

**TALBOT COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**RETIRED PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION**

The Little Red Schoolhouse

President's Message:

I was sitting in my kitchen watching The Early Show and enjoying another cup of coffee, while reading the paper and ... oh my; what did I see? A Talbot County School Bus riding through my development picking up the neighborhood children. It was the first day of school! Memories rushed through my thoughts. I loved that first day. As a teacher it was a new year, a new beginning, and back to my school where I had many dear friends and to a classroom, with new supplies, that I had decorated. I was anticipating my new students and a new year. But this is not my life any longer. "Been there. Done that." as the saying goes.

You and I, as retirees, have a different path now. What are you doing on your retirement path? Are you learning something new? Are you traveling to new places? Are you enjoying caring for a dear pet that gives you joy and unconditional love? Are you caring for grandchildren? Are you keeping up with good friends? Reading books that you never could find the time to read? Maybe you have joined the Y.M.C.A. Maybe you are working a



New President Dotty Olds with Eileen Kuehn and Mary Reeser

part time job? It is a new path; a different life.

I have been given the honor of being your president for the next two years and hopefully I will see many of you at our planned luncheons and events. Your membership in our TCPSRPA is critical to our future. Please try to find one new member to join. You gave your working life to public education. It is time to support your organization to keep us strong.

We are now on the web! Check us out at tcrspa.org .

Dotty Olds

Irish Proverb - Some Words to Think About:

Be glad of Life
Because it gives you the chance to love and work,
To play and to look up at the stars.

Sunshine Committee
submitted by Jan Middleton

Even though there was smoke from Virginia, shaking from the earthquake, and pelting rain with wind from Hurricane Irene, the Sunshine Committee had a small amount of people who needed "a ray of sunshine."

In May, a "thinking of you card" was sent to Marian Miller for her service to Hospice.

In June, a sympathy card was sent to the family of Clara Schlotzhauer.

In September, a sympathy card was sent to Patsy Bridges for the loss of her mother-in-law.

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

Advice from a Tree
Anonymous

Stand tall and proud.

Sink your roots into the earth.

Be content with your natural beauty.

Go out on a limb.

Drink plenty of water.

Remember your roots.

Enjoy the view.

In Memory of
Clara C. Schlotzhauer

Clara C. Schlotzhauer passed peacefully, Tuesday, May 31, 2011, in her home in Cordova. She was a lifelong resident of Talbot County and the Cordova area. Born on a farm near Newtown, on February 5, 1923, she was the daughter of the late Joseph Raymond and Alphonso Estella Gott Callahan.

She completed her elementary grades in the One-Room Schoolhouse at Longwoods and graduated from Cordova High School at the age of 16. She was the youngest member of her class in 1939. She married Chris Robert Schlotzhauer, Jr. on March 31, 1948, who passed away on April 16, 1974. They worked side-by-side with their children for many years on the family's dairy and grain farm. Clara was also a homemaker and a talented seamstress.

Clara's work experiences included serving as an Army Air Force Recognition Officer, teaching in Longwoods School, and working as a Grounds Observer as well as in Atkinson Dress Store in Easton. She retired from her work for Talbot County Public Schools in 1997 at age 75.

Clara was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. She served as Secretary of Cordova High School Alumni Association, and was President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of Cordova PTA.

She was an honorary member of the MD Congress of Parent and Teacher, Inc., 1964 County Queen of Hearts, a life member of the Food Service Association, a past Vice President of Talbot County Farm Bureau Women's Committee and served on the Board of Directors of Talbot Agricultural Center.

A Funeral Liturgy was held Monday, June 6, at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's in Cordova.

Remembering Connie Rathell... Life Is Good!

