



HRSPA Newsletter

A Newsletter for the Henrico Retired School Personnel Association

April 2025

April Luncheon

Thursday, April 24, 2025

Recreation Center, Deep Run Park

9900 Ridgefield Parkway

Richmond, VA 23233

11:15 - Registration and Social Time

11:45 - Luncheon followed by Program and Business Meeting

Luncheon Catered By Deep Run Roadhouse

Brisket, pulled chicken, green beans, sweet potatoes, coleslaw,
buns, cookies, tea, lemonade, and water

Program

Our Scholarship Program

Scholarship winners

(Cost \$25.00. Reservations due April 17, 2025. Reservation form on last page.)

President's Message

We are on the way to welcoming spring!!! Even though I still love snow days, I am looking forward to the warmer weather and the beauty of new growth.

You are receiving this newsletter electronically because we are trying to save money to increase our ability to fund the scholarship program. As one astute board member pointed out, the cost of newsletter mailings could pay for a scholarship! We will be presenting the scholarships to this year's recipients at the luncheon. Your dues, luncheon participation, and donations are used to fund this scholarship. Please join us at the luncheon to celebrate this event!

Your board is small but fierce! They are dedicated and hard-working retirees. Please consider joining the board in our continuing effort to support future, present, and past educators. Looking forward to seeing you!

Bonnie Thompson



MEMBERSHIP

HRSPA continues to build up its membership. We are now at 184, however, 19 of those have lapsed this year. The pandemic caused a gap in our communication, so many memberships unknowingly expired. We are making numerous efforts to notify inactive members. You are important in contacting retirees from your school or department, and we could use your help in that endeavor. Contact us for additional information and "talking points." One year is \$10, 3 is \$25, and now a new option of Life Membership is \$100, and spouses are free. Membership is open to all school personnel and friends of education.

Being a part of HRSPA has benefits and provides several services to the community:

2 informative newsletters a year

2 informative entertaining luncheons each year

2 student and 1 teacher scholarship every year

Legislative updates regarding retirees and education in general

Philanthropic participation (Scholarships, Christmas Mother, books, food banks, SS Challenge, etc.)

HRSPA Website and Facebook pages

VRTA, NRTA and AARP news

Volunteer and social opportunities

Susan Howe Dianne Hughs Shuler

Contact/Membership Membership Records

Chair



TREASURY

The HRSPA account balances as of 2/26/25 are \$7,449.17 in the General Fund and \$2,920.93 in the Scholarship Fund which gives us a total bank account balance of \$10,370.10. The balance of our 2 scholarships were distributed in December, 2024 and both students were excited about their first year in college. They asked me to extend their gratitude for our generous donation to their education.

The Virginia Retired Teacher Association (VRTA) is increasing their dues to \$30 for 1 year, \$90 for 3 years, and \$200 for Life membership. If you are renewing your membership in VRTA, please use the new membership form

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

All monies for membership and/or scholarship should be sent to 7276 Merle Smith Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Please be sure to indicate what the money is for in the memo section of your check and make all checks payable to Henrico Retired School Personnel Association (HRSPA). Membership renewal reminders for all members whose memberships expire on June 30, 2025 will be mailed June 2, 2025.

Cathy Durvin

Treasurer



Not going to Stapes any time soon???? Bring your used cartridges to the luncheon and Lee Reynolds will turn them in for us.



SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship information and applications went out to the high schools in January. We try to get the word out by a variety of means, and one of those avenues is you. If you have grandchildren neighbors, or friends who are planning to pursue a career in education and could use \$1000 to put toward college, please encourage them to go to their school counseling office to obtain the materials. They need to do this as soon as possible because the application requires inclusion of their FAFSA forms and school transcripts, and it takes time to secure these materials. The deadline for applications is March 14. We look forward to introducing the winners of these two scholarships to you at our April luncheon.

Pat Rollison

Scholarship Chair



COMMUNITY SERVICE LOGS

HRSPA will begin to log community service done by our members. This can include anything you do for your community (not just for HRSPA) that is service oriented. The link for the form is

<https://forms.gle/Jr4RY7o3xCXu68zd6>

Your name, service, date, and number of hours should be included. This would include anything you did from July1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. These hours will be tallied and used to explain how much money our membership saves the taxpayers with our donated time and efforts.

Jackie Warren

Community Service Chair

Scholarship Donations 9/24-2/25

Donor

In Memory/Honor of:

Karlyn Smith

Henrico County Students

Pat Rollison

Brenda Baker

Ann & Jack Goshorn

Becky Goshorn

Lee Reynolds

Maripat Hyatt

Linda Wilson

Maripat Hyatt

Greg & Beth Metcalf

Brenda Baker

David Chilton

Chris Chilton

Bonnie Clatterbough

Cris Chilton

Becky Goshorn

Bonnie Thompson

Cris Chilton

Kathy Dixon

Becky Goshorn

Lois Martin

Jackie Warren

C. G. Grizzard

Luncheon Donations and Dues netted a total of \$2,111.



HELP FOR CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS

We investigated helping a school in California. Altadena, where the Eaton Canyon fire was, is part of the Pasadena Unified School District. They have a Pasadena Education Foundation and a special website to help-pusd.us/fire-relief. PS UD. HRSPA has made a donation to the fire relief fund.

