (\$45). AARSPA monitors our healthcare benefits with the Board of Education, while MRSPA looks after our pensions and other issues important to retirees.

The AARSPA from the Heart Alzheimer's Team is organized again for the 2021 Walk. The Anne Arundel County Walk is Sunday, October 17. Team members may walk on their own or join the local event at **Sandy Point State Park**. Registration is at 11:00 and the walk begins at 12:15. Go to <https://act.alz.org> and search for the team by

(Continued on page 2)



(Presidents continued from page 1)

name or for a specific walker to make donations or join the team.

“Voices in Melody,” the AARSPA Chorus, is tuning up once again! Rehearsals are held on Tuesday afternoons at Our Shepard Lutheran Church on Benfield Road in Severna Park. The chorus is in the process of looking for a new director and is also looking for new members, who are always welcome to join.

Our next general membership meeting/luncheon will be held at Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville on Thursday, November 11. For further information, see the registration form included in this newsletter. We hope to see you there!

The Trips and Travel Committee is ready to go again! A December trip to the American Music Theatre’s “Winter Wonderland” is planned. A reservation form for this exciting return of the Travel Committee is enclosed.

Since our next issue of the *AARSPA Informer* does not get published until January, we want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy holiday season! Hopefully we will be able to enjoy time with our families and friends this year. Be safe! Be well! Be happy!

General Membership Meeting/ Luncheon Kurtz’s Beach September 8, 2021



Co-Presidents Deb Ahalt and Charlie Gable presided over their first meeting.



Susan Reinhart was introduced as a first time attendee.



Cindy Smith, Marge Smith, and Membership Committee Chair Leslie Schell distributed the new directory to Carla Duls and other attendees.

REMEMBRANCE

MEMBER DEATHS

Dorothy Street Bullock
Doris E. Conley
Naomi S. Dennis
Barbara M. Ganoczy
David D. Lombardo
Don L. Rodkey
Evelyn Mae Smith
Linda Wiles

FAMILY MEMBER DEATHS

Doris Kniess	husband
Mary K. Overholser	son
Rick Wiles	wife

EMERITUS BIRTHDAYS

October	12	Ethel Bohle	95
November	1	Emma Schramm	93
	5	Mary Etta Dorr	99
	10	Paul T. Bagley	93
	18	Katherine Tarter (VA)	94
	22	Irma Messinger	95
December	15	Mary Sue Hines	93
	15	Matilda Pair	98
	21	Mary Madeleine (CA)	94

ANNIVERSARIES

October	10	Gale Erbe & Thomas Worthington III	40
	17	Michele Einolf & Kenneth Grice	40
	19	Vonnie & Tom Riffle	57
	24	Carol & John Strigle (FL)	57
	28	Ann & Allen Irvine (MA)	60
	31	Lynn & Bill Grap	61
November	24	Sharyn & Ed Doyle	50
	25	Patricia & Michael Keaser	36
	28	Carol & Eugene Kirby	63
December	15	Meg & Ed Meehan (FL)	
	16	Ann & Bob Schult (PA)	53
	23	Martha & Jim Preston	55
	27	Judith & John Youngblood	55
	28	Michelle & Charles Day	47
	28	Katie & Andy Borland	57
	29	Linda & Tom Poole	37
	30	Virginia & Harry Wagner	53

GET WELL

May:
Lou Kamm
Annette Smith
Don Smith
Ken Nichols

June:
Max Muller
Marge Keating

July: no one

August:
Lou Kamm
Don Smith
Nancy Horne
Yvonne Henry
Arleatha Hackett
Barry and Peggy Fader

If you have information concerning AARSPA members, please contact the following people:

Anniversaries and Congratulations
Millie Gardner at mgbw16@gmail.com or
443-784-2190

Deaths of AARSPA members and family members

Linda Poole at mlp2118@yahoo.com or
410-570-4020

Illnesses and Accidents, etc.

Dianne Rogers at wwwdsrogers@verizon.net or
410-647-7585

FROM THE FREE SCHOOL

Did You Know?

In the last *AARSPA Informer*, the "Did You Know?" column gave a brief overview of the McGuffey Readers. In that narrative, the Horn Book and the Battledore were mentioned. This installment will provide a little more information on the Horn Book and the Battledore.

The Horn Book dates back to the 15th – 18th centuries. It was a sheet of paper mounted on a thin wooden paddle covered with animal horn. It usually had the alphabet, numerals, and a religious verse on it.