By Mary E. Reeser as told by
Connie Rathell

This summer Eileen Kuehn, Jennifer Wheeler and I spent an afternoon visiting with an old friend and colleague, Connie Rathell, at her historical home near Skipton, MD. We had come for the purpose of interviewing her for the first “feature teacher profile” of this year’s [Little Red School House Newsletter](#). Eileen, Jennifer and I had taught with Connie in the 1980s at Easton Middle School. All of us had so much fun laughing and remembering funny incidences that happened there, that the time just flew by with out us taking very many notes. Connie came to our rescue and later wrote down the basic history of her life. Connie, as always the perfect lady, served us tea and cookies while sharing her life memories. Just being in her beautifully restored home filled with antiques set the scene for listening to her life experiences. I had just read the book “Clara and Mr. Tiffany” so I especially appreciated seeing her original antique Tiffany lamps. The light from these lamps set the tone for a wonderful afternoon of listening about her full life AS ONLY CONNIE RATHELL CAN TELL IT . . .

“I was born September 4, 1927 in Easton, MD. I went to school at Queen Anne County Elementary . On good weather days, I enjoyed “unsupervised outside playtime”

from 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., and from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00p.m. and again at 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. recess. Otherwise we stayed in and played indoor games. Q.A. Elementary School included grades 1- 7. Tri- County High School in Queen Anne had grades 8- 11. Fall activities included outdoor games of field hockey for girls and soccer ball for the boys. In the spring girls played volley ball and boys played baseball. In inclement weather recesses ping pong, darts and dancing were popular. In the winter and early spring , we had many Friday night dances from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. with music from a juke box with songs by Benny Goodman, Harry James and Artie Shaw.

In September 1944, I entered Salisbury State Teachers College where I attended three years and two summers. I practice taught in Centreville Jr. High School where I remained for four years. There was a shortage of teachers because many young men had entered the military service due to World War II . My salary for my first year was \$2100. During this time, I earned my B.S. degree and married Charles Rathell on April 2, 1948 at the Hillsboro Queen Anne Methodist Church.

After teaching for two years in Talbot County at the Cordova Elementary School, I retired to begin my family. Charles R. Rathell III was born August 29, 1953. Jeffery Douglas Rathell was born on January 18, 1957. We purchased a house in Hillsboro where we lived until 1966 and I

taught at Denton Junior High School for seven years.

In 1966 we purchased our present home known as Buckingham Farm which was located near my husband’s business ABC Farm Equipment in Skipton. It was great fun to restore the old farm house as part of the house was originally built in the 1700s and part of it built in 1810. We added additional new rooms . This project took over a year to complete and created our interest and love of old houses and antiques. A special treat was attending House and Garden Pilgrimages.

Easton Middle School was the last teaching position I held before retiring in the early eighties. There I taught Language Arts for 7th and 8th graders. Now I look back fondly at those 28 years of teaching.

Before Charles’ death in 2009, we enjoyed traveling. Over the years we visited England, Hawaii, Mexico, France ,Spain, Switzerland, Canada, and the Caribbean Islands. But you know we both agreed that Talbot County is hard to beat.

Charles and I were married over 60 years, had two wonderful sons and daughter in laws, four grandchildren and one great grandchild. There is not a day that goes by with out seeing or hearing from my family. I was named “Sweet Thing” by my first grandchild and that remains my family name! OK go ahead and laugh, but life is good!”

NRTA Drawing to Honor Volunteers

September 1, 2011

Dear Dotty and fellow Retired
Educator Leaders,

As you know, many children nationwide are unprepared for school. With far too many families unable to afford school supplies and schools across the country facing budget cuts, children often go to school without the proper materials they need to succeed.

As part of our continuing efforts to help more students be Equipped to Learn and to celebrate the volunteer spirit of retired educators, NRTA and AARP's Create the Good team are conducting a random drawing that will award over 200 individuals with a \$20 gift card to a school supply store. The winners can either enjoy the gift card themselves or consider using it to purchase school supplies for a teacher, student or school of their choice.

Anyone over the age of 45 may enter the random drawing and entrants need not have donated supplies or helped with their communities in other ways.....but, if you were involved in activities like that since the first of the year, I hope you will let us know through the optional fields on the entry form.

There are two ways to enter the random drawing:

1. Online: Go to <http://media.aarp.whatcounts.com/aarp/forms/schoolsupplyform.html> to access the easy online entry form. Entries will be accepted at the online site until 11:59 PM (ET) on November 11, 2011. Although you are only allowed one entry person, an individual may input multiple online entries in order to help those who may not have computer access or do not like online entries. You are welcome to forward this email to other retired educator friends who might want to enter the drawing.

