



Coastal News

To Serve Not To Be Served

South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226
of AARP, Inc.

P. O. Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970

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www.aarp5226.org

February 2016

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

CO-PRESIDENTS	Lee Shoff leerobertashoff@gmail.com	539-6952
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DIRECTORS

Al Thomas	2014-2016	410-591-6086
Jeannette Douthwaite	2014-2016	829-1377
Andrea Gowetski	2015-2017	541-4751
Brenda Fegelein	2016-2018	537-7908
Sharon Tweedie	2016-2018	541-5462
Maureen Eisenhart	Past President Advisor	988-1196

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joan Thomas, Chair	2016-2017	539-1367
Dave Jaeger	2016-2017	436-5173
Valerie Reeves	2016-2017	539-8212
Anna Woodrum	2015-2016	537-0826
Jeanne Hammel	2015-2016	436-2504

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Kathy Lesperance	537-7845
Legislative/Environmental	Chuck Schonder	703-881-2491
Membership	Enid Levine	541-5639
Public Relations	Bette Meredith	539-0532
	Jim Hartzig	247-9711
Scholarship	Shirley Price	236-7046
	Ione Phillips	539-2172
Tours	Jim Harding	537-5206

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Chorus	Ann Jaeger	436-5173
Hostess/Luncheon	Roberta Shoff	539-6952
Newsletter	Andrea Gowetski	541-4751
Sunshine	Joan Wolf	541-0513
Webmaster	Ralph Brown	539-8169
50/50	Joan Wolf/ Velma (Cookie) Butts	541-0513 541-9264

DELMARVA'S TREASURE. WILL SPEAK AT OUR FEBRUARY 16 LUNCHEON MEETING

We are very pleased to announce that Charles Paparella will be the speaker for our February 16 meeting at Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club.

Charles Paparella, or "Charlie" as he's known around here and around Delmarva, is WBOC's feature reporter. Every week he travels the peninsula gathering news that would not, under normal circumstances, be considered "news." But with his wry sense of humor and his considerable skill as a photographer, writer and editor, he brings us news that flies under the radar but lands in the heart.

LUNCHEON CHOICES INCLUDE

Turkey Burger - House recipe turkey burger topped with melted Swiss cheese, roasted bell peppers, fresh spinach and cranberry mayonnaise. Served on a toasted Artisan roll. **OR**

Quiche Lorraine

House made quiche with black forest ham, aged Swiss cheese and spinach. Served with Caesar salad.

OR

Soup and Sandwich Combination

1/2 of Grilled Chicken BLT on toasted multi grain ciabiatta paired with a cup of loaded baked potato soup.

Beverages include Ice Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, and Water. Dessert will consist of Tangerine Creme Cake.

Doors open at **11 am** for social hour with lunch at **12 noon** followed by the program and chapter news and announcements. **Cost: \$16 members and \$17 guests.**

Members may make their lunch reservations by calling **Jean Layton 732-3631**, or **Mary Ann Dougherty, 541-9412** or madod@aol.com by **noon, Thursday, January 14**. To cancel after the deadline, please contact **Linda Miller at 537-2475**. **Cancellations after the deadline or no-shows must be paid.**

AARP Chapter 5226 Contributions In 2015

At our December meeting the chapter made contributions totaling **\$4000** to community organizations. These donations plus others made during the year brought our total gifts to **\$13,478** for 2015. This level of support is made possible by donations from the chapter as a whole and from funds raised by the Tour and Scholarship Committees.

Organizations receiving donations this year included: Beebe Gull House, Bethany Beach Emergency Medical Team, Blood Bank of Delmarva, CHEER Coastal Leisure Center, CHEER Meals on Wheels, Delaware Food Bank, Delaware Hospice, Friends of Holts Landing State Park, Habitat for Humanity, Home of the Brave (Men's and Women's Programs), John Clayton Elementary School (Coats for Kids), Ocean View Historical Society, Pyle Center Energy Assistance, Salvation Army, Phillip C. Showell Elementary School (Dental Program and Coats for Kids), South Coastal Library, and The Way Home.

The Scholarship Committee presented scholarships during the year totaling **\$5,000** to Indian River High School graduates and to adults attending Del Tech.

CO-President's Message - Lee Shoff

Thanks to the members who turned in the 2015 voluntary hours form. (about 35 out of 450 members) The report to the National AARP has been completed and submitted. One goal I have for 2016 is to revise the form we currently use. It does not coincide with the information we need to report.

