



Coastal News

To Serve Not To Be Served

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

VOL. 24 NO. 1

www.southcoastalaarp.org

January 2021

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

CO-PRESIDENTS	Jim Harding jameshrdg@yahoo.com Sandra McGrath srmcif@aol.com	973-903-1495 537-7709
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SECRETARY	Maureen Eisenhart irishmom08@gmail.com	988-1196
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Vacant	
TREASURER	Carolyn Kelly kitzy50@gmail.com	537-2598
ASST. TREASURER	Joan Demarco djoanoceancity@aol.com	410-250-0963

DIRECTORS

Valerie Reeves	2019-2021	539-8212
Terry Baker	2020-2021	410-812-9063
Andrea Gowetski	2020-2022	541-4751
Jack Beall	2020-2022	616-1695
John Macken	2021-2023	914-522-9309
Lee Shoff	Past President Advisor	539-6952

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sue Dick	2020-2022	539-5733
Sandy Raymond	2021-2022	301-651-2284
Lana Linz	2021-2022	439-2156
Vacant		
Vacant		

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service Legislative/Environmental	Kathy Lesperance	537-7845
	Chuck Schonder	703-881-2491
Membership	Dottie Rieck	539-2654
Scholarship	Shirley Price	236-7046
	Ida Crist	732-6336
Tours	Jim Harding	973-903-1495
Web Coordinator	Frances Hart	703-801-7216
Chorus	Ann Jaeger	645-8023
Hostess/Luncheon	Roberta Shoff	539-6952
	Anna Woodrum	537-0826
Newsletter	Andrea Gowetski	541-4751
Sunshine	Joan Wolf	541-0513
50/50	Joan Wolf/ Velma (Cookie) Butts	541-0513 541-9264

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I want to send to all our AARP Members Warmest Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year. May your holidays be filled with laughter, cheer, and most of all health as we wait for the New Year.

Today I received news from Megan Hookey with an update on our chapter's status in regards to all meetings, functions and gatherings. Unfortunately, it was the news I expected considering the circumstances of the pandemic. Corporate AARP has extended our lockdown until March 31, 2021 and in February 2021 will review all data to make a determination if March 31, 2021 will be feasible for lifting our lockdown status.

I know this is getting old not being able to meet friends, gather for meetings and have a luncheon, but we can get through a few more months. It is so close now. With the new vaccines coming out we will gather again, *"we will sing in the sunshine"* and *"we will laugh every day."* For those of you who know some oldie songs you will recognize the above quotes. However, it is true we will overcome the turmoil and rise above.

The Board is working behind the scenes making plans for our tentative opening in April 2021. Dues are being collected by Dottie and we look forward to seeing everyone in April 2021.

Merry Christmas & Happy Healthy New Year.
Jim

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Membership – Dottie Rieck

Our current paid membership for 2020-2021 stands at **209**.

If you have not renewed your membership for 2020-2021, **please pay your dues now**. If you are not sure whether or not you have renewed your membership, please contact Dottie Rieck by phone at 302-539-2654 or by email at Rieck5226@aol.com.

Dues are \$10 per person if you receive your newsletter by email or \$13 if you receive your newsletter by US mail. If two people in the household are getting the newsletter by US mail, only one pays the membership fee of \$13 and the other the standard \$10 fee. **Please include the expiration date of your National AARP membership on the memo line of your check.**

Please mail your check, payable to South Coastal DE Chapter 5226, to Dottie Rieck, P O Box 286, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Legislative/Environmental - Chuck Schonder

The General assembly is scheduled to open January 12. Your Legislative Committee is reviewing three bills that we supported last year that were held over without action. We are working with the bills sponsors to see if they will lead the fight for them in the upcoming term. Delaware AARP is working on several new issues to support for the new term as well. More on those as they develop.

Several committee members have been meeting virtually with the First State advocacy Team bi-weekly since September on the issues stated above. The experts tell us that the general public will start getting the vaccine in March or April.

We can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel, The new year holds much promise, Be well and safe.

Community Service - Kathy Lesperance

Thanks to everyone who donated to “Coats for Kids” fundraiser. We would not be able to give the John Clayton Elementary School children coats,

gloves, underwear, sweats and sneakers, without your support. The school is very grateful.

Thanks again from the Community Service Committee.

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

Thank you for your generous support of cash donations to the Scholarship Fund. Since our appeal in the October newsletter and a subsequent request for donations in a direct email, we have received \$2,058 from members. We really appreciate your financial support during this time when we could not hold our two main fund-raising events, the Artisans Fair and our fall Dine and Donate. You have ensured that we will be able to award scholarships in 2021.

We will decide in the spring on whether or not we can hold the Artisans Fair on Saturday, May 29. Public health conditions and the availability of Lord Baltimore Elementary School will dictate that decision.

