

The Chalkboard

CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 36 NUMBER 3

Elkton, Maryland

September 2023

2023-2024 OFFICERS

President: Mary Ellen Butkiewicz

Immediate Past President: Anne
Humphrey

Corresponding Secretary: Joan-Marie
Parker

Recording Secretary: Signe' Mika

Treasurer: Tony Mattern
Co-Treasurer: Cheryl Lee

Newsletter Co-editors: Gretchen
Ginder and Signe' Mika

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As a new school year is upon us, I feel the urge to buy new markers, pens, and even glue sticks! Even though I have been retired for many years, my teacher instinct is still strong.

For some good news. I participated in the virtual state wide Presidents' meeting in July. Listening to reports from other counties about their initiatives, I felt very proud. The programs we have in place to support our teachers and students exceed what is happening across the state. Thanks to the excellent support of our membership, we are able to continue the Kids Fund, scholarships, and teacher mini grants. We are doing great things in Cecil County!

Our fall luncheon will be held at Elkton United Methodist Church on Tuesday, September 19. This is a great opportunity to see old friends and make some new---just as our students will be doing. Please bring a friend and let them experience the goodness of CCRSPA.

Mary Ellen Butkiewicz

Fall Program

Protecting and Recovering from Identity Theft and Scams

Are you hesitant about placing any of your personal information on forms, computers and other documents? Our speaker, Liz Monti, Financial Education Director for APG Federal Credit Union, will present information on how to identify and prevent scammers from gaining access to your financial services and determine a plan of action.



CCRSPA MINUTES – May 23, 2023

President Mary Ellen Butkiewicz called our meeting to order at 11:20 am at Elkton United Methodist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mary Landolt was introduced and welcomed as a new member. The minutes from our previous meeting were approved.

COMMITTEES:

TREASURER: Tony reminded us that the report is in the Chalkboard.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Thank-you notes were sent to Reg Canaday, Catherine Duckett, Betsy Van Culin's family, and Susan Eshelman for their generous contributions.

BENEFITS: There will be a meeting next Wednesday, May 31st.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Donations are greatly appreciated. There are twenty schools served three times a year.

CONSTITUTION: There is no report at this time.

PUBLICATIONS: it was asked that members contribute any information, pictures, or changes, as well as, input and corrections for the website or Facebook page.

LEGISLATION: A detailed report is included in this newsletter. Linda Elwood reported on the 2,000+ bills and the fact that we have used 45 of them. Fifteen were sent to the governor and he signed each of them. Some bills dealt with mental health and suicide prevention, elder abuse, and an abortion bill referendum. Information has been posted online. There will be another meeting on August 1st.

MEMBERSHIP: Sherry Lewis reported that there are 262 members, and 9 retirees are interested. If you pay MRSPA dues by mail, it is asked that you pay when you receive notification.

NOMINATING: Kay De Stefano thanked the current officers and said that we need a co-president.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Members were asked to send any changes in e-mail or home addresses. Contributions to the Chalkboard are due to Gretchen by August 21st.

SCHOLARSHIP: Presentation of mini grants began in 2019. At that time three teachers received \$100-\$200 each. Now, four years later, eight teachers have received \$200 each. Presentations of their planned projects were on display at our luncheon. For scholarships, which started in 1987, there have been 56 recipients so far. To qualify the student must be a graduate of CCPS and be in their junior or senior year of college, majoring in education. Paige Shives was introduced at the luncheon. She graduated from Bohemia Manor and is presently an education major at Wilmington College. She is planning on going into Early Childhood Education. Ann Hadley has also been awarded a scholarship. She is presently an education major at Salisbury after graduating from Elkton High. Congratulations to them both!

SOCIAL: No report

SUNSHINE: cards were sent to Sally Haberl, Barb Kunkle, and Jane Johnson.

TRAVEL: The Scotland trip is still moving ahead for Sept./Oct. of this year. Reservations are through CIE Travel.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: The state meeting was held on May 9th in Hunt Valley, MD. In attendance were five of our members; Mary Ellen Butkiewicz, Kathy Mullen, Anne Humphrey, Penny Boas, and Gretchen Ginder. President elect, Betty Weller from Kent County, presided. There will be no increase in state dues until 2024. State retirement is in good shape. Pictures of Cecil County were included, and Cecil County was recognized for our Kids' Fund.

On a personal note, I apologize for any misspellings of members' names. If someone has a complete list of members that they would be willing to email me, I would greatly appreciate it. My email is smika59@aol.com

Thank-you in advance.

Respectfully submitted,
Signe Mika

Membership News for September

Membership total is 259 . There are 20 local only members.