The Blood Bank of Delmarva has changed their procedure. We no longer have an AARP Chapter #5226 group with the Blood Bank. I want to thank Kathy Brendel for her years of service for maintaining the membership list, collecting membership fees and placing the Bloodmobile schedule in the newsletter.

The Community Service Committee will be posting the schedule in the newsletter. Membership fees are no longer collected. The Board of Directors voted to donate \$100 to the Blood Bank of Delmarva.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Legislative/Environmental -Chuck Schonder

The Governor's budget was sent to the General Assembly last month and is now being worked on by the Joint Finance Committee. The GA has until June 30 to approve the final 2017 budget. The Assembly also began its current legislative session.

With the improved revenue picture, the need to overhaul the State's budget basis will likely be kicked down the road for another year. With elections coming up in November, there will be no appetite for the hard decisions to redo how we do business in Delaware. Therefore, no raise of taxes on senior citizens will likely ensue.

Legislative business will address issues regarding education, crime, including the death penalty, clean water initiative which will involve an annual \$45 fee for each homeowner, etc. The GA has already voted down an attempt to override the Governor's veto of the "opt out" of a State test for students. Delaware State AARP will sponsor a bill to assist caregivers here. Several Chapter members will be in Dover to help out. There is a lot going on so please pay attention

We are still looking for volunteer drivers for the new transportation coop to drive seniors and the disable in our area. We are hoping for five volunteers from our Chapter. So far, we have only one. Please call Chuck Schonder. (703-881-2491 or Email cschonder3@gmail.com)

Membership – Enid Levine

PLEASE NOTE: Enid Levine will be away from January through March. Janet Shroy (the former Membership Chairman) has generously agreed to perform these duties. She can be reached at (302) 537-2786 and applications should be mailed to her at 30988 Holts Landing Road, Dagsboro DE 19939-4189.

Tour Committee - Jim Harding

Please remember our policy regarding payment for trips. If you sign up for a trip, you have **30 days** to pay from the date you **signed up.** If payment is not received within the 30 days, you will be taken off the list.

We received numerous calls and emails prior to announcing our new trips from members that wanted to sign up and would not be attending the

General Meeting. Unfortunately we will not take reservations prior to announcing the trips at a General Meeting in order to be fair to everyone . We ask for understanding. However, we will make every effort to post prior to the General Meeting what upcoming trips are going be announced and made available for the next General Meeting. You can go to www.aarp5226 and click on travel to view our trips.

A separate check for each trip should be payable to **South Coastal AARP Tour Committee** and sent to **South Coastal AARP Tour Committee, P.O. Box 662, Ocean View, DE. 19970**. Our Tour Committee continues to strive for more exciting, fun trips for all to enjoy.

Community Service - Kathy Lesperance

The Community Service Committee would like to thank everyone who donated items to the food pantry in 2015. The total donation count was 462. Great!

Our AARP family is very civic minded. Thanks again for the donations to the homeless shelter in Bethany and the toothpastes for the Dental Program to be held in February for the first graders.

Please mark your calendars for **March 19**. We will be having a fundraiser for the **Home of the Brave** (male and female) at the **Clayton Theatre** in Dagsboro. Doors will open at **1:30 PM** The movie, **The King and I**, will start at **2:30 PM**. Tickets may be purchased (**\$10**) in advance at the February luncheon.

Food Bank: We are still in need of food for the food pantry. These contributions of non-perishable items are needed to help many needy families in our area stretch their food dollars. Please check the dates and bring **unexpired** items to each chapter meeting.

Coupons for Military Families: Please bring your clipped, **unexpired** coupons (good for 90 days after expiration) to the chapter meeting. Be sure **not** to clip off the **bar code** and **expiration date**. Please sort according to food and non-food items. Mary is also collecting cereal box top coupons.

Blood Bank: To make a Bloodmobile appointment, call **1-800-548-4009**. The bloodmobile will **not** be in Bethany Beach or Selbyville in February or March.

Scholarship - Shirley Price/Ione Phillips

The Scholarship Committee has plans underway for another successful year. In 2016 the committee will award two scholarships of \$1500 each to graduating seniors from Indian River High School and four \$500 scholarships to adult students attending Del Tech.

To raise funds for the scholarships, the committee sponsors two fundraisers each year. The Artisans Fair held on Memorial Day Weekend Saturday is the primary source of support for the scholarships. In the fall the committee sponsors a benefit night at a local restaurant that provides additional funds for the program.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

AARP Sponsored Book Club

The AARP book group will be meeting on Thursday, February 4 at 10 AM at the South Coastal Library to discuss "Fourth of July Creek" by Smith Henderson. This is an intense novel about a social worker who becomes involved with the life of a pre-teen, partially feral boy. All are welcome.

