

ECHOES

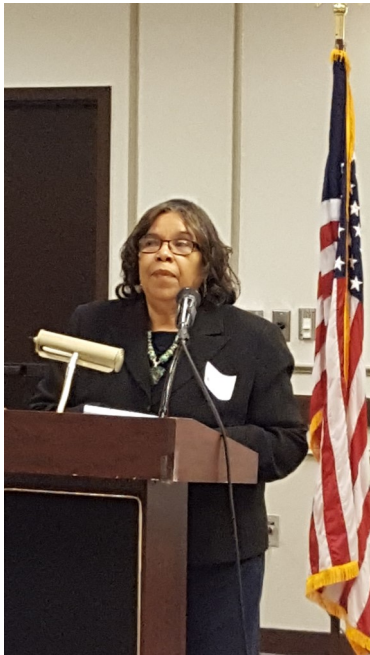
Vol. LI No. 5

The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter

May 2017

PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964

The President Speaks



Greetings Friends,

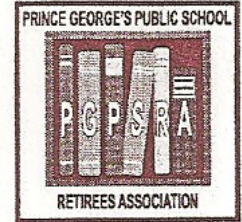
By the time you receive this issue of "Echoes" the spring weather will be here. We finally had our first snowy day in early March. We now can get out to exercise. The time has changed to *Spring* forward and we are packing away our winter clothes . No longer do we have to take our Vitamin D. We can now go sit in the sun for a few hours each day.

I have appointed a new ad hoc Committee for the coming year. It is entitled Members Outreach. We hope to improve our contact with members who are inactive, due to being homebound. I am looking for members who would like to be a part of this group. Please contact me at blbarnes128@aol.com. to join the group.

In February and March we were very busy with activities. We are always looking for other members to join us. Charlie Hudson, trip chairperson, led a group of us to Columbia, Maryland to Toby's Dinner Theater to see the musical Show-boat . We had excellent weather and had a delightful time. Sue Finan our legislative chairperson planned our annual trip to Annapolis to have lunch with our Senators and Delegates. Delegate Carolyn Howard was our sponsor for our Legislative Workshop again this year. We sat in the galley to listen to Senator Mike Miller discuss the many bills which will effect all of us as retirees, our children and our grandchildren's future. Again a huge thanks to all who were able to attend. The force of us showing up in groups shows the commitment we have as retirees to support our pension and benefits.

Our next and last meeting for this year will be at the Comfort Inn on May 24, 2017. We will be presenting scholarships to the graduating seniors. Bring a friend and meet our incoming President George Denny. Feel free to get involved this year. Join a committee or even chair one of the existing committees. Hope to see you soon.

Brenda L. Barnes, President



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BITS AND PIECES

Happy **May** birthday wishes to several of our Emeritus members: Mrs. Virginia Hobble of Princess Anne, will be marking her 92nd birthday on the 6th; Mrs. Henrietta Walker of Bradenton, FL will be celebrating her 95th birthday on the 11th; Mrs. Maxine Cunningham of Annapolis, will be having her 96th birthday on the 13th; Mrs. Helen Endo of Silver Spring, will be turning 96 years-old on the 20th; and Ms. Yvonne Koolhof of Naples, FL, will marking her 93rd birthday on the 21st.

Happy **June** birthday greetings to other Emeritus members: Ms. Marion Mears of Silver Spring, will be having her 92nd birthday on the 4th; Mrs. Edna Long of Dameron, MD, will be celebrating her 97th birthday on the 7th; **Ms. Althea Carrick of Catonsville, will be turning 102 years-old on the 20th**; Mrs. Mary Mills of Mechanicsville, will be marking her 96th birthday on the 20th; and Ms. Dora Halton of Mitchellville, will be having her 91st birthday on the 21st.

Happy **July** birthday wishes to more Emeritus members: Ms. Margaret Ann Beardsley of Austin, TX, will be celebrating her 96th birthday on the 4th; Mr. John Moran of Silver Spring, will be turning 92 years-old on the 7th; Mr. Calvin McMillion of Waldorf, will be having his 94th birthday on the 12th; Mr. Joseph Hall of Washington, D.C., will be marking his 95th birthday on the 22nd; and Mrs. Alice Konze of Oxon Hill, will be celebrating her 97th birthday on the 31st.