***** If you are a member, and know a retiree (old or new), welcome them to come and see what we are all about. We would love to add them to our membership at any time of the year.**

***Thank you to all who have contacted us to make a change to receive the Chalkboard using your email? Feel free to continue to contact us if you wish a change.**

****If there is a reason as to why you would like/need to continue getting your Chalkboard newsletter by mail, PLEASE contact us, too. (By phone or email)**

****Contact info**

Sherry Lewis 410-398-1337 chickeelewis@mac.com

Shirley Montgomery 302-731-5371 smmontgomery@verizon.net

Have you moved?/ New Phone Number, let us know, (Sherry Lewis) or (Gretchen Ginder) if you should change your address or phone#, I will make sure that MRSPA receives it as well.



In Memoriam

Mary Wiggins (1929 - 4/16/2023)
Teacher's Aide at Bay View Elem.

Carol Breedlove (1/12/1941 - 4/16/2023)
CCPS Employee for 10 years

Margaret Brown (5/6/1922 - 4/25/2023)
Teacher's Aide Gilpin Manor Elem.

Deborah Jacobs (9/20/1963 - 5/4/2023)
Teacher for CCPS for 33 years

Betty Westerinen (8/7/1930 - 5/20/2023)
Teacher and Principal for CCPS for 35 years.

Johannah Dallas (8/12/1938 - 5/28/2023)
School Nurse for North East Elem.

Ora MacDonald (1935 - 6/6/2023)
MRSPA and CCRSPA Member, First Grade
Teacher at Calvert Elementary

John Abel (5/9/1943 - 7/14/2023)
MRSPA and CCRSPA Member
Teacher at EMS, Assistant Principal at NEHS
and RSHS,
Principal at Cherry Hill Middle School then a
Supervisor of Education for Cecil County
Board of Education

Alvin Renwick (6/18/1941 - 7/27/2023)
Taught Chemistry and Physics for 30 years at
PHS, and served as Athletic Director and
Track Coach

Paul Sands (1941 - 8/13/2023)
Substitute Teacher for Charlestown Elem.
Former Sports Announcer at PHS and
Edgewood High School

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association's Legislative Committee's held their first meeting on August 1, 2023. Our committee will continue to meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. By ZOOM. If there are any members who would like to join our group, please let me know. The Legislative Session will begin in January 2024 and end April 8th.

At this meeting we reviewed and updated the Legislative Priorities for 2024. A new brochure will be shared with members in the near future. One of our top priorities is to continue to work to protect defined benefit pensions. Many states continue to attack pensions by having school systems have their employees obtain a 401K for retirement. North Dakota is one of the latest states to make this change.

In addition, we will review future bills that affect seniors/retirees and vote to support, oppose, or monitor the bills. A few examples of concerns are 1) to obtain regulations for assisted living facilities having nine or fewer residents. 2) Lowering prescription drug cost. 3) Reducing wait time in an ER to name a few.

Members can visit MRSPA's website to learn more about our committee.

Maryland Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame

The CCRSPA is proud to honor Kathleen Mullen as our nominee to the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

Kathy has served as president for two years, and past president for 8 years. She served on the executive board for 10 years. She is also on the Constitution and By-Laws committee. She still supports the organization by providing small gifts as table decorations at our luncheons four times a year.

She has been volunteering in the kindergarten class at North East Elementary School every Monday morning for the past 11 years. She provides small group reading instruction as well as clerical work for the teacher, Mrs. Karen Clewer.

Kathy has served as President of the Episcopal Church Women, ECW, at St. Mary Ann's Episcopal Church for 10 years. She is also on the altar guild. The duties include preparing the altar for services and taking care of the altar linens. She has been involved in the Outreach Volunteer program for 10 years. There, they provide food for those less fortunate in Cecil County.

Kathy has been a member the Auxiliary of Christiana Care of Union Hospital of Cecil County for 8 years. She has served on various committees, mostly as a fund-raising volunteer. She is currently the Vice-President.

You are invited to attend the MSCHF luncheon that will honor Kathy on Thursday, October 19 at the Ten Oaks Ballroom, 5000 Signal Bell Lane. The social hour at 11:00, lunch is at 12 noon, and the induction ceremony should be finished by 2:30. A map is available for directions if requested. Tickets are \$35 each, and deadline for purchase is September 30. Please send ticket money to Paula Sheldon, 9 Arizona State Drive, Newark, DE 19713 or see me at our September luncheon.

September Luncheon Meeting

Elkton United Methodist Church

219 East Main Street, Elkton, MD 21921
September 19, 2023 - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Menu

Oven Roasted Pork Loin, Baked Tilapia
Glazed Carrots, and Scalloped Potatoes
Dinner Rolls and brownie/cookie tray
Iced Tea,

Cost will be \$20 per person.