The Battledore was a more complex Horn Book. The Battledore was most likely named after the paddle (similar to the size and shape of a Hornbook) used in the game of Battledore which was an early form of badminton. By the 1800's, when paper became more affordable, Battledores were made of a thin cardboard. They, like the Horn Book, included the alphabet but might also have lists of words and pictures since the Battledores were larger than a Horn Book.

Examples of Horn Books and Battledores are on display at the Free School Museum.



NEWS YOU CAN USE



Emergency Broadband... Emergency Broadband Benefits

On September 29, 2021, MRSPA aired a webinar explaining the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) subsidy. The session was hosted by Adam Goldberg, NRTA's Senior Legislative Representative.

The first speaker, Keyla Hernandez-Ulloa, FCC Associate Division Chief for the FCC Consumer Government Affairs Bureau, Consumer Affairs and Outreach Division, explained the Emergency Broadband Benefits (EBB) subsidy and answered the following questions:

- What is the Benefit?
- Who is eligible?
- How can households apply?

She also shared the EBB Toolkit, containing a variety of print and multi-media resources.

The second speaker, Amanda Gimble, Director, Aging Connections with Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) shared the goal of OATS to close the digital divide by connecting one million seniors to the internet by June 2022. In Maryland, there are currently 64.7% of seniors aged 65+ connected to the internet while there are 80.9% individuals aged 18-64 with internet connections, resulting in a gap of 16.7%. Two-thirds of those not online are eligible for the EBB subsidy.

An OATS survey involving 200 seniors indicated that the major uses of the internet by seniors during the pandemic have been Zoom, connecting with friends and family, church services, and exercise classes. The internet was least used by seniors for on-line banking, E-books, training and workshops, social events, and groceries.

To learn more about the Emergency Broadband Benefits subsidy or the work of OATS, go to the MRSPA website www.mrspa.org to view the hour long webinar.

Scam Alert

There are two groups of people, those who always help others and those who take advantage of others. When a friend asks for a small favor- "I am collecting gift cards for my local children's hospital, will you buy \$50.00 worth of cards and send the account number on the back of the gift cards to this email address?" Of course we are going to help our friend and the poor sick children.

DON'T DO IT!

Anyone who wants you to buy them gift cards is a scammer! If in doubt, call your friend and ask if they sent the email before doing anything.

Do Your Part to Help

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is Saturday, October 23, 2021

420 tons of drugs were turned in on the last Take-Back Day in the U.S., which was held on April 24, 2021!! Getting un-used prescription drugs out of your home helps everyone! Since COVID-19 upended day-to-day life for Americans in March 2020, public health officials have been sounding the alarm about a potential surge in drug overdoses.

Overdose deaths rose during the second half of 2019, and experts fear the pandemic would produce conditions that would further increase overdoses and deaths: economic shock, social isolation and increased mental health distress, along with disrupted access to additional support and medications that require face-to-face visits.

Getting those drugs out of the home is a great way to help. If you're not sure where your location is, check out www.dea.gov for locations near you.

Many local police stations offer everyday collection. Check the one in your area.



American Music Theatre 2021 Christmas Show: "Winter Wonderland"
and lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord
Tuesday, December 14, 2021
Only a few seats remaining!



We're back! Come join your friends and recapture the Christmas spirit! This highly acclaimed live music production will ignite your yuletide spirit! Once you step through the American Music Theatre doors, you will gaze upon the magical sights and sounds of the season and be transported to a wonderland of music and enchantment – from a Bavarian Mountain village to the festive, holiday excitement of the North Pole. The extraordinary costumes and stunning sets will make you feel like you are really there! "Winter Wonderland" is American Music Theatre's newest original show, featuring the secular and sacred holiday songs you know and love, with all-live performances by a sensational cast of singers and dancers, as well as the remarkable American Music Theatre Orchestra. After the show, enjoy a delicious smorgasbord lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord in East Earl, PA.

Transportation, reserved seats for the show, the smorgasbord lunch, all taxes and tips including the driver for \$113.00 per person. Your reservation for this trip must be received no later than Thursday, November 18, 2021.

