



TALBOT COUNTY SCHOOL PERSONNEL RETIRED ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

President's Message

September and the beginning of the school year certainly take on new meaning for us as retirees. Our schedules are less structured for the most part, but our calendars are so full that we wonder when we had time to work! That definitely applies to the TCRSPA Board, and especially the officers and chairpersons. Dotty Olds, V.P., Jan McCrea, Treasurer, Eileen Kuehn, Secretary, Mary Reeser and Chick Harrison, Social Committee, and I found a day that we could meet this June to set the calendar for the year, audit the books, and prepare the budget for presentation to the association. As you will see in this newsletter, we are off to a great and busy start!

We are excited about the new energy we have on the Board starting with Peggy Ford taking over as Membership Chair. She has been working hard to recruit new members and would love for you to help increase our numbers. Have a retired friend who hasn't joined? Give them or Peggy a call and encourage them to come to our October luncheon. Another exciting



change is that Debbie Chance graciously accepted the position of District III Rep, filling in the position that Dorothy Palmer held for six years. With Debbie's new responsibilities, her position as BOE Liason now needs to be filled. Let me know if you are interested.

Please join us at the October 20 luncheon at Chesapeake College. It's a great time to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, and enjoy a great lunch! I'm looking forward to seeing you there as we kick-off our 2015-16 TCRSPA year!

Joyce Schriver, President

Dorothy Palmer is being honored for her longtime service to TCRSPA as our District Representative. Pictured with her below are Vice President Dotty Olds and President Joyce Schriver. Mary Reeser is presenting her with a gift of appreciation at our June 4th luncheon.



Summer Luncheon in June at Chesapeake Landing



Rae Ellen Horner (left) is receiving our annual Book Award donation from Pat Clark for new book purchases for the EES Moton Library.

Martha Greene Scholarship Winners

Crystal and Diamond Lewis attended the YMCA Camp this summer as recipients of our TCRSPA scholarships. They are pictured below with Middle School Assistant Principal Jackie Spiker and Guidance Counselor Beth Hall.



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Flu Shot Information

The Health Department has told us that the flu shot vaccine will not be available until December. We will let you know when we have more information. You can call the Talbot County Health Department, your family physician or Chic Harrison (410-822-1209) with questions.

Thanks, Pat Clark

Life After Retirement: Ellen Wile

submitted by Dee Rein

Ellen Wile has happily joined the ranks of retired teachers but maintains an active life in her church and community. After graduating from Elizabethtown College in 1984, Ellen's career as a Talbot County music educator allowed her to savor the voices of children singing. She especially remembers how excited her students were learning about singing, musical instruments and playing rhythms. Fond memories include concert culminations of musical preparation along with students achieving All State and All Shore Chorus. With Greg Cooney, Chris Noyes, Bill Thomas and others she enjoyed creating musicals that were well received by the community. Teaching at all grade levels over the years, Ellen treasured sharing her favorite topic, music.

More recently Ellen's talents have been manifest in The Tidewater Singers, where she sings alto, and in her role as choir director of the Easton Church of the Brethren. With family origins among the Quakers, Amish and Brethren, Ellen is also active in the church's Annual Conference Standing Committee, the decision-making body for the denomination. Now that she's retired, she can attend that meeting in Chicago in January, continuing her family's heritage. She notes a meeting in Tampa, Florida would be even nicer!

Adventure is a theme that runs through Ellen's retirement reading and activities. Adventure writer Clive Cussler is a favorite author. Currently Ellen is working to bring opera and operettas to area students from middle school through college and works with the Youth Reach program of Chesapeake Chamber Music to help Talbot and Dorchester schools develop their First Strings programs. Her musical adventures continue to benefit all of us.

Retirement has its challenges, such as health care and long term care planning. Having lost her mother recently to Alzheimer's disease, Ellen takes planning seriously. Planning is her greatest advice to future retirees. "Get you ducks in a row!" she advises. "Have savings and a financial plan." Ellen also has an adventure plan, spending time on church music and volunteering in a District of Columbia soup kitchen on weekdays with fellow parishioners now that she's free of classroom schedules. "Time goes just so fast," she says, "so plan other things to do."

Ellen concluded our interview with how thankful she is for a great career and now retirement. She also asked that her appreciation for cards and support she received from Talbot County Retired Teachers following her mother's death be expressed to all our members. Ellen Wile shares her love of music with us, and we are happy to offer our support to her.