It is still not too late to make a cash donation* to the Scholarship Fund if you have not done so.

You can make out a check to:

South Coastal DE AARP with “Scholarship Fund” in the memo line.

Mail it to:

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

Thank you for supporting the education of deserving students.

*Because South Coastal DE AARP is a 501(c)4, donations are not tax-deductible.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Driver's Safety Classes

Take the AARP Smart Driver course and learn:

- Proven safety strategies
- New traffic laws
- Rules of the road.

Classroom and online courses are available. Sign up today at www.aarp.org/drive or call **1-877-846-3299**.

Upon your completion you may be eligible to receive an **auto insurance discount**. Consult your agent for details.

Sunshine - Joan Wolf

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

2021 BUDGET APPROVED

Due to COVID-19 this budget is based on lower estimates for 2021. We may not be able to have any activities in 2021. If that is the case, the actual amounts will be different. Actual membership for 2020 was down 447 members.

<u>Income</u>	<u>2021</u>
Social Events	\$14,670.00
50/50	800.00
Dues	3,000.00
Fundraising	300.00
Newsletter Surcharge	180.00
Miscellaneous	<u>25.00</u>
Subtotal	\$18,975.00

<u>Expenses</u>	
Social Events	\$14,004.00
Committees	
Community Service	300.00
Membership	100.00
Program	500.00
Legis./Environ.	150.00
Sunshine	50.00
Storage Unit	300.00
Administration	300.00
Website	1,050.00
Newsletter-Printing	630.00
Newsletter-Postage	475.00
Insurance	325.00
Donations	450.00
Chorus	241.00
Postage	50.00
Miscellaneous	<u>00.00</u>
Subtotal	\$18,975.00

Scholarship Committee Budget

The Scholarship Committee plans to have two fundraising events in 2021: The Artisans Fair in May and a Fall Fundraiser later in the year. These events will support the distribution of \$8,000 in scholarships—two for Indian River High School seniors and three for adult students at Delaware Technical Community College.

<u>Income</u>	<u>2020</u>
Artisan's Fair	\$ 9,890.00
Fundraiser	1,000.00
Interest	10.00
CD Redemption	<u>1,350.00</u>
Subtotal	\$12,250.00

<u>Expenses</u>	
Administration	\$ 75.00
Artisans' Fair	3,700.00
Fall Fundraiser	100.00
Postage	75.00
Storage Unit	300.00
Scholarships	8,000.00
Purchase new CD's	00.00
Retain for Future	<u>00.00</u>
Subtotal	\$12,250.00

REVISED BYLAWS

The Board has voted to revise the following:

Revised bylaw Section: III Membership C
Annual Chapter dues are seven dollars.

New Wording: Annual chapter dues are ten dollars.

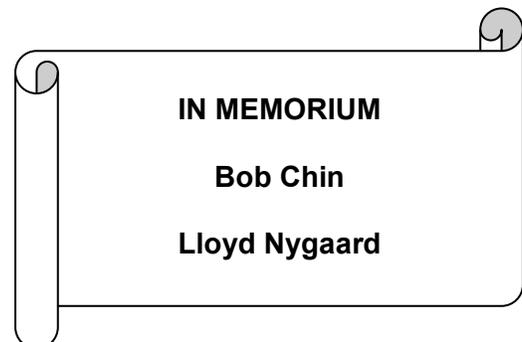
Purpose of Change: Dues were increased.

Revised Bylaw Section: VI Officers A

The Chapter will have seven officers: the President, --Corresponding Secretary.

New Wording: The Chapter will have seven officers: the President--Assistant Secretary.

Purpose of Change: In absence of Secretary, Assistant Secretary will fulfill the position.



SOUTH COASTAL AARP CHAPTER 5226 NEW MEMBER AND RENEWAL FORM

Renewing members' dues must be received by **November 1, 2020**, 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 Tag: _____

Address: _____

Street or P.O. Box

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

How do you want to receive your newsletters? Email _____ or U.S. Mail _____

Membership renewal is **\$10** using email and **\$13** using U.S. mail. If two or more members are in the same household, you need pay only one **\$3** fee if choosing U.S. Mail.

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

Your national membership and expiration date are on your membership card and also 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

Our philosophy is that everyone does his/her share to help make the program a success. Please check your interest in volunteering for any of the following Chapter committees or to serve in a leadership position.

Committees

Chapter Newsletter Community Service Host/Hostess Legislative Membership
 Program Public Relations Scholarship Artisan Fair Tours (planning)

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 you may wish to use for Chapter projects.

