



AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP

Coastal News

South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226
of AARP, Inc.
P.O. Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970

www.southcoastalaarp.org

VOL. 27 NO. 10

DECEMBER 2024

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

Co-President	Terry Baker	410-812-9063
Co-President	Kathy Johnson	302-829-8956
Vice President	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
Program Chair	Susan Kerwin	302-236-3481
Secretary	Jane Bartolomeo	302-436-8208
Asst. Secretary	Paula Pinkett	302-228-6284
Treasurer	Sheila Bower	602-688-5300
Asst. Treasurer	Bob Lesperance	302-537-7845

DIRECTORS

Jack Beall	2023-2025	302-616-1695
Ida Crist	2022-2024	302-732-6336
Joan DeMarco	2023-2025	410-250-0963
Sandy Raymond	2024-2026	301-651-2284
Dorothy Rieck	2022-2024	302-539-2654

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Vacant		
Coleen Cardy	2024-2025	724-238-3967
Larzar Cherry	2023-2024	646-523-0668
Vacant		
Terry Griswold	2024-2025	443-752-4513

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Kathy Lesperance	302-537-7845
Chorus	Ann Jaeger	302-645-8023
Legislative/ Environmental	Ted Spickler	302-927-0050
Membership	Kay Houston	302-732-6977
Newsletter	Nancy Archey	703-919-8254
Scholarship	Ida Crist	302-732-6336
	Shirley Price	302-236-7046
Sunshine	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
Tours	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
Web Coordinator	Frances Hart	703-801-7216
50/50	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
	Cookie Butts	302-541-9264

Our December 17th Luncheon meeting at Cripple Creek Country Club will feature The Singers of Note, led by Ann Yeager, chorus director since 2000. Ann directs our Chapter's 35-member chorus in music and songs appropriate for the seasons. Ann's experience includes teaching music and directing various music groups throughout New Castle and Sussex Counties. She and the chorus perform for churches, civic groups, and nursing homes. We are delighted to have Ann and the chorus as part of our holiday celebration. (See related article on page 3.)

Luncheon Menu Choices

Prime Rib (10oz)

Roasted black angus prime rib and sliced to order, prepared to medium

Glazed Salmon

Teriyaki glazed salmon seared to perfection

Chicken Cordon Bleu

Tender battered chicken stuffed Swiss cheese, ham and topped with a savory velouté sauce

All entrees served with Rolls and Butter, Green Beans, and Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Dessert

Marble Cake with holiday sprinkles

Coffee, Iced Tea, and Lemonade included

Cost is \$36.00. Pay by cash or check only.

Doors open at 11 a.m., and Lunch is at 12 noon. Chapter news and announcements follow.

Make Your Reservation AND Meal Choice:

Call or email Mary Ann Dougherty *by noon Monday, December 9* at 302-541-9412 or madod@aol.com.

Anyone who cancels after the deadline (December 9) or does not attend for any reason will be billed for the full cost of the luncheon.

IMPORTANT: We cannot take walk-ins.
If you send Mary Ann an email or leave her a voicemail, you will receive confirmation from her for your reservation and meal.
If you did not receive her confirmation, you do not have a reservation!

Please wear your name badge to the meeting

Presidents' Corner

Soon we will be decorating with festive holiday colors and lights that twinkle. Our winter holidays are very near, and our hearts beat with excitement. Take time to create memories of love, family, and goodwill for others. Take lots of pictures!

Happy Holidays to you and your family and friends. Enjoy every moment!

Terry and Kathy, Co-Presidents

Election Results from November's Annual Chapter Meeting

At the Annual Meeting of the South Coastal DE Chapter of the AARP on November 19th at Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club, the following Officers, Directors, and Nominating Committee members were voted into office starting in 2025.

OFFICERS (1-year terms)

President: Terry Baker (2025)
Vice President: Jim Harding (2025)
Program Director: Joanne Spink (2025)
Secretary: Jane Bartolomeo (2025)
Assistant Secretary: Paula Pinkett (2025)
Treasurer: Sheila Bower (2025)
Assistant Treasurer: Coleen Cardy (2025)

DIRECTORS (3-year terms)

Ida Crist (2025-2027)
Susan Kerwin (2025-2027)
Kathy Lesperance (2025-2027)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (2-year terms)

Maureen Eisenhardt (2025-2026)
Linda Filer (2025-2026)
Lana Linz (2025-2026)
Mable Ruddo (2025-2026)

The following Chapter members have previously been elected to their positions and will be returning in 2025:

Directors: Joan DeMarco (2023-2025) and Sandy Raymond (2024-2026)

Nominating Committee members: Terry Griswold (2024-2025).

