

TALBOT COUNTY RETIRED



SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

President's Message:

Dear members,

As primary school teachers, our lessons and teaching often used the seasons and class room calendars as a focal point. Little children learned the passing of the seasons, reading the thermometer and the weather maps by color in the newspaper. Also, number recognition, counting forward, backwards, by 2's, by 5's by 10's. It was an excellent place to teach math. We begin to learn the days of the week, the months of the year, holidays and birthdays - the list goes on and on.

Now as I look back with many fond memories, I am still, as we all are, watching the seasons change. Spring has arrived in Maryland. Daffodils are blooming and Lowe's garden center is full of pansies and forsythia bushes to plant in our gardens. Weather changes day-by-day: sunny, rainy, cloudy, chilly and yes, snow too. Typical for Maryland!

Our Talbot County Retired Personnel Association has been a busy group the last days of winter in planning for our springtime events. As most of you may remember, our association has a wonderful evening for folks who are still employed by Talbot County Schools. Lynda Brown's students prepared a lovely meal, and a representative from the state came to give important information to our guests. Eunice Roberts was also attending to help with questions about Health Care .

I attended a Presidents' meeting in Odenton and learned about plans for next year's EVENT. ("Convention" is a dated idea and has been eliminated from our agenda.) Again, time moves on and changes happen. Poor attendance and lack of interest cancelled the CONVENTION concept.

Our Executive Board is planning to send a group of delegates to the state meeting on the 14th of May. We will elect new officers and learn about our pensions and Annapolis decisions. Check that on my calendar.

Now, make a note on your busy calendars to come to our next luncheon, being held in early June. Chesapeake Landing is a wonderful restaurant and it should be a lovely afternoon. This newsletter will give you details for your calendar.

We are learning about new community services to give to and help. Care Packs in Talbot County received a \$200.00 contribution from our organization! Our senior center is trying to begin a wonderful service. This is a service that is volunteer based and offers, free of charge, transportation to the elderly. This service can carry a person to doctors, hairdresser appointments, the grocery stores, etc. You get the idea. More about this initiative will come later. If in need, call the Senior Center on Brooklets Avenue and they can give you details.

Our calendars are full as you can see from this letter. The days of the week fly by and time changes our lives. I know you know this, but summertime is just around the corner, with some wonderful seafood waiting for us to enjoy and vacations to plan, and I hope; FUN to enjoy OUR TIME as retirees.



Dotty Olds, President

Joyce Battle, Sheila Scott, Dee Rein, and Sandy Wood enjoy our Spring Luncheon at the EHS Cook Class.



**Last Luncheon
Coming Up for
2012 - 2013**

**Thursday, June 6th
Chesapeake Landing**



TCRSPA Luncheon

June 6, 2013

Place: Chesapeake Landing Restaurant on St. Michaels Road. If you would like to carpool to the restaurant, please let us know when you RSVP. We will be meeting at the Easton Fire House on Creamery Lane at 10:45 a.m.

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Entrées:

Choose one of the three \$15.00 choices:

Two pieces of Fried Chicken, one dark and one light

Broiled Flounder

Fried Soft Crab

OR

Choose one at the cost of \$18.00:

Broiled Backfin Crab Cake

Each platter will be served with coleslaw, potato salad and rolls.

Dessert will be Chocolate Cherry Cake with Whipped Cream.

Beverages will be Coffee, Tea, or Sodas.

Please call or mail reservations by May 31, 2013

to:

Mary E. Reeser # 410 822 4410

358 St. Aubins Terrace

Easton, MD 21601

Chic Harrison # 410 822 1209

29300 Will Street

Easton, MD 21601

Remember:

If you won a door prize last time, refill the bag and bring it to the luncheon.

There will also be a 50/50 with half going to the Martha Green Summer Scholarship Program.

Telephone Tree: Please call your members and remind them to make their reservations by May 31, 2013 for the luncheon that is to be held at Chesapeake Landing on June 6, 2013.

Life After Retirement: Mary Jarrell

submitted by Chic Harrison

“Retirement for me has been a time for school, colleges and universities. First, I volunteered to devote one day a week at Cordova School with Florence Wilson in the library. My husband and I encouraged our children and their children to value education. As they attended various colleges, I was able to visit many cities and amazing places.

Our first son is a well respected Doctor of Internal Medicine. In February he was part of “Project We Care” in the Philippines. He took me to London, Oxford, and Cardiff, Wales. We also went to his son’s commencement in Colorado Springs and sat in the shadow of Pikes Peak. The next day we drove to the top!