Sunshine Committee

submitted by

Jan Middleton, Brenda Davidson

Did you know blue jays love peanuts?

This past summer my husband and I enjoyed sitting on our screened-in porch watching birds. A blue jay perched on our stand next to the covered grill chirping for peanuts. I went out and placed a line of peanuts on the grill. With me standing right there the blue jay landed on the grill, looked me, took one, and flew off. My husband held one in his hand while the blue jay came and retrieved it. One day even a titmouse came to get one. It was bigger than he was.

Since our last Newsletter:

Thinking of you cards were sent to Mary Bell Callahan, Thelma Clash and Pat Mavity.
Get well cards were sent to Eileen Kuehn, Larry Kratzenberg and Joann Murray.
Sympathy cards were sent to Ellen Wile and the family of Don Marvel.

Spring notes were sent to Jane Barton, Helen Detbarn, Elizabeth Dobson, Kathleen Francis, Mary Jarrell, Pat Mavity, Ella Morton, Cynthia Ramsey, Peggy Mundt, Beverly Brash, Jan Middleton, and Doris Valliant.

Don't dwell on what you can't do, dwell on what you can.
Jan Middleton

If you know of anyone who needs a "ray of sunshine," please let Brenda Davidson know at [[bdavidson@go Easton.net](mailto:bdavidson@goEaston.net)]

HAVE A GREAT YEAR ~

**Luncheons for
2015 - 2016**

Tuesday, October 20
Chesapeake College

Tuesday, December 1
Bay Leigh Chase
(William Hill)

Tuesday, March 15
Chef Cooking Class @
EHS

Thursday, June 2
Chesapeake Landing

For our **Fall Luncheon**, call or mail reservations/check by October 14 to:

Mary Reeser 358 St. Aubins Terrace Easton, MD 21601	Chic Harrison 29300 Will Street Easton, MD 21601
Tel: 410 822 4410	Tel: 410 822 1209

Cost: \$15.00

Reservation Form for Guided Tour

Yes, I will be joining the tour of the new Health Professions and Athletic Center. (HPAC)

No, I will not be joining the tour.

Name _____

TCRSPA Fall Luncheon

Date: Tuesday, October 20. 2105

Place: Higher Education Center, Chesapeake College

Time:

11:30 Check In and Welcome, Debbie Urry, Executive Director, Eastern Shore Higher Education Center

11:45 Short Business Meeting, Joyce Shriver
Budget Presentation/2015-16, Jan McCrea
Performing Arts Gift Presentation, Liz Wilderson
Martha Greene Summer Scholarship, Eileen Kuehn

12:15 Soup and Salad Bar Luncheon **\$15.00**

1:10 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

1:15 Program: Crystel Farina, Nursing Instructor, will talk about the new Health Professions and Athletic Center.

1:30 Guided Tour of the new building (You may drive or walk over.) PLEASE let us know if you will take the tour. We will see state-of-the-art human simulators that breathe, cry, sweat, give birth, have seizures, etc. that can be used in a hospital setting.

Also, we will visit new classrooms and athletic facilities.

Menu: NO selection needed, all will be offered.

- Maryland Vegetable Crab Soup
- Chicken and Rice Soup (gluten free)
- Chef Salad with ham, turkey, eggs, cheese, tomato, shredded carrots, greens and assorted dressings
- Rolls and Butter
- Assorted Pies for Dessert
- Coffee, Hot Tea, Iced Tea, and Water

Let us know if you need a ride! Car Poolers will meet at the Easton Fire House at 10:45 a.m.

Directions: Enter Chesapeake College by the main entrance off of Rt. 213. At the stop sign turn right and follow the large circle which goes around the campus. The Eastern Shore Higher Learning Center is the first building on your right and sits outside the circle, facing Rt. 50. Feel free to park in Lot D or wherever you see a parking space. There is handicapped parking in front of the building in the little circle. The main doors to the Center are near the handicapped parking. Come into the lobby and turn left. The main doors to HEC 110 are just off of the lobby by the seating area near the large windows.

Membership Report

Peggy Ford will be taking over the responsibility of Membership Chairman. She will be the person to contact for membership questions. She is anxious to step up to this position and will do a great job for our organization. I have known Peggy for many years and I'm so pleased that she has joined our retired personnel association. She is a busy lady and involved in our community in many ways. They say always ask a busy person to do a job. They are the folks that will get the job done, and done well. **Dotty Olds**

Currently we have 134 members.