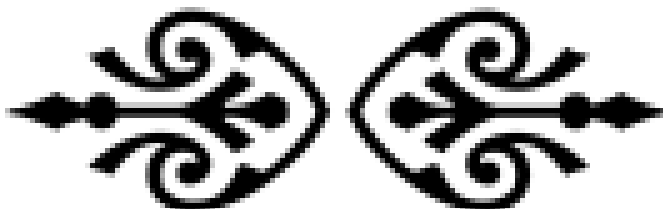
Happy **August** birthday greetings to a few other Emeritus members: **Miss Ada Warrington of Seaford, DE, who will be turning 100 years-old on the 27th**; and Mr. Oliver Myers of Brandywine, who will be celebrating his 94th birthday on the 28th.

David and Jean Ann Mitchell both retired from the Prince George's School System – David from Templeton Elementary in 1980, and Jean Ann from Rogers Heights Elementary in 1970. They continue to be grateful to have been a part of such a superior school system, from which they have many great memories and so many incredible friends. The Mitchells have relocated to Siesta Key, FL, where they are enjoying life. David gave away his snow shovel, but kept his grand piano for evening soirees!

Adele Talbot retired as the Guidance Secretary at High Point High School in 1990. Her late husband, George Talbot, was one of the original teachers at High Point. Adele lives in Adelphi. She has volunteered for several years as her church's "money counter". During retirement, she has enjoyed travels to Bermuda and Japan. Her daughter, Suzanne, works at the University of Maryland, - Department of Education, as a supervisor of student teachers. Adele has two grandsons and a granddaughter.

Adrienne Cannon of Springfield, VA, retired from Eleanor Roosevelt High School as a Spanish and Italian teacher in 1996. She has enjoyed travels to many places during this past year, including Croatia, San Diego, the Canadian Rockies, and the Grand Canyon. She writes for her Greenspring Village community newsletter, and edits the "Greenspring Writers Guild". Adrienne has published two volumes of reflective essays – "Journey" and "Grace Notes". She volunteers as a tour guide at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., plays clarinet with the Mt. Vernon Community Bands, the NOVA Campus Band, and the Windjammers Circus Band in Sarasota, FL. each winter. ***The article on page 3 was written by Adrienne after the last Circus Band Concert this past winter.

To contribute to BITS & PIECES, contact: jannetteWundrow@comcast.net or 301-390-7324



The Times...They Are A'Changin'

by Adrienne G. Cannon



"The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus is closing!" The announcement came just as the Windjammers Circus Band was concluding its week of rehearsing, recording and providing musical accompaniment for a group of young circus performers. The news came as a shock to us as musicians who had spent the last week anticipating our culminating concert "under the Big Top" of the Sailor Circus. We all have been aware that the circuses have been hiring fewer musicians every year. But now, with this news, we know that there will be no more live circus music.

I have always loved the excitement and color of the circus. But, being an animal lover, the trained and obedient animals, especially the large ones, have always bothered me. I know that their treatment by their trainers, no matter how kindly and gentle, violates their natural state. And their confinement in their rail cars or cages in the rings, has always made me feel uncomfortable. So hearing that they are now released from their traditional roles, and hopefully are allowed to age in comfortable environments, gave me joy, touched with sadness for the end of an a legacy.

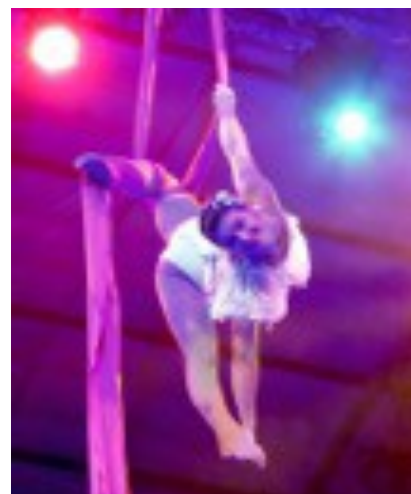
I am part of the Windjammers musicians who meet each year in Sarasota near the Ringling Mansion as a group dedicated to the preservation of circus music. We are drawn together for a week of rehearsals and performances. We sight-read, perfect and then record a portfolio of circus music during our first three days. Our hours of rehearsing are numerous and intense. But then we are ready for our other activities. We play for ceremonies that honor former conductors, participate in induction ceremonies at St. Armand's Key in the Ring of Fame, and play a memorial service at a nearby cemetery to honor past circus composers, conductors and members who have died in the past year. For our culminating program, we accompany young performers: acrobats, jugglers and clowns, who are in training for a future career with professional circuses.