2. Paper Entry: You may submit a paper entry by downloading a form from the NRTA Drawing 2011 folder. (We are also sending a hard copy of the entry form to you in the mail.) Feel free to make copies of the form to share with other retired educators who do not have access to a computer. As with the online entries, paper entries must be received by NRTA by November 11, 2011. Send paper entries to:

NRTA- ETL Random Drawing
601 E Street, NW - Floor B-8
Washington, DC 20049

If you would like to explore other volunteer opportunities, many with ready-to-use toolkits, I invite you to visit www.CreateTheGood.org. The site is also a pathway to post volunteer activities being coordinated by your retired

educator association or community group.

I hope you will take a moment to enter our Equipped to Learn random drawing to help us celebrate the work of retired educator volunteers. I also hope that you will help us spread the word!

With best regards,

Megan Stevens Hookey
Vice President - NRTA: AARP's
Educator Community
601 E Street, NW B-8
Washington, DC 20049
202-434-2380

Membership Report:

Our membership has grown by eight new members. We have a total of 122 members in our organization! This number is as of August 31st. This computes to an increase of 7.02% for our county. We have 3 emeritus members in our organization; Elizabeth Dobson, Jane Barton and Agnes Orban. Please keep me posted of any new folks that should be added to this group.

Our new members are: Lillian Shroads, Patricia Bridges, Carol Fegal, Sheila Scott, Liz Wildasin, Sandra Stamer, Patrica Early and Jean Carrion. Please remember to welcome these ladies and encourage others to join our group. You may personally know some of the recent retirees and a word about the importance of joining to make us stronger would be great.

A warm welcome to each of these new ladies. You have given your working years to educating the children of Talbot County. Hats off to each of you!

Submitted: Dotty Olds: Membership
Chairman

2011 Martha Greene Summer Scholarship

Three Talbot County students were selected for the Martha Greene Scholarship this year. Tatjana Knight, a St. Michaels sixth grader, attended the Avalon theatre for the "Summer Fame" performance camp which concluded with a wonderful group production after the two week camp.

Xavier Rahim, Easton Middle School sixth grader, attended the "Snipes" camp at Pickering Creek where he enjoyed canoeing, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

Our second EMS student, Samantha Baynard, was unable to attend camp, although we tried at the beginning and end of summer, due to a medical situation. We presented two certificates to her family for school supplies, and we sincerely hope her health will improve for the beginning of seventh grade.

Since 2008 we have sent eight students for summer enrichment programs, in honor of Martha Greene and with the support of Verizon MD/DC, and president William Roberts who was a recipient of Martha's own summer programs when he was a young student in Unionville.

Thanks to committee members Mary Reeser, Dotty Olds, Jennifer Wheeler, and Bertha Wilson for their help with these efforts.

Eileen Kuehn, Chairwoman

Consumer Education

Submitted by: Joyce Schriver

1. An educational support group, the Talbot Hospice Foundation, will begin grief classes beginning September 28, and will continue for six weeks. Called "Looking Ahead", this group will offer practical help on how to gather strength to move forward again. The meetings, led by Norma Trax, Talbot Hospice bereavement coordinator, will be held 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, and 11/9 4:45 – 6:15 @ Talbot Hospice. Ph: 410-822-6681.

2. A memoir writing class will be held from 11:00 – 1:00 every Thursday through Nov. 17 @ the St. Michaels branch of the Talbot County Free Library. Free, pre-registration is required. 410-745-5877.

3. On October 6, the Easton branch of the AAUW (American Association of University Women) will visit the house and gardens of Pearl S. Buck in Bucks County, PA. The cost if the tour is \$105 and includes the bus, tours, and buffet lunch. The tour leaves @ 8:00 from Creamery Lane. Call 410-763-8265 for information.

