

ECHOES

Vol. XLIX No. 5

The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter

May 2015

PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964

The President Speaks



We found the president for next year! Welcome Mary Isbell who graciously accepted the nomination to serve as president of PGPSRA for 2015-16. At our March meeting Lorraine Johnson, Nominations Chair, presented the slate of officers for 2016. These candidates will be installed at the May meeting when we meet and hear the stories of our scholarship and community service recipients. A nominee for President-Elect has also come forward. It is an honor to serve and represent PGPSRA. On that note, I want to thank Joann Sloan for her tireless dedication to serving as recording secretary for many years. Thank you Joann!

On March 14, 2015 members assisted the Prince George's School System register 269 participants for the Pre-Retirement Seminar at Roosevelt High School. This bi-annual event is a wonderful opportunity for PGPSRA to distribute brochures to gain new members.

March 18, 2015 found a record number of PGPSRA members travelling to the Maryland State House in Annapolis. We enjoyed the day with a special visit from Senator JoAnne C Benson and a presentation by Tish Raff, MRSPA Legislative Aide. Following the tour of special rooms, we enjoyed a delicious lunch thanks to Chairman, Sue Finan with the able assistance of Janette Wundrow. On March 19, 2015 I attended the President's meeting at the MRSPA Office in Odenton where plans for 2015-16 were discussed.

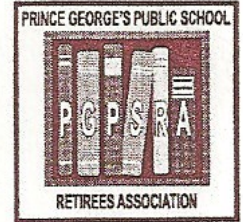
A huge thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets to fund the MRSPA scholarship fund. We sold 130 tickets total. Best wishes for winning one of the fantastic prizes at the MRSPA Annual Meeting on May 12, 2015 at Turf Valley in Ellicott City, Maryland. The delegate list has been sent in for all who wished to attend. I appreciate your interest and if you have questions or if you are unable to go, please call me. Don Conway has plans to showcase the accomplishments of PGPSRA at this meeting. Please look for his display of our organization.

Our March 25th luncheon meeting was an uplifting and entertaining experience. A special thanks to Bonnie Brose, Program Chair, who provided gorgeous centerpieces of birds and flowers to welcome spring. Rev. Don Horrigan, Ed. D. provided the inspirational message as he remembered Rose Miller who elegantly inspired us for many years. Prior to our meal, Dan Williams and Joe Richter played instruments, sung, and did comedy. Charline Jacob featured several dramatic readings that caused us to laugh. Sharing her beautiful voice, Lorraine Johnson sung a solo. Our last two meetings have showcased the multiple talents of our members and showed their willingness to share and give of themselves.

In addition to the program of entertainment and lunch, committee chairs gave reports. Ethel Brown presented her report and read an uplifting tribute to Lou Vest who touched all of our hearts over the years. Our meeting concluded with a prayer by Gretle James for Dr. Vest during this difficult time of losing his beloved wife, Lou Vest.

Sincerely,

Dr. Norma Martof



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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

In Loving Memory of Rose Miller

PGPSRA President 2005 - 2006

Member of PGPSRA Scholarship and Community Service Committees

Reader of "Words of Inspiration " at meetings

A Science Teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, Volunteer, Lay Servant, Friend

We will miss you. PGPSRA Members.

Scholarship Update

Five persons have been selected to receive a \$ 2000.00 scholarship award . Two of the awardees are graduating seniors and the other three are college students majoring in education. The two high school seniors are being invited to an interview session with the Prince George's Scholarship Fund, Inc. members on April 16th. Then, most likely, they will be invited to our May luncheon meeting.

At the May luncheon meeting, it is hoped that the high school students and a parent are present. The seniors will be expected to share pertinent information and the names of the college awardees will be announced.

Again, thanks to persons who contribute to the Scholarship Fund.

