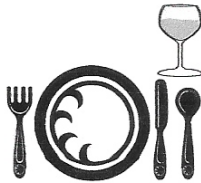




HRSPA Newsletter

A Newsletter for the Henrico Retired School Personnel Association

October 2020



Luncheon Meeting
Willow Oaks Country Club

Cancelled

Because of COVID-19, HRSPA must cancel our October luncheon. We hope this health crisis will be over soon and that we will see you at our April 2021 luncheon/meeting. Please stay healthy, wash your hands frequently and practice social distancing.



President's Message

Fall is upon us and the holidays are quickly approaching. I don't know about you, but I feel as though this has been one of the fastest years of my life. I'm not sure why this is true given the quarantining and lack of activities and appointments. We have all had to adjust to these strange times. Luncheons with friends has been one of those things I've dearly missed. Sadly, we are canceling our fall HRSPA luncheon. Hopefully a vaccine will come soon and we can meet again in April of 2021.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd. Ballots can be cast now in many forms. Telling teachers to vote is like "preaching to the choir." However, we still have influence on so many others. Encourage anyone your path crosses to vote. So much has happened during this past year that voting seems more important than ever. Pandemic, unemployment, bankruptcies, and civil unrest weigh heavily on our country. Voting gives everyone a means of expression and promotes a peaceful form of dissent or approval.

*Wishing you good health, peace, and happiness,
Jackie Warren*



HRSPA CALENDAR

October 29, 2020

HRSPA Fall Luncheon

CANCELLED

January 18, 2021

VRTA Day at GA

January 14, 2021

Executive Board Meeting

February 18, 2021

BOD Meeting

Future calendar dates will be set by the
BOD pending the situation with
COVID-19



PHILANTHROPY

Our philanthropy project for October is the **Henrico Christmas Mother**. Unusual times calls for unusual methods of dealing with things. Because we are not having our usual luncheon and are sending the newsletter by email blast, it is necessary for us to send our donations directly to the Henrico Christmas Mother at P.O.Box 70338, Henrico, VA 23255-0338 or online through the Henrico Christmas Mother website. Because of COVID-19, material donations cannot be accepted. If you send a check, please make sure you put HRSPA in the memo section of your check.

As always, thank you for your support of our philanthropy projects.

Mary Brownfield
Philanthropy Chair



MEMBERSHIP

Our current dues paying membership totals 300 and we hope to increase our numbers as our 2020 retirees join our ranks. Remember we represent all school personnel, not just teachers. A membership form can be found on our website www.hrspa.org. We have emailed those whose memberships need to be renewed.

Read through this newsletter to see the many reasons to join HRSPA. Your support is essential, especially during these unusual times.

Check out the list of our 2020 retirees. With the closing of schools in March, it has been difficult to reach out to these potential new members. Do you see someone you know on the list? Please reach out and invite them to join us. If you would direct them to our webpage or share this newsletter it would go a long way to spreading the news. You can also make them feel welcome by paying for their new membership for only \$10 for one year!

As always, please keep us informed of any changes in address, etc. You may reach me at susanhow@comcast.net or 804-730-3162.

Susan Howe
Membership Chair



**Help
Boost Our
Membership**

**Pay for a new retiree's
membership and/or invite and pay
for a potential member's
luncheon. We need to keep our
organization strong and vibrant!!!**



TREASURY REPORT

The account balances as of 8/31/2020 are \$7,734.16 in the HRSPA general fund and \$4,019.93 in the Scholarship fund giving us a total bank account balance of \$11,754.09.

Please use the Staples Reward number on the back of your membership card when making personal purchases at Staples to help us garner rewards points which help with our supply and printing expenses.

Bonnie Thompson
Treasurer



BOOK AWARDS

Each year HRSPA gives each high school the opportunity to recognize a junior who has contributed to another student or students in terms of tutoring, mentoring, etc. We award Pat Conroy's book **The Water is Wide** and a \$25 gift card to Barnes and Noble. This year, with the school closures, we only made two awards: Landin Bostian at Godwin HS and Ashley Wright at Henrico HS.



