

# ECHOES

Vol. XLVIII No. 4    The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter    March 2014

**PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964**

## The President Speaks



**Lorraine Johnson, PGPSRA**

Dear Members,  
Happy Golden Jubilee!

Congratulations and well done! We acknowledge with undo pride, 50 years of active, dedicated, and continuous service to Prince George's County Public Schools, its students, its teachers, our communities and our retirees. Our organization has been endeavoring to perform good works for half a century. And, with renewed effort, we continue to strive to do even more good works to validate our love, interest, and concern for education.

I am so excited! Thanks to so many of you. Your hard work, dedication and good works, enable this organization to flourish. PGPSRA is the result of this or-

ganization's dedication to our local school system and its needs . . . school-wise and community-wise. Let's do even more during the next 50 years.

It is my sincere hope that I will be able to meet and greet each of you at our Golden Jubilee Celebration on March 26, 2014, at the Comfort Inn in Bowie, Maryland.

I am asking that you will make a concerted effort to celebrate with us on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Please complete the reservation form, in the newsletter, and forward it to Dr. Vest. Also, if you have historical items and mementos that might be used in our presentation on the 26<sup>th</sup>, please contact Mr. Donald Conway; he will be happy to have your input.

Our next Pre-Retirement Conference will be held on March 8, 2014 at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

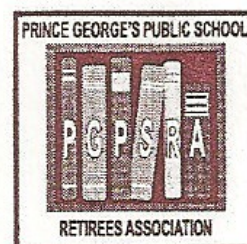
Also, raffles will be available to support the MRSPA Scholarship Fund. Both checks and cash will be accepted. Please assist us in doing our share.

**NUMBERS COUNT!** This has been my theme since 2009 as your membership chair. It is still my theme as your president. We need you to help us continue the good works begun by our predecessors fifty years ago. An organization is only as strong as its membership. I thank those of you who have joined this year and look forward to hearing from those of you who have not, as yet, made a commitment to join us.

I was blessed to attend the December 4, 2013 meeting of the Community Services Committee at PGCEA,

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President's Message Continued....

and was amazed at the volume of dedicated and consistent service that we have been able to render to county students, teachers, and schools this year. The committee members have donated coats, shoes, food baskets, school supplies, and provided prom and graduation assistance to graduating seniors.

My sincere thanks to those of you who have provided actual garments or donated funds to purchase needed supplies and materials to support the current Community Services drive. Your contributions are appreciated and we sincerely thank you for your gifts.

Each committee is active and functional; we'd love to have you become a part of one that interests you. Please check our website [www.pgpsra.org](http://www.pgpsra.org) and contact the chair of the committee you wish to join.

I look forward to seeing you on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Comfort Inn in Bowie, Maryland.

Lorraine W. Johnson



Your Money is in Good Hands!  
Here is the latest Treasurer's Report

TREASURER'S REPORT - JANUARY - 2014

OPENING BALANCES:

CHECKING ACCOUNT - \$30662.32

SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 3024.24

CHECKING ACCOUNT ACTIVITY:

RECEIPTS - 1807.24

EXPENDITURES - 218.69

SAVINGS ACCOUNT ACTIVITY:

INTEREST - 0.38

BALANCES AS OF JANUARY 31, 2014:

CHECKING ACCOUNT - 32250.87

SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 3024.62

TOTAL ASSETS - \$35275.49

Thanks!!

E. Vest

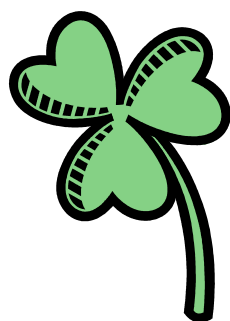


Come and Meet Stu and Judy!

Or, just say, "Hi!" to old friends of ours. Stu Tucker, of course you know, is the President of MRSPA and Judy Zahren is the Executive Director. They will surely have some interesting information for us at our March meeting. They will be glad to answer questions and get to know us better.

## Community Service Donations

Beatrice Aist  
 Godelieve Bartley  
 Donald Conway  
 Helen Butler  
 Elizabeth Fanelli  
 Betty Green  
 John Hart  
 Mary Isbell  
 Lorraine Johnson  
 Oliver and Dolores Martin  
 Rose Miller  
 John Moran  
 Judith Naugle  
 Hugh and Marian O'Donnell  
 Robert and Marcia Poling  
 Ellen Smith  
 Sharon Tannenbaum  
 Jennie Thomas  
 Mrs. William K. Konze  
 Ada Warrington  
 Dr. Rita Womack  
 Imogene Woodley  
 Jannette Wundrow



**HAPPY  
 ST. PAT'S DAY  
 MARCH 17th**

## Remembrance/Necrology

Richard G. Boyce - 11/12/2013  
 Gwyneth Dunn— 01/10/2014  
 Helen E. Meleney - 12/ 24/2013  
 Dr. Robert J. Shockley - 01/13/201  
 Charles F. Thompson  
 Donna Bettcher - 01/29/2001

