

ECHOES

Vol. L No. 5

The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter

May 2016

PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964

The President Speaks



This spring has been a busy month for PGPSRA. On March 10, 2016, Sue Finan, Legislative chairman and her committee, Jannette Wundrow and Dan Williams planned a trip for 32 members to travel to the Maryland State House in Annapolis. It was one the largest groups to attend in recent years. We visited the Governor's home. A room was designed for paintings of Governor's wives by Mrs. Hogan.

On March 19th, 11 members registered 365 participants at the Pre-Retirement Seminar at Eleanor Roosevelt High

School.

Brendra Barnes, president-elect, Lorraine Johnson, MRSPA Board member and I attended the President's Meeting at MRSPA headquarters on March 15, 2016.

Judith Zahren, executive director of MRSPA for 22 years will be retiring in July. Bonnie Brose is a part of the search committee. A new executive director will be on board by that time.

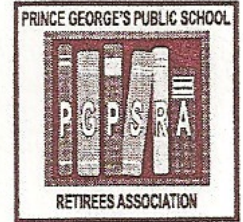
Lorraine Johnson and Dr. Norma Martof are our nominees for the 2017 Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame Inc. this year. We commend their leadership and untiring dedication to PGPSRA, education and the community. Lorraine is also running for vice-president of MRSPA.

The speaker for our March meeting, at the Comfort Inn, was Clarence "Tiger" Davis, Maryland President of AARP. The AARP is continuing the fight to maintain our Social Security benefits. The tables were decorated with lovely Maryland black-eyed Susan centerpieces tied with Maryland ribbons.

The slate of PGPSRA officers for 2016-2017 was presented by Dr. Norma Martof. We are still looking for a President-elect for 2016-2017. Thanks to all of the present officers who will serve another year.

The Annual Business Meeting will be held in Turf Valley Resort on May 10, 2016 in Ellicott City Maryland.

Marylouise Isbell,
President



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We're Planning for Next Year!

PROPOSED BUDGET 2016 – 2017

CATEGORY	CURRENT BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET
	2015 – 2016	2016 – 2017
Archives	150.00	150.00
Awards and Recognition	450.00	450.00
Operational	600.00	600.00
President	100.00	100.00
Secretarial	50.00	50.00
MRSPA Meetings	300.00	300.00
Treasurer	100.00	100.00
Newsletter/Publications	10000.00	10000.00
Hospitality	500.00	500.00
Legislative	2000.00	2000.00
Membership	1500.00	1500.00
Program	550.00	550.00
Remembrance	150.00	150.00
Community Service	7000.00	7000.00
Convention Gift	50.00	50.00
Scholarship	5000.00	5000.00
Contingency Fund	300.00	300.00
GRAND TOTALS	28800.00	28800.00
ESTIMATED INCOME		
DUES FROM MEMBERS @ \$15.00 PER MEMBER - ESTIMATED MEMBERSHIP OF 1600		24000.00
FROM CHECKING ACCOUNT		4800.00
TOTAL		2 8800.00
Ed Vest, Treasurer		

Community Service Committee

“Together, Everyone Achieves More”

The Community Services Teams are on target for our projected projects for the fiscal year 2015-2016. We are thankful to those who offered assistance towards paper, coats, uniforms, school supplies, personal items (girls), underwear, t-shirts (boys), food baskets, socks (both genders) and graduation help for four seniors. The teams are hard-working and dedicated women!!

Our schools this year are in the Northern Area. They are:

Adelphi Elementary

Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle

High Point High

Rogers Heights Elementary

Thomas Stone Elementary

All families have been excited, receptive, gracious and thankful. Our selected seniors at High Point High School are ready for the end of the year. Graduation is May 31. Be sure to come to our May luncheon and meet them!

Ethel L. Brown, Chairperson

YOUR MONEY IS IN GOOD HANDS

TREASURER'S REPORT – MARCH – 2016

OPENING BALANCES:

CHECKING ACCOUNT	-	\$12516.57
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	-	3027.64

ACTIVITY – CHECKING ACCOUNT:

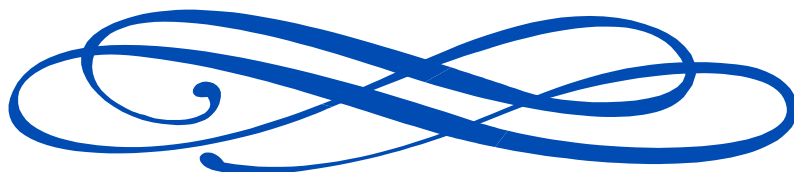
RECEIPTS	-	1569.61
EXPENDITURES	-	3309.15

NO ACTIVITY IN SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCES AS OF MARCH 31

CHECKING ACCOUNT	-	10776.99
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	-	3027.64
TOTAL ASSETS	-	\$13804.63

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.

