



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. 9

NOVEMBER 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 November 19th Luncheon meeting at Cripple Creek Country Club features Greg Fuller Sr., Delaware's current Register of Wills. His office assists families and attorneys in obtaining necessary documents to transfer the assets of a deceased person. When the decedent dies without a will, this process is called probate.

Greg was appointed to this position in 2008 and re-elected in 2022. He was the first Register of Wills to bring the office to the people of Sussex County through his Helpful Tips Seminars. Join us to hear Greg's helpful information.

Luncheon Menu Choices

Thanksgiving Plate

Roasted Turkey with mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans and cranberry sauce

Chicken Cordon Bleu

Grilled chicken with sliced ham, Swiss and Dijon aioli on a toasted brioche bun

Fall Salad

Mixed greens with roasted sweet potatoes, cranberries, toasted almonds, tomatoes and baked citrus cod

Dessert:

Pumpkin pie

Water, Iced Tea, Lemonade and Coffee included.

Cost is \$23.00. Cash or checks only.

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

To Make Lunch Reservations:

Call or email Mary Ann Dougherty *by noon Monday, November 11* at 302-541-9412 or madod@aol.com.

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. If you did not receive her confirmation, you do not have a reservation!

Anyone who cancels after the deadline (November 11) or does not attend for any reason will be billed for the full cost of the luncheon.

Please wear your name badge to the meeting.

Presidents' Corner

This month our Country celebrates Thanksgiving Day. We take time to be grateful for our freedom, our faith, our family, and our friends. We are blessed with the food and bounty of the earth.

We ask you to support our Community Service Committee's outreach to our local neighbors through the next two months. With each of us doing our part, the response will be greater as a group, and many of our neighbors in need will also be blessed.

Kathy and I appreciate all your efforts to make our AARP organization one of the BEST.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Terry and Kathy, Co-Presidents

Annual Chapter Meeting, November 19

The Annual Meeting of the South Coastal DE Chapter of the AARP will be held Tuesday, November 19, at Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club. The meeting will commence at approximately 1:00 pm following the luncheon and the presentation by the guest speaker.

At this meeting, the Chapter members will be asked to approve the following slate of Officers, Directors, and Nominating Committee members to take office 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).

*Indicates new to the position for 2025.

Scholarship Committee

Remember that the Dine and Donate and basket auction at Cottage Café in Bethany Beach will be on Tuesday, Oct. 29, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. There will also be a 50-50 cash raffle as well as a chance to buy tickets for a Tree of Life Copper wall hanging, donated by Copper Creations of Melfa, VA. The drawing for the baskets, the cash raffle and the Tree of Life will begin at 8 p.m. We encourage winners, who will be notified by phone, to come back to Cottage Café that evening to pick up their winnings.



Tree of Life Copper Wall Hanging

The proceeds from this event support the scholarship fund. Annually we give two \$1,500 scholarships to Indian River High School seniors. Currently, we also give two \$1,000 scholarships per semester to nursing students at Delaware Technical and Community College as well as a \$500 scholarship per semester to a non-nursing student. Beginning with the fall 2025 semester, we will add another \$1,000 per semester for a student in a health-related field. Our primary fundraisers for the scholarship fund are the Artisans Fair held the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and Dine and Donate events held in the fall and spring.

Planning for this year's Artisans Fair to be held Saturday, May 24, 2025, will begin in November. If you would like to help in the planning of this event, contact Ida Crist at 302-732-6336 or idacrist@aol.com.

Thank you to Cottage Café, all the businesses who donated items or gift cards and to Don and Donna Drew of Copper Creations for helping make the Dine and Donate, the basket auction and the raffle for the Tree of Life successful. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ida Crist, Co-Chair

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

Membership Renewals are due by November 1.

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.

Our current membership (as of October 15) stands at 407 members. We welcome new members – Lee & Lisa Einsel, Jean Truskowski, Phyllis & Bob Fisher, Kathy & Dennis Wright, Mike Darcey & Donna Moran-Darcey, Ceil Ambrosetti, Evie Ladzinski, and Judy Kisenwether.

The current membership year began in September and the new [2024-2025 Membership Form](#) is available in this newsletter as well as on the [Chapter's website](#). All members are required to submit a new Membership Form along with a check to cover the dues for the current membership year. 169 members have not yet paid their 2024-2025 dues.

If you have not yet paid your 2024-25 dues, you can mail the application and check to the address on the form or bring the form and payment with you to the November luncheon. Dues remain at \$15 for email delivery of the newsletter. Dues are \$18 if you need to receive the newsletter via US Postal Service.

Printed, mailed newspapers are available only to members who are not able to receive email.

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

Community Service

The Community Service Committee will again collect donations for **“Dollars for Coats for Kids”** at the November luncheon. The money received will be used for coats, underwear, shoes and socks for students at John Clayton Elementary School. Containers will be available on the tables for donations. Your support is greatly appreciated.

As a heads-up, we will be collecting **“Gifts for Seniors”** at the December luncheon.

And as always, remember to bring your **FOOD items** for the Pyle Center Pantry to the monthly meeting.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Kathy Lesperance, Chair

Legislative/Environmental Committee

Sheila Grant, Associate State Director of Advocacy, AARP Delaware, sent us the following update on what's happening at the State level that we should be aware of.

