

# Informer

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 36, Issue 2

October 2010

# A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT IONE WILLIAMS

### Officers 2010-2011

**President** Ione W. Williams (410) 647-3283

President Elect Robert "Bob" Kanach (410) 693-7396

Immediate Past President Alicia Hardisky (410) 757-6762

Recording Secretary John Hammond (410) 674-2484

Asst. Recording Secretary Lonnie Kelly (410) 647-9489

**Treasurer** Mary Overholser (410) 674-5455

Assistant Treasurer Patricia Ericsen (410) 969-5610

Corresponding Secretary Nancy Mann (410) 760-6272

AARSPA - Riva Road For Information (410) 222-5000 AARSPA is off to a good start for its 70<sup>th</sup> year. Our first luncheon meeting was a happy occasion, with a mixture of business, greeting dedicated familiar members as well as new members (we lovingly call them *First Timers*), delicious lunch, and great entertainment!

In my first message for this year, you were asked to consider selecting one (or two) of our committees to be an **active** participant in - health permitting. You could even start out by joining us on one of our popular trips to the Meyerhoff for their annual spectacular holiday show.

Those of you who still have the "itch to teach" could volunteer to mentor children at one of our community centers. How about considering the role of a "School Marm" or "School Master" at our unique, historic Free School? - or join our AARSPA Chorus! Oh, there are so many interesting things you could set your sights on to fill out the "Days of our lives" with AARSPA.

In the meantime, keep constant in your thoughts that our long-standing, well established pension funding process may be in jeopardy during the upcoming legislative session. You may want to be a part of our Legislative Committee to help keep an eye on this.

There are many AARSPA committee options from which to choose: AARSPA Chorus, Community Service. Constitution. Education, Consumer Educator/Employee of the Month, Finance & Budget, Free School, Hospitality, Legislation, Membership, Newsletter, Pre-Retire-Public Relations, ment, Raffle, Scholarship, Sunshine/Necrology, Trips/ Tours, (USM) United Seniors of MD. If you want to become involved with one or even two of these committees, (410) 222-5000 for contact information.

In the President's first message, we were invited

to "walk arm-in-arm and hand-in-hand" as we continue our travels down AARSPA lane. So, what are some of the things we want to be sure to do to round out our 70<sup>th</sup> year?

Increase membership: All retired personnel of the A. A. County School system are welcome! Invite retired **non**-members to join us — only \$10 each year for local membership - a bargain!

Encourage participation in the AARSPA trips, increase attendance at luncheon meetings and have joyful, as well as informative, luncheons.

Assist AARSPA's Legislative committee in monitoring our financial, medical, and other retired benefits, particularly during the Maryland state legislative session.

Continue financial support to our AARSPA Scholarship Fund.

Give volunteer service to youth, our retirees, and community.

Continue our active (Continued on page 9)

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### CONSUMER UPDATE

#### Crack Down on Salt

Sodium is necessary for our bodies to function. It helps with fluid balance, the transmission of nerve impulses and muscle function. A report "Strategies to Reduce Sodium Intake in the United States" from the Institute of Medicine has launched to reduce the America's sodium intake. The study identified the problem – too much sodium in the American diet. The report feels that if the problem is solved it will prevent 100,000 death annually.

More and more we are hearing that we must cut down on our use of salt. Heinz and Kraft have voluntarily agreed to reduce salt in their products during the next two to four years.

To avoid getting too much sodium eat more fruits and vegetables and cut down on processed foods. Never add salt to your food before tasting. Read the labels as you shop, select products that are not loaded with salt. Some are suggesting that the amount of salt in foods be regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, but common sense can go a long way for a person to "Crack Down on Salt."

#### Are You an Overspender?

Do you buy clothing or treat people to meals that you really can't afford? Do you try to keep up with the Jones? Do you get gratification from shopping – even if you don't need a thing? Men and women both can fall into a pattern of overspending.

