



AARP Chapters are separately
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Coastal News

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

www.southcoastalaarp.org

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Susan Kerwin	2025-2027	302-236-3481
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Sandy Raymond	2024-2026	301-651-2284

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Maureen Eisenhardt	2025-2026	240-863-1338
Linda Burns Filer	2025-2026	302-354-5656
Terry Griswold	2024-2025	443-752-4513
Lana Linz	2025-2026	302-245-3502
Mable Ruddo	2025-2026	302-541-8549

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
Asst. Web Coordinator	Nancy Archey	703-919-8254
50/50	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
	Cookie Butts	302-541-9264

Our January 21st luncheon and Chapter meeting at Cripple Creek will feature Director Bonnie Bly Elliott and Assistant Director Heather Bernat as they present an informative program about the Frankford Public Library. Find out how the library makes a difference in the community, the impact it has on all socio-economic and diverse cultures, and the significance of the programming that they provide across all age groups. Join us for this enlightening presentation!

Luncheon Menu Choices

Asian Salmon Bowl

Grilled salmon, lemon ginger rice, sugar snap peas, carrots, bell peppers, sweet soy teriyaki and sesame seeds

Winter Salad

Mixed greens, grilled chicken, grilled red onions, roasted tomatoes, dried cranberries, candied pecans and balsamic vinaigrette dressing

Grilled Vegetable Sandwich

Grilled squash, tomatoes and roasted red peppers and melted provolone cheese on a toasted brioche bun

Dessert: Apple Bread Pudding

Coffee, Iced Tea, and Lemonade included

Cost is \$26.00. 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, January 13* at 302-541-9412 or madod@aol.com.

Anyone who cancels after the deadline (January 13) 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

Our new year is fast approaching. Many of us look forward to 2025 and all the possibilities of getting ahead, a better lifestyle, improved health and the warmth and closeness of family and friends. Let us work together to make a difference in the lives of others in our midst. With each of us doing our part, our neighborhoods, our schools, our places of work and worship will thrive, and the goodwill of others will become a reality. I wish you the happiness and peace each of you desires. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Terry Baker, President

Membership

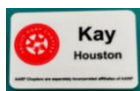
Our membership as of December 17 stands at 436 members. We welcome new members Rita & Brent Barger, Beverly & Steve Straneva, Wanda Raleigh, Scott Carstairs, Pat Long, Dottie & Ed Pinto, Peter J. Hohn, and Beth Nolan.

Membership Renewals were due November 1.

The current membership year began in September, yet 100 members are not current with their 2024-2025 dues. All members must submit a new [Membership form](#) along with a check to cover the dues for the current membership year. The new 2024-2025 Membership forms are available on the [Chapter's website](#). I will begin notifying members who are not current with their dues and begin purging the membership roster. If you are unsure whether you are up-to-date with your membership, call Kay Houston at (302) 732-6977 or email Kay at joinaarpsc5226@gmail.com.

You can mail your renewal to the address on the form. Dues remain at \$15 for email delivery of the newsletter or \$18 if you receive the newsletter via US Postal Service. **REMEMBER that this service is provided to those members who have NO CAPABILITIES of electronic communication. A mailed newsletter may not be received for several days after it is posted on the website.** This could be a problem when trying to reserve a spot at the luncheon.

Reach out to your friends and neighbors and 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 Chapter 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.

A magnetic name badge is TOTALLY OPTIONAL. We will continue to provide badges with the plastic sleeve that hang around your neck at no cost to you.

Kay Houston, Chair

Scholarship Committee

Since 2012, the Scholarship Committee has given \$41,000 in scholarships to adult students 25 years and older at Delaware Technical and Community College (DTCC). That includes \$5,000 in 2024. The total is divided by two semesters. Nursing students receive \$2,000 each semester and non-nursing students receive \$500 each semester. The school decides who receives the scholarships based on the Scholarship Committee's guidelines. Besides age, these include that the recipients be a resident of Sussex County and that they maintain a 3.0 average or higher. In the fall of 2024, the school divided the \$500 non-nursing scholarship between two individuals.