Alveta and Delores
Scholarship Co-Chairs

Necrology/Remembrance

Edna H. Gore 03/06/2015

Eileen Henderson

Rose Miller 02/13/2015

Thelma Titus 02/28/2015

Lucia J. Vest 03/22/201

LeRoy Battle 03/31/2015

Jannie Goldston, Chair



March Entertainment

We were pleased to have Dan Williams and Joe Richter with us in March. They presented a fun and musical program. We also had readings from Charline Jacob and a solo from Lorraine Johnson.



Joe, left and Dan, right.



Lorraine



Charline

Community Service Committee

Our "Team" has lost a "fallen angel". Rose truly missed.



Miller transitioned on February 13, 2015. She will be

All points are operative. We are meeting our projected projects in a timely fashion. Potomac High School Seniors and sponsors are very organized. They are eagerly waiting to tell us their stories on May 27th.

Our four seniors are: Bria Green, D'Angelo McClellan, Rochelle Washington and Evelyn Williams. Potomac High School's prom is May 15 and graduation is May 19.

VISIT THESE WEBSITES

www.MRSPA.org and
www.PGPSRA.org

We will soon have a facebook



DISCOUNTS!!

Check out **Abenity** on Your
MRSPA website
for special offers for you.

Visit the site often!

YOUR MONEY IS IN GOOD HANDS!

TREASURER'S REPORT – MARCH 2015

OPENING BALANCES:

CHECKING ACCOUNT - \$21869.75
SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 3026.13

ACTIVITY – CHECKING ACCOUNT:

RECEIPTS - 1530.86
EXPENDITURES - 5578.93

NO ACTIVITY IN SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCES AS OF MARCH 31, 2015:

CHECKING ACCOUNT - 17821.68
SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 3026.13
TOTAL ASSETS - \$20847.81

E. Vest
Treasurer



FYI

PGPSRA Contributions for the last 7 years!

	Scholarships	Community Service
2007-2008	\$5,531.50	\$1,724.34
2008-2009	\$12,000.00	\$2,725.47
2009-2010	\$8,000.00	\$4,358.97
2010-2011	10,000.00	\$4,486.84
2011-2012	\$4,000.00	\$4,498.00
2012-2013	\$5,000.00	\$6,399.70
2013-2014	\$10,000.00	\$9,159.40

Totals are: Scholarships—\$54, 531.50; Community Service - \$33,353.22.

That is \$87,884.72 for the seven years.

GOOD WORK, EVERYONE!

Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA

President: Dr. Norma Martof (nmartof@verizon.net)

Past President: Lorraine Johnson

(Johnson6608@comcast.net)

Recording Sec.: Joann Sloan (wjsloan@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Dr. Edward Vest (drvest@prodigy.net)

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

BOE Liaison: Addie Martin

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

Consumer Ed. Open

Historian: Don Conway (donjoy5@comcast.net)

Inspirations: open

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: Bill Brose (wmbrose@comcast.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: Bonnie Brose with Maryclaire Dunlap

(beachbkmcd@gmail.com)

BITS AND PIECES

Happy **May** birthday wishes to several of our Emeritus members: Mrs. Henrietta Walker, of Bradenton, FL, who will be celebrating her 93rd birthday on the 11th; Ms. Maxine Cunningham of Annapolis, who is turning 94 years-old on the 13th; and Mrs. Helen Endo of Silver Spring, who will be having her 94th birthday on the 20th.

Happy **June** birthday greetings to: Mrs. Ellen Kendrick of Waldorf, who will be celebrating her 94th birthday on the 1st; Ms. Edna Long of Dameron, MD, who will be having her 95th birthday on the 7th; **Mrs. Esther Vogel, of Sebastopol, CA, who will be turning 104 on the 11th**; Mrs. Dessamore Hillman of Leawood, KS, who will be marking 93 years-old on the 16th; Mrs. Althea Carrick of Catonsville, MD, who will be having her 90th birthday on the 20th; and Ms. Mary E. Mills of Mechanicsville, who will be celebrating her 94th birthday on the 20th.

