

CRSPA



Greetings!

It's the most wonderful time of the year, or so the song goes! I know it's my favorite. The air is crisp and cool and everything is beginning to take on that holiday feel. I hope everyone has prepared for the months ahead. Get that flu shot so you can stay well and enjoy all the good things the season brings. If you are able, check on relatives, friends and neighbors who may be alone during the holidays and share your blessings. I can't think of anything that would make me sadder than being alone during the holidays.

Speaking of the good things the holiday has to offer, don't forget that our luncheon is on Dec. 11th. We will be joined by the Calvert County Teacher, ESP of the Year, and Brenda Barnes who is our new area director. I know you will all make them feel welcome. Entertainment will be provided by Mutual Elementary at the direction of Doug Fraley. I know you are all looking forward to that. We will also conduct our regular business which will include making plans for future endeavors and outreach.

Recently I attended the Maryland Retired School Update. I was joined by Kay Weber who volunteered to attend in place of our legislative chair who was unable to attend. We received lots of information about last year's legislative outcomes, this coming year's legislative priorities, the health of our retirement fund, the Kerwin Commission and what it may mean for us, and some news from AARP. We will be sharing details with you at the luncheon.



Anna and Kay at the MRSPA Legislative Workshop in Annapolis

I will also be taking names of anyone who might like to lobby with us in Annapolis. Be on the lookout for the reservation deadline. I hope I'll see you all there.

Anna Laughlin
amflaughlin@gmail.com

Save These Dates

2019-2020 CRSPA Meeting Dates

Executive Mtgs/Harriett Brown Center

- December 4, 2019
- March 4, 2020
- May 6, 2020

General Meetings/Christ Church

- December 11, 2019
- March 11, 2020
- May 20, 2020



Additional MRSPA Meetings

November 13, 2019
MRSPA Legislative Workshop
Miller Senate Office Building, Annapolis

March 11, 2020
MRSPA Presidents Meeting
Odenton

May 13, 2020
MRSPA Annual Business Meeting
Martins Camelot, Upper Marlboro

Inside this issue

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Members..... | 2 |
| Board Members..... | 3 |
| School Supplies..... | 3 |
| Website/FaceBook..... | 3 |
| Birthdays..... | 4 |
| Day Trippers..... | 4 |
| The Old Wallville School..... | 5 |
| Kirwan Report..... | 6 |
| October Pictures..... | 7 |

Lunch begins at 12pm with the program and business meeting beginning at 1pm.
If you plan on having lunch please call **Loujeania Johnson** at **410-586-1066** by
December 9th to reserve a meal.

In Memoriam



Faye Coutts Graff, 69, of Dunkirk passed away September 19, 2019. She was born October 29, 1949 in Honesdale, PA. Faye was raised in Paupack, PA and graduated from Paupack High School. Following high school, she attended West Chester State Teacher's College and spent her junior year studying abroad in France. Faye graduated with a teaching degree with a specialty in French.

She married Gary Graff on June 24, 1972 and they lived in Scientists Cliff for several years before purchasing property and building their home in Dunkirk. She was employed as a French and English teacher at Calvert and Northern High School for many years. Faye also worked as a substitute teacher, an in-home teacher, and helped drive students to schools outside of Calvert County.

She loved her property and enjoyed feeding the birds and wildlife every day. She also enjoyed crocheting, and traveling. Faye was a devoted wife and mother who lived for her family and she will be greatly missed.

Faye is survived by her husband Gary Graff of Dunkirk, sons Jonathan Graff and wife Kate of Fincastle, VA and Benjamin Graff of Mobile, AL, grandchildren Zachary, Iain, and Nathaniel, sisters Nan Brown and Dulcie Nichols and brother George Coutts.

Donations in Faye's name may be made to [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology](https://www.cornell.edu/ornithology/).

***"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination,
and instill a love of learning."***

Brad Henry

Honoring our Emeritus Members

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Membership Date</u> |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Alice Sewell | Prior to 1970 |
| Jane Fletcher | 1981 |
| Vivian Jones | 1981 |
| Grace Cook | 1988 |
| Phyllis Johnson | 1997 |

Welcoming our New Members

Daisy Hardenstine
Carol Howard
Catherine Lucas
Linda Mooney
Julie Roehm

CRSPA's Next Meeting

CRSPA Executive Board

2019-2020

President

Anna McLaughlin

Vice President

Linda Mooney

Immediate Past President

Barbara McKimmie

Recording Secretary

Jan Travers

Corresponding Secretary

Fran Armstrong

Treasurer

Vicky Karol

Newsletter

Debbie Hance

debbiejhance@gmail.com

Safety Tips

Never carry your Social Security card in your wallet, and store important papers that show your number in a safe place or shred them.

When someone requests your number, ask why it's needed, how it will be used, and what will happen if you refuse. Use that info to determine if it's safe to share it.



Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Place: Christ Church Parish—Port Republic, MD

Time: 12pm Lunch - 1pm Meeting

Program: *Celebrating the Holiday Season!*

Menu: Roast Beef Bacon wrapped Chicken Breast
Mixed Vegetables
Garlic Potatoes
Salad Rolls and Butter Tea, Coffee, and Water
Assorted Desserts

Cost: \$17 per person



October Door Prize Winners

Carol Howard

Father Christopher

Jane Fletcher

Sandy Derr

Pam Mackall

Fran Armstrong

VISIT

www.crspa.org

For the latest newsletter, meetings, legislative updates, photos, and more.