Volunteer Positions Open

We are seeking volunteers to work with our Chapter leadership in the following position:

Website Maintenance: Work with the website coordinator, Frances Hart, to ensure that the Chapter's website is kept up-to-date and to assist with sending email blasts to the Chapter membership. Familiarity with WordPress or Mail Chimp is helpful, but not necessary. Please call Frances at 703-801-7216 for more information.

We appreciate your interest in working with us to help our Chapter grow and thrive.

Membership

Our current membership (as of November 19) stands at 425 members. We welcome new members – Peter Geisler, Brenda Kerber, Irma Kreger, Chris Kreutziger, Joe & Thea Giametta, Deb Johnstone, Lawrence Long, Marie Heaney, Jessie & Jeff Peterson, Media Lloyd, Anita & Sergei Kaganzev, Ann Hauser, Ruth Dorsey, Sandra Federman, Nancy Borreggine, Rita Blum, and Bea Brevard.

Membership Renewals were due November 1. If you are unsure whether you are up to date with your membership, please call Kay Houston at (302) 732-6977 or email Kay at joinaarpsc5226@gmail.com.

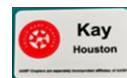
The current membership year began in September. The 2024-2025 Membership forms are available in this newsletter as well as on the [chapter's website](#). All members are required to submit a new Membership application along with a check to cover the dues for the current membership year. **108 members are not current** with their 2024-2025 dues.

Mail your renewal to the address on the form or bring the completed form with you to the December luncheon. Dues remain at \$15 for email delivery of the newsletter or \$18 if you need to receive the newsletter via US Postal Service.

***REMEMBER* Printed, mailed newsletters are reserved for those members who have no capability of receiving email.**

Mailed newsletters may not be received for several days after being posted on the website. This could be a problem if you want to reserve a spot at the luncheon while there is still space available.

In the meantime, reach out to your friends and neighbors to encourage them to join us.



Name Badge Update

Magnetic Plastic Name Badges are still available for purchase. **Cost is \$15/badge.** See Kay Houston (at the membership table) at the monthly meeting or mail the request along with a check to South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226, PO Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970. Be sure that the name you request is legible. The magnetic name badge is TOTALLY OPTIONAL. We will continue to provide badges with the plastic sleeve that hangs around your neck at no cost to you.

Kay Houston, Chair

Board of Directors Meetings

Meetings of the Chapter's Board of Directors are held the second Tuesday of the month, September through June, at 11:00 a.m. at the Ocean View Community Center on West Avenue in Ocean View.

All members are welcome to attend.

Scholarship Committee

Thank you to all who helped make the Dine and Donate at Cottage Café a success. We raised \$2,273 for the scholarship fund. This included \$1,000 from the restaurant, \$788 from the sale of raffle tickets for baskets, \$185 for our portion of 50-50 raffle tickets, \$85 from cash donations and \$215 from the sale of raffle tickets for the Tree of Life sculpture donated by Copper Creations of Melfa, VA.

Thank you, too, to all the businesses who made donations of gift cards and merchandise for our ten baskets which had an average value of more than \$300. Pat Kapolka, who is a member of the Scholarship Committee, won the copper sculpture, and June Taylor-Smith, also a Scholarship Committee member, won the 50-50 cash drawing.

Look for information in upcoming issues of the newsletter about a Dine and Donate in the spring and the Artisans Fair, which will be held on Saturday, May 24, 2025, at Lord Baltimore Elementary School.

If you were not able to attend the Dine and Donate at the Cottage Café and would like to make a contribution to the scholarship fund, you can make out a check and mail to:

South Coastal DE AARP
Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 225
Ocean View, DE 19970

(Please write *Scholarship Fund* in the memo line of your check.)

Ida Crist, Co-Chair



Pat Kapolka was the lucky winner of the Tree of Life copper sculpture.