Chapter Activities of Interest to Me

Chorus Tours Other (please specify) _____

Signature

Please return your application with your annual \$10 (Email) or \$13 (U.S. Mail) membership fee per person (checks only), payable to South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226 to:

Dottie Rieck * PO Box 286 * Bethany Beach, DE 19930

Phone: (302) 539-2654 * Email: Rieck5226@aol.com

CHAPTER TRIPS

2021

April 16-18 VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

The largest spectacle of music and might in the United States, the Virginia International Tattoo offers an astounding display of inspirational military music, majestic massed pipes and drums, show stopping drill team maneuvers, colorful and elegant dancers, and much more. Each year's Tattoo is different, with new performers from across the globe, new themes of honor and patriotism, and new sights and sounds to amaze you. Our 24th annual Tattoo, set for April 30-May 3, 2020, will feature over 1,000 performers from eight different countries--don't blink or you might miss something!

The Greatest Generation Our 2020 Tattoo promises to be one of the most moving ever, as we mark **the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II** and honor the **courage and sacrifice of the Greatest Generation**. With stirring music, historic photos and video, tributes from U.S. military bands, and special appearances by veterans, we will remember and celebrate the men and women who changed the course of history, not only for the United States but for the world.

Package Includes: Two nights lodging @ Hyatt Place Virginia Beach Town Center, Luggage Handling, Two breakfast at the hotel, two dinners, one lunch and one ice cream treat, All admissions, taxes & meal gratuities, A dedicated local guide for 3 days, Gratuity for guide and motor coach driver, Round trip motor coach transportation

Price:	Double Occupancy	\$575.00 per person	SEATS AVAILABLE
	Single Occupancy	\$736.00 per person	
	Triple Occupancy	\$521.00 per person	

OPEN TO EVERYONE

For more details on this trip visit the travel section under www.southcoastalaarp.org

Nov 30
Dec 3

CHRISTMAS AT THE BILTMORE ESTATES

Mr. Vanderbilt created Biltmore as an escape from everyday life. Now, his descendants invite you to enjoy his legacy of hospitality.

Overview:

Enjoy an evening at the **Blue Ridge Mountain Opry Dinner Show** featuring the award winning Whitewater Bluegrass Company; prepare to be captivated by their blend of Bluegrass music, country ballads, mountain swing and down-home humor.

Recapture the magic of the season during **Self-Guided "Candlelight Christmas Tour"** of the Biltmore House. Enjoy America's largest home decorated with dozens of Christmas trees, hundreds of wreaths, bows, and poinsettias; miles of evergreen garland, thousands of ornaments, tinsel, and beading and a 35-foot Fraser fir.

Enjoy a **Guided Tour of Asheville, NC** taking in the spectacular scenery and rich Appalachian history and heritage. Your tour will include stops at: **The Cove**, the **Asheville Folk Art Center**, **Basilica of Saint Lawrence**, the **Thomas Wolfe Memorial**, the **Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center**, and the **Historic District**.

Admission to **Biltmore Estate Gardens and Grounds Garden Conservatory**- An explosion of vibrant color greets you in the Conservatory. Each room showcases a different color and display scheme. Imagine red poinsettia trees, marble and light maroon poinsettias, tropical blooms, silver foliage and more overpowering your senses.

Antler Village a casual and relaxing way to extend the Biltmore experience, Antler Hill Village connects the estate's past and present with dining, shopping, exhibits, world-class food and wine, and more. The scene elicits a vintage feel with illuminated trees, garlands and wreaths for a fun, relaxing time. **Biltmore's Shops**- Many of the great treasures you see at Biltmore can't go home with you. Then again, many can. Browse our wide variety of shops to find unique gifts and charming keepsakes.

Wine Tasting at the Famous Biltmore Estate Winery-Take a relaxing stroll through our historic winery building, where our gracious wine hosts will treat you to a complimentary tasting of our award-winning Biltmore wines.

View Gingerbread House Competition Entries at the Grove Arcade- For a sweet treat; tour the amazing display of the best gingerbread houses in the country.

Price includes: 3 night hotel accommodations with baggage handling, 3 breakfasts, 1 Festive Holiday Buffet Lunch at Deerpark Restaurant, 3 wonderful dinners including: 1 Holiday Dinner at the Biltmore Estate, Round Trip Motor Coach Transportation, taxes, gratuities and admission to all venues per itinerary.

Price: \$799.00 per person based on **Double Occupancy**
\$999.00 per person based on **Single Occupancy**

OPEN TO EVERYONE

SEATS AVAILABLE

**Nov 2-
Nov 10**

RHINE RIVER GETAWAY CRUISE

Fairy-tale castles, grand cathedrals, historic cities, medieval towns and spectacular scenery—little wonder that the Rhine is one of Europe's best-loved rivers.