DTCC recipients for the fall semester are:

- Heather Bawroski of Bridgeville, who is pursuing an Associate Nursing Degree
- Allison Maione of Lincoln, who is pursuing an Associate Nursing Degree
- Anthony Ireland of Millsboro, who is studying Refrigeration, Heating/AC and
- Jason Hilferty Basquez of Millsboro, who is currently undeclared and is taking General Studies.

Ms. Bawroski and Maione, as well as Briahna Knuckles of Georgetown, who received the Chapter's scholarship in the spring of 2024, are expected to graduate in May. Ms. Knuckles will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

DTCC recipients for scholarships in the spring of 2025 are:

- Casey Styers of Millsboro, who is pursuing an Associate Nursing Degree
- Alicia Hadder of Georgetown, who is pursuing an Associate Nursing Degree and
- Victoria Gaidiurgis of Millsboro, who is pursuing an Associate of Science General Degree.

Indian River High School:

Since 2008, the Scholarship Committee has awarded \$46,500 to Indian River High School students. This year we will offer two \$1,500 scholarships to graduating seniors. If you know of a senior who attends IRHS, please have them contact the Guidance Office at the school for a copy of the application.

Ida Crist, Co-chair

Travel Committee News

The South Coastal AARP Tour Committee was able to make donations to the following organizations for 2024:

- Tunnel to Towers \$1,000.00
- Home of the Brave \$1,000.00
- Veterans Home in Milford \$1,000.00
- Sussex County Hospice \$500.00.

Jim Harding, Chair

Chorus

The Singers of Note, the South Coastal DE AARP Chorus, will present a full Christmas program at Prince George's Chapel's Olde Christmas Service at 2 p.m. on Sunday, January 5, in Dagsboro. This performance is open to the public. This is a chance for chapter members to hear an hour of excellent choral music and visit the beautiful historic chapel. The appearance of the chorus at the December members' meeting included only one-third of the music that will be performed at Prince George's. There is no admission charge, but a free-will offering which benefits the Friends of Prince George's will be accepted.

The chorus, directed by AARP member Ann Jaeger since 2000, will resume rehearsals for the spring concert on Wednesday, February 5. Practices are held every Wednesday through the spring from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Ocean View Presbyterian Church. Those interested in joining the chorus should contact Ann Jaeger at 302-645-8023 or davejaeger@verizon.net.



The Singers of Note performing at the Chapter's December 2024 Luncheon Meeting at Cripple Creek Country Club

Community Service

You did it again! The Community Service Committee would like to thank all the individuals who contributed to "Coats for Kids" and "Gifts for Seniors". Both events were a huge success because of your generosity.

The Food Pantry at the Pyle Center is grateful for our help. Keep these food items coming. Thank you!

Kathy Lesperance, 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

Legislative/Environmental 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. Please send an email to me at arcadywood@gmail.com to let me know of your interest in being a member of the Legislative Committee.

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

Volunteer Positions Open

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.

Auditors: Review one or more of the Chapter's three financial accounts for 2024 for accuracy and completeness. Please call Terry Baker at 410-812-9063 for more information.

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.**

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](http://www.southcoastalaarp.org), check out the other pages for information on Chapter Activities, Travel and more!

CHAPTER TRIPS 2025

April 9. Swing the Musical

trip closed to new reservations

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

May 21, Norfolk Naval Base Cruise & Cape Charles

Overview:

The two-hour Norfolk naval tour departs daily from Nautilus, home of the Battleship Wisconsin. The captain provides an entertaining and fascinating commentary aboard this Coast Guard inspected vessel. Cruising the smooth waters of the Elizabeth River, tour one of the world's busiest seaports including the world's largest naval base, home of the Atlantic Fleet, made up of destroyers, guided missile cruisers, submarines, aircraft carriers and more. Guests enjoy plenty of comfortable seating, an air-conditioned enclosed deck, an open-air shaded upper deck, snack bar and souvenir shop.

After the cruise we will travel to Cape Charles for lunch on your own and free time.

Price includes: Round trip motor coach, boat cruise, tax, tip and gratuities.

Price: \$115.00 per person

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

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