The balmy temperatures that Ringling chose for the winter quarters of the circus delight us (and we escape to the beaches when time permits). We have learned that the area hosts many circus families who have settled here over the years. To accommodate the circus community members are clubs (the Showfolks Club), circus days at the Ringling Mansion, an elaborate miniature circus display just off of the Mansion garden, and the Sailor Circus Conservatory program for young performers at Sarasota High School.

The startling news of the ending of circus with those magnificent animals catches our attention. But we, who have played for the young acrobats and have noticed the popularity of Cirque de Soleil shows, are not grieving for an art that appears lost. We know now that our work preserving circus music and playing a January concert for the talented young performers of Sarasota, is not over. It is the beginning of a new tradition in which our task to preserve circus music will become even more important.

Yes, the times are changing, but for us, the circus musicians, we see a future for us that is more important than ever.

(Photos by former PG Co. teacher, Lauren Pearl)



Remember the
friends who were
there for you
when you needed
them. They're
your true friends

WWW.LIVE LIFE HAPPY.COM

REMEMBRANCE

.....
12/22/2016

Harold Brown	02/19/2017
Diana Brosnan	12/20/2016
Dorothy Eaton	12/22/2016
Jackie Holmes
Helena Nobles-Jones	03/15/2017
Jeanna Burke-Judge	01/29/2017
Marianna Trimble-Keene	03/08/2017
Robert Joseph Janus	12/27/2016
Mary Lou Mortlock	02/10/2017
Rose Myrick	01/03/2017
David W. Pennington	02/10/2017
Bessie Reynolds	03/01/2017
Betty Roy	01/22/2017
James Treston	01/27/2017
Lagret Trotter
William Vaughan	02/25/2017
Jo Ann Yates	02/17/2017

Jannie Goldston Chair

Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA

President: Brenda Barnes (blbarnes128@aol.com)

Past President: Mary Isbell (maryi32@verizon.net)

President-Elect: George Denny (george.dilden@yahoo.com)

Recording Sec.: Maryann M. Royall and Linda G. Butler
(maryakaroyall@aol.com)

(lindabl1217@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Dr. Edward Vest (homevest@comcast.net)

Corr. Secretary: Courtney Pringle (pringc@aol.com)

BOE Liaison: Addie Martin (amartin668@aol.com)

Comm. Ser: Ethel Brown (elbrown45@verizon.net)

Consumer Ed.: Norma Martof (nmartof@verizon.net) and George Denny

Historian: Don Conway (donjoy5@comcast.net)

Inspirations: Gretel James (Gret22@msn.com)

Legislation: Sue Finan (sfinan77!gmail.com)

Membership: Charline Jacob (J3518acob@aol.com)

Newsletter/Programs: Bonnie Brose (bcbrose@comcast.net)

Public Relations: George Denny

Webmaster/Parliamentarian: Dr. William Brose (wmbrose@comcast.net)

Recognition: Fran Doyle (penguincl@msn.com)

Remembrance: Jannie Goldston (clay1231@verizon.net)

Scholarships: Delores Brown (brownjr1@verizon.net) and Alveta Jones
(alvetajones@verizon.net)

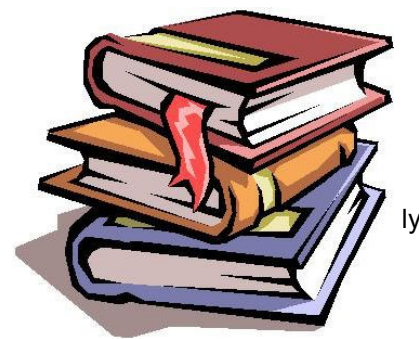
Trips: Charles Hudson (301 572 9778)



MEMBERSHIP

Leah Fowble and Maryann Royal were the winners of the two \$\$\$ /Door Prizes at the March 22nd meeting. Other members won items as their numbers were called.

Come out to our meeting May 24, 2017 and you may win a prize. All who attend are real-WINNERS—they get to meet with former co-workers, meet and converse with new members, get current information from chapter committees and MRSPA , enjoy the musical or other entertainment we often have **and** enjoy a meal on top of all of that!