Overview:

Depart from home on your overnight flight to Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Arrive in **Amsterdam, The Netherlands**. Transfer from the airport to your ship. **Viking Longship Sigrun**. After boarding, relax and get settled in, or enjoy time on your own getting acquainted with the city, or join our "welcome walk" to stretch your legs and get oriented.

Kinderdijk, The Netherlands – This morning we sail to Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, for a tour of this ingenious network of windmills and other flood management devices. You learn why the windmills were built and see how they work, plus you enter a working windmill for a tour of its mechanisms and living quarters. Return on board for lunch and an enjoyable afternoon of Dutch diversions: sample handcrafted Dutch cheeses and jenever, distilled juniper liquor, and take in a culturally enriching presentation on the Dutch Golden Age.

Cologne, Germany – You have a morning tour of Cologne, including a visit to the Dom, Germany's largest cathedral and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After your tour, spend the rest of the day and evening exploring Cologne on your own: Roman ruins, interesting neighborhoods and museums like the Fragrance Museum and the Chocolate Museum.

Koblenz, Germany – Proceed along the Rhine, disembarking to tour the 700-year-old Marksburg Castle. Alternately, choose an optional excursion that offers a lively and informative tour of Ehrenbreitstein Fortress, or enjoy an optional guided exploration of Koblenz on foot. After, enjoy an onboard lunch as you cruise the scenic **Middle Rhine**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where turreted castles and fortresses overlook the river from their hilltop posts. Arrive in **Rüdesheim, Germany** in the late afternoon. Spend free time in the pedestrian-only Drosselgasse. Dine on board your ship, or you may also choose one of the optional dinners on shore.

Speyer, Germany – After lunch, enjoy an included tour to visit the historic town of Speyer and take in views of the imposing Speyer Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built in the 11th century on the site of a former basilica, the building’s design influenced Romanesque architecture for centuries to come, and is the final resting place of eight German monarchs. Alternatively, after breakfast, you may choose to disembark for a full-day tour of Heidelberg, the home of Germany’s oldest university, founded in 1386. Visit the beautiful sandstone ruins of imposing Heidelberg Castle and admire the Neckar River Valley. Continue with a walking tour through Old Town to Heidelberg’s renowned gates.

Strasbourg, France – We dock this morning in Kehl and disembark for a guided tour of Strasbourg. See the European Parliament and tour the interior of the city’s famed cathedral. The afternoon is free to further explore this Alsatian city’s blend of French and German cultures, resplendent churches, medieval covered bridges, verdant parks and handsome Art Nouveau and modernist architecture. Alternately, join our optional excursion into Alsatian wine country for an informative winery tour and tasting. On board this evening, enjoy a Taste of Germany dinner event.

Breisach, Germany – Arrive in Breisach this morning, gateway to the Black Forest. Take a scenic excursion through the area’s renowned mountain landscape, rolling meadows and dense forests. Once there, visit a local workshop to see a cuckoo clock-making demonstration, and learn how Black Forest Cake is made. Return to your ship for lunch. This afternoon, perhaps join an optional excursion to the quaint Alsatian town of Colmar to discover the storybook charm of its streets lined with medieval, Gothic and Renaissance buildings, or choose an optional excursion that explores Colmar’s World War II history. Dine on board this evening and cruise on through the night.

Basel, Switzerland – Disembark and proceed to the airport for your return flight

Price includes: Round-trip Airfare Viking Air Plus, 8 day cruise visiting 4 countries & 10 ports, cabin, Welcome bottle of Wine & Welcome Cocktail Reception & Farewell Dinner, Wine & Beer served with lunch & dinner, All onboard meals featuring regional specialties & always available American classics, 6 included shore excursions with local guide & headset, Visit 5 UNESCO World Heritage sites, Culture Curriculum (enjoy a classical music performance, learn how to create your own Alsatian Flammkuchen, observe a traditional glassblower, attend lectures on Germany’s current affairs & origins of Rhine River cruising, Port Charges, Taxes, Transfers in Amsterdam and Basel, Motor coach transportation to and from Airport.

Price: \$2999.00 Per Person Window Cabin Cat. F
\$3499.00 Per Person French Veranda Cat. D
\$3799.00 Per Person Balcony Cabin Cat. B

OPEN TO EVERYONE

(Prices Based on Double Occupancy. Cabin Selection Subject to Availability)

To make reservations: sign up at any General Meeting or contact Jim Harding (973)903-1495 or email jameshrdg@yahoo.com

Reservations must be paid within 30 days. After the 30 days we reserve the right to cancel your reservations without notice.

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, (973)903-1495 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 (973)903-1495
- 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:

- **Seating will be assigned when initial payment is received**
- All overnight trips use a voucher system for the payment fee with 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.
- Seating will be assigned upon receipt of your deposit

Please Not:

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**