Chorus

The Singers of Note, the South Coastal DE AARP Chorus, under the direction of Ann Jaeger, will give five performances during December. An abbreviated program will be offered at the December South Coastal DE AARP member luncheon meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

If you would like to hear the full hour-long program of holiday music, you are invited to a public performance at 11 a.m. Friday, December 6, at Millville United Methodist Church. The chorus will also sing for the Church of St. Ann in Bethany Beach, the South Bethany Women's Club, and the Ocean View Presbyterian Church.

Anyone interested in joining the chorus should contact Ann Jaeger at 302-645-8023 or email davejaeger@verizon.net

Ida Christ

Legislative/Environmental Committee

At the Chapter's luncheon meeting on November 19, I asked those present to let me know if they wanted to join the Chapter's legislative team for this coming year. If I didn't talk with you then or if you weren't at the luncheon, you may email me (arcadywood@gmail.com) to let me know of your interest in being a member of the legislative committee. I am building a new volunteers' email list and will explain to our team how they can join the monthly Zoom meeting with the AARP Delaware State Director of Advocacy, Sheila Grant.

Issues that our committee may get involved with this year include:

- Protecting Social Security and Medicare
- Being able to age in our own home/community
- Having affordable housing in our community
- Transportation: getting to the places we need to go, independently
- Improving pedestrian and traffic safety
- Affordability of prescription drugs
- Support for family caregivers (like a caregiver tax credit or nursing home reform)
- Protecting yourself from fraud.

Ted Spickler, Chair

Sunshine

If anyone is in need of a card – get well, surgery or sympathy – please call me at (302) 541-0513.

Joan Wolf, Chair

South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226 Chapter and Scholarship Committee Budgets for 2025

The Chapter and Scholarship Committee budgets for 2025 were approved by the Board of Directors at the Board meeting on November 12.

CHAPTER

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2025</u>
Social Events	\$29,520.00
50/50	\$1,250.00
Membership Dues	\$6,300.00
Fundraising	\$500.00
Newsletter Surcharge	\$120.00
Transfer from Reserves	\$970.00
Other	\$700.00
TOTAL	\$39,360.00

<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Social Events	\$28,900.00
Committees	\$1,895.00
Administration	\$800.00
Storage Unit	\$600.00
Website	\$2,500.00
Newsletter - Printing	\$800.00
Newsletter - Postage	\$300.00
Insurance	\$450.00
Donations	\$1,500.00
Chorus	\$275.00
Postage	\$100.00
Grant expenses (from reserves)	\$970.00
Miscellaneous	\$270.00
TOTAL	\$39,360.00

SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2025</u>
Artisans' Fair	\$11,425.00
Spring Fundraiser	\$700.00
Fall Fundraiser	\$1,200.00
Misc.-- Donations/Interest	\$250.00
TOTAL	\$13,575.00

<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Scholarships	\$9,000.00
Administration	\$75.00
Storage unit	\$290.00
Artisans' Fair	\$3,830.00
Spring Fundraiser	\$25.00
Fall Fundraiser	\$25.00
Postage	\$50.00
Other	\$280.00
TOTAL	\$13,575.00

Community Service

The Community Service Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to the "Dollars for Kids Coats." It was a great success.

At the December luncheon we will be collecting "Gifts for Seniors."

These gifts will be given to those who receive Meals on Wheels on Christmas morning. Please mark your wrapped gift "M" (male) or "F" (female). Some ideas are gloves, socks, scarves, lap blankets, and gift certificates. This is always a wonderful giving event!

Thank you so much.

Kathy Lesperance, Chair

For the **FASTEST and **BEST** way
to ensure you see a copy of the
most recent monthly newsletter:**

Visit the Chapter Website on the
4th Tuesday of each month,
August through May, at:

www.southcoastalaarp.org/newsletters

While you're on the [website](#), check out the
other pages for information on Chapter
Activities, Travel and more!

CHAPTER TRIPS 2025

April 9. Swing the Musical

Overview:

Swing! is a musical conceived by Paul Kelly with music by various artists. It celebrates the music of the Swing era of jazz (1930s–1946), including many well-known tunes by artists like Duke Ellington, William "Count" Basie, Benny Goodman and others. It received a nomination for the 2000 Tony Award for Best Musical and other Tony awards.

