



CarrollCountyrspa@gmail.com

Presidents' Message	P. 1
Luncheon Information	P. 1
Minutes for Meeting	
May 17, 2023	P. 2

**Membership Meetings**

Tentative dates:  
 February 21, 2024  
 May 15, 2024

**Co-Presidents' Letter Fall 2023**

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Fall! As a new school year begins, we celebrate our retirement. The first meeting will be at **Bullock's on Wednesday, October 18**. Arrive 11:00-11:15, go through the line and get your meal, and the meeting will begin when most have finished eating.


**Good news: Three MRSPA leaders will attend our October meeting:** MRSPA President Carla Duls, Vice-President Nancy Gordon, and Area I East Director Sally Smith. Carla is from Anne Arundel County while Nancy and Sally are both from Frederick County. They will bring us a wealth of information and will answer questions.

Your executive board is mailing **Welcome to Your Retirement** letters to all CCPS employees who retired in 2023. If you know any retirees who do not belong to CCRSPA, please invite them to join us.

We will vote on this year's **CCRSPA donations** to Carroll County groups. **October Community Service: Shepherd's Staff** is asking for supplies for **"Senior Sacks"**—Christmas gift bags for Carroll County senior citizens in need. If you are able, please bring a bag with gifts (gloves, socks, scarves, toiletries, stationery items, etc.).

We hope to see you in October. Please encourage retired friends to attend: **Each One Bring One!** We both joined CCRSPA when a friend invited us and paid for our first meal.

Sincerely,  
 Naudine Pheobus and Bonnie McElroy,  
 Co-Presidents



**CCRSPA Luncheon Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

Bullock's Country Family Restaurant  
 2020 Sykesville Rd  
 Westminster, MD 21157

Arrive and dine at 11:00 Business Meeting 11:45  
 Payment will be when you place your order.

However Bullocks would like us to notify them in advance of how many people to expect. By Wednesday, May 10, 2023 please either email or text how many in your party will attend.

- 1) Email Bonnie at: mrsmacwc@yahoo.com
- 2) Send a text message to: 443-536-9036 (Begin with: CCRSPA )



# Minutes for May 17, 2023

The Spring CCRSPA meeting was held at the Bullock's Family Restaurant in Westminster, starting at 11am. Those in attendance were asked to sign in and socialize while ordering food. **Co-Presidents Naudine Pheobus** and **Bonnie McElroy** welcomed everyone and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:55am to begin the business meeting. **Bonnie** commented about the image on the agenda—words “We are forever grateful” within the shape of an apple, emphasizing the importance of the influence of so many teachers and others who came before us. The guest speaker, **Wanda Twigg, MRSPA Executive Director**, was then introduced.

**Recording Secretary—Laurie Whitley Gouker**, was unable to attend since she was caring for her sister. The March 15, 2023 minutes as published in the newsletter were approved.

**Treasurer—Susan Miller** stated that the current balance is \$2,093.99. After state dues come into the PNC checking account electronically, hopefully another CCRSPA scholarship can be offered once again.

**Membership and Necrology—Jean Crowl** lit the memorial candle and led the remembrance in honor of **Bonnie Ferrier, Patricia Spangler, Dorothy Bean, Gertrude Carr, Margaret Haines, Barbara Patterson, Frederic Baker, Carolyn Showalter, Constance Zumbrum and Yvonne Stierhoff**.

**Consumer Education—Dixie Elmes** discussed being cautious when sending checks in the mail since thieves are taking checks from mailboxes and wiping out the ink to change the amount. Consider taking checks to the post office, and/or set up online bill pay and monitor accounts. **Dixie** stressed using gel pens instead of ballpoint pens when writing checks, and gave everyone gel pens. She also shared tips for increasing ink cartridge life for printing by

changing the font and print size.

**Old Business—Bonnie** explained that Village Printing in the 140 Village Shopping Center in Westminster will take care of printing and mailing newsletters for CCRSPA.

**New Business—Naudine** reported on the **MRSPA Annual Business Meeting**, held on Tuesday, May 9 at Martin's Valley Mansion in Hunt Valley, MD. CCRSPA representatives were **Naudine, Bonnie, Jean** and **Susan M.** The annual meeting included state officer elections, presentation of scholarship recipients and raffle prizes, in addition to a delicious meal. A variety of informational brochures from the state meeting were available for members to take home.

Contact **Bonnie** or **Naudine**, if interested in serving as the Program Chairperson, Legislative Chairperson or Vice-President. Consider filling a position, which can be shared with a friend. Remember our goal “**Each One Bring One!**”

MRSPA continues to offer a variety of benefits and discounts to members. Take advantage of your membership with your member card number on the state website <https://www.mrspa.org>, access with your member number and click on Member Benefits.

**Bonnie** commented on “just for fun” activities, using pre-organized tours with Eyre Bus Service. Members were asked for suggestions for the upcoming October meeting location and entertainment.

At 12:30pm **Bonnie** introduced our “State Guru”, **Wanda Twigg**, who was glad to be included at this month's luncheon. Scholarship money has now moved from the Community Foundation of Frederick County to a new 501C3 created for MRSPA. Awareness and need have increased the number of scholarship appli-

cants—331 employees in public schools submitted applications for the 4 annual scholarships, more than double the amount from previous years. More than 100 submitted applications for the state mini-grants, so 12 were awarded statewide, instead of 6. There were 2 recipients from Carroll County, Area I East.

Unfortunately the state organization has lost members in spite of efforts to retain and increase membership. Mailings are sent twice yearly to MD retirees to encourage membership. It is important to remember that pension benefits come from MD, even if living in another state. In order to help maintain the organization, the state dues will increase in July 2024 by \$5, from the current \$45 to \$50. Members are encouraged to switch to automatic dues deduction. Publicity and public relations will be a MRSPA focus. The MRSPA Legislative Committee continues to be active in Annapolis, supporting and opposing various bills concerning retirees, seniors and education.

**Wanda** selected names for door prizes: **Zeenie Burns, Ellen Baker, Loretta Hill** and **Terry Eckard**.

Thanks to everyone who donated school supplies for Shepherd's Staff.

The next CCRSPA meeting will be on Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan H. Miller*, Treasurer for *Laurie Whitley Gouker*, Recording Secretary