Welcome to our newest members: Phylis Pope, Laura Jenkins, Hope Murphy, Midge Kroll, Debbi Baynard, Terry Callahan, Chris Noyes, Bonnie Wager, Susan Lester, Sandy Butler.

Our emeritus members: Jane Barton, Helen Dettbarn, Elizabeth Dobson, Kathleen Francis, Mary Jarrell, Patricia Mavity, Ella Morton, Cynthia Ramsey.

Note from Jan McCrea

Please send in your **annual dues** if you have not already done so. All newsletters are being sent out through the regular mail this time. So that we can send as many as possible via email in the future (less costly to us), **please send your current email address, if it has changed, to me at:**

jmccrea7678@gmail.com

Also please let me know of any changes in phone #s or addresses.

Executive Board Meeting Dates

Sept. 14, 2015

Nov. 2, 2015

Feb. 1, 2016

April 18, 2016

TCEC @ 9:30 a.m.

All TCRSPA members are invited to attend.

Consumer Education

Submitted by Doris Valliant

Handling a Deer in Your Headlights

October through December is peak time for deer activity on and off the road, and nearly half of deer collisions happen during these months. Here are some tips to stay safe on the road or what to do if a deer suddenly appears in your headlights. (1) Heed the warnings from “Deer Crossing” signs. These indicate a high deer traffic area, and often when you see one deer, there are likely many others. (2) Obey speed limits and scan the sides of the road in these areas. (3) Ninety percent of deer collisions occur at dusk and dawn, so be particularly alert during these hours. (4) If a deer suddenly pops up in front of you, never swerve, but brake appropriately. Also, be aware of the traffic behind you, since slamming on your brakes to avoid hitting a deer could cause the car behind to hit you. (5) If you spot a deer, flash your headlights and honk the horn in short bursts, which helps to scare deer away. (6) If you can’t avoid hitting the animal, hit the animal head on, which ultimately causes less damage than hitting another vehicle or a fixed object like a tree or road sign. (7) If you collide with a deer, contact local police. Don’t keep driving; instead, pull over safely and assess the scene to see if the deer is wounded, but do not approach the deer. (8) After you’ve called the police, take pictures with your cell phone and wait safely inside your car until they arrive.

Another Scam

From October 15 through December 7, it’s Medicare open enrollment, and it’s another opportunity for scammers. Pretending to be employees from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), they call you, claiming that new cards are being issued. To get your new card, you need to verify sensitive information, which is likely your Medicare number, that’s also your Social Security number. Just like all those other phony calls from thieves pretending to represent government agencies, this one is another ploy to get your personal and financial information. However, government agencies send official letters not make phone calls, and often these letters come Certified Mail. If you are worried, call the police and report the incident. You could even call Medicare or whatever government agency the thieves claim to represent and speak to a real agency representative, who will never ask for personal information over the phone.

A Hidden Danger

Paper towels cause a surprising number of kitchen fires. Recycled paper towels may have minute metal flecks that ignite in the microwave, so keep these recycled towels far from ovens and toasters, and don’t use them in your microwave.

Avoid Fare Hikes

Ever notice that when you check a flight price online but don’t book, a return visit to the website can show a higher fare for the same flight? Probably it’s those consumer-tracking “cookies” at work, alerting the website you are eager to buy at a higher price. To snag the original lower price, use a different browser for the second visit.

MRSPA ANNOUNCES A MEMBER BENEFIT - ABENITY

WHAT IS ABENITY? an online discount program offering over 100,000 discounts from hundreds of local and national vendors.

Members can explore categories including restaurants, movie theaters, motels, national attractions and theme parks, in addition to shopping discounts in your local area.

TO ACCESS ABENITY: MRSPA members go to www.mrspa.org and follow the directions under the “member access” section to login.

You may then click on **ABENITY** in the Members Only section of the website.

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Community Service Committee

Many thanks to all who donated supplies for the Summer Program at the Neighborhood Service Center. The items were delivered and were very much appreciated.

At our our next luncheon we will be collecting items for CarePacks of Talbot County. They are in need of the following items: oatmeal packets, filled crackers, applesauce cups, cereal or granola bars, toaster pastries, fruit cups, small packages of pretzels, peanuts, or trail mix, and single servings of cereal, canned pasta, soup, or tuna.

Thanks,
Bennie Milton 410-476-3734 Elois Brown 410-476-3574

TCRSPA

c/o Joyce Schriver

28427 Oaklands Road

Easton, MD 21601