



Coastal News

South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226
of AARP, Inc.

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

To Serve Not To Be Served

VOL. 21 NO. 1

www.southcoastalaarp.org

January 2018

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

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John Macken	2018-2020	914-522-9309
Lucille Kurtz	Past President Advisor	914-329-9038

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Jeanne Hammel	2017-2018	436-2504
Chuck Schonder	2017-2018	703-881-2491
Andrea Gowetski	2018-2019	541-4751
Sandra McGrath	2018-2019	537-7709
Julia McMullen	2018-2019	537-9640

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service Legislative/Environmental	Kathy Lesperance	537-7845
Membership	Chuck Schonder	703-881-2491
Scholarship	Dottie Rieck	539-2654
	Shirley Price	236-7046
	Ida Crist	732-6336
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
50/50	Joan Wolf/ Velma (Cookie) Butts	541-0513 541-9264

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! If you are like me you can't believe it's January. Only recently, It started to feel like winter and now we are only a few weeks away from Valentine's Day. How time flies.

As I sit here putting this "message" together, I am feeling really proud to be a member of this chapter. I, and your Officers, Board of Directors, and Committee Chairs, volunteer a great deal of time and talent to work on your behalf to keep our Chapter fresh and interesting. Their names are in each edition of the newsletter and we welcome you to contact us with new ideas and your concerns. Better yet, if you are interested in serving on a committee or board, let us know.

Some once said, "Without dedicated members, no organization can be successful". Someone else claimed, "No organization, no matter how large or small, can survive without members." Always remember that joining our Chapter should be fun, exciting, enjoyable, and most of all productive for you, your fellow Chapter members, and your community.

In closing, I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year! See you at our Chapter luncheon/meeting on January 16.

Chris

AARP STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Please join us on January 16 at Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club for the annual legislative program. Our guest speaker will be Sheila Grant , our AARP Associate State Director for Advocacy as well as the Legislative Committee Chair. She will present the state legislative priorities, distribute the chapter's Legislative Issues Survey, share plans for a major lobbying day in Dover, and report on current bills the chapter supports.

Please fill out and return the Legislative Committee survey that is **included** in this newsletter.

Please note the bar at Cripple Creek will be renovated with new cabinetry during the week of our luncheon, so that area may be a little messy.

LUNCHEON CHOICES:

Chicken and Dumplings

OR

Winter Chef Salad - Sliced turkey, roasted red peppers, hard-boiled egg, dried cranberries, blue cheese crumbles, and candied walnuts served over baby spinach with creamy Italian dressing.

OR

Soup and Sandwich Combo - 1/2 roast beef wrap with arugula, tomato, melted cheddar cheese and horseradish mayonnaise. Served with a cup of creamy tomato soup

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 **Allys Macken 914-819-2992**, or **Mary Ann Dougherty, 541-9412** or madod@aol.com by **noon, Wednesday, January 10**. To cancel after the deadline, please contact **Linda Miller** at **236-5570**.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Legislative/Environmental -Chuck Schonder

Chapter Issues Survey

The Legislative Committee has been working in conjunction with our state Assistant Director for Advocacy, Sheila Grant, on this project since September. The Committee has had this on our agenda at four monthly meetings (including Sheila's attendance in October) as well as informational reports in three newsletters and three Board meetings.

Sheila has worked with State, East Coast Regional, and National AARP Officials to develop language that follows their program guidelines. The goal is to develop results that express the priorities that our members wish us to advocate for them. The results are essential for informing appropriate State AARP officials to implement advocacy plans. The top three areas of concern will form our agenda for the coming year. Then the Board will vote on the Legislative Agenda according to the Chapter Handbook. The Legislative Committee will then

have the authority to pursue those items on behalf of the Chapter.

The survey will be presented at the **1/16/18 luncheon**, and in this **January Newsletter**.

Time Line

1/2/18 – Legislative Committee – review logistics for luncheon

1/9/18 – Board Meeting – review logistics for luncheon

1/16/18 – Luncheon – Legislative Program for 2018 & Survey by Sheila Grant, State Assistant Director for Advocacy

1/26/18 – Surveys due back by snail mail

3/7/18 – Lobby Day – 9 AM – Dover – Review Legislative Goals & meet your representatives

Anyone completing the survey in advance can turn it in at the luncheon. Surveys will be available at the luncheon. This should cut down on duplication. Responses are confidential.

Membership – Dottie Rieck

We welcome new members Kathryn Nork, Joann Teiken, Frank and Carol Coccia, Gail Hires, Lynne Davies, and Linda Carey. Our current membership is 423.

If you are having trouble receiving your newsletter by email or U.S. mail, please contact me. I can be reached by phone at 302-539-2654 or by email at Rieck5226@aol.com.

Please send any checks to renew your membership to Dottie Rieck, PO Box 286, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Community Service - Kathy Lesperance

Thanks to everyone who generously donated Christmas gifts for seniors and toothpaste for the children's dental program. In January we will still be collecting "kids" toothpaste for distribution at our Dental Program in February.

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 schedule an appointment call 1-**888-825-6638** or schedule on line at www.delmarvablood.org. Check for locations in Sussex County on the web site.