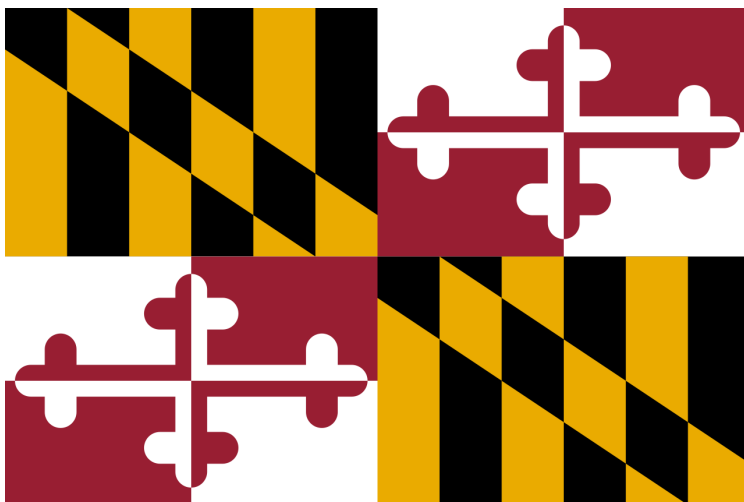
I am sending SPECIAL THANKS to Fran Doyle and Dan Williams for the MANY items they brought to make our BOOK AND MAGAZINE project a success. Thanks to the other members who added theirs to the over 250 items that I was able to take to Vista Gardens Nursing Home to give to their Activity Director.

Please consider joining us at our final 2016-17 meeting . We will be thanking some officers who have served faithfully and will be leaving their positions. New officers will be inducted. You will have a chance to give all a heartfelt hug of THANKS or WELCOME! Consider contacting a Retiree you have not seen for a while and asking them to join you.

Dr. Vest will be checking his US mail looking for your luncheon reservations so he can make proper arrangements with the hotel and have your name card waiting as you arrive on Wednesday, May 24, 2017. I'll have the two \$\$\$ Door Prizes and other items there that you will have a chance to win and I am asking that you consider sporting your favorite HAT that day. Prizes in different categories will be given out..

Enjoy the Spring Days ahead and start going through your HATS to decide which one you will wear to the meeting.

Charline Jacob- Membership Chair



Left: Don Conway and our Trips Chair, Charles Hudson with photos from the presentation made at the University of Maryland for Charles' long involvement with college sports.

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

[PGCPSRA Community Services Committee](#)

The Community Services Teams are on target for all of our projected projects for the fiscal year 2016-2017. We are now at the phase of procuring food baskets for Easter and buying shoe. Along with these two new projects, we are continuing to do school supplies, uniforms and winter needs.

Our students from Largo High School have been chosen. We are supplying graduation packages for five students this year. They are: Daschmiere Fenwick, Jabari Reddock, Talaya Trotter, and Ashley and Zachary Windsor.

The parents and students were overjoyed and thankful. We have received letters and thank-you cards from all other schools. They will be on display at our May meeting. You will also be able to meet some of these students when you attend the meeting.

We thank you for all you do, and have continued to do for the children of Prince George's County. Without your support, our teams could not aid so many.

Ethel Brown, Chairman

“TOGETHER, EVERYONE MAKES THE DREAM WORK”



TREASURER'S REPORT – MARCH – 2017

OPENING BALANCES:

CHECKING ACCOUNT -	\$12257.58
SAVINGS ACCOUNT -	\$3029.16

ACTIVITY – CHECKING ACCOUNT:

RECEIPTS -	\$2002.54
EXPENDITURES -	\$4640.28

NO ACTIVITY – SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCES AS OF MARCH 31:

CHECKING ACCOUNT -	\$9619.84
SAVINGS ACCOUNT -	\$3029.16
TOTAL ASSETS -	\$12649.00

Edward N. Vest, Treasurer

VISIT THESE WEBSITES

www.MRSPA.org and www.PGPSRA.org

If you have not already done so,
send your email address to Dr. Vest
To get the latest, quickest news.

DISCOUNTS!!

Check out **Abenity** on Your MRSPA website
for special offers for you.
Visit the site often!

