

TALBOT COUNTY RETIRED



SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

Presidents' Message

Welcome, (almost) Summer! We certainly have had plenty of rain, hopefully enough to have a sufficient water table for summer crops, but not so much that the fields get too muddy to plant. We recently celebrated Earth Day (April 22), which started 49 years ago in 1970. Hard to believe it's been that long! I imagine many of us remember the first one.

The latest Executive Meeting addressed many topics, including TCRSPA's strategic membership plan (which will be shared at the June luncheon) and annual scholarships and awards. Of course, one of the most popular items was the upcoming summer luncheon on June 6 to be held at Chesapeake Landing restaurant below St. Michaels. This is the luncheon where we each order and pay separately with the Social Committee providing dessert and TCRSPA paying for everyone's tip. Speaking of luncheons, the March 26 luncheon held at Easton High was again a member favorite, with all seats spoken for.

Soon we will have some new retirees joining us, but what about those who have retired in past years but not joined? Please, if you know someone who is not yet a member, ask them to join. If you will get in touch with Peggy Ford (pjford@goeaston.net), she can

provide membership information and materials.

Retired school personnel may have materials that they no longer want or will use. Instead of storing these in a spare room or garage, please consider donating them to the School Supply Resource Center being created at TCPS and co-sponsored by TCRSPA and TCPS. You can contact Terry (tacall@goeaston.net) for more information.

We hope to see you at the next luncheon and also at Panera for the "Not Back to School" breakfast in late summer.

Have a great and sunshine-filled summer,

Debbie and Terry

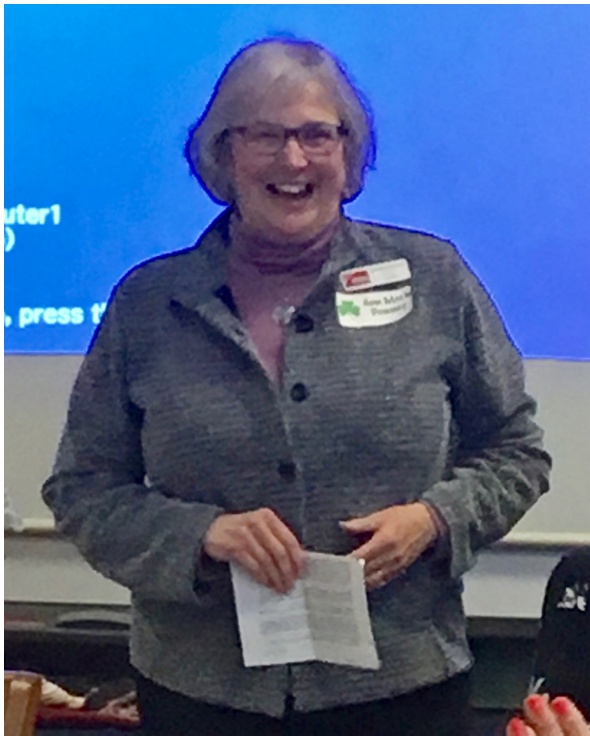


March 26 Luncheon at Easton High School



Above - Emeritus members
Peg Mundt, Cynthia Ramsey and Jane Barton





Guest speakers were Ann Marie Downey, President, MRSPA (left) and Renee Warfield, TCPS Teacher of the Year for 2018-2019.

Once again we enjoyed a delicious and gracious dining experience at our annual spring luncheon at Easton High. Culinary Arts teachers Linda Brown and Jody Candel guided their students through preparing luncheon offerings including chicken salad or Reubens, salad choices of greens and fresh fruits, and mouth-watering desserts including double-chocolate mousse. The students also shared their levels in the Culinary Arts program, college intentions, and their future goals. They are a remarkable group with aspirations to furthering their post-graduation studies in many areas, from culinary arts to teaching to marine biology, to name a few. **We also heard from guests Renee Warfield, the 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year and Ann Marie Downey, the President of MRSPA.** Renee showed slides and told of her experiences, while Ann Marie spoke on legislative issues relevant statewide or to MRSPA in particular. We also got a nice note from Ann Marie, saying that the atmosphere was one of fun and camaraderie and thanking us for the warm welcome and hearing about all that we do.