Bowling – Gary Meredith

After three weeks of the second half of the season, Sharon Tweedie's Alley Oop is off to a 12-0 record. Currently Ray Sudina has the high average for men at 212 while Mary Lou Straughan is high for women at 165. President, Lee Shoff's team is currently in last place with a 2-10 record. We have lots of fun in this league every Monday at the Millsboro Lanes. If you are interested in joining, please contact **Gary Meredith** at **539-0532**.

Driver's Safety Classes--Gloria DeMartino

Refresher Classes are for those who have previously taken the Standard Driver's Safety Class. You must take the class every three years to continue to receive a discount on your auto liability insurance. The State is now mandating you cannot take the Refresher Class prior to 90 days expiration of your current certificate.

Refresher Classes are scheduled for: **Monday, February 1** from **9 AM** to **1 PM**, **Monday, March 14** from **9 AM** to **1 PM** and **Monday, April 4** from

10 AM to 2 PM. To register for any of these classes, call **Gloria** at **(302) 934-9727**.

A Standard Class is for those who have never taken the class or it has been more than three years. The next Standard Class is **Monday, May 2** from **9 AM to 3 PM**. To register, call **Gloria** at **(302) 934-9727**.

Please note: **There will be no classes June, July or August.** All of the classes are held at South Coastal Library, Bethany Beach. The cost is **\$15** for AARP members and **\$20** for non-members. If you want to take this course online, go to AARPdriversafety.org. The cost is **\$17.95** for AARP members and **\$21.95** for non-members

Chorus - Ann Jaeger

The AARP Chorus started their spring season on Wednesday, January 27 at 10 AM at the South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach. We would love to see some new members there! If interested, please call our director, **Ann Jaeger** at **436-5173**.

Sunshine - Joan Wolf

If you know of anyone who needs a card, please contact **Joan Wolf** at **541-0513**.

SOME FINANCIAL INFORMATION FROM 2015

Our membership should be aware of all the work our treasurers do in collecting, depositing, and disbursing all the funds for our Chapter 5226 Account, our Scholarship Account, and our Tour Committee Account

Carolyn Kelly and **Kathy Filip** have spent countless hours doing this and giving a detailed financial report monthly to the Board of Directors. Many do not realize the amount of money that goes through these accounts. Here is a summary of these accounts for 2015:

CHAPTER ACCOUNT

Opening balance 1/1/2015	\$ 7,153.56
Receipts for 2015	<u>22,555.05</u>
Total	\$29,708.61
Expenses for 2015	<u>23,621.30</u>
Balance 12/31/2015	\$ 6,087.31

SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT

Opening balance 11/2015	\$14,081.18
Receipts for 2015	<u>10,290.85</u>
Total	\$24,372.03
Expenses for 2015	<u>7,588.43</u>
Balance 12/31/2015	\$16,783.43

TOUR COMMITTEE ACCOUNT

Carryover and 2015 Receipts	\$224,615.92
Trip expenses, operating expenses and donations	<u>197,004.37</u>
Balance 12/31/15	\$27,611.55*

*Most of this balance is deposits for trips not yet taken.

Ways To Jumpstart A Better Tomorrow With A Tax Refund

When it comes to financial resolutions, a tax refund is a quick way to get started on the right path. It's the largest single check many of us will get over the course of the year. Imagine what a big difference you can make in your debt or savings with it. Here are a few specific strategies you might want to try.

- Direct deposit that check straight into savings and make it a little bit harder to spend
- Purchase U.S. Series I Savings Bonds with all or part of your refund.
- Fund an IRA.
- If you can't pay off your credit card debt in full, putting a sizeable refund toward it will help you incur less interest and will help you get a head start on paying it all off.
- Pay off a car loan.
- Make extra payments on your mortgage
- Make energy efficient upgrades to your home..
- Take care of any medical or dental work you've been putting off
- Invest in yourself! Maybe it's taking a continuing education course or spending some of the refund on professional conferences or networking events.