Look for more photos and information that doesn't fit in the Newsletter at:

www.PGPSRA.org

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Fifty-four persons submitted applications to the Prince George's Scholarship Fund, Inc. at the end of February. Four persons had applied for the PGPSRA Scholarship, two high school seniors and two college students. The two high school students have been invited for an interview April 10, 2017. If they attend the interview and are still interested in pursuing Education courses and plan to teach, they will be invited to attend our May luncheon meeting. They also will be given specific information about receiving the scholarship money once they are enrolled at the college of their choice. They will be asked to submit a brief article to be included in the September ECHOES.

Congratulations to Calpurnia Arrington, the winner of the March 50/50 raffle. You will have another opportunity to win if you purchase raffle tickets at the May luncheon meeting. Thanks to Leah Fowble for her donation to the Scholarship Fund. Hope you will contribute to the Fund at the May meeting.

Alveta S. Jones

and Delores Brown, Scholarship Co-Chairs



LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Our Legislative trip to Annapolis on March 9, 2017 was very successful. A pleasant bus ride took us right to the State House steps for our photo with Senate President Mike Miller and Delegate Susie Proctor. We were able to view The Senate and House in session and visit Historic Rooms and the Governor's Mansion.

This year we gathered in Room 150, the Prince George's County Delegation room, for our luncheon. During that time we had visits from Senator Joanne Benson, seven Delegates and nine Legislative Aides. I was approached by a young woman named Jolethia Rogers who is a 2001 graduate of Largo High School. Jolethia wanted me to give a thank you to any teachers who might remember her. She is now a lawyer. We finished up and returned to PGCEA at 2:30. If you were unable to join us this year please plan on participating in this rewarding day in 2018.

Jannette Wundrow and I have attended the Prince George's Delegation meetings held on Fridays. Guests this session have included Prince George's school CEO Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Congressman Anthony Brown, Comptroller Peter Franchot, Attorney General Brian Frosh, Congressman Steny Hoyer, and Senator Ben Cardin. They all pledged to work with the Delegation to support the people of Maryland.

Sue Finan, Legislative Chair

Proposed Budget 2017-2018

Category	Current Budget	Proposed Budget
	2016-2017	2017-2018
Archives	\$150	\$150
Awards and Recognition	450	450
Operational	600	600
President	100	100
Secretarial	50	50
MRSPA Meetings	300	300
Treasurer	100	100
Newsletter/Publications	1,000	1,000
Hospitality	500	500
Legislative	2,000	2,000
Membership	1,500	1,500
Program	550	550
Public Relations	000	000
Remembrance	150	150
Community Service	7,000	7,000
Convention Gift	50	50
Scholarship	5,000	5,000
Contingency Fund	300	200
Senior Member Outreach	000	500
GRAND TOTALS	\$28,800	\$28,800



Budget Cont'd

ESTIMATED INCOME 2017-2018
 Dues from members @ \$15/member
 Estimated Membership of 1,600
\$24,000
 From Checking Account: \$4,800
Total: \$28,000

What you Missed



Our March meeting was held at the Comfort Inn in Bowie, Md. Everyone enjoyed their lunch while being entertained by The Healing Strings Studio. It was relaxing therapeutic music played by Mr. Alexander Strachan; Violinist, accompanied by Mr. Owen Adams; Pianist. They are available for weddings and other special events. healingstringsstudio.com. Our other special guest was Ms. Paula McNeil, Park Ranger from Maryland Park and Planning. She works at Watkins Park Nature Center. She enlightened us of the various senior activities available for us to join. One activity is the "The Strutting Seniors" which is a blend of Nature and Fitness. There are many volunteer opportunities for us to become a part of and trips to enjoy. Visit their web site www.pgparcs.com for more information.



PGPSRA Reservation Form

May 24, 2017 at 11:00 A.M.

Comfort Inn, Bowie

(at Routes 301 and 50)

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Dr. Ed Vest, 7908 Klovstad Drive, Fort Washington, MD 20744-1729

Name(s) _____

Amount Enclosed \$30.00 (checks payable to PGPSRA) for each lunch reservation— \$ _____ **(We need the count by the May 17 mail delivery!)**

Plated Hot Lunch

Jumbo Lump Crabmeat (broiled the Maryland Way)

Brownie Sundae

Coffee, Iced or Hot Tea

PGPSRA

Dr. Edward N. Vest
7908 Klovstad Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744

Editor:
Bonnie Curry Brose
bcbrose@comcast.net



We're on the web!
www.pgpsra.org

Next Meeting

May 24, 2017

Comfort Inn, Bowie

11:00 a.m.