TCRSPA Summer Luncheon on Thursday, June 6, 2019

Place: **Chesapeake Landing Restaurant**, 23713 St. Michaels Rd., St. Michaels

Time: 11:30 am. Carpooling from EVFD parking lot, leaving at 11:00 am

Menu: Each person will order from the restaurant lunch menu and receive a separate check. **TCRSPA will pick up the tip for the entire party.**

You only pay your food bill and tax.

Dessert will be provided by the Social Committee: Mary and Pat.
(Chic will be on a well deserved vacation.)

Program: Presentation of Memorial Book Award and Community Organization Award

Reservations: Please call Chic at 410-822-1209 or Pat at 443-786-8617 to confirm your attendance and need to carpool no later than Tuesday, May 28.

Please just leave us a message, if we do not answer when you call.

Chesapeake Landing Lunch Menu

SOUP~Cup \$5, Bowl \$7 (Cream of Crab, NE Clam Chowder, MD Crab Vegetable)

SALAD~Garden \$5, Spinach \$5, Caesar \$5, Chef \$8 (Add Ons available for additional cost)

PLATTERS~served with choice of potato salad, cole slaw, fries, or onion rings
Shrimp Salad \$10, Crab Salad \$13, Fried Shrimp \$10, Scallops \$12, Fish \$11, Crab Cake \$13, Chicken Tenders \$7, Soft Crab \$10, Chicken Salad \$8

SANDWICHES~served with choice of bread and chips
Crab Cake \$12, Crab Melt \$13, Soft Crab \$10, Fish \$10, Grilled Tuna \$9, Shrimp Salad \$9, Club \$7, Tuna Salad \$7, Chicken Salad \$7, Turkey \$7, Roast Beef \$8, Hamburger \$7, Cheeseburger \$8, Reuben \$7, Chicken Breast \$8, BLT \$6, Cheesesteak \$7, French Dip \$8

WRAPS~choice of wheat, sun dried tomato or old bay with chips
Chicken \$8, Shrimp Salad \$9, Turkey, Bacon & Ranch \$7, Tuna or Chicken Salad \$6, Fish Tacos \$8

There will be a 50/50 Raffle available, and donations for the Teacher Academy Scholarship Fund will be accepted.

Life after Retirement: Midge Kroll

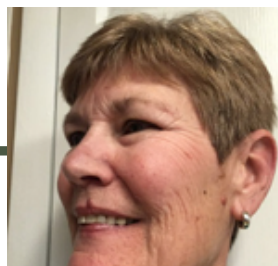
submitted by Dee Rein

Midge Kroll has been guided throughout her life by family responsibilities and joys. We are fortunate to have had her secretarial services in the Talbot County Public Schools. Having provided daycare for Terry Callahan's young child, she contemplated her options when it was time for her younger son to start school. A stint at the preschool in Trappe provided fun employment teaching three year olds. Ruth Neidert, then secretary at White Marsh Elementary School, praised how conveniently working in the schools fit with caring for her own growing children. Midge applied and joined us at Easton High School as one of the school secretaries. Her career in the schools fit well with her two sons' school schedules.

Remembering her times at Easton High, Midge favored the memory of nervous freshmen entering high school for the first time, eventually growing into composed, confident seniors ready to face the next steps in their lives. In a way, her later move to working in the personnel office had the same perspective on personal growth as she watched first-year teachers arrive, struggle through first-year challenges and blossom into competent contributors to our schools. She noted that the personnel office afforded her bigger responsibilities and, as someone told her, the chance to make bigger mistakes! Throughout these days Midge was always ready to help with a smile and a kind word.

Retirement has brought new joys. Midge volunteers with St. Vincent DePaul two or three times a week, helping with the food pantry and thrift center. She also helps on "doctor days" at the cancer center, noting how patients praise the staff there. Her book club keeps her reading and thinking. Travel within the United States and elsewhere widens her horizons. In the winter Midge spends two weeks in Florida with one of her brothers. Seven family members made the trek to Ireland together, and she and her friend, Joan Payne, made the long land and sea trip to Alaska. With four sisters and four brothers, Midge always had family get togethers to enjoy. The women in the family: sisters, brothers' wives and nieces as they become adults enjoy meeting for dinners and other connections. Best of all, she has time to fly to San Diego to see her son Brad and his two year old son. Closer to home, Matt and his three children, ages 11, 10 and 5, spend time with her. She comments that, "They like to come and spend one-on-one time with Grammy!" Facetime is a boon for staying connected with those at a distance too. Family is the joyous touchstone of Midge's life.