Scholarship -- Ida Crist & Shirley Price

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank the large group of members who attended our fall fundraiser/basket auction. The event, held on Thursday, November 30 at Fins in Bethany Beach, brought in \$ 1,641 for the scholarship fund.

Fins was a great host, and generously donated a portion of its evening proceeds to the Scholarship Fund. We auctioned off 29 baskets, and many members came away winners.

Plans are now underway for the Artisans Fair to be held on Saturday, May 26 at Lord Baltimore Elementary School. More than three-quarters of our inside spaces are sold, and we are beginning to fill up the outside spaces too. Mark your calendar and plan to be part of this great chapter event!

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Chorus - Ann Jaeger

The final concert for the holiday season was at the December 19 AARP meeting. We have had a busy season singing for churches, women's clubs and our own chapter. We have been very well received. We are pleased to have many new members and a nice group of men!

We will be starting up in January with practices at the Library. We would love to have you join us. Our spring session will be a varied collection of music. Contact Ann Jaeger for information at 436-5173.

Driver's Safety Classes - Joan King

Refresher classes are for those who have previously taken the Standard Driver's Class. You must take the Refresher Class every three (3) years to continue to receive a discount on your auto

liability insurance. The State is now mandating that you cannot take the Refresher Class prior to 90 days expiration of your current certificate.

A four hour refresher course will be offered at Community Lutheran Church, 30897 Omar Road, Frankford, DE 19945. Call Joan King at 239-567-0606 for dates and registration.

The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members.

AARP Sponsored Book Club

The book for January 4 is Moonglow by Michael Chabon. It is a story about the power of family bonds.

NO-COST INCOME TAX RETURNS

Again this year, the AARP Tax-Aide program will offer free tax return assistance and preparation to taxpayers with low and moderate incomes, with special attention to those 50 and older. Taxpayers do not need to be members of AARP to use this service. In the Bethany Beach area, the service will be offered by appointment at the Masterson Center, St. Ann Catholic Church, Route 26, Monday through Wednesday, beginning February 5. Appointments will be from 9 AM until 1 PM. The phone number to call to make an appointment, starting January 15, will be [302-858-3575](tel:302-858-3575).

At the time of their appointment, taxpayers must present photo ID, must have proof of SSN for every individual to be named on the return, and must bring last year's (2016) Federal and State tax returns. All tax documents, including income statements, proof of deductions and credits (when applicable), and health insurance statements, should be removed from their envelopes and made available to the preparer. A taxpayer who may be able to itemize deductions should bring a summary of the expenses to be itemized along with supporting documentation.

For information about other Tax-Aide locations in this area, call the toll-free number, 1-888-AARP NOW ([1-888-227-7669](tel:1-888-227-7669)), or visit the AARP Web site at www.aarp.org/findtaxhelp.

CHAPTER TRIPS

2017

Dec 13

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

Enjoy a wonderful Christmas Show At Radio City Music Hall and after the show enjoy Christmas in New York City on your own. You will be provided a map of New York City in order to explore points of interest, Rockefeller Center and the Christmas tree, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Time Square, Macy's Christmas display, then enjoy a meal at one of the many restaurants in the city. **Price includes:** show, motor coach transportation, tips and gratuities. Lunch and Dinner on your own. Bus departs Giant parking lot 5:30 AM for a 11 AM show.

Price \$165 per person

WAIT LIST ONLY

2018

Jan 27

Back-to-Back Southern Caribbean Cruise

Feb 11

Royal Caribbean's "Jewel of the Seas" Ports of call include St. Thomas, Antigua, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Maarten, Dominica, Grenada and San Juan. **Price includes:** 2 week cruise, shipboard meals, entertainment, one night hotel accommodations in beautiful San Juan, round trip motor coach transportation to Philadelphia Airport, non-stop round trip airfare to San Juan, transportation to and from the cruise ship and hotel, port charges and taxes. \$50.00 room credit the second week. For more information call Jim Harding.

March 21

Newsies - Broadway Musical at the Toby's Dinner Theatre

Musical based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899. Disney's musical tells the story of Jack Kelly, a rebellious newsboy who dreams of a life as an artist away from the big city. After publishing giant Joseph Pulitzer raises newspaper prices at the newsboys' expense, Kelly and his fellow newsies take action. With help from the beautiful female reporter Katherine Plumber, all of New York City soon recognizes the power of "the little man." **Price includes:** motor coach transportation, show, dinner, tips, and gratuities.

Price \$92.00 per person

NEW

April 22

Steel Magnolias- Broadway Play at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

A young beautician, newly arrived in a small Louisiana town, finds work at the local salon, where a small group of women share a close bond of friendship and welcome her into the fold. **Price includes:** motor coach transportation, show, lunch tips and gratuities.

Price \$125.00 per person

May 9

Jesus-Sight & Sound

Sight & Sound Theatres invites you to experience the greatest rescue story of all time! Jesus is the action-packed musical stage adventure that takes you on a miraculous journey alongside the most famous person to ever walk the earth, and the everyday people whose lives he changed forever. Bus leaves Giant parking lot 9:30 AM. **Price includes:** show, motor coach, dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord, tax and gratuities.