Olivia Mellian, a money psychotherapist has many clients with the problem. Her website is <a href="https://www.MoneyHarmony.com">www.MoneyHarmony.com</a>. A few of her suggestions:

- Avoid slippery slope places. You can be enticed into department stores through their ads on "Bargains," "One Day Sales," etc.
- Nurture your soul. Find things to do such as volunteering or creative pursuits. You won't be tempted to spend if you are busy.
- Set specific short and long term goals. Decide that you are going to cut down on your credit card debt. Decide to save for something that you really need, such as a new bedroom set. Be realistic, but stick to your goals.

Reward yourself for progress. You can do something special and it does not have to be costly. Visit a museum or attend a free concert.

There is even Debtors Anonymous – <u>www.Debtors</u> Anonymous.org if you feel that the problem is just too much for you to handle. This is a 12-step program that is free. It helps you develop spending plans and gives you help through experiences of others.

### What to Do If the IRS Comes For You

IRS Audits have more than doubled in the past decade. It used to be that business owners, self-employed and high earners were targeted. But with the

federal government trying to boost its tax revenues to close its huge budget, you will have many more audits.

Prior to 2009 audit notification was sent through the mail. Now agents sometimes call to tell the taxpaver they are being audited. Getting such a call can shock the taxpayer into saying more than he/she should. If you receive such a call take down the information and say your representative will be in touch. (Get one if you don't have one.) You have a right to consult with a tax adviser before you respond to the IRS. Be aware also that the call can be a scam, so be careful not to give personal information.

The IRS requires taxpayers to respond to most notices within 15 or 30 days. These deadlines have become inflexible in recent years, so be sure to contact the agent within the timeline. If you don't respond within the time limit it can be costly.

It is worth the money to have a representative. They know how to work with the agents and will save you many headaches.

#### A Tip

Cinnamon can help you stay focused. Try chewing cinnamon gum before doing something that requires quick responses. To make it a regular part of your diet, sprinkle a teaspoon on your cereal at breakfast.

### MEMBERS' CORNER

# MEMBER RECEIVES HONOR

On October 3, 2010 AARSPA member Cynthia Caldwell was a recipient of the Fannie Hamer Award. Fannie Hamer was a civil rights activist and she is honored in Anne Arundel County each year.

### FROM THE PAST

Ever wonder why our newsletter is called the *Informer*? It happened during the term of Mrs. Lena Clemmer McGoury, 1981-1982. She felt calling it the *Informer* would really inform members about the work of the association. Evidently, members liked it because no one has suggested a new name since.



**MEET AARSPA'S TREASURER** 

Mary Overholser has served as Treasurer of AARSPA for the past four years. She began as a teaching assistant at Arundel High School until being appointed Financial Secretary. She retired in 2004. Her service to the association is much appreciated. An interesting fact about her is that she goes to Thurgood Marshall BWI to welcome troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

# Only in Education

From: Louise P. Johnson

After teaching vocal music at Edgewater Elementary School for 7 years, I took a year off to get my MA in Deaf and Special Education.

In 1968 fresh out of grad school, I was teaching at Kendall School, the elementary school on the campus of Gallaudett College (now University) in Washington, D.C. Our students came from D.C. and surrounding counties in MD and VA.

My first class consisted of six 6 year olds, 5 boys and Stephanie. Five of the students had been exposed to sign

language almost from birth. The sixth, Chris, an adorable tow head, lost his hearing from a spell of high fevers at about 3, his Danish mom and German dad had not understood the dangers of high fevers or the need for a doctor or an Emergency Room. deafness his When confirmed, they began signing at home and he picked it up quickly.

Chris was a well-behaved boy at school and at home, but one night he refused to get in the bathtub. His mom tried everything she knew, to no avail. Suddenly, Chris signed "Johnson bath yes?" Surprised, but quick to catch on, his mom signed "Yes," Chris got in the tub with no more objections that night or for years to come.

Of course, I had not discussed bathing with the children but apparently Chris seemed to think that if I "Johnson" approved of something, such as bathing, that it was ok with him!