Jackie Warren

Community Service Chair



LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Spring is just around the corner and I am sure we are all looking forward to warmer days and getting out to enjoy them. In the mean time, your legislative committee is busy working for you. No matter which side of the aisle you stand, politics is involved in all areas of education. We are your only watchdog group and try to represent your concerns to local, state, and national legislators. Our 2025 legislative priorities were sent to every legislator that represents Henrico County.

As of this writing, the General Assembly is wrapping up another session. This is considered a short session and the Democrats control both chambers of the state legislature; however we still have a Republican governor. So there will probably be little compromise in this politically charged year. However, many of our concerns are being addressed.

So how are we doing in the 2025 General Assembly?

1. There will be changes in the educational support staff cap.
2. Education is a priority in the budget.
3. There are several bills still alive to support nursing home improvements.
4. Legislators are still fighting to keep prescription drug cost down.

We will continue to work with our legislators to support public education and any issues that affect retired citizens. If there are any issues that you feel we need to address, please email me at lucy7232@aol.com

Tina Whitaker
Legislative Chair

COMMUNITY SERVICE

As you may know, our community service projects are a big part of our mission to support our community in many ways. Knowing this, the BOD has decided that instead of just honoring one of our projects per luncheon we will give everyone the opportunity to participate in one or more of them at each luncheon. Donations may be placed in the clearly marked areas at the entrance table. Below are our projects:

HRSPA SCHOLARSHIP FUND – Our membership dues and luncheon fees help to support the scholarship fund. Membership has greatly decreased as have luncheon attendance. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of scholarships and the amount we give to our future educators. Please consider donations in memory of or appreciation of educators you have known. Scholarships help guarantee the future of public education.

HENRICO EDUCATION FOUNDATION – SS CHALLENGE – school supplies are needed in our schools. You may donate school supplies or make a monetary donation so the foundation can buy supplies in bulk. If you can't attend the luncheon, you can donate directly to the Henrico Education Foundation, PO Box 31413, Henrico, Va 23294. (Please put HRSPA in the memo section of your check)

FOOD BANKS – Most Henrico County Public Schools have their own food bank to help provide their students with proper nutrition. Please bring some canned, boxed, or nonperishable foods and especially snacks like crackers, cereal bars, popcorn, fruit cups etc. to the luncheon and we will donate it to a school's food bank.

HENRICO CHRISTMAS MOTHER – Monetary donations are greatly appreciated and can be placed in the Christmas Mother basket. Near December there will also be many opportunities to volunteer to help. Donations can be made directly to Henrico Christmas Mother, PO Box 70338, Henrico, Va 23225. Please put HRSPA in the memo section of your check.)

Jackie Warren

Community Service Chair

VRTA

The VRTA spring Conference will be held April 29-30, 2025 at the Double Tree Hotel by Hilton in Midlothian. Always an informative and interesting event. For more information visit vrta.com if you are interested in attending.

Bonnie Thompson and Tina Whitaker will attend the Conference on our behalf.



REMEMBRANCE

Since our last newsletter in September, we have had 7 colleague deaths. Of those, 0 were active HRSPA members, 2 were inactive, 3 had never joined HRSPA and 2 were not in our database. Online condolences or cards are sent where information is available. This was the least number of colleague deaths ever to be reported biannually, none at all in December and January and so far only 1 February. Nice!!!

Again, we rely on newspaper obituary information, which sometimes is not listed, so it continues to be very important for our members to send me info, whether death or illness, so we can acknowledge them.

Deceased HRSPA Members

Cornelia Tillotson

Diane G, William

Dianne Huoghs Schuler

Remembrance Chair



Judy Gander won the October luncheon raffle of \$33.00. Congrats Judy!!!

Dates to Remember

April 17, 2025

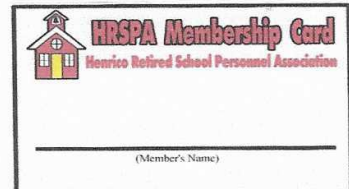
Luncheon reservations due

April 24, 2025

HRSPA Spring luncheon

April 29-30, 2025

VRTA Spring Conference



Membership cards are issued only once, however, if you lost or never received one, please let Lee Reynolds know and she will issue you a new one. (808-273-0216).

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 hrspa@hotmail.com. Please send us any changes to your information so that we can keep our database up to date.

Questions?

Comments?



Bonnie Thompson - President – 804-740-1584

Beth Metcalf - Vice President – 804-317-3201

Cathy Durvin – Treasurer – 804-370-6455

Betsy Pike – Secretary – 804-285-2501

Dianne Hughs Schuler – Membership – 804-747-1966

Lee Reynolds – Newsletter – 804-273-0216

LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Fill out the form below (or use the link below to fill it out electronically) and send a check made payable to HRSPA or Zelle by Thursday, April 17, 2025.

Mail to Cathy Durvin, 7276 Merle Smith Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 2311

Spring Luncheon link: <https://forms.gle/YnFzPbPJeDK3poPy8>

PLEASE PRINT

Name you wanted printed on your name tag: _____

Names of Guest(s): _____

Number attending the luncheon: _____ @ \$25 = _____

This is my first luncheon: _____ yes _____ no

You can now Zelle the money for the luncheon to hrspa.treasurer@gmail.com. Please make sure to note the money is for the luncheon.