Happy **July** birthday wishes to: Ms. Margaret Ann Beardsley of Austin, TX, who will be having her 94th birthday on the 4th; Mr. Calvin McMillian of Waldorf, who will be turning 92 years-old on the 12th; Dr. Joseph Hall of Washington, D.C., who will be celebrating his 93rd birthday on the 22nd; and Mrs. Alice Konze of Oxon Hill, who will be having her 95th birthday on the 31st.

Happy **August** birthday greetings to: Mrs. Leah Martin of Gaithersburg, who will be celebrating her 95th birthday on the 1st, and to Mr. Oliver Myers of Brandywine, who will be marking his 92nd birthday on the 28th.

Yvonne Koolhof retired from Apple Grove Elementary in 1985. A few years later, she and her husband, who has since passed, relocated to North Carolina. Before leaving Maryland, Yvonne enjoyed volunteering as a Docent at the Mary Surratt House in Clinton. In North Carolina, she began volunteer work teaching English to Hispanic farm workers. Five years later the Koolhofs moved to Naples, FL. There Yvonne continued teaching English and also volunteered as a reading instructor in the elementary schools. She joined a writers' group and a church, where she sang in the choir. Yvonne became an environmental activist, protesting the abuse of wetlands and endangered species in Florida. She and her late husband enjoyed numerous cruises. The Koolhofs had four children, six grandchildren, and six great grandchildren, who live in MD. and VA. Yvonne looks forward to family visits several times a year.

Vincent Korsack retired in 1979 from Gwynn Park High School as Coordinator of the Work-Study Program. Shortly afterward he opened a business in his hometown of LaPlata, repairing furniture and restoring antique furniture. He also volunteered at his Episcopal Church and was active in the American Legion and VFW. Vincent has visited all of the 50 United States, much of Canada, and Western Europe – including returning for D-Day anniversaries on Omaha Beach. He has also taken cruises to the Carribean, Alaska, and Bermuda. Vincent and his wife have relocated to Bedford, New Hampshire, where they will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary this August. They have one son (a park ranger) and one daughter (a manager for a number of charities), and a grandson and grand-daughter. Vincent says, "It's been a good life and Prince George's County was certainly a part of it."

Maxine Kontosis of Upper Marlboro retired from Northwestern High School in 2011. Since then, she has enjoyable cruises to the Carribean and is "chillin' happily".

Frank Parise was principal of several elementary schools during his educational career, before retiring from Administration work in 1983. He now lives in Melbourne, FL, where he spends time playing gin and poker, swimming, watching sports on TV and live events when possible, and spending time with family. Frank recently had to give up golf after ankle surgery. He has traveled by car to the Eastern states, mostly to visit family. He has also sailed on numerous cruises, with the Alaska cruise being a favorite. Sadly, Frank's wife, Jean, passed away 10 years ago, shortly after they celebrated their 50th anniversary. They had three children and four grandchildren. Frank has since remarried Christine, a retired nurse, and their blended family gives Frank a step-son and three step-grandchildren.

Louise Kornbau retired in 1998 from Bowie High School. She stays busy now with church work, and traveling as much as possible. Louise has been to 16 countries throughout the world! She has been as far south as Antarctica, and as far north as Switzerland and other countries in Europe, to the Middle East, and to South America. Louise has three children and three grandchildren. Several years ago she moved to Ashburn, VA. to be near her family, and has recently moved into a "Full Life Facility" in Northern Virginia.

Lorraine Johnson of Capitol Heights, retired from Oakcrest Elementary in 2006. However, she continued working in education – as a long-term substitute until 2014, and is currently working as a part-time reading specialist at her church's Christian School in Suitland.