Send your stories to Betty Ann White at <a href="mailto:bettypurple@verizon.net">bettypurple@verizon.net</a> or P.O. Box 6573, Annapolis, MD 21401-0673

### Sunshine/Necrology Committee

Nina Griffith, Dianne Rogers, Sandie Sweeney

### Get Well/Thinking of You

Lou Kamm Richard Berzinski Sherry Tolson

#### Member Deaths

Alice Boyd
Mary Margaret Brady
Doris I. Brashears
Mary C. Brown
Grizelle Hill
Virginia Hoover (93)
Jane Hopkins
Joseph A. Papetti
Mary E. Swann
Mildred Ward (92)

Dorothy Westerman (99)

### Family Members' Deaths

Alice Battle - brother
Karlie Everett - mother-in-law
Mary Papetti - husband
Jeanne Stewart - brother
Lonnie Kelly - nephew
Lorraise Brooks-Jennings - sister

#### Other Educators Death

Susan Baugher - husband James "Buck" Gardner

#### Congratulations

Alfreda Adams - Featured in lengthy write-up, with photos in the September 2010 CAPITAL newspaper issue of Style magazine. Alfreda's principalship of Walter S. Mills-Parole Elementary School was characterized as a strong and positive role model and team building model.



Please save this list to notify us of the deaths, get wells, birthdays, and anniversaries of our members.

Nina Griffith: Death Notices home phone: 410-437-6549 email: Bear1134@aol.com.

Dianne Rogers: Get Well/ Thinking of You/Anniversaries home phone: 410-647-7585 email: wwdsrogers@verizon.net

Sandie Sweeney: Birthdays home phone: 410-544-1359 email: shalimar428@aol.com

# Luncheon and General Membership Meeting

On Thursday, November 11, 2010, we will have our luncheon at Snyder's Willow Grove in Linthicum.

Registration 9:45-10:30
Meeting 10:30-12:00
Lunch 12:00-1:00
Guest Speakers: Dr. Kevin Maxwell,
Superintendent of Schools and
Judith Zahren, Executive Director of
MRSPA
Entertainment 1:00-2:00
No Refunds After November 6

PLEASE NO WALK-INS

LUNCHEON RESERVATION	ON
<b>DEADLINE NOVEMBER 5,</b>	2010

Name of persor	n(s) attending
Phone	No. of reservations
Cost is \$25	Amount Enclosed:
Crab ca	kePrime RibStuffed chicken
Meals come wit	h house salad, baked potato, and warm apple pie.
	PAYABLE TO AARSPA AND MAIL TO Ms. Pat Ericsen, 8223, Severn, Maryland 21144.
Cr	neck here if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.
Cr	neck here if an Emeritus Member. (age 90+)

Is your birth year 1920 or before? Congratulations! You qualify as an emeritus member. Please contact the Membership Committee to hear the good news.

# VOICES IN MELODY (AARSPA CHORUS) WINTER PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

The Voices in Melody Chorus of AARSPA will present a series of nine concerts during the 2010 Winter Concert Season. Music will be performed from standard winter repertoire of sacred and secular seasonal choral literature.

The Chorus is under the direction of G. Thomas Neuenschwander and looks forward to seeing and entertaining you at one of our concerts. Invite a friend and come for your seasonal listening pleasure. Rehearsals are held at Belvedere Elementary School. Contact Tom at

(410) 761-7422 if you are interested in joining the chorus. Before attending any scheduled concert, call Director Tom to confirm the date and time.

- Annapolis Senior Center
   Villa Ave. Annapolis
   Wednesday, Dec. 1, 1 2 p.m.
- Pasadena Senior Center
   4103 Mountain Rd, Pasadena Thursday, Dec. 2, 1 - 2 p.m.
- Bay Woods of Annapolis
   Retirement Community
   7101 Bay Front Drive, Annapolis
   Friday, Dec. 3, 1 2 p.m.
- Atria Manresa Asst. Living Manresa Lane, Annapolis



Rte. 450 (towards Naval Academy) Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2 - 3 p.m.

- 5. **O'Malley Senior Center**Odenton Road, Odenton
  Thursday, Dec. 9, 12:30 1:30
- 6. **Pascal Senior Center**Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie
  Friday, Dec. 10, 12:30 1:30
- Glen Burnie United Methodist Church
   2nd Ave & Crain Hwy (Soc. Hall - off Parking lot)
   Monday, Dec. 13, 12:30 - 1:30
- Arnold Senior Center
   Church Road, Arnold
   Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1 2 p.m.
- A. A. County Board of Education Riva Road, Annapolis Tuesday, Dec. 21, 12-1 p.m.