My second son is presently Vice President of the University of Maryland Medical School. He is a surgeon during the week and an accomplished blacksmith on weekends. A memorable trip with him was to the Grand Canyon and Sedona, when he was chief of surgery at the University of Arizona.

My third son is an attorney, who enjoys researching old records, genealogy, and writing books about the family. A memorable trip with him was to Tucson, AZ, where I was thrilled to view the Sonoran Desert, the Desert Museum, and Sabino Canyon.

My daughter is a medical technologist who taught several years at the U of MD Medical School. She owns a woodworking shop where she and guest teachers instruct about period furniture and Pennsylvania Dutch designs. She has driven me to Owego, NY and Ocean City, MD for rug hooking classes.

There are two organizations I regularly attended. The Bayside Quilters had very inspiring speakers, teachers, and trunk and quilt shows. The second group was the Embroiderers’ Guild, where I learned about stump work, hardanger, Brazilian and crewel embroidery, and smocking. For many Aprils, I attended the rug hooking school in Ocean City, and several Junes I drove to Chautauqua, NY, for classes as well. Last August, I received “Best in Show” at the Delaware State Fair for my grizzly bear rug. Each day now, I plan some time for quilting, reading, rug hooking, enjoying my family, preparing for my next scheduled crewel classes, and being thankful for my blessings.”

“What a Great Life!”

Chic Harrison

How Children Perceive Their Grandparents

1. She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eyes of her young granddaughter, as she'd done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!"
2. My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 62. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"
3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"
4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"
5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.
6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."
7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"
8. When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."
9. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."
10. A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting," she said. "How do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."



Judy Kohn, Jan Middleton, and Mary Reeser at the Executive Board Meeting

Members!! Wanted New Members!!

I am asking that each of you reach out to folks that you may know and see in our community that can be members of TCRSPA. We have 119 members and would love to welcome some new members. June is almost here and TCRSPA sends welcoming letters to newly retired personnel as well as reminders to our local members only. Think about helping us and say a good word for our retired personnel association. Dotty

ABENITY ?????

Have you used this service ? Do you know about this benefit?

Abenity is an online discount program offering many discounts from local and national vendors. Members can explore categories in your local area. RESTAURANTS, MOVIES, THEME PARKS, CAR RENTALS

To access Abenity – MRSPA members go to www.mrspa.org and follow the directions under the member access section to login.

Then, click on Abenity in the members only section of the website.

This service has been mentioned in our newsletter before. We hope you have had an opportunity to explore the site.

Consumer Education

Submitted by Joyce Schriver

I. Buying a new or used car can be a risky impulse purchase, according to the AARP magazine. They suggest that you be prepared when buying a car by following these simple procedures:

1. **Do your research.** Know what the car is worth before you test- drive. (See below.)
2. **Don't buy their timeline.** Do not believe the salesperson if they tell you that the price is only good for today.
3. **Create some competition.** Get quotes from nearby dealers for the same type of vehicle.
4. **Find you own loan.** Credit unions can often beat dealer originated deals. Get the financing first, so you can focus on features and price without being distracted by so-called "deals".

MUST-SEE SITES FOR CAR BUYERS

1. Kelly Blue Book (kbb.com) and Edmunds (Edmunds.com) for price estimates.
2. Used car history reports at Carfax.com or Autocheck.com.
3. Loan rates and payment calculation at Bankrate.com and Cars Direct.com.

II. For those without dental insurance, the AARP magazine recommends:

1. AARP Dental Insurance Plan, which is exclusive to AARP members. Call 866-583-2093.
2. Clear Choice Implants can give you dental implants in one day. Call 855-564-2019 or go to www.clearchoice.com.

Community Service Committee

Many thanks to all who gave donations to CarePacs. A representative from the organization collected the items at our last luncheon. The donations were greatly appreciated.

At our next luncheon on June 6th, we will be collecting items for the Summer Program at the Neighborhood Center. They are in need of the following items: glue sticks, paint trays, permanent markers, loose leaf paper, pocket folders, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, assorted colors of glitter and tagboard, and arts and craft beads.

If you have questions, please call us.

Thanks,

Bennie Milton and Elois Brown

Bennie : 410-476-3734 Elois : 410-476-3574

TCRSPA Association Handbook

We have these handbooks ready for mailing. We have given many out at our December luncheon and recently at our March luncheon. We have discovered that the mailing of these is very costly, about \$1.30 each. Please call us if you would like us to mail yours to you and we will happily do the mailing. BUT if we do not hear from you, we will assume that you are not interested in receiving one. Call Dotty Olds 410-770-9372 or email at djolds@goeaston.net. The handbook contains members' addresses and phone numbers as well as bylaws, constitution, and names of executive board and past presidents. Call if you would like one!!