Price: \$133 per person

June 3-9

Mackinac Island, Michigan June is Lilac Time on Mackinac Island

Hydro jet ferry ride to Mackinac Island. Enjoy beautiful Mackinac Island and stay one night at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Carriage Tour of Mackinac Island, Championship lumberjack show, Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, Soo Locks Boat Tour, Henry Ford Museum, and Tour of Frankenmuth. **Price includes:** breakfast, lunch and 5 course dinner at the Mackinac Grand Hotel, 6 Breakfasts, 4 dinners, motor coach transportation, baggage handling, taxes, gratuities, admission to all scheduled sightseeing per itinerary, and hotel accommodations.

Price: \$1359 per person based on double occupancy

\$1834 per person based on single occupancy WAIT LIST ONLY

Sept 19-

Sept 21

Flight 93 National Memorial

Explore three major disasters of Pennsylvania. Visit United Airlines Flight 93 crash site and visitor center to view a film, Quecreek Mine dedicated to miners trapped 240 feet underground, Johnstown Flood National Memorial learn about the flood of May 31, 1889, Altoona Railroader's museum, Take a train ride on "The Pennsylvania" and travel on the famed Horseshoe Curve, The Mountain Playhouse the oldest theater in PA where we will take in a comedy. **Price includes:** admission to all scheduled sightseeing

per itinerary, train trip, motor coach transportation, tips, and gratuities, 5 meals (2 breakfast, 1 lunch, 2 dinners), and hotel accommodations.

Price: \$450 per person based on double occupancy
\$560 per person based on single occupancy

FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE ABOVE OFFERED GO TO: www.southcoastalaarp.org

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 Reservations:

To make a reservation for any trip contact Jim or Maria Harding, (302)537-5206 or email jameshrdg@yahoo.com Make checks payable to: South Coastal AARP #5226 and send to South Coastal AARP Tour Committee, PO 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. If you are paying for more than 1 person please make note on the check. We can no longer accept one check for multiple trips.

Trip Rules

Day Trips

- Payment is preferred at time of registration and must be made no later than 30 days after registration
- Reservations made within 30 days of 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 Jim Harding (302)537-5206
- 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.

Overnight Trips

- All overnight trips use a voucher system for the payment fee and a payment schedule.
- If Cancellation after the **final payment date** is necessary we will try to fill the spot with someone from our wait list. After that has been exhausted member has the option then and only then to replace the reservation with interested party of their choice.
- Cancellation Insurance is offered for all overnight trips. If cancellation is necessary and we cannot fill that seat after the **final payment date** member will submit claim to the insurance carrier for their reimbursement refund.
- Cancellation without insurance after the **final payment date**-no refunds will be given unless we can replace your reservation as stated above.
- Cancellation prior to the **final payment date** as stated on the voucher will be refunded.

Please Note

We now offer three possible ways to notify you of our upcoming trips. Once these notices are sent you have the option to book the trip being offered. .

- Broadcast emails sent out to all members supplying their emails
- General Meeting/Luncheon
- Newsletter

AARP SOUTH COASTAL DE CHAPTER #5226 SURVEY – 12/27/17

**Return the Survey by 1/26/18 to: South Coastal AARP, Inc.
P.O. Box 225
Ocean View, DE 19970**

This survey has been designed by South Coastal members (largest Chapter in DE and 8th largest in the Nation). Please express which areas you wish AARP to advocate as critical priorities on your behalf. These results will help AARP’s DE office better understand our Chapter’s priorities. Your participation in the survey is essential for informing appropriate state-wide advocacy implementation plans.

Section 1: Issues - Please mark the top 3 issue areas of concern to you with #1 being highest.

Issue Areas of Concern to You	Rank
Security [Social Security, savings and pensions, working longer, etc.]	
Transforming Our Healthcare System [Medicare, improving access, containing costs, promoting health, affordable drugs]	
Long-Term Services and Supports [improving care coordination, increasing availability of home and community care, supporting family caregivers, protecting the frail]	
Communities Where We Can Thrive [housing, transportation, environment, internet access]	
Protecting Consumers [utilities regulation, responsible mortgages, educating consumers]	
Making Democracy Work Better [holding Congress accountable, an engaged public, exercising your vote]	

Section 2: Your Personal Thoughts

Section 3 – Join our South Coastal AARP Advocacy Team (SCAT). You can help when big votes come up by emailing your State Representative:

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 	2 Tour Committee 10:30 a.m. South Coastal Library Community Service Meeting 10:30 a.m. South Coastal Library Legislative Committee -12 noon South Coastal Library	3 Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.	4 AARP Book Club South Coastal Library - 10:30 A.M.	5	6
7	8	9 AARP Board Meeting 10:10 a.m. South Coastal Library	10 Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m. Deadline - Luncheon Reservations/ Cancellations 12 noon	11	12	13
14	15	16 Chapter Luncheon - 12 noon Meeting 1 p.m. Cripple Creek Country Club	17 Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.	25	26	27 Caribbean Cruise Jan 27-Feb 11
28	29	30	31 Chorus Practice South Coastal Library 10 a.m.			