Like and Follow us on Facebook.

facebook.com/calvertretiredschoolpersonnel

School Supplies



CRSPA will again collect school supplies and money donations this year to give to CCPS Student Services at our December 11th General Meeting. All items are greatly appreciated and will be distributed by Student Services.

Happy Birthday CRSPA Members

December

Sandra Burton 2
Charlotte Clark 15
Tricia Politte 16
Debbie Hance 22

January

Bridget Kluwin 1
Elaine Reilly 1
Kay Weber 5
Gail Black 6
Bruce Armstrong 10
Bruce Hutchison 12
Linda Sinagra-Smith 13
Philip Bikle 19
Mary Connell 21
Jan Hill 21
Pam Mackall 22
Suzanne Zimmerman 22
Guffrie Smith 25
Debbie Wilson 25

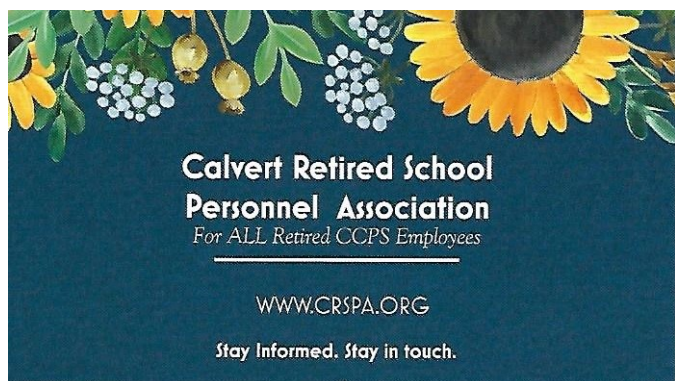
February

Carol Gross 1
Sharon Damalouji 6
Kathleen Gardner 8
Susan Shifflett 10
Cynthia Hayward 12
Judith Bibb 14
Eugene Uhlan 16
Peggy Vogel 22
Claire Hayward 28



New Members Needed!

Do you know someone who is retired but has not yet joined CRSPA? Please invite them to join us at one of our upcoming meetings, share our newsletter with them, ask them to check out our website and Facebook page, or give them one of our CRSPA cards. The more the merrier!



Day Trippers Visit the Vineyards!



Be on the look out for more trips in 2020!



The Old Wallville School



The facility is the oldest standing one-room schoolhouse for African American students in Calvert County and offered education for grades one through seven in the Wallville community. The schoolhouse was built by the early 1880s (with some evidence suggesting an early date of 1869) and remained in use until 1934.



Visit us at

<http://www.oldwallvilleschool.org/>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Maryland Legislation

Submitted by: Ray Enrico, CRSPA Legislative Rep

The Kirwan Commission is presenting its findings and funding recommendations to the state legislature following its three-year study of Maryland's public schools. These findings include:

- Less than half of high school graduates are college ready.
- Maryland does not adequately fund its schools.
- Salaries for teachers are 25% below professions requiring comparable education.
- Maryland has a teacher shortage, and 47% of teachers in their 2nd year do not return for a 3rd year.
- 52% of black students and 8% of white students are enrolled in poorly performing school districts.
- 3.8 to 4 billion dollars *in addition* to gaming revenue and monies already allocated to education by the state must be spent to improve Md.'s schools.

(Calvert County) Delegate Mark Fisher, Senator Jack Bailey (St. Mary's and Calvert), and Governor Hogan are each concerned about the cost that Kirwan recommendations will have on Md.'s taxpayers. Bailey questioned how Kirwan can be funded while still addressing the state's other needs. Fisher stated that Baltimore has the 4th highest spending per student in the nation even though 83% of its schools are failing. "Clearly," Fisher commented, "funding isn't the problem." He further stated that funding Kirwan would require the state to raise taxes by more than \$6,200 per family.

75% of the 4 billion Kirwan dollars is expected to come from the state, and 25% is expected to come from local jurisdictions. Whether local jurisdictions can fund this increase concerns many. Others are concerned that the state may in the future shift some of its share to the counties as it did with the teachers' retirement. This promises to be a contentious issue for our legislators.



Other state legislation that might be of interest to CRSPA members include:

- The minimum age to purchase tobacco and vaping products was raised from 18 to 21 years.
- Online merchants are now required to collect sales tax for Md. residents who purchase online.
- Gun laws are being tightened, and a study of the types of guns used in crimes is under way.

Thankful at our October Meeting for.....



...Past President Barbara McKimmie.
...New President Anna Laughlin.
...MRSPA President Ann Marie Downey.



...2019-2020 CRSPA Officers!
President, Anna Laughlin
Vice President, Linda Mooney
Treasure, Vicky Karol
Corresponding Secretary, Fran Armstrong
Recording Secretary, Jan Travers



...new friends.



Winners



CRSPA's next meeting is Wednesday, December 11th.
Call Loujeania by December 9th to reserve a meal
@ 410-586-1066.

And More.....



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CRSPA

Debbie J Hance
4805 Regal Lane
Dunkirk, MD 20754