Affordable Care Act Cadillac Tax

Addie Martin, Board Liaison

If you have been following the news for the past 4 or 5 months then you know that Congress on December 18, 2015 passed a delay of the 40 percent excise tax on high-cost employer sponsored health plans, also known as the “Cadillac Tax”. This delay was part of a year-end government funding package and changes the effective date from 2018 to 2020. The December 2015 changes make it tax deductible for employers who pay it.

Our March Meeting Speaker



Clarence “Tiger” Davis

Our members were delighted to welcome the President of AARP Maryland to our March meeting. Tiger has a long history of helping his fellow men (and women). From basic civil rights demands to the military and on to the Maryland State General Assembly.

Thank you, Tiger, for taking time out of your busy schedule to spend the afternoon with us.

Necrology/Remembrance

Dolan, Patricia V.	03/13/2016
Greene, Reese	date unknown
Kerne, James	12/25/2015
O'Neal, Joan Freeland	02/23/2016

Jannie Goldston, Chairman

Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA

President: Mary Isbell (maryi32@verizon.net)

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

President-Elect: Brenda Barnes (blbarnes128@aol.com)

Recording Sec.: Maryann M. Royall and Linda G. Butler
(maryakaroyall@aol.com)(lindabl1217@verizon.net)

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

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

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

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

Historian: Don Conway (donjoy5@comcast.net)

Inspirations: Lorraine Johnson (johnson6608@comcast.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: Fran Doyle (penguincl@msn.com)

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 Curry Brose (bcbrose@comcast.net)

Plea for a President Elect for 2016 – 2017

By Dr. Norma Martof, Nominations Committee

PGPSRA members, our organization has a vacancy for President Elect as shown in the proposed slate of officers for 2016 – 2017.

Having been the president elect when Lorraine Johnson was president of PGPSRA, I got a foreshadowing of my future role and responsibilities as president. You only need to be willing to accept this position. Help as needed is available from several sources.

Please, seriously consider stepping up and serving as president elect with president Benda Barnes and the other members of the executive board. We will ask for nominations from the floor at our May meeting if no one steps up prior then. If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate a candidate, please call me at :

301-464-3158 or email me at <nmartof@verizon.net>

BITS AND PIECES

Happy **May** birthday wishes to Emeritus members: Mrs. Virginia Hobble of Princess Anne, will be celebrating her 91st birthday on the 6th; Mrs. Henrietta Walker of Bradenton, FL, will be having her 94th birthday on the 11th; Mrs. Maxine Cunningham of Annapolis, will be marking her 95th birthday on the 13th; Mrs. Helen Endo of Silver Spring, will be celebrating her 95th birthday on the 20th; and Ms. Yvonne Koolhof of Naples, FL, will be turning 92 years-old on the 21st.

Happy **June** birthday greetings to several other of our Emeritus members: Ms. Marion Mears of Silver Spring, will be having her 91st birthday on the 4th; Mrs. Edna Long of Dameron, MD, will be celebrating her 96th birthday on the 7th; Mrs. Dessamore Hillman of Leewood, KS, will be marking her 94th birthday on the 16th; and on the 20th two ladies will be celebrating their birthdays - **Ms. Althea Carrick of Catonsville, will be having her 101st**, and Mrs. Mary Mills of Mechanicsville, will be marking her 95th.

Happy **July** birthday greetings to more of our Emeritus members: Ms. Margaret Beardsley of Austin, TX, will be celebrating her 95th birthday on the 4th; Mr. Calvin McMillion of Waldorf, will be having his 93rd birthday on the 12th; Mr. Joseph Hall of Washington, D.C., will be marking his 94th birthday on the 22nd; and Mrs. Alice Konze of Oxon Hill, will be celebrating her 96th birthday on the 31st.

Happy **August** birthday greetings to some other Emeritus members: Mrs. Leah Martin of Gaithersburg, will be turning 96 years-old on the 1st; Miss Ada Warrington of Seaford, DE, will be having her 99th birthday on the 27th; and Mr. Oliver Myers of Brandywine, will be marking his 93rd birthday on the 28th.

Katie Donaldson McClellan of Adelphi, retired in June 2004 from District Heights Elementary. She graduated from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, and came to Prince George's County to begin her teaching career at Cooper Lane and Robert Frost Elementary Schools in 1964. Katie enjoys traveling, bowling, playing cards and

BITS AND PIECES CONT'D

volunteering at nursing homes to read and discuss the Bible with elderly residents. A fun hobby of Katie's has been collecting magnets and post cards from all over the world. She has visited most of the Eastern and Western Caribbean Islands, Africa, Canada, and 30 of the United States. Katie is proud of her 11 nieces and nephews.

Stanley Tweedy retired from Andrew Jackson Middle School in 2004. She lives in District Heights. Stanley is an active member of PGPSRA, having volunteered for the past five years with the Community Service Committee. She is also a member of the Anacostia Museum, where she has enjoyed meeting artists and viewing their work, and participating in trips to different artists' studios in the Metropolitan area. She is presently taking a ceramics class at the Prince George's Community College. Stanley exercises three days a week at the Camp Springs Senior Center, and is also a member of the Park and Planning Club – 300 Walking Group. Her other activity is gardening, with a specialty in growing dahlias. Stanley likes to take trips to New York City to attend plays and sightsee. She has traveled to the Netherlands, France, England, Italy, Spain, Bermuda, and the Caribbean. She is a very adventurous lady, having taken a hot air balloon ride and been zip-lining in Mexico!