CHAPTER TRIPS

2016

- Feb 24** **Harrington Casino** - Enjoy a day with your AARP friends! Includes \$10 free play and buffet lunch. Depart Giant parking lot at 8:30 AM and return around 4 PM. **Price: \$20 per person.**
- March 9** **Philadelphia Flower Show and the Reading Market Terminal** - The theme this year is American National Parks. The show features large scale gardens, elaborate landscapes and over the top floral creations. Lunch and dinner on your own. **Price: \$70 per person.**
- April 5** **Murder Mystery Dinner** - "Cheers To Murder" at Cripple Creek Country Club. Doors open 12:45 PM. Show begins at 1:30 PM. Price includes show, dinner, and gratuities. Cash bar. **Price: \$56 per person. Waiting list only.**
- April 13** **"Samson"** - Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster. Dinner at the Shady Maple Restaurant. Price included bus, show, dinner, and gratuities. **Price: \$117 per person. Waiting list only.**
- April 23-May 1** **Southern Flair Featuring Jekyll Island & Savannah, GA; Charleston & Myrtle Beach, SC** - Soak up Southern charm with this trip to some of its premier sites. Price includes round trip transportation, hotels, admission to all featured attractions, breakfast daily, 2 lunches, 5 dinners, taxes, gratuities and luggage handling. Go to www.aarp5226.org for detailed brochure, including full itinerary. **Price: \$1,550 per person based on double occupancy; \$2,210 per person based on single occupancy. Waiting list only.**
- May 12** **Mystery Trip???** - Take a trip for pleasure without knowing where you are going. Arouse your curiosity. Enjoy the company of your fellow travelers. **Price: \$100 per person. Waiting list only.**
- May 23** **Philadelphia Zoo** - Admission to the zoo, transportation, bus driver, and tip. Dinner on your own at Buckleys Tavern. **Price: \$62 per person**
- June 8-10** **Grand Canyon of PA** - 2 night 3 day trip. 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 dinners, Paddle boat ride, tour Jim Thorpe, tour Highland Chocolate Factory, Four Friends vineyard & winery, Williamsport Historic Millionaires Row, and more. **Price \$422 based on double occupancy. \$560 single occupancy. Waiting list only.**
- June 14** **Baseball Game** - Delmarva Shore birds vs. Kannapolis Intimidators. Trip includes entrance to game, buffet dinner with BBQ chicken legs, grilled hamburgers, grilled hot dogs, baked macaroni and cheese, watermelon, popcorn, water, tea and lemonade, and the bus driver tip. The tour committee will be picking up the cost of the bus. **Price \$30 per person.**

(Go to www.aarp5226.org for more details about the many trips offered.)

A three-payment plan is used for all overnight trips: 25% initial deposit; 25% 90 days from the trip; 50% 55 days from the trip

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.

Lee Shoff, President


Trip Reservations: To make a reservation for any trip, contact **Jim or Maria Harding, (302) 537-5206. (jameshrdg@yahoo.com)** Make checks payable to: **South Coastal AARP Tour Committee** and send to **South Coastal AARP Tour Committee, P.O. Box 662, Ocean View, DE. 19970.** **Please submit a check for each trip you sign up for. Note on the check what trip the check is to be applied to. We can no longer accept one check for multiple trips.**

Trip Rules

- Payment is preferred at time of registration and must be made no later than 30 days after registration.
- Reservations made within 30 days of a scheduled trip must be paid at time of registration.
- No refunds for payments can be given unless a substitution can be made. If a trip is cancelled by the Tour Committee, full refunds will be provided to all paid participants.
- To cancel a trip 48 hours or less before departure, contact the tour escort for that trip.
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed on buses during chapter-sponsored trips.
- **Price subject to change:** If the price of diesel fuel increases by more than 20% between the date of the contract with Bus Company and the date of the charter, the Tour Committee may charge a fuel surcharge to participants.

Please remember our policy regarding payment for trips. If you sign up for a trip, you have **30 days** to pay from the date you **signed up.** If payment is not received within the 30 days, you will be taken off the list.

FEBRUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 Driver's Refresher Class 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Tour Committee 10:30 a.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Bowling 2 p.m. - Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>2 Community Service Meeting 10:30 a.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Legislative Committee - 1 p.m. South Coastal Library</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 AARP Book Club South Coastal Library - 10:30 a.m. - Noon</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>8 Bowling 2 p.m. - Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>9 AARP Board Meeting 10 a.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Scrabble 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Grotto's on Route 26</p>	<p>10 Crafts - 10 a.m. Clearwater Village Club House</p> <p>Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.</p>	<p>11 Deadline Luncheon Reservations/ Cancellations 12 noon</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 </p>	<p>15 Bowling 2 p.m. - Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>16 Luncheon - 12 noon Meeting 1 p.m. Cripple Creek Country Club</p>	<p>17 Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22 Bowling 2 p.m. - Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>23 Scrabble 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Grotto's on Route 26</p>	<p>24 Harrington Casino Trip 8:30 am - Giant</p> <p>Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29 Bowling 2 p.m. - Millsboro Lanes</p>					

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