State Emeritus Membership – Age 90

If you will be 90 years of age before July 1, 2013, please contact the MRSPA Office! Once you reach 90, you are eligible for state emeritus status. You will receive your membership in the organization free of charge, and will still be able to use all the member benefits, discounted insurances, and all other programs that we offer. If you will be 90 before July 1, 2013, or you are already 90 years of age and you are still paying dues, please contact the MRSPA Office so we can make this change for next year!

Phone: 410-551-1517; Toll Free: 877-625-6782; Email: mrspa@mrspa.org

The Martha Greene Summer Scholarship

The Martha Greene Summer Scholarship program began in 2008. That spring President Mary Reeser urged us to come up with a way to honor and remember the services of our colleague Martha Greene.

Martha worked for 44 years with Talbot County Public School, beginning as a teacher of a one room segregated school house near Unionville, Maryland. Martha did so much more than teach her students. Her former students and Unionville residents regarded her as the matriarch of the village. Martha walked three and a half miles to school and back in all kinds of weather. She made oatmeal, soup, cocoa, and jello with milk for her students. Mrs. Greene also personally raised money so she could organize and finance a summer “field” trip so her students would have an enrichment activity during their vacations.

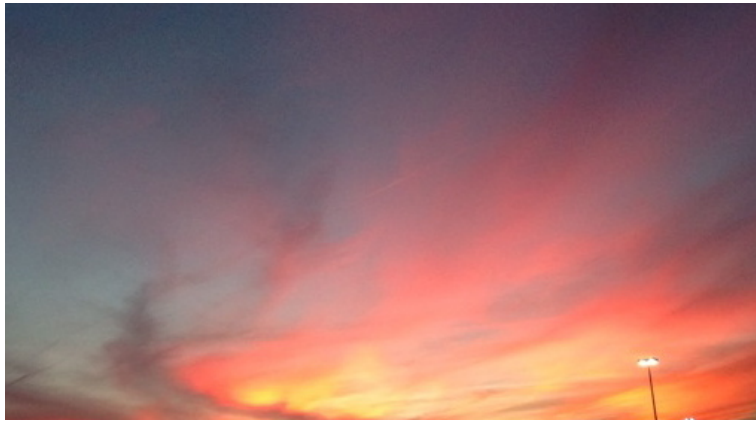
TCRSPA modeled our Martha Greene Summer Scholarship on this aspect of Martha’s dedication to her students. Since 2008 we have funded enrichment experiences for nine local middle schoolers, who would not otherwise have been able to do so.

The children have attended theatre programs, ecology camp, athletic activities at our local YMCA, sailing, pottery and other art programs. Initially we received funding through the generosity of Verizon Maryland and DC. One of Martha’s former students, president of Verizon at the time, helped make this available. In the last two years, we received funds through Debbie Urry from the Higher Education Center at Chesapeake College, and also through the donations of our own members. We hope to continue this scholarship in the years to come.

As you may know, our organization sponsors a summer scholarship for Talbot County middle schoolers. We honor our late colleague Martha Raye Greene for her dedication to our less-privileged youth.

In 2012 Alyssa Lucero, our most recent recipient, participated in a painting program at the Arts Academy. Since 2008 TCRSPA has enabled nine students from Easton and Saint Michaels middle schools to attend programs at various local facilities; i.e. Avalon theatre, the YMCA, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, Claybakers, and Pickering Creek.

Once again, this summer of 2013 we plan on awarding at least one scholarship for an enrichment program of the student’s choice. We thank all of our generous members who have donated to this cause, as well as Debbie Urry at the Higher Education Center at Chesapeake College. Last year we lost the corporate funding we had been relying on, so we are very grateful for your help!



Sunshine Committee

submitted by Jan Middleton

Spring has sprung and the beautiful days are delightful. Sunshine in itself, makes everyone feel better.

In March a thinking of you card was sent to Joanne Murray. Easter cards were sent to Lib Dobson, Roscoe Fields, Barb Nichols, Connie Rathell, Agnes Orban and Bev Brash. A get-well card was sent to Jan Middleton.

In April a get well card was sent to Audrey Woolston.

If you know of anyone who needs "a ray of sunshine," call Jan Middleton at 410-822-7280.

Advice from a Garden

Cultivate lasting friendships,
Sow seeds of kindness.
Listen to sage advice,
Don't let little things bug you.
Be outstanding in your field,
Take thyme for yourself.
No vining!

Your True Nature

TCRSPA
% Dotty Olds
7415 Tour Drive
Easton, MD 21601