### 20th Anniversary AARSPA FLORIDA GET-TOGETHER JANUARY 27 & 28, 2011

This year's event will be held in beautiful Venice! Come on down and join us! Bob Harrell, Chairman of this year's event, will host a reception at his home on January 27th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. For everyone staying in the area, the Best Western of Venice (near I-75) is recommended. Phone: 1-800-685-7375

The luncheon on the 28th will be at the Jacaranda West Country Club. Directions will be sent to you when your reservations are received. Happy Hour begins at 11:00 a.m.; Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. The menu choices are listed on reservation form and includes salad, dessert and beverage. The cost is \$25.00 including gratuities.

We look forward to seeing you in January!

2011 20th ANNUAL FLORIDA
GET-TOGETHER LUNCHEON
JANUARY 27-28, 2011

Name of person(s) attending
: 
Your Name
: -
Your Address
Your Phone
Amount enclosed (\$25 per person)
Lunch Choices: Chicken Cordon Blue
Baked Salmon Sliced Beef Top Round
Make checks payable to June Gurley, AARSPA
Florida, and mail by January 15, 2011, to Mrs.
June Gurley, 409 Bayview Parkway, Nokomis, FL 34275-3951

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## September 16 Luncheon at Annapolis Sheraton

New members attending for the first time: L to R (first row) Ida Mae Sims, Joan Soroka, Deanna Harding, Millie Zipay (back row) Ruth Shilkret, Wilamae Day, Yolanda Perry, David Foster, Charles Gable, Grace Ann Rau



(L to R) Barbara Bragg and Edwanda Larkin were new members attending luncheon for the first time



Mary Ruth Tereshinski, Jean Trott



Alicia Hardisky won the 50/50 raffle.

Entertainment for the afternoon was the Barber Shop Quartet, Sing Annapolis Quarter.

Tenor, Jeff Supko; Lead, Paul Yannuzzi; Baritone, T. J. Barranger; and Bass, David Bankard



(L to R) Matilda "Tillie" Barckley and Mattie McDowell



### **New Members And Corrections**

We **are** growing stronger; just count our new members. Feel free to call one or more of them and say WELCOME and thanks for joining. Please continue to encourage your colleagues to support this organization now more than ever. *Remember, AARSPA is here for you, the valued member*! With your participation, this association will continue striving for the quality of your retirement.

#### Note:

Member address/phone updates may be obtained by calling Carol Kirby, Membership Committee at (410) 798-0748.

If you would like information on new members or corrections, please contact the Membership Committee.

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#### **AARSPA**

### "HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR" TRIP

Meyerhoff Concert Hall, Maryland FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

Last December, a snow storm cancelled this holiday musical for our group and everyone received a refund. The Trip Committee has booked a matinee performance for this show on Friday, December 10, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. Maureen McGovern is the celebrity this year, along with another 100 singers, dancers, and entertainers including the popular Tap-Dancing Santas. The Baltimore Symphony provides the great songs of the holiday season.

Bus transportation will be arranged for this trip. The performance is on a work day and the Light Rail is often crowded. It is just too cold to stand and wait for the train.

The cost of an orchestra seat ticket and bus transportation is \$40. Departure bus locations will be in Annapolis and Glen Burnie. Fifty tickets are available.

# Dates to Remember

# Executive Board Meetings, Central Office – Center 3, 10:00 a.m. Thursdays

January 6, 2011 June 6, 2011

April 14, 2011 July 21, 2011

### **General Membership Meetings, Thursdays**

November 11, 2010 – Snyder's Willow Grove, Linthicum

January 27 – 28, 2011 – Sarasota, Florida March 17, 2011 – Michael's Eighth Avenue, Glen Burnie

May 19, 2011 - Renditions - Davidsonville

### The AARSPA Chorus – Voices in Melody

Rehearsals take place at Belvedere Elementary School, Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. All are welcome to join.