Itinerary

7:30 a.m. Depart the Severna Park United Methodist Church on Benfield Road
 9:45 a.m. Arrive at Lancaster, PA at the American Music Theatre
 10:30 a.m. Showtime – "Winter Wonderland"
 1:15 p.m. Depart Lancaster, PA
 2:00 p.m. Arrive at Shady Maple Smorgasbord in East Earl, PA
 2:15 p.m. Smorgasbord lunch
 4:15 p.m. Depart East Earl, PA
 6:30 p.m. Arrive at the Severna Park United Methodist Church on Benfield Road



American Music Theatre 2021 Christmas Show: "Winter Wonderland"
and lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord

Send this reservation form and check payable to **AARSPA** to:

Bob Kanach, 512 Augusta Drive, Arnold, MD 21012

Primary Contact Person: _____

Cell Phone # (for emergency during trip): _____

Home Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Email Address (for receipt): _____

Of Reservations: _____ x \$113.00 per person = \$ _____

Make checks payable to AARSPA

Others in your party, if applicable:



Thank you to all who so generously supported our mission by bringing school supplies, pet supplies and toiletries to our last luncheon. School supplies donated were delivered to Maryland City Elementary and the pet supplies to the Animal Shelter. Because of Covid, the shelters are not currently accepting outside donations. However, they already indicated a need for toothbrushes and toothpaste. Please consider these items for donation at our next luncheon.

Along with pet supplies and items for the homeless shelters, we will be collecting food to be donated to the Anne Arundel County Food Bank.

If you would prefer to donate in cash or checks, we will deliver them to the locations. Checks should be made out to either the:

Anne Arundel County Animal Care and Control
Anne Arundel County Food Bank



AARSPA Chorus Update

The AARSPA Chorus has started practicing the past few weeks at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park on Tuesdays from 2-3:30 p.m. It has been a long time since the group has gotten together due to COVID-19. We have about 25 singers coming to practice at this time. We are enjoying the social interaction, as well as singing. The group is always encouraging members to join the group. Our long-time director, Judy Engelmeyer, has stepped back to be a singer this year due to some personal issues. Joyce Nellenback is currently serving as our accompanist, as well as director. We thank Judy for her 9 years of service leading the AARSPA Chorus.

We are currently looking for a new director and additional singers. Please contact Rick Wiles at rwilesr@gmail.com if you are interested. The chorus is also looking for places to sing since many senior centers are not allowing groups at their facilities due to COVID-19. We always like to perform for AARSPA, and we have performed in the past at churches and some social groups. We are currently practicing holiday and patriotic music. Let us know if you would like us to consider singing for your group.

Come Sing with Us!

Many Hands Make Light Work!

YOUR INSURANCE BOOKLETS ARE ON THE WAY! Recently, a group of AARSPA volunteers gathered in the cafeteria at the Board of Education to stuff and seal envelopes and get them ready for the USPS!



(L to R) Leslie Schell, Tony Anzalone, Susan Baugher, Gail Matthews, Carroll Mobley, Marge Smith, and Marie Diamond, who organized the volunteer effort

AARSPA Scholarship Corner

“Education is not only a ladder of opportunity, but it is also an investment in our future. Thank you for your investment!”

In Memory of...

Jay Catlin	Dr. Joseph Czarnecki
Robert Kniess	Eleanor Krupinsky
Linda Lahti	Michael Overholser
Paul Rusko	Linda Wiles

Fundraiser at Garry’s Grill August 2, 2021



Carolyn and Tony Anzalone



Deb Ahalt, Dan Ahalt, Lin Blackman, and Charlie Gable



Dixie and Bill Stack

2022 Florida Event

At this time, we are planning on holding the AARSPA Florida general meeting and luncheon in Sarasota, Florida with the help of Barbara Zelle. Two years ago, the Derflingers did a tremendous amount of preparation for that event, and we ended up cancelling it. To hopefully avoid putting Barbara through the same process, we want to ascertain the members’ interest in attending the 2022 event.

Knowing that things could change by March 9 and 10, 2022, the dates of this year’s AARSPA in Florida event, please email us if you think you will attend the AARSPA in Florida gathering. Please send your intentions by Friday, November 12, 2021 to Asst.Treasurer@aarspa.org. Know that this information will be used to check the viability of holding the event and not the reservation to attend which will be sent out later.



Check out the following pages:

- Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association (AARSPA)**
- Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA)**
- National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA)**
- Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS)**



DATES TO REMEMBER

MEETING DATES

Executive Board Meetings - 10:00 a.m.

October 7, 2021 BOE, Center 2A
 January 13, 2021 BOE, Center 2A

General Membership Meetings - 10:30 a.m.