The Delaware General Assembly's session ended in June, and many of the bills and funding supported by AARP passed. Although many bills are still awaiting the Governor's signature, so far he has signed bills aimed at creating more affordable and workforce housing units, reforming nursing homes, and increasing funding to the Division of Aging. Still awaiting his signature are bills to ensure accessible polling places, prevent discrimination in housing, and educate consumers about gift card fraud.

In 2025, we expect to continue working to pass Sick Time and Safety Leave and Real Property Transfer on Death Deed. We're also planning to work on housing issues, transportation, fraud, and caregiving.

As AARP Delaware creates the 2025 State Plan, we would be interested to hear from chapter members about which issues are most important to them.

Please email Ted Spickler at arcadywood@gmail.com to let him know which of the issues below are most important to you. You may list more than one.

- Protecting Social Security and Medicare
- Being able to age in your current home/community
- Having affordable housing in your community
- Getting to the places you 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

AARP Delaware would love to have the South Coastal AARP Chapter members join us on the First State Action Team, visiting with legislators, writing letters to the editor, giving presentations to community groups, providing testimony at committee hearings, helping to plan Lobby Day, and more. We meet on Zoom once a month and every Wednesday during the session for breakfast in Dover before heading to Legislative Hall for committee hearings. *Check our First State Action Blog for details: <https://states.aarp.org/delaware/first-state-action>.*

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

Special Interest Groups

If you are interested in any of the following groups, please contact the organizer.

Book Club, Marie Fletcher, 978-595-6690
yuletidechimes@gmail.com

Bridge or Scrabble, Ida Crist, 302-732-6336
idacrist@aol.com

Canasta or Mexican Train, Anita Ferm, 301-704-3550
anitalferm@verizon.net

Pickleball, Susan Bresuciak, 443-243-5994
sbresuciak@gmail.com

Poker, Texas Hold 'Em or Euchre,
Ed Bresuciak, 443-504-3568, breslite@verizon.net

Trips to Museums, Studios or Historical Sites,
Sandy Raymond, 302-539-3941
sandyraymond15@gmail.com

Walking Club, Marge Mariotti, 609-505-3183.
eastgoingwest@outlook.com

Save Money on Car Insurance

If you complete an approved Defensive Driving Course, you may receive 10% off a portion of your Delaware auto insurance for 3 years. If you take a refresher Defensive Driving Course within 180 days of the end of the 3-year period, you may receive a 15% discount. More information can be found at [Driving Courses - Division of Motor Vehicles \(de.gov\)](https://www.de.gov/Driving-Courses-Division-of-Motor-Vehicles). To learn about the defensive driving courses offered by AARP, call 1-800-350-7025 or visit [AARP Driver Safety: Online and Classroom Courses](https://www.aarp.org/Driver-Safety/Online-and-Classroom-Courses).

You may want to know...

Medicare has sent the following message to its beneficiaries: *The updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine is now available. It's especially important for people 65 or older to get the updated vaccine. It can help protect against the most common variants of the virus circulating now. Medicare covers the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost to you. Protection from previous vaccination or infection weakens over time, so it's important to get the updated COVID-19 vaccine now to stay protected. If you've recently had COVID-19, you can wait 3 months to get a COVID-19 vaccine.*

Also, every U.S. household can order 4 COVID-19 at-home tests — shipped directly to your home at no cost. Visit [COVIDTests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) to place your order.

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!

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.

CHAPTER TRIPS 2024

Nov 10-15 CHRISTMAS IN THE SMOKIES

trip closed to new reservations

Dollywood's Smoky Mt. Christmas is a seasonal event with over 6 Million Christmas Lights and we will experience the beauty of the park all lit up. A guided tour of the Great Smoky Mountain range, then become a passenger or crew member and experience what it was like on the ship Titanic. We will visit Shadrack's Christmas Wonderland of Christmas Lights Orchestrated and Choreographed to Music. Visit to the Cherokee Indian museum where we will listen to the story of the Cherokee people and set the scene for the Cherokee Heritage Trails.

Price Includes: 5 nights hotel accommodations, 5 breakfasts & 3 dinners, including Dolly Parton's Stampede dinner show, and meal voucher at Dollywood, 2 additional shows; Country Tonight and Charlie Bob Smith Morning Variety Show, Round Trip Deluxe Motor Coach, luggage handling in Pigeon Forge area, Entrance to all listed venues, taxes and gratuities.

Price: \$950.00 per person based on Double Occupancy

\$1,289.00 per person based on Single Occupancy

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

Dec 4. Daniel @ Sight & Sound

reservations still available

Overview:

Taken from his people, Daniel is exiled far from home in the powerful kingdom of Babylon. Now this faithful servant must navigate his new life inside a palace filled with golden statues and shifting empires. Will his trust in the one true God remain steadfast through every test of faith? From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, Daniel is a spectacular theatrical experience. Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life.

Price includes: round trip motor coach, entrance to Sight & Sound, dinner @ Hershey Farm Restaurant.

Price: \$172.00pp

For Reservations contact: Jim Harding, Escort (302)245-8511

CHAPTER TRIPS 2025

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

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