Jannie Goldston, Chair



## **Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA**

President: Lorraine W. Johnson  
 (Johnson6608@comcast.net)  
 President-Elect: Dr. Norma Martof (nmartof@yahoo.com)  
 Past President: Gretel James (Gret22@verizon.net)  
 Recording Sec.: Joann Sloan (wjsloan@comcast.net)  
 Treasurer: Dr. Edward Vest (drvest@prodigy.net)  
 Corr. Secretary: Courtney Pringle (pringc@aol.com)  
 Comm. Ser: Ethel Brown (elbrown45@verizon.net)  
 Consumer Ed. Open  
 Historian: Don Conway (donjoy5@comcast.net)  
 Inspirations: Rose Miller (rabbit183@verizon.net)  
 Legislation: Sue Finan (sfinan77!gmail.com)  
 Membership: Charline Jacob (J3518acob@aol.com)  
 Newsletter: Bonnie Brose (bcbrose@comcast.net)  
 Webmaster: Dr. William Brose (wmbrose@comcast.net)  
 Recognition: Mary Isbell (misbell3030@comcast.net)  
 Parliamentarian: Janette Bell (njanettebell@verizon.net)  
 Remembrance: Jannie Goldston (clay1231@verizon.net)  
 Scholarships: Delores Brown (brownjr1@verizon.net)  
 Alveta Jones (alvetajones@verizon.net)  
 Trips: Charles Hudson (301 572 9778)  
 Programs: (Awaiting a new volunteer!)



## Legislative Report

Greetings PGPSRA Members,

The 2014 Maryland General Assembly has begun in Annapolis and Jannette Wundrow and I attended the Prince George's County Delegation meeting on Friday Morning January 17, 2014. We received a warm welcome from Delegation Chair Jolene Ivey and greetings from several delegates. Yes, our interest and presence do make a difference. We encourage other members to join us.

Sorry to say, Governor O'Malley's budget presents us with some troubling news.

Last year the legislature agreed to put \$300,000,000 into the Maryland State Retirement Pension System (MSRPS) to eliminate the Corridor funding method of the system and instate the Actuarial funding method, which is what should have been the "pay-in fund amount" all along. However, at the end of the General Assembly Session, Governor O'Malley decided to withhold \$100,000,000 and put in only \$200,000,000, saying it would be corrected in another year. Well, another year has come, and instead of fully funding the MSRPS with the Actuarial contribution of \$300,000,000, the Governor is again shorting the payment by \$100,000,000, and putting in just \$200,000,000 again.

It is time to contact our state legislators and Governor O'Malley to voice our displeasure with the continued underfunding of our pension system. The MRSPA website will guide you through the contact process.

Our very own Legislative trip to Annapolis is planned for Wednesday, March 19, 2014. We will leave PGCEA office at 8:45 am and return about 2:30 pm. While in Annapolis, we will sit in on short sessions of both House and Senate and tour the Governor's mansion. All of our Prince George's legislators will be invited to join us for lunch and to speak briefly to our group. There is no charge for this trip. Please sign up for the trip on our poster or contact me, Sue Finan at [sfinan77@gmail.com](mailto:sfinan77@gmail.com) if you will be able to attend.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Please attend the next meeting so you can get the TAX HELPER that will be given to all. Our numbers are still increasing so continue to bring former co-workers who may join PGPSRA and come out to fellowship with others on a regular basis.

C. Jacob- Chair



## BITS AND PIECES

Happy **March** birthday wishes to several of our Emeritus members: Mrs. Edna Dragoo of Silver Spring, who will be celebrating her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 1<sup>st</sup>; Ms. Ethel Perazzoli of El Cajon, CA, who will be marking her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 2<sup>nd</sup>; **Mrs. Pauline Storey Banks of Alexandria, VA , who is turning 100 on the 11<sup>th</sup>**; and Mrs. Carrie Reid of Suitland, who will be having her 93rd birthday on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Happy **April** birthday greetings to: Ms. Carolyn Cooper of Ft. Belvoir, VA, who will be celebrating her 95th birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup>; Ms. Dorothy McGinnis of Leland, NC, who will be having her 95th birthday on the 12th; Mrs. Edna Gore of Cheverly, who will be marking her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 19th; and Mr. Gordon Wilson of Paris, KY, who will be turning 97 on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Diane Jayson, of Rockville, retired in 2006 as a PH.D. School Psychologist, having worked with children in many of the county schools. She is now in private practice doing psychotherapy with adults in an in-home office. Diane enjoys traveling world-wide, and has recently been to Turkey, Russia, and the Galapagos Islands.