Swing! combines high energy dancing, singing and acrobatics. The show recreates the swing style of jazz, which used large bands, fixed musical arrangements and solo-driven improvisations. Together with the development of the music, various forms of swing dancing emerged, varying by geographic regions, such as the Lindyhop or Jitterbug in Harlem or the Whip in Houston.

Price includes: Round trip motor coach transportation to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, N.J., show, lunch, tip, taxes and gratuities.

Price: \$156.00 per person

For Reservations Contact: Karl & Gail Hettel, Escorts (610)442-6117 or hark582@gmail.com

June 3-6. Lancaster 2025

trip closed to new reservations

Overview:

Come along with us, on a journey through Lancaster's neighborhood and the Amish Countryside. A trip filled with nothing but fun!

Our trip will start with a Tribute to Toby Keith at the Dutch Apple Theater and finish off the day with cocktails at a get acquainted party. The second day you will get up close and personal with alpacas at Eastland Alpaca Farm. We will travel to the historic town of Lititz for lunch and browsing. Then on to Kitchen Kettle Village to shop some more and then finish up our day at the newly rebuilt Hershey Farm Restaurant for a Grand Smorgasbord. The next day we start with our Amish Inland Tour, but the day would not be complete without ice cream from Lapp Valley Creamery. We save the best for last with Bird in Hand Dinner Theater Show; The Rise & Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits and these shows are hilarious. Our last day we will travel to Lancaster Central Market for shopping and lunch on your own. You want to make sure you bring a cooler for all your great tasting buys.

Price includes: Round trip motor coach transportation, 3 nights hotel accommodations at the Travelers Rest Motel, 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners, Lapp Valley Ice Cream, 1 cocktail party, admission to all venues per itinerary, baggage handling and gratuities (bus driver, guides, room housekeeping).

Price: \$644.00 per person based on double occupancy

\$839.00 per person based on single occupancy

For Reservations Contact: Maria Harding (302)381-0980 or maria.aarp5226@gmail.com

Jim Harding (302)245-8511 or james.aarp5226@gmail.com

Aug 30-Sept 6. Cleveland and Mackinac Island

Overview:

Since 1887 the **Grand Hotel** beckons guests to a bygone era of old-world hospitality and charm. Experience the traditions of sitting in a rocking chair on the world's longest porch with views of the Straits of Mackinac. This National Historic Landmark has always embraced its rich history, while keeping with the current times. Upon arrival at the Grand Hotel we will board a **horse-drawn carriage** for a narrated tour of the island. After our tour you will enjoy a **spectacular lunch in the Grand Dining Room**. The **Rock 'n'Roll Hall of Fame** which takes you through the progression of music. How about a one of a kind train ride adventure on the **Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad** through the Cuyahoga Valley Nation Park. We will tour Cleveland's highlights and after enjoy **Cleveland's Food Tour of Little Italy** while enjoying the city's Italian culture that has existed for generations. **Bronner's Christmas Wonderland** is overflowing with 50,000 trims and gifts. You will enjoy the sights, sounds and spirit of Christmas completely surrounds you. We will travel to Dearborn to the **Greenfield Village** before starting home.

Price includes: Round trip motor coach transportation, 7 nights hotel accommodations, 7 breakfasts, 5 dinners, lunch at the Grand Hotel, Cleveland Food Tour of Little Italy, entrance to all listed venues, luggage handling, all taxes and meal gratuities.

Price: \$1,949.00 per person based on double occupancy

\$2,798.00 per person based on single occupancy

For Reservations Contact: Maria Harding (302)381-0980 or maria.aarp5226@gmail.com

Jim Harding (302)245-8511 or james.aarp5226@gmail.com

Oct 4-Oct 11 The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta trip closed to new reservations

Overview:

What a Fabulous Trip of the Southwest. Our trip will take us to Downtown Phoenix, AZ and Old Town Scottsdale where you will be immersed in the robust culture of the Southwest, we will travel on to Sedona, AZ & Red Rock Country. The landscape is truly unlike anything you could ever imagine. You will enjoy a Scenic Train Ride and visit the Grand Canyon. While on the train this unforgettable ride you will hear folklore and tales from authentic characters and musicians who bring the Old West to life. We will travel on to Albuquerque, NM. We will hear interactive overview of the History of Hot Air Balloons and enjoy the International Balloon Museum. We will experience the breathtaking ascension of the balloons at sunrise in a special reserved area with seating and buffet breakfast. After we will Travel on to White Sands National Park in Las Cruces where you will be in awe of this hidden gem. We will have a guide everyday on this trip to provide tons of history and fun stories.