November 11, 2021 Renditions Golf Course
 February 10, 2022 Blue Dolphin Seafood Bar & Grill

OTHER DATES

October 12 Killarney House Scholarship Fundraiser
 October 17 Walk to End Alzheimer's
 December 14 American Music Theatre - Winter Wonderland
 December 28 Deadline for January AARSPA Informer

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Registration.....9:45-10:30
 Business.....10:30-12:00
 Lunch.....12:00-12:45

No refunds after FIRM reservation deadline
Monday, October 25, 2021
 PLEASE NO WALK-INS

DATE: Thursday, November 11, 2021
PLACE: Renditions Golf Course
 1380 West Central Avenue
 Davidsonville, MD 21035
COST: \$38.00 per person (**Please make checks out to AARSPA.**)

Our meal choices are: chicken parmesan with cheese ravioli and a vegetable, sliced roast beef with sherry mushroom gravy mashed potatoes and a vegetable, or salmon with mashed potato and vegetable. Each entrée is served with a mixed green luncheon salad and an ice cream sundae for dessert. Coffee, sweet tea and iced water will be served with the meal.

We have asked, and Renditions agreed, that all their servers will wear masks while with us. We will also require all guests wear masks except when eating. Temperatures will be taken at the check-in desk using a forehead thermometer.

**Mail reservation and payment to :
 Bob Kanach, 512 Augusta Drive, Arnold, MD 21012**

Donations of pet supplies, tooth brushes and tooth paste, and non-perishable food for the Anne Arundel County Food Bank will be accepted!

Cut below and keep the upper portion for your reference!

LUNCH RESERVATION - DEADLINE October 25, 2021

Contact Person _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Below, please indicate the entrée choice for each person in your party.

Name(s) including contact person above	Cheese Ravioli	Roast Beef	Salmon				
Contact Person _____	_____	_____	_____	X	\$38	=	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	X	\$38	=	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	X	\$38	=	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	X	\$38	=	_____

We apologize for the increase per person cost but the price of food and the service fee have increased for the facility.

Total Amount Due = _____

_____ Please check if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.
 _____ Please check if you are an Emeritus Member (90 or greater)



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members

Hats Off To New Members!

Michael Ballard	Mary "Buffy" Jordan
Gregory Baran	Susan Kirkendall
Rodney Bolton	Claire Renee Krysiak
Walter Brzezczko	Christopher Mirezni
Kathy Cole	Julie Moundalexis
Bruce Davis	Catherine O'Sullivan
Marlene Durholz	Dorothy Poniatowski
Lorraine Faris	Susan Reinhart
Ann Georgiou	Kim Riley
Nan Peterson Henry	John Smith
Sandra Hollingsworth	Jo-Ann Thrash
Elaine Hubbard	Patricia Watkins

Not Too Late!

Forget to renew your membership? Both AARSPA and MRSPA memberships are still available, so locate that renewal form and send in your dues. Can't find that form, go to the AARSPA website to find the information you need. Need assistance? Just contact me, Leslie Schell, at lahschell@verizon.net.

Directory Update

Fall 2021 Directory will be available at the November General Business Meeting and Luncheon on November 11, 2021, at Renditions Golf Course. We are requesting that members sign for their directory for distribution purposes. Thus far, 64 directories have been distributed to our membership.

Help Us to Assist Our Members

If you know someone who states they are not receiving the *AARSPA Informer* through their email, ask them to check their SPAM mail. Look for AARSPA in the address line. We routinely check with Constant Contact to review emails that are not opened. Likewise, if the member states the *AARSPA Informer* is not coming by postal delivery, ask if there has been a change of address and ask them to contact me or offer them a change of information form from your newsletter. We want all our members to be included in all our great information.

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

-L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

Made a Change? Let Us Know!

Has any of your AARSPA information changed...**address, email, home phone, cell phone?** If so, please complete the form below and submit to Membership Chair **Leslie Schell, 706 Rosewood Road, Severn, Maryland 21144** or lahschell@verizon.net. In the subject line, please indicate "AARSPA Update" and please include your full name.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Please indicate your primary phone number



Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
 2644 Riva Road
 Annapolis, MD 21401



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 _____ 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 checks to:

Matilda Barckley
 8238 Great Bend Road
 Glen Burnie, MD 21061

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:

Matilda Barckley barckleya@comcast.net 410-768-3408