Thelma Boyd-Nash of Cheverly, retired as guidance counselor from Suitland Junior High School in 1979. Thelma celebrated her 92nd birthday in March, and continues to remain a very active individual. She has one son, who is a musician and an administrator at a New York City Public Charter School. She has one grandson, who is also a musician. Since retirement, she has served on the following Boards: League of Women Voters of Maryland, Prince George's Mental Health Commission, National Council of Christians and Jews, Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs, and Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church – Board of Sessions. Following the death of her first husband, Thelma married Charles Nash, and together they started an industrial trucking business. She is presently very involved in the League of Women Voters of Prince George's County, Progressive Cheverly, and the Prince George's African American Museum & Cultural Center. She is inspired as a patron of the arts (theater, music and visual arts). She also gardens, participates in senior activities at her church and with MNCPPC, and attends our local PGPSRA meetings (when time allows). Thelma has been to all of the United States, and as a world-traveler, has been to numerous countries. She is quite an amazing lady!

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



Legislative Report

On Thursday, March 10, 2016 we took our annual Legislative trip to Annapolis. With the passing of Delegate Jim Proctor, our trip sponsor this year was Delegate Carolyn Howard. Alex was our very knowledgeable guide who led our group of 31 through the introduction film, House and Senate sessions, and tours of Historic Rooms and the Governor's House and on to our luncheon in Room 150.

During lunch, several Delegates or their aides joined us and offered encouraging words in regard to pension funding and senior issues.

Our official photos did arrive only days after our March 25th meeting. I will have them for participants at our next meeting.

Jannette Wundrow has attended every Friday Delegation meeting this session and I have joined her on several occasions. Prince George's Delegation continues to address current issues and the respect shown among members during the meetings is exemplary. So many times I have heard delegates say that they want to hear from constituents, that they are working for all residents of Prince George's County. So, don't hesitate to contact your delegate. This year's session is over.....but your representatives are still available.

Sue Finan,
Legislative Chair

PGPSRA Reservation Form

May 25 at 11:00 A.M.

Comfort Inn, Bowie

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

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

Name(s) _____

Amount Enclosed \$29.00 (checks payable to PGPSRA) for each lunch reservation— \$ _____

(We need the count by the May 18 mail delivery!)

Menu

Chicken Marsala, Rice Pilaf, Chef's Selection of Vegetable, Apple Pie, Iced Tea, Decaf and/or Hot Tea



COME
JOIN
US!
NEXT
LUNCHEON
IN
MAY!!



BYLAW CHANGE

The first reading of this proposed change was at the March meeting. It will be brought to the floor at the May meeting for a vote.

The bylaw currently reads: All retired teachers and other Board of Education personnel who are receiving retirement allowances from the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System are eligible for membership upon payment of annual dues.

As amended the bylaw would read, “All retired teachers and other Board of Education personnel who are receiving retirement allowances from the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System are eligible for membership upon payment of annual dues. Membership shall include enrollment as a member of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA)(effective July 1, 2017) Current local only members before this date shall be allowed to continue as such.

Rationale: It has become more and more apparent that the work of our local association is enhanced by the work done at the state level. This bylaw change would make our bookkeeping more efficient and would give our membership more information about their retirement situations and present them with more benefit options.



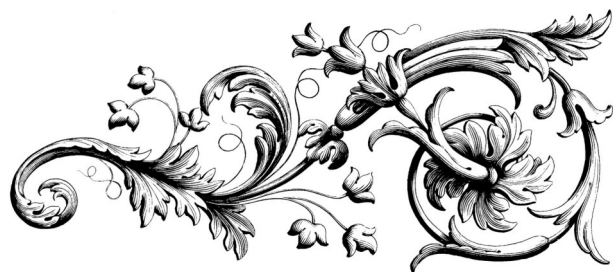
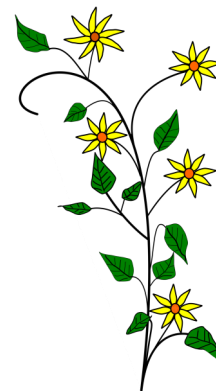
SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee interviewed possible recipients in April. Their decision is not ready at press time. We will see the results of this year's work at the May luncheon.

Alveta Jones and Delores Brown, Chairmen



Dan Williams brought us words to think about.



DISCOUNTS!!

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

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From pizza to movies and lots in-between.

PGPSRA

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Fort Washington, MD 20744

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Bonnie Curry Brose
bcbrose@comcast.net



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

Next Meeting
May 25, 2016
Comfort Inn, Bowie
11:00 a.m.