**Visit our website:
<http://hrspa.org>**



SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee is "up and functioning" in this very different year. Again this year we are offering a \$2000 scholarship to a graduating senior in one of Henrico County's high school who plans to pursue a degree in an educational field. And again we are offering two \$1000 scholarships to school system employees who are planning to pursue further education to recertify and/or add to their credentials. The information for the student scholarships has been sent to FEA and Educators for Tomorrow sponsors. The applications for all three scholarships will go out in January.

If you have a grandchild who is eligible for our student scholarship or educator friends who would benefit from the employee scholarship, please pass this information along. If you would like to honor or memorialize a valued colleague and/or mentor during your career, please consider donating to our scholarship fund in his/her name.

Pat Rollison

Scholarship Chair

VRTA



**The fall conference has been
CANCELLED**



*Those we love remain with us, for
Love itself lives on. Cherished
memories never fade because a loved
one is gone. Those we Love can
never be more than a thought apart.
For as long as there is a
memory, they will live on
in our heart.*



REMEMBRANCE

Since our last HRSPA newsletter, there have been 30 obituary notices of HCPS colleagues. HRSPA acknowledgements are made to funeral home online services or with a card by postal service. Of those 30, 3 were active members, 10 were inactive members, 2 had never joined HRSPA, and 15 were not in our database or were not yet retired. There were 3 get-well cards sent and all 3 of those were for HRSPA members. Because so many deaths are currently not being serviced by funeral homes and because the family or address information we have is outdated, we often do not have a place to send HRSPA condolences, or when we do, those by mail are often returned. This makes your assistance even more important, so if you have information regarding a colleague, please be sure to contact us.

This pandemic is affecting HRSPA as it is with so many individuals and businesses and organizations, which also means your membership is a stabilizing component, as are your donations to our Scholarship Fund for a colleague who has passed on. Remembrances can be made in honor of any colleague from the past, not just this year. Below is the list of active and inactive members who are in the deceased list for the past 5 months and prior to the printing of this newsletter.

Gene Touts

'Midge' Washburn

Alice Kelley

Delores Collins

Delbert Tomes

Jane Dowgewicz

Christine Moon

Joseph Sellers

Anne Barnes

Carol Stuart

Gen Stevens

Susan Johnston

Anne Wiltshire

Dianne Hughs Shuler
Remembrance Chair



STRESS MANAGEMENT

In these unusual times we are all carrying the stress in different ways. I found this article on Facebook and thought it appropriate for our time. Something to think about.

Lee Reynolds

Newsletter Editor

A young lady confidently walked around the room while leading and explaining stress management to an audience: with a raised glass of water she asked the question: "how heavy is this glass of water?"

After answers ranging from 8 oz. to 20 oz., she replied: "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my arm. If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes. That's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on."

"As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden---holding stress longer and better each time practiced. So, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them though the evening and into the night....pick them up tomorrow. Whatever burdens you're carrying now, let them down for a moment. Relax, pick them up later after you've rested. Life is short. Enjoy it and the now 'supposed' stress that you've conquered!"



LEGISLATIVE NEWS

The arrival of autumn means pumpkin spice, hot chocolate, cool days, and most importantly, an election. This is a very important election and you should **VOTE!!!**.

Important dates to remember:

Oct. 13 - Last day to register to vote or update your address

Oct. 23 – Last day to request a ballot by mail

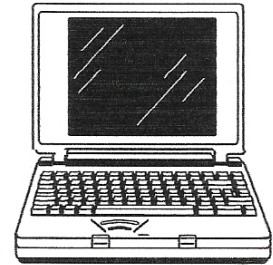
Nov 3 – Election Day and last day to return a mail-in ballot.

You may apply online to receive a ballot by mail. You may check with your local registrar to make sure your application was received, if your ballot was mailed to you, and if they received your ballot. You can return your ballot by mail, put it in a ballot box located near your registrar's office, or return it in person. You may vote early in person at your local registrar's office Monday – Friday, 9am to 5pm, starting Sept. 18th to Oct. 30th. They will also be open on Saturday Oct. 21 and October 31st. Curbside voting is available on Election Day and on early voting days for anyone that feels safer in their vehicle. So please vote!