Payment will be at the door. Please pay by check or in cash. Email or call by September 12, 2023. Reply to Shirley Montgomery at shirlnems@gmail.com or 302-731-5371

IF YOU RSVP, THEN YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR LUNCH
EVEN IF YOU DON'T ATTEND.

Budget Report

Balance - 06/30/2023.	\$5082.05
Sub Total Income.	0.00
Sub Total Expenditures.	0.00
Net Balance.	5082.05
Certificate of Deposit	11,470.62
Balance on Hand.	16,552.67

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<u>Community Outreach</u>	Paula Cobb
<u>Education/Protective</u>	
<u>Services</u>	Tony Mattern
<u>Legislation</u>	Linda Elwood
<u>Membership</u>	Sherry Lewis
<u>Nominating</u>	Kay DiStephano
<u>Benefits</u>	Paul Humphrey
<u>Programs</u>	Mary McCleary
<u>Public Relations & Communications</u>	
<u>Publications</u>	Gretchen Ginder/ Signe' Mika
<u>Scholarship</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social</u>	Shirley Montgomery
<u>Sunshine</u>	Debbie Pascoe

CCRSPA Donation

(Please Clip and retain for your records)

Name _____

\$ _____ Ck # _____

Amount _____

Date: _____

Kids Fund

Scholarship Fund

CCRSPA Scholarship or Kids Fund Donation – 2023-2024.
Make check payable to *CCRSPA*, write “Scholarship” or “Kids Fund Donation” in lower left corner and mail along with this slip to Tony Mattern, 160 Willard Drive, North East, MD 21901-1631.
Thank you. (*See Below)

Name _____ Amount \$ _____

In Honor or In Memory of _____

*REMINDER: A separate check for donations to the *Scholarship* or *Kids Fund* may be sent to Tony Mattern, 160 Willard Drive, North East, MD 21901-1631



Have nice things that you don't need/want/use anymore? If so, Mary McCleary wants to hear from you; she may be reached at 410-398-3556 or email Mary McCleary <mmcdairy@comcast.net.

Purchasing Luncheon raffle tickets help support *Kids Fund* and the *CCRSPA Memorial Scholarship*. You benefit as well as a child who receives a new coat or scholarship because your donation\$ are tax deductible.

MOVING?

Don't forget to update address and phone info!

Name _____

New Address _____

New Phone # _____

E-mail address _____

Mail to: Sherry Lewis, 4793 Telegraph Road, Elkton MD 21921 or via email at chickeeewis@mac.com

COMING SOON

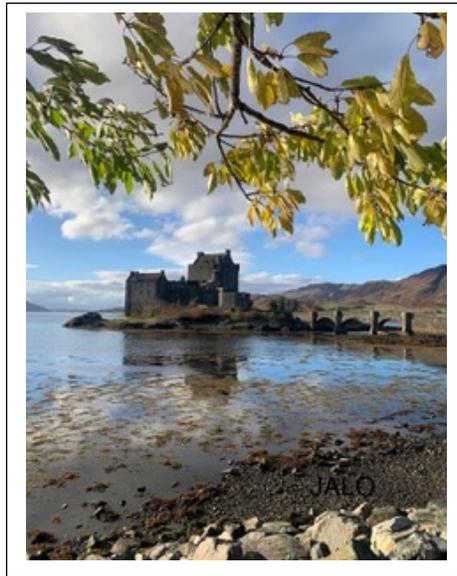


Scottish Isles & Glens

12 Days/11 Nights

Sept. 20- Oct. 2, 2024

We currently have 19 people traveling to Scotland for the Isles & Glen 12-day tour September 21-Oct 2, 2024. I have 8 spaces left for anyone who's still interested in coming along. Contact Fred at fmetzger@zoominternet.net for more information.



Community Outreach Committee

The Community Outreach Committee is designated to select a project and 2 individuals to the Maryland Retirees School Personnel Association for award and recognition during the month of March and April.

For the 2019-2020 Community Service Award Local Association Project Winner with 200-899 members was awarded to our CCRSPA for the Agape project.

2023 Project was Teacher Mini-Grants

We would like to recognize all of our volunteers that do many wonderful things in their retirement at the February, 2024 luncheon. Please look at the table you will sit at for the December, 2023 luncheon for a folder for you to take and fill out hours and what activities you are involved in, or email Kay DiStefano at khdistefano@comcast.net or Paula Sheldon mahkila@verizon.net for questions or your information. Doing this will make our selection for nomination easier.

We appreciate what all of our members do for the community and mankind.

Paula Sheldon