Vincent Wheatley retired as Program Coordinator of the Science and Technology Program at C. H. Flowers High School in 1996. He then became a biology professor at Anne Arundel Community College. Vince is a boating enthusiast and has explored most of the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay by boat. His other interests involve yard work and church activities. Vince and his wife, Pat, have a blended family of eight adult children and 16 and 1/2 grandchildren! The Wheatley's recently relocated to Heritage Harbor in Annapolis, an age 55+ community on the South River. Vince enjoys reading about the retired life of other school system retirees in the local and state newsletters.

Christine Wells, of Glen Burnie, MD, retired from Columbia Park Elementary in 2003. She then taught music at Woodmont Academy (Catholic School) for the next four years. Beginning in 2005, and continuing into the present, Christine has taught piano lessons to senior citizens at Langley Park Senior Center. She serves as her church organist and soloist. She is active in local community theater, and has used her musical talents to direct several children's musicals. Christine also volunteers in Montgomery County Schools. She experienced a very interesting trip to India in 2011. Christine had a wonderful family celebration on January 4, 2014, when her son, Fred, was married.

She has another son, a married daughter, and two granddaughters. She proclaims that "Life is great!"

To contribute to BITS & PIECES, contact Jannette Wundrow [jannettewundrow@comcast.net](mailto:jannettewundrow@comcast.net) or 1007 Packton Lane, Bowie, 20716

## And More Bits and Pieces, from Charline

Charline Jacob and Alberta Hamilton were on Paradise Island, Nassau, Bahamas Dec 27,2013 to Jan 3rd, 2014. Helen Lewis-the mother of Charline-celebrated her 98th birthday on Dec 31st and Alberta celebrated her 75th on January 2014. Enjoying a week in the islands, they were brought down to earth by the cold temp and SNOW on the ground when they returned.

Former staff members of James McHenry Elementary shared a wonderful evening with Rose Ann Sweetney who was visiting from VA. Barbara Stein, Charline Jacob, Patsy Dade and Peggy Alexander joined Rose Ann for eating , chatting and lots of laughing. We all know the saying;MAKE NEW FRIENDS BUT KEEP THE OLD- ONE IS SILVER AND THE OTHER IS GOLD!! Other diners must have thought we were THE GOLDEN GIRLS out for a wonderful evening.

PGPSRA extends sympathy to Patricia Hampton McNutt . Her husband James McNutt died during the Christmas holidays.Retiring from Gaywood EI several years ago, Pat and Jim joined other PG retirees and relocated to Florida.





## Community Service Committee News.....

**Happy New Year!!** We, the members of Community Services, are thankful for all of your support!

Our projects are well received and beneficial. There is a vast need in the County!!! We are fortunate to be able to make a dent for many families.

All schools are finalized and receiving benefits monthly.

Our four seniors from Central High School are:

Toni Garrison

Montay McMillian

Marcus Brock

Christopher Forbes

Principal: Mr. Charoscar Coleman

Senior Advisor/Vice Principal: Dr. C. Rozanski

We were graciously received. The students were honored and appreciative to know they were chosen for assistance with their prom and graduation matriculation.

Central High School's Prom is May 9, 2014. Graduation is slated for May 23, 2014.

Our seniors will speak at the General PGPSRA Meeting on May 28, 2014.

We hope to have a full house for this assemblage (smile).

Again, thanks to all for your continued support.

Ethel L. Brown

### VISIT THESE WEBSITES

www. MRSPA.org and www.PGPSRA.org

We will soon have a facebook page!

Keep in touch.....if you have not already  
done so,

send your email address to Dr. Vest!



## DISCOUNTS!!

Check out **Abenity**

Your MRSPA website  
has special offers for you.

Take advantage of it all

Visit the site often!

From pizza to movies



Don Conway, PGPSRA Historian

### PGPSRA To Celebrate 50 Years!

At our March meeting, we are planning to celebrate 50 years of the Prince George's Public School Retirees Association. Led by Don Conway, the committee is planning to present happenings from each of the 5 decades of retiree actions.

Plan to join us! Bring a friend—or two. We'll have photo albums, plaques, and power-point shows for you....and lots more.

**March 26, 2014 - Comfort Inn**

Bowie, Maryland

PGPSRA Reservation Form

Celebrate our Birthday!

March 26 2014 at 11:00 A.M.

At the Comfort Inn, Bowie

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW TO BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 18,2014  
TO:

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$25 for each lunch reservation— \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**(We need the count by March 18th mail delivery!)**

This is a buffet. You do not need to state a preference of entrée.

## PGPSRA

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

Editor:  
Bonnie Curry Brose  
bcbrose@comcast.net




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**We're on the web!**  
[www.pgpsra.org](http://www.pgpsra.org)

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**Plan to Be There!**

**March 26**

**11:00 A.M.**

**Comfort Inn**

**\$25.00**

## **Join us In March**

It's a Party!

*Our Golden Jubilee Celebration*

Reservation form inside

Look Back over 50 years

Of

Retired Prince George's

School Personnel

You are important, please come!!