"Move it or lose it!" is Midge Kroll's motto. She walks, exercises and is considering joining a yoga class at the Senior Center. Her retirement is a celebration of the opportunities to travel, read, and spend time with family and grandchildren. That's true joy!



Earth Day

by Terry Callahan

Earth Day has been commemorated in different ways over the years, some more dramatic than others. For example, when I was at Salisbury State College (now SU), a group of students chose to commemorate Earth Day by carrying a wooden casket to “bury” the Wicomico River due to its pollution issues. More often now it is recognized by tree give-aways, a more practical solution to enhance the environment. Though Earth Day was created in our lifetimes, how many of us remember much about its origins? The following is taken (and edited) from “History of Earth Day” at earthday.org.

“At the time, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. Although mainstream America largely remained oblivious to environmental concerns, the stage had been set for change by the publication of Rachel Carson’s New York Times bestseller Silent Spring in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries, and beginning to raise public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and links between pollution and public health. Earth Day 1970 gave voice to that emerging consciousness, channeling the energy of the anti-war protest movement and putting environmental concerns on the front page.”

Forty-nine years later, that consciousness is still raised and Earth Day lives on.

NOTES

Updating —

Please contact Jan McCrea (jmccrea7678@gmail.com) if you need to update your contact information, especially email. You can also contact her if you are not now getting a paper copy of the newsletter and would like one.

Membership —

We got a nice note from MRSPA congratulating us on our increase in membership. Thank you to Peggy Ford, membership chairperson, and all of you who talk to your former colleagues about joining. If they sign up for MRSPA dues deduction and you sign their membership form, you will both receive \$10 Wal-Mart gift cards. For more information, contact Peggy (see Presidents' Letter for her email).

Luncheon Award —

We will be presenting the Memorial Book Award to a representative from Tilghman Elementary School for its library. A bookplate with the names of those being remembered (Mary Bell Callahan, Thelma Clash) will be placed in each book.

Community Service Committee

Many thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Talbot Interfaith Shelter. Our donations were greatly appreciated.

At our next luncheon, we will be collecting for the Talbot Senior Center. They are in need of the following items: Manilla File folders, Duracell "AA" batteries, White Out, Scotch tape, legal note pads, paper clips, blank white mailing envelopes, facial tissues, 6 x 9 zip lock bags, and Lysol wipes. If you have questions please call.

Bennie Milton 410-476-3734

Doris Roach 410-822-3563

Finishing Up the TCRSPA Year

by Terry Callahan

We may not be employed in the schools anymore, but we may still move to the beat of the school year. After several years of retirement I sometimes find myself thinking in terms of school holidays (Spring Break - five days off!) before I catch myself.

Since 2008 TCRSPA has sponsored a summer scholarship in memory of TCPS teacher Martha Greene. She was a mentor to many children, beginning her 44-year career in a one-room segregated school house in Unionville. The process for selecting our 2019 summer scholarship recipients is underway at EMS. (The middle schools alternate each year.) Several sixth-grade students are chosen by their respective guidance counselor based on character and need. This year three students will be able to attend summer enrichment experiences based on each one's interests. Last year, one student attended a cupcake program and informed us that her cupcake had won a competition!

In May one student from the Teacher Academy (includes students from both SMMHS and EHS) will learn at the school awards assembly that he or she has received the TCRSPA Teacher Academy book scholarship to help with college expenses.

At the June luncheon we present several awards. Each year TCRSPA presents its memorial book scholarship to a school library. Tilghman Elementary School is this year's recipient. Our Community Organization Award goes to CASA this year. We chose to recognize an organization that works to address the opioid epidemic and its affect on children. CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers assist children who are in the legal system through no fault of their own, including being in situations in which opioids negatively affect the family's dynamics.

Finally, thanks to the Social Committee, Mary Reeser, Chic Harrison and Pat Chapman, who work hard to make our general membership social events become special times.

MEMBERSHIP

Strength in numbers! Reach out to invite others to join MRSPA and our local TCRSPA.

Contact Peggy at 410-725-1101 with your referrals.

Upcoming Opportunities

CarePacks on Thursday, 5/9/19 for a 9 o'clock counting or a noon packing located at the old Black and Decker building door #9.