In the mean time, the legislative committee is busy working for you. We will soon finalize our legislative priorities to send to our legislators. We will reach out to all the state legislators that represent Henrico County, our Congressional representatives, and the School Board. If there are any issues that you feel need to be addressed, please email me at lucy7232@aol.com.

Tina Whitaker
Legislative Committee Chairman

REMINDERS



MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Membership cards are issued only once, however, if you have lost your card or you have never received one, please let Lee Reynolds know at lreynolds0413@aol.com or 804-273-0216 and she will issue you a new one.

STAPLES REWARDS

Please remember to use your Staples Reward number printed on the back of your membership card when making personal purchases and returning used ink cartridges. Not going to Staples any time soon...just bring or send your unused ink cartridges to the luncheon and give them to Lee Reynolds and she will turn them in for HRSPA rewards.

EMAILS

If you have email and are not receiving emails from us, it's because we do not have your correct email address. Please send us an email at hrspsa@hotmail.com so that we can add you to our electronic mailings.

Classified Ads

Business Card Size: Member fee - \$10 per issue Non-member fee - \$15 per issue

Half Page: Member fee - \$20 per issue Non-member fee - \$30 per issue

Full Page: Member fee - \$30 per issue Non-member fee - \$60 per issue

Contact Lee Reynolds -804-273-0216 or lreynolds0413@aol.com

Payments to Bonnie Thompson, HRSPA Treasurer

2222 Oak Bay Lane, Henrico, VA 23223

Please put "Newsletter Ad" in the memo section of your check.



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2020 SCHOOL PERSONNEL RETIREES

Beverly Allen-Hardy	Deborah Denson	Debra Jones	Michael Phillips
Sharon Alvarado	Tammy Donahay	Jan Jones	Ouida Phillips
Jennifer Andrews	Ruth Dorsey	Willie Joyner	Cindy Pierce
Jacqueline Armstead	Edward Drake	Ktina Kagel	Debra (Debbie) Pruden
A. Christine Baylor	Kathy Ebert	Michael Kelly	Melinda Ray
Patricia Barlow	Pauline Espree	Dawn Cantelmo Kennedy	Francisco (Paco) Raya
Charles Barnes	Earl Estes III	Faith King	Cheryl Reed
Vietta Beavers	Rita Fandel	Marion Kramer	Veomany Rinthalukay
Bradford Beazley	Yvonne Fawcett	Christine Kunz	Sharon Robbins
Walter Boswell, Jr.	Ruth Feather	Drew Lajoie	Bettina Rochelle
Vick Brady	Denise Fergusson	Jacqueline Landis	Harry Rosmarin
Clarence (Butch) Brockwell, III	Kevin (Joey) Fields	Rhonda Lanham	Daniel Ross
Belle Bronner	Mary Bernadette Finley	Steven Lapinski	Pamela Ross
Anne Brown	Jo Faye Fitzgerald	Donald Large, Jr	Sonya Samuel
Cathryn Brown	Julia Franklin	Mary Lauranzon	Susan Satterwhite
Paula Brown	John Giles	Bessie Layne	Mark Seidenberg
Vivian Brown	Jeffress Given	Brenda Leiker	Dana Shoemaker
Loretta Bryant	Bonnye Gordon	Lynsie Levay	Janet Sicheloff
Elizabeth Burnett	Regina Gordon-Couch	James Lew	Therese Silberman
Gregory Byrdsong	Valerie Gross	Glenda Lewis	Marion Simpson
Winston Cain	Mark Gwinn	William (Bill) Lewis, Jr	Juan Smith
Valerie Calhoun	Allen Hall, III	Lorie Lopez	Janice Sorrell
Carol Campfield	William (Rich) Hall, Jr	Eugene Mallory	Julia Southworth
Stacie Carlisle	Clifford Harris	Kathy Marohn	Nancy St. Germain
Barbara Carlson	Cynthia Harris	Anne Matthews	Carrie Stewardson
Rebecca Carter	Maureen Harris	Mary McDermon-Updegrave	Cherly Sumner
Clarence Childers, Jr	Shirley Harris	Linda McGuire	Deborah B. Taylor
Wilbert (Bert) Childress, Jr	Terry Harris	Margaret McIver	Deborah S. Taylor
Marie Chrissikos	Nevin Hartman	Rebecca McMullin	Linda Taylor
Allen Christian, Jr	Ragaa Hawash	Michelle McQueen-McWilliams	Lucy Trott
Eric Clexton	James Hendrick	Terry Meeks	Earnest True
Kimber (Kim) Coffey	Steven Herr	Mylene Melson	Nancy Turner
Blane Coleman	Denise Hoffer	Patricia Menzies	Russell Tyler
Cynthia (Cindi) Colyer-Allen	Cathlyn Holloman	Cynthia Middleton	Deborah Ward
Patricia (Pat) Condrey	Martha Houchins	Claudette Miles	Anne Warnke
Cheryl Corbin	Brenda Hudson	Jacquelyn Mitchell	Patricia (Pat) Waters
Alice Cosner	Cynthia Hudson	Martha Mock	Wyndham (Rob) White
Helen Costello	Jennifer Hughes	John Morris	Barbara Williams
Mary Cox	Cheryl Ives	Michael Murphy	Doreen Williams
Karan Crowe	Deborah Jackson	Nancy Nesheim	James Williams
Kathleen Cummings	Monica Jackson	Terese Nolte	Jane Williams
Michael Dabney	Nell Jackson	John (Brad) Orr	Ramona Winfree
Constance Daniels	Ethel Jefferson	Sandra Owens	Peony Wong
Margaret Davies	Cynthia (Cindy) Jenkins-Mason	Russell Parsley	Stacie Yenney
Jarratt Davis	Sallie Johnston	Jane Payne	
Willie Davis	Bernice Jones	Melanie Peugh	



