



CarrollCountyrspa@gmail.com

Co-Presidents' Letter January 2024

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Hello Members,

We are pleased to announce that Fairhaven Retirement Community will host our next meeting, featuring a free luncheon and presentation on their establishment. Members at the October meeting voted unanimously to accept this offer and meet at Fairhaven on Wednesday, February 21. The meeting will begin at 11:15. Please arrive by 11:00.

Salerno's will cater the luncheon. We will need an accurate count for meal preparation, so please return the form below by Wednesday, February 14. The menu includes rotisserie chicken, veggie lasagna, garden salad, stuffing with mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, beverages and dessert.

Please consider helping CCRSPA by serving on a Nominations Committee. Several offices need to be filled and as former school employees, all members are qualified to serve.

Shepherd's Staff is requesting Easter baskets or buckets filled with any of these items: coloring books, story books, crayons, stickers, puzzles, sports balls, jump ropes, small toys, bubbles, Play Doh, games, school supplies, small toiletries, craft kits, baby items, non-candy snacks. Please donate if you are able.

Present members who now pay by check but switch to dues deduction will receive a one-time **\$10 dues reduction**. MRSPA also offers a **\$10 gift card** to the recruiter of a new member who signs up for dues deduction and gives their recruiter's name.

Remember our motto: **Each One Bring One!** Find friends retired from CCPS to treat to a free lunch with fellow retirees; they may become members.

Membership Meeting
Wednesday May 15, 2024
Location :
 Bullock's Restaurant

CCRSPA Luncheon Wednesday, February 21, 2024

CCRSPA Luncheon Wednesday, February 21—Fairhaven Retirement Community

7200 3rd Avenue, Sykesville, MD 21784

11:00-11:15 Social Time 11:15 a.m. – Business Meeting

Complimentary Luncheon: rotisserie chicken, veggie lasagna, garden salad, stuffing w/ mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, dessert, beverages

By **Wednesday, February 14, 2024** please either email, text or letter how many in your party will attend.

- 1) Email Bonnie at: mrsmacwc@yahoo.com Subject line: CCRSPA Luncheon
- 2) Send a text message to: 443-536-9036 (Begin with: CCRSPA)
- 3) Send in a letter to CCRSPA **P.O. Box 1864 Westminster, MD 21158**





Minutes for October 18, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Bonnie McElroy at 11:45 am at Bullock's Family Restaurant. We welcomed our newest member, Patty Gomola, as well as two guests: MRSPA Vice-President Nancy Gordon and Area 1 East Director Sally Smith. Susan Miller presented the Treasurer's Report. We have \$4,148.64 in our account, of which \$2,450 is from MRSPA dues since June.

Jean Crawl then read the names and lit a candle in remembrance of the 16 CCPS retirees who passed away this year: Buna Cannon, Betty Davis, Franklin Eastham IV, Betty Flickinger, Leah Forsyth, John Graybeal, Manwell Hall, Charles Luttrell, Rosemary McCloskey, Catherine Murray, Mary O'Donnell, Mary Perry, Frederick Savage, Pamela Shorb, Nancy Study, Gerald Smith, Joyce Thomas, Eva Trott, George Yingling

A moment of silence was also observed in their honor. Bonnie then lauded Susan Christenbury as "our hero" for having addressed and stuffed the 300 envelopes for our newsletter, plus an additional 100 more for CCPS' new retirees--all by herself! Dixie Elmes, consumer advocate, notified us of an upcoming Shred Event on October 21 at CCC, and a Prescription Take Back Day on October 28. She also suggested the following activities as Fall Clean-Up ideas:

updating address books, culling unused recipes from our recipe boxes, and making sure that we have a note in our personal papers telling our next of kin to notify MSDE when we die. Dixie also told us that CCPS has over 100 new retirees, and reminded us to invite those whom we know to join CCRSPA .

NEW BUSINESS

MRSPA Charitable Donations-- Co-president Naudine Phoebus noted that we had given \$1250 in donations to various organizations in 2023. Our group unanimously agreed to allot the same donation amounts to these organizations again for 2024. **MRSPA Scholarships--**Naudine also asked if we would like to continue funding our annual \$1000 scholarship. These scholarships, used to further one's education, may be awarded to currently-employed CCPS teachers, school psychologists, classroom aides, etc. Awardees must have, at the minimum, a high school diploma or GED. Applications are posted on our website and may be submitted via email. A scholarship for this year was approved by members.

February 17, 2024 Meeting-- We have been invited by Fairhaven Retirement Community in Sykesville for a free luncheon and subsequent presentation on their establishment. Our group voted unanimously to meet at Fairhaven as our next meeting venue.

Vacant Officer Positions for 2024--Nominees are needed for the following positions: Vice President, Legislative Chair, and Program Chair. If interested, please contact Bonnie or Naudine.

MRSPA Vice-President Nancy Gordon's Remarks--Nancy thanked us for our strong partnership with MRSPA ; the association is quite appreciative of our support.

Nancy also notified us of a job opening with MRSPA, located in Odenton. Contact her if you are interested; the position is a hybrid remote/in-person one.

Additionally, if you are interested in joining any of the 12 MRSPA committees (Membership, By-Laws, Community Service, etc.) please contact Nancy. Most of the committees are operating remotely, using Zoom.

The recent session of the Maryland Legislature has ended. The MRSPA Legislative Committee is a watchdog for us! Every bill we opposed in the Legislature was defeated! This committee will continue to be vigilant and work hard on our behalf.

Increasing membership in MRSPA is a constant struggle. Nancy has noticed that new retirees do not "appear to be joiners of organizations like us."

The state organization is continuing the development of scholarships and mini-grants for its members to further their education and/or to develop educational projects. There were over 333 applicants last year!

Remarks from Sally Smith, Area 1 East Director--Sally thanked us for inviting her and praised us for our good works regarding our scholarships and charitable efforts in our community.

After giving various thank you gifts and table favors to our guests and members, the meeting adjourned at 12:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Whitley Gouker



Driving Directions and Parking Instructions to Fairhaven

From I-70, on to 32 toward Sykesville, then left at Springfield Ave/851, right at 3rd Ave, right 200 ft, then right on Outer Drive, and continue to Fairhaven.

From Liberty Road/26 turn right on 32 toward Sykesville, then left at Springfield Ave/851, right at 3rd Ave, right 200 ft, then right on Outer Drive, and continue to Fairhaven.

Fairhaven staff will be inside the gate starting at 10:30. They will direct us to parking immediately on the right and to the entrance of the building.



CCRSCPA Member donations for Shepherd's Staff:

Senior Sacks-gift bags for Carroll County seniors