Price Includes: Round-trip airfare, 7 nights hotel accommodations, 7 breakfast, 2 dinners, guide service everyday, visit and tour Phoenix, Scottsdale and Sedona. Native American jewelry shopping, see the Red Rocks, Grand Canyon Train Experience, Admission to the International Balloon Museum, Admission to the Balloon Fiesta including exclusive entrance to A VIP Viewing Area that includes outdoor seating and buffet breakfast. Visit Las Cruces, tour White Sands National Park, Standard taxes, meal gratuities, baggage handling, motor coach transportation to and from the airport with 40+ passengers, and motor coach transportation while on trip west.

Price: \$3299.00 pp based on double occupancy

\$4399.00 pp based on single occupancy

For Reservations contact: Maria Harding, Escort (302)381-0980 or Jim Harding, Escort (302)245-8511

Disclaimer

These tours are a project of and are offered to the South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226 of AARP. The Chapter and any agent it may use in arranging these or any other tours are not responsible in whole or in part to the tour member for any loss, damage, or injury, whether financial or otherwise to persons or property, however caused during or in connection with these or any other tours. These tours are activities conducted by South Coastal DE AARP #5226 and are in no way offered, sponsored, or conducted by AARP, which has no responsibility in connection with such tours.

TRIP RULES

- **No refunds for payments can be given unless a substitution can be made. If the trip is cancelled by the Tour Committee full refund will be provided to all paid participants.**
- To cancel a trip 48 hours or less before departure call trip coordinator listed on flyer
- Price subject to change if the price of diesel fuel increases by more than 20% after original contract with bus company
- Overnight trips seating will be assigned when initial payment is received
- Travel Protection Insurance is offered for all overnight trips

South Coastal AARP Chapter 5226 New Member and Renewal Application

2024 – 2025

Membership year runs from September 1 through August 31

Renewing members' dues must be received by **November 1, 2024**, in order to receive the next newsletter. (Please complete the form by typing or printing legibly). **Membership in National AARP is required to join local chapter.**

CHECK ONE: New member Renewing Member Date: _____

Name (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss) _____

Name Preferred on Badge: _____

Address: Street or P.O. Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Our standard (and preferred) method for distribution of the Chapter Newsletter is via email. The newsletter CAN be sent through U.S. Mail, however, there is an upcharge of \$3 for this service. The Chapter does take a loss for each newsletter sent through the Post Office, therefore, **this method of receiving the newsletter is reserved for those members who have no capabilities of electronic communication.** If there are two members in the same household, only **ONE** will receive the newsletter by US Mail and only one pays the \$18 fee with the other the standard fee \$15.

Membership renewal: **\$15** using email and/or **\$18** using U.S. mail .

Please add news@southcoastalaarp.org to your contact list

(Required) National AARP Membership No. _____ Expiration: _____

Your national membership and expiration date are on your membership card and on the mailing label of **AARP THE MAGAZINE**. Membership in National AARP does not make you a member of your local chapter.

Current/Previous Occupation: _____

Service to Your Chapter

Your involvement in our chapter is crucial to its success. Listed below are many of the opportunities in which you may serve. Please check any or all that may appeal to you:

Chapter Newsletter Community Service programs Legislative Membership Program Public Relations Scholarship Artisan Fair Tours (planning) Chamber of Commerce Liaison Chapter Meeting/Luncheon Assistant Chorus Finance/Auditing

Officers/Board of Directors

Would you consider serving as an: Officer Board Member Committee chair?

Please share with us any experience or skills that you have that would be of value to our Chapter programs:

Please return your application with your annual \$15 (Email) or \$18 (U.S. Mail) membership fee per person (checks only), payable to South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226 to:

Kay Houston * South Coastal AARP Ch#5226 PO Box 225 * Ocean View, DE 19970
Phone: (302) 732-6977 * Email: joinaarpsc5226@gmail.com