



# 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.southcoastalaarp.org

October 2020

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Jim Harding <a href="mailto:jameshrdg@yahoo.com">jameshrdg@yahoo.com</a>	973-903-1495
VICE PRESIDENT	Lucille Kurtz <a href="mailto:lckrtz131@gmail.com">lckrtz131@gmail.com</a>	914-329-9038
PROGRAM CHAIR	Rose Verona <a href="mailto:rverona1.rv@gmail.com">rverona1.rv@gmail.com</a>	630-297-2562
SECRETARY	Maureen Eisenhart <a href="mailto:irishmom08@gmail.com">irishmom08@gmail.com</a>	988-1196
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Vacant	
TREASURER	Carolyn Kelly <a href="mailto:kitzy50@gmail.com">kitzy50@gmail.com</a>	537-2598
ASST. TREASURER	Kathy Filip <a href="mailto:kafraf@mchsi.com">kafraf@mchsi.com</a>	539-1137

## DIRECTORS

John Macken	2018-2020	914-522-9309
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
Lee Shoff	Past President Advisor	539-6952

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sandra McGrath	2020-2021	537-7709
Sandy Raymond	2019-2020	301-651-2284
Lana Linz	2019-2020	439-2156
Vacant		
Vacant		

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Kathy Lesperance	537-7845
Legislative/Environmental	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 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Members of AARP:

We still face some challenges of the corona virus pandemic; however we are starting to see many changes in our lockdown. We now can go to restaurants and dine in, we are now able to watch football, the Kentucky Derby and most of all gather in smaller groups for church, meetings and movies. Our outlook is better than it was six months ago and we will continue as a nation to move forward to getting back to normal. I hope everyone is well and the virus has not impacted you directly or indirectly and we continue to look forward to brighter days.

Summer is over and some of the out of state visitors have left for home. The weather has cooled a little thank goodness, for it was a very hot summer. We are planning out the 2021 year in AARP. We still are unable to have a General Meeting until 2021 and we will continue to keep you posted and update on any changes that will occur. Our board has been meeting (outside at the park) while social distancing working on 2021.

Help is very much needed for several positions on the board, two being **President** and **Vice President**. Failure of filling these positions will result in disbanding our local AARP Chapter 5226. If anyone should be interested please contact Sandra McGrath (302)-537-7709.

In closing, I wish everyone health and happiness for a great autumn.

Jim

## COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

### Membership – Dottie Rieck

**Please pay your dues now.** 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. Deadline for renewals is **November 1, 2020**, and if nothing has changed you do not have to submit a new membership form. **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.

If you have any questions, please contact Dottie Rieck by phone at 302-539-2654 or by email at Rieck5226@aol.com.

### Legislative/Environmental - Chuck Schonder

So, what has your Legislative Committee been up to? Mary Louise Embrey, Ted Spickler, and I have been attending virtual biweekly meetings with Sheila Grant, AARP Delaware Asst. Director of Advocacy and three other state volunteers concerning: nursing home issues, voting issues, election information and national issues since June.

### Nursing Homes During COVID-19

Did you know that Delaware has the 9<sup>th</sup> highest death rate in the country? 83% of the COVID-19 deaths come from the 65 and older citizens. We are pushing for improvements in nursing home safety and quality. Delaware's Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care facilities have lacked transparency and accountability; compared to Maryland's oversight, see the next paragraphs.

Sixty-four Maryland nursing homes have not taken sufficient infection control measures to protect their residents from the corona virus.

The Baltimore Sun reported that ten nursing homes are facing penalties ranging from \$70,000 to \$380,000. Forty-five facilities got smaller fines for failing to complete mandatory testing and for not reporting records to the state. Others were ordered to develop a plan to fix the problems.

Maryland health officials said all 226 of the states certified nursing homes have been surveyed.

### Elections

Best sites for nonpartisan information:  
vote411.org – League of Women Voters – Polling Plane, Candidate Biographies, Sample Ballots  
ivote.de.gov – State of Delaware site – above information plus request a ballot and status of your ballot.