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September 1, 2020

Dear AARP Appointed Volunteers, Chapter Members, and Retired Teachers,

As you are aware, AARP is dedicated to reducing the problem of hunger in the United States. We thank you for service you've provided over the past decade – collecting canned goods, sorting items, filling boxes, and giving generously. Over the past 10 years AARP Virginia volunteer efforts have donated resources that provided more than 250,000 meals to struggling families across the Commonwealth.

September is recognized as 'Hunger Action Month' and has traditionally been the time period when we focus our attention on the statewide AARP Community Food Drive. Many of you would normally be holding fall team meetings to organize chapter and unit members to collect at the local level. However, as we all recognize, this year has been anything but normal.

In an effort to sustain our commitment towards hunger relief, while at the same time adhering to AARP COVID guidelines, we are taking two new approaches in 2020:

1. AARP Virginia has made a \$10,000 sponsorship commitment to the Federation of Virginia Food Banks in support of their '**We Care**' program in 2020. This newly-developed initiative will provide shelf stable food boxes to more than 500,000 Virginia residents this year. Individuals age 50+ will be one of the targeted populations. All eleven Food Banks across Virginia will be participating in the program to ensure regional equity.
2. AARP has developed an in-home volunteer option for volunteers wishing to engage in a hands-on way. The website www.Connect2Affect.org features an array of opportunities which may be shared with chapter and unit members. Our state office is specifically promoting the **Meal Pack Challenge** which invites volunteers to pack meals safely at home and send them to the Capital Area Food Bank for distribution. AARP will provide shopping lists, packing boxes, and prepaid shipping labels directly to those volunteering. Full instructions and details will be available on the www.Connect2Affect.org site soon.

We would like to hear how you are continuing to work on alleviating hunger in your community in spite of the challenges of 2020. If you collected food earlier this year, made a donation to a local pantry, brought a speaker on this topic to a monthly meeting, or collaborated with a partner – could you please send us an email with a short description? We would like to record this in our list of accomplishments and recognize those who took initiative. Similarly, we would appreciate knowing if your chapter or unit will have members volunteering with hunger efforts this month.

Thanks for keeping me posted. If our state office can be of further assistance in any regard please reach out to me directly!

Sincerely,

Brian Jacks

Associate State Director – Community Outreach