FREE concert at the Brookletts Place Senior Center at 12:15 on Tuesday, May 7 with our own Chris Noyes performing.

Questions or need more information? Contact Peggy 410-725-1101 or pjford@goeaston.net

Summer 2019 CONSUMER EDUCATION

Submitted by Doris Valliant

Some New Scams—They Seem To Never End!

The MRSPA Consumer Education Committee recently met with the Maryland Attorney General's office, and there they learned about several new scams. One of them involves phony letters demanding payment for back taxes that appear to be from the IRS. *The MRSPA Committee suggests that if you receive a letter claiming to be from the IRS, always verify its legitimacy by contacting the IRS using a verified, trusted IRS number. Do NOT depend on the number provided on the letter.*

In another scam, callers pretend to be IRS agents who reviewed your old tax returns and discovered that you are owed a refund. However, they need to verify your Social Security Number (SSN) and other personal data before they process your "refund" check. *Remember—the IRS doesn't call you; they would send you an official letter, so don't fall for this attempt to steal your vital personal information.*

To contact the IRS, go online to irs.gov and scroll down to the bottom of the screen and then click on Contact Your Local Office. You'll find a link to the nearest local offices with addresses and phone numbers.

Here are some resource numbers to report IRS and other scams.

US Treasury Department 1-800-366-4484

Federal Trade Commission 1-877-FTC-HELP

To report scams or find out if something could be a scam call Maryland Attorney General's Consumer Hotline 410-528-8662 or toll-free 1-888-743-0023.

Earth Day, April 22

Celebrate Earth Day and help Planet Earth. (1) Plant a tree or some flowers in your yard. Trees and flowers enhance the beauty of your yard, but more importantly, they help clean the air. (2) Support a local organic farmer or CSA. The food is nutritious and delicious, and organically grown food uses less of our non-renewable resources. (3) Stop using pesticides on your lawn. There are safe alternatives that create a better environment. (4) Be mindful of how you use water. Two hundred gallons of wasted water a day can come from a leaky toilet and substantially increase your water bill. (5) Drink tap water. It's perfectly safe and eliminates so many plastic bottles. In fact, only 23% of plastic bottles are recycled. (6) Finally, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Be aware of the amount of trash you create and try to cut down on items that can't be recycled. Use less paper products and think of other ways that you can be more mindful of your footprint on Planet Earth.

National Take Back Day

Do you have unused and/or unwanted medications in your home? April 27th from 10 AM to 2 PM is National Take Back Day. You can celebrate it and help end opioid addiction by removing any unused or expired prescription drugs in a safe, convenient and reasonable way. The last National Take Back Day brought in more than 900,000 pounds of unused or expired prescription medications, bringing the total amount of prescription drugs collected since 2010 to 10,878,950 pounds. The Maryland State Police Easton Barracks is our collection site that takes unwanted and unused prescription drugs year-round, including on National Take Back Day.


Sunshine Committee

submitted by
Brenda Davidson

Sending Sunshine  and warm weather to all of you!

In February we sent “Thinking of You” cards to Judy Kohn and Thurman Bryan. For March we sent “Thinking of You” cards to Jennifer Wheeler and Dotty Olds. We also sent a beautiful flower arrangement to Emeritus member Pat Mavity celebrating her 100th birthday. A Sympathy card was sent to member Lee Weller on the death of his wife, Kista. After our delicious luncheon at Easton High School, we sent a Thank You note to Linda Brown and her students in the Chef Cook classes. For Easter we are sending cards to our Emeritus members Jane Barton, Kathleen Francis, Mary Jarrell, Pat Mavity, Ella Morton, Peggy Mundt, Cynthia Ramsey, Wanda Whedbee and to our Shut-In members Beverly Brash, Joanne Murray, and Connie Rathell. We also remembered member Chris Noyes with a Sympathy card in the loss of her Mother. We did try to send a Note of Sympathy to the family of member Thelma Clash, but the card was returned for an incorrect address. If anyone has a good address for Mrs. Clash, please let me know.

Congratulations cards were sent to **Mr. Kevin Carroll for
Talbot County Teacher of the Year**
and to **Mrs. Sindy Reyes for
Talbot County Support Person of the Year.**

Please remember to contact me at anytime to send a card or note to let our members know we're always thinking of them !

Brenda
bdavidson@goeaston.net
410-310-9051

TCRSPA

c/o Terry Callahan

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