### Secure Dropbox location and mail in ballot address:

Sussex Co. Dept of Elections  
119 N. Race St  
PO Box 457  
Georgetown, DE. 19947  
Phone: 302-856-5367  
Email: [VoteSC@delaware.gov](mailto:VoteSC@delaware.gov)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### AARP is one of the sponsors of the Presidential Debates

**9/29/20** 9-10:30 PM – 1<sup>st</sup> Presidential Debate – Cleveland, Ohio

**10/15/20** 9-10:30 PM – 2<sup>nd</sup> Presidential Debate – Miami, Florida

**10/22/20** 9-10:30 PM – 3<sup>rd</sup> Presidential Debate – Nashville, Tenn.

**11/3/20 – General Election – 7AM – 8 PM – your regular polling place or secure drop off box – Dept of Elections (see address above) or mail in ballot (same Dept of elections address) Must arrive by 8 PM election day.**

### Community Service - Kathy Lesperance

Fall is just around the corner and winter not far behind, The Community Service Committee will be collecting donations for "Dollars for Coats for Kids". The coats, sweatpants, shirts, and sneakers will be delivered to John Clayton School. Since we are unable to have our AARP luncheon meetings, where we would have had baskets on the tables for your donations, we are asking that you mail your donation between now and November 10.

Please make your check out to: So. Coastal AARP 5226. You can mail the check to:  
Kathy Lesperance  
31679 Ajewell Rd.  
Dagsboro, DE 19939

Thank you so much for your generosity. The school greatly appreciates all we do.

**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 the food bank..

**Blood Bank:** To schedule an appointment call **1-888-825-6638** or schedule on line at **[www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org)**. Check for locations in Sussex County on the web site.

### **Scholarship - Ida Crist & Shirley Price**

#### **Scholarship Committee Asks for Donations**

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Scholarship Committee had to cancel its two main fund-raising events in 2020: The Artisans Fair normally held in May and the annual Dine and Donate and Basket Auction, normally held in the fall.

Many members donate to the Scholarship Fund by baking or giving cash donations at the time of the Artisans Fair and by participating in the Dine and Donate through dining and purchasing tickets for the auction. Since neither of these events occurred, we are asking you to make a donation now.

Won't you make a cash donation\* to ensure we can continue to give college scholarships to Indian River High School students and to adult students at Delaware Technical and Community College? You can make out a check to: **South Coastal DE AARP. Indicate Scholarship Fund in the memo line.**

Mail it to:  
Scholarship Committee  
South Coastal DE AARP  
P.O. Box 225  
Ocean View, DE 19970

Because of a financial reserve, we were able to meet our scholarship obligations for this year. Two students from Indian River High School received \$1,500 scholarships. Emma Kelly will attend Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD, and Kaila McCabe will attend the University of Delaware. Emma will major in biology and hopes to pursue a career in oncology. Kaila will pursue a degree that will put her on a path to become a physician

assistant. We were also able to provide \$2,500 to three Delaware Technical and Community College students for the fall semester. Two \$1,000 scholarships went to nursing students and a \$500 scholarship went to a non-nursing student.

\*Because South Coastal DE AARP is not a 501(c)3, donations are not tax-deductible.

### **Nominating - Sandra McGrath**

Our nominating committee is always looking for people, to volunteer for our AARP Chapter for officers, board members, and other committee chairpersons. This is not the most opportune time to be looking for volunteers for our organization, but we need to move forward with our mission. In the past month I have had a chance to talk to the members about staying on the board, most of them said would stay on in the position that they are now serving till December 2021. Thank you.

We need a President, or two presidents who can serve as Co-Presidents, a Vice President, an Assistant Treasurer (for the tour committee), Corresponding Secretary, one Director, a Committee Chairperson for our Community Service and two for Nominating Committee. If you have any thoughts of someone who would like to serve for any of the positions, listed, please call (302-537-7709) or email [srmcif@aol.com](mailto:srmcif@aol.com).

## **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](http://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**.

**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

<b>Price:</b>	<b>Double Occupancy</b>	<b>\$575.00 per person</b>
	<b>Single Occupancy</b>	<b>\$736.00 per person</b>
	<b>Triple Occupancy</b>	<b>\$521.00 per person</b>

**OPEN TO EVERYONE**

**SEATS AVSILABLE**

For more details on this trip visit the travel section under [www.southcoastalaarp.org](http://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 [jameshrdq@yahoo.com](mailto:jameshrdq@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](http://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 [jameshrdq@yahoo.com](mailto:jameshrdq@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**