Proposed Budget 2015-2016

Category	Current Budget	Proposed Budget
	2014-2015	2015-2016
Archives	150.00	150.00
Awards and Recognition	150.00	450.00
Operational	600.00	600.00
President	100.00	100.00
Secretarial	50.00	50.00
MRSPA Meetings	100.00	100.00
Treasurer	100.00	100.00
Newsletter/Publications	1,000.00	1,000.00
Consumer Education	100.00	0.00
Hospitality	500.00	500.00
Legislative	2,000.00	2,000.00
Membership	1,300.00	1,500.00
Program	750.00	550.00
Remembrance	150.00	150.00
Community Service	7,000.00	7,000.00
Convention Gift	50.00	50.00
Scholarship	5,000.00	5,000.00
Contingency Fund	300.00	300.00
GRAND TOTALS	28,800.00	28,800.00
ESTIMATED INCOME		
DUES FROM MEMBERS@15.00 PERMEMBER		24,000.00
ESTIMATE MEMBERSHIP OF 1600		
FROM CHECKING ACCOUNT		4,800.00
TOTAL		28,800.00

Proposed Slate

2015-2016

President— Mary Isbell

President-Elect Brenda Barnes

Treasurer— Ed Vest

Co -Secretaries

Maryann M. Royal

And Linda G. Butler

Corresponding Secretary

Courtney Pringle

PLAN TO ATTEND THE MAY
MEETING TO MEET THESE
FOLKS AND PARTICIPATE IN
THE ELECTION.



BITS AND PIECES, cont'd

During this time, Lorraine has been actively involved with several organizations including: presiding as President of PGPSRA (2013-2014), presently serving as Secretary and a Board Member of the Prince George's County Foundation, Inc., presently serving as Secretary of the Maryland Association of Parliamentarians, presiding as President of the Prince George's County Parliamentarian Unit (2015), serving as State Parliamentarian (2013- 2015) for Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, holding the positions of Newsletter Editor, Corresponding Secretary, and President over the past eight years.in the Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, serving as a member of the MSEA Bylaws and Rules Committee, and participating as a member of the DKG International Chorus! Lorraine's awards for her organizational work are too numerous to mention, though congratulations to her are definitely in order! Meanwhile, she has also written and had published two books of poetry: "Should Grammar be taught" (2013), "A Child's Plea" (2003), and created a "Black Inventor's Coloring Book" (1990). Lorraine and her husband, Eugene, (a U. S. Labor Department retiree), are the proud parents of two sons: Elliot (a counselor in the VA. school system) and Edwin (a former Prince George's student member of the Board of Education and now the Senior Coordinator for Student Support Services at Morgan State University). The Johnsons also have six granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

To contribute to BITS & PIECES, contact jannettewundrow@comcast.net or 301-390-7324 (Bowie).

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

On Wednesday March 18, 2015 PGPSRA had a great trip to Annapolis for our annual Legislative day. With 36 participants, this was our largest group. Those with us for the first time were pleased with how much they saw and learned. Our return members considered it a day well spent with something new to learn every year. Over 20 guests and legislative aids stopped by to greet us at our luncheon and we were happy that Senator Benson was able to stop in for a most informative visit. Our thanks go out to Delegate James Proctor who kindly sponsors our trip each year, as well as Senator Mike Miller who manages our group photo on the Capitol steps. The photo will be given out at our May meeting so be sure to attend. Next year, please consider joining us in March for this important trip to Annapolis.

The House did pass a spending Bill to withhold \$75 million dollars of the designated \$150 million from the Maryland State Retirement Pension System. The bill also passed in the Senate. At this time, our message to our legislators should include a thank you for all of their hard work along with our disappointment about the drop in funding for MSRPS and the hope for full funding next year. Remember to visit the MRSPA web site to keep informed about any additional actions from the current Legislative session. Happy spring!

Sue Finan Legislative Chair



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

Join us In May!

PGPSRA Reservation Form

May 27 at 11:00 A.M.

Comfort Inn Bowie, MD (off rt. 301 near rt. 50)

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

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

Name(s) _____

Amount Enclosed \$25.00 for each lunch reservation— \$ _____ **(We need the count by
May 20 mail delivery!)**

Menu: Health-Smart Buffet

Broiled Salmon in Lemon Broth, Grilled Chicken Breast with Tropical Salsa

Vegetable Sauté, Island Rice and Fruit Bowl for Dessert