### Holiday Spectacular

Meyerhoff Concert Hall, Baltimore, Maryland Friday, December 10, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

Deadline October 29, 2010

Make check out to AARSPA Theatre Trip Committee and mail to Howard Hall, 704 Ballast Way, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.
Tickets will be mailed approximately two weeks before the show date.
Please reserve ticket(s) at \$40 each for <u>Holiday Spectacular</u> . My check made payable to AARTA Theatre Committee for \$ is enclosed. Tickets and the departure times for the bus will be mailed to you after the above deadline date.
Name:
Address:
Phone:
I/We will meet the bus at:
Board of Education Office, Annapolis Corkran Middle, Glen Burnie

# Information From the Newsletter Committee

\* Please email your articles to AARSPA informer@yahoo.com or you may send your articles to Pat Ericsen, 8223 Grainfield Road, Severn, Maryland 21144 or Betty Ann White, PO Box 6573, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Next Deadline December 16, 2010.

(Continued from page 1)

affiliation with MRSPA (formerly MRTA).

Consider attending the "Florida Luncheon."

In the words of one of our dear departed AARSPA Presidents, Micki Griffith, "Be as active as your health allows and as involved as your schedule permits." Let's make it a GREAT 70<sup>th</sup> year! See you at Snyder's for our luncheon meeting on November 11.

21401 (telephone: 410-222-2909). Document and inform

the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage. IPS/CH 1395/28s (Rev. Oct. 10)

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

Retired Teachers: We Need You at Lothian Elementary

Would you like to take a pleasant drive through the country and meet some great students who need a Please consider lending your well-honed expertise by volunteering at Lothian Elementary. Our students need help with reading fluency, sight word practice, handwriting, editing, math reinforcement, math re-teaching, practicing math skills with games, and math facts, just for starters. Our class sizes have increased, while we have lost funding for extra help for our struggling students. Your help will be greatly appreciated by all of us. And just think-you won't have to plan lessons or take lunch or recess duty!! If you would like to make lots of new friends and touch the future, contact Karen Patterson at 410-222-1697 kpatterson@aacps.org, and together we can have an impact.

I wish to make a dor	he contribution of quality teachers entering the education profession nation to the scholarship fund.
Donation is	
In memory of	Name and address of the honoree.
In honor of	We will inform the honoree(s) and/or the family of the
<i>for:</i> birthdayan anniversary	Send notice of my donation to:
other (please indicate)	Name
When the land to be a second to the	Address
Please make checks payable to: Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association or / for	
Tax Deductible Donations, make check payable to: 21st Century Education Foundation, Inc.	Donor's Name
Mail all checks to:	Address
Karlie Everett	
725 Warren Drive Annapolis, Maryland 21403	

n submitted to the state of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Sol



The Severn Town Club's 47th Annual Holly Ball Gala will be held at the Annapolis Sheraton Hotel on Friday, December 3, 2010. Proceeds will primarily support Anne Arundel County Food and Resource Bank, Inc., as well as other non-profit (501c3) organizations in the Annapolis area. Your participation will assist in the club's continuing efforts to benefit these valuable community resources. We are a 100% volunteer group and earn no monies from your contribution. Visit our Website: SevernTownClubHollyBall.com for further information and forms call (410) 757-7305 with your guestions.

### **AARSPA - Going Green – What's next?**

It worked! The September Issue of *The Informer* was sent by e-mail to the members of the Executive Board. Only two had problems opening it and some said they really liked seeing it in color. One said that they were glad we had entered the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There was no problem with people signing up for the luncheon; they just printed the page with the reservation form or put their meal choice on the check. We are ready to expand with the October issue. It will be sent to all those that have sent e-mail addresses, as well as the executive board.

Thank you to those who have sent their e-mail addresses. They have been added to the list. This list is kept by the membership chair and is updated regularly. If you have not done so already send your name, e-mail address, and phone number to the membership chair at <a href="mailto:aarspinformer@Yahoo.com">aarspinformer@Yahoo.com</a>. Also, if you should change your server or address, you will need to notify the Membership Chair.



Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association 2644 Riva Road Annapolis, MD 21401