4. Useful website information:
 - more than 1 million books available for free downloading or reading on-line can be found at <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/>
 - a mix of freebies and discounts for products ranging from coffee to pet toys and even beauty products is at www.WalletPop.com/category/bargain-babe

The Community Service Committee would like to thank all members who donated items for the summer school program. The items were greatly appreciated.

At our October luncheon we will be collecting items for the Talbot County Humane Society. They could use canned and bagged dog and cat food.

If you have questions, please call us. Thanks,

Eloise Brown 410-476-3574 Bennie Milton 410-476-3734

Chinese Exchange Educational Program Presented at Fall Luncheon

We hope many of you will be able to attend our October 18, 2011 Fall Luncheon at Chesapeake College. If you are like me, I ride by the college and notice all the new buildings and wonder just what is happening at the school. Well, due to popular demand, we will again be having our Fall Luncheon at the College. Debbie Urry, Chic Harrison's daughter, has graciously arranged a lunch and program.

Dr. Deanna Stock will make a presentation about their sister school Pingzhu Elementary School located near Shanghai, China. Exchanges have been created to forge friendships and to provide teacher training in the summer months. Deanna and a team went to China in 2010 and provided actual model instruction within the elementary schools. This fall the Chinese teachers came to the U.S. and have just completed their training at Chesapeake College on October 18, 2011. During their visits, they present lessons on Chinese history and culture as well as observing at the college and Queen Anne County Public Schools. Dr. Stock will be sharing these experiences at our meeting.

The program at Chesapeake College will be very informative.

Many of us, in the past, have taken courses at the college. Since then, the college has really expanded with new buildings and course offerings. Many of the offerings now are aimed at retired persons who want to take courses to explore their interests or to perhaps gain new job skills.

Remember,
"Life long learning keeps us young!"

Car Pool:

If you would like a ride from Easton to Chesapeake College, please meet at 10:45 a.m. at the Easton Fire House Parking lot. We will leave at 11:00 a.m. The following members have graciously agreed to drive: Dottie Olds, Eileen Kuehn, Mary Reeser, Jennifer Wheeler. Please let us know if you need a ride when you call to make your luncheon reservations.

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.

Door Prizes:

Door Prizes will be given out at the luncheon. Remember if you won a door prize at the June Luncheon, please refill the bag with a small present and bring to this luncheon. There will also be a 50-50 Raffle.

Buffet Luncheon

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2011

11:30 a.m.

Chesapeake College
(Higher Learning Building)

Buffet will include:

Beef Salad with Grilled Pineapple
Lemon Chicken Salad
Fresh Fruit Salad
Rolls and Butter
Assorted Pies for Dessert
Coffee, Tea and Water

**Please call or mail
reservations with your check
(\$10)**

by October 10th to

Mary Reeser
358 St. Aubins Terrace
410-822-4410
or
Chic Harrison
29300 Will Street
410-822-1209
Easton, MD 21012

Luncheon Dates

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Chesapeake College

Monday, December 5, 2011

Easton Club Waterview Grill

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Easton High School Cooking Class

Monday, June 4, 2012

Newly renovated Oxford Community Center

Telephone Tree

Please call your members and remind them to make reservations for our Fall Luncheon by Monday, October 10, 2011. The luncheon will be at Chesapeake College at The Higher Education Center at Chesapeake College on Tuesday, October 18, 2011. The cost is \$10.00. If they want to car pool, please let us know when they call.

(See information on previous page.)

Please have them notify :

Mary Reeser
358 St. Aubins Terrace
410-822-4410
or
Chic Harrison
29300 Will Street
410-822-1209
Easton, MD 21012

Executive Board Meeting Dates

Sept. 12, 2011

Nov. 7, 2011

Feb. 6, 2012

May 7, 2012

TCEC @ 9:30 a.m.

All TCPSRPA members are invited to attend.

Flu Shots

Flu shots at the Board Office have not yet been scheduled for retirees, but will probably be in October.

Call for information:

410-822-0330 Board Office

410-819-5600 Health Dept.

OR

Call your primary care physician.

TCPSRP
% Dotty Olds
7415 Tour Drive
Easton, MD 21601