



# HRSPA Newsletter

A Newsletter for the Henrico Retired School Personnel Association

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Spring 2026

## Spring Luncheon

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Deep Run Recreation Center

9900 Ridgefield Pkway

Richmond, VA 23233

11:45 – Luncheon followed by Program and Business Meeting

## Luncheon

(catered by Deep Run Roadhouse)

**Brisket, pulled Chicken, mac and cheese, coleslaw, sweet potatoes, green beans, rolls,**

**Cookies, Brownies, Tea, Lemonade, Water**

(Luncheon registration on the last page)

## Program

**HRSPA Scholarship Winners, Richmond Animal League**

## President's Message

WOW!!! What a winter!!! I hope that you all managed to stay safe and warm. I am really looking forward to spring and to seeing you all at the luncheon!!! We will be celebrating the scholarship recipients for this year. We will have guests from the Richmond Animal League with possibly some furry friends!!! Also, we will be providing more information on the Foundation which will ensure that we are able to continue giving scholarships in the future!!!

Supporting past, present, and future educators,  
Bonnie Thompson

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Because the pandemic caused a gap in our communications so many memberships expired unknowingly, which also added to communication disparity, so our current membership is 178, down from almost 700 some years ago. Although we are making numerous efforts to notify inactive members and new retirees, your help is greatly appreciated. You can make contact with retirees from your school or department and encourage them to join us. Check with me, or I may even contact you for more information. Membership forms are on our website too - hrspa.org.

Cost is \$10 for 1 year, \$25 for 3 years, and now a new option of Life Membership for \$100, and a spouse is free! Membership is open to ALL personnel and friends of education. Being a part of HRSPA has benefits and provides several services to the community.

2 informative newsletters each year

2 informative and entertaining luncheons each year

2 student scholarships each year

Legislative updates regarding retirees and education in general

Philanthropic participation (Henrico Christmas Mother, Food Banks, Book Awards, SSChallenge, etc.)

HRSPA Web and Facebook pages

VRTA, NRTA, and AARP news

volunteer and social opportunities

Dianne Hughs Shuler

Membership Records/Contact Chair

Dianne4744@verizon.net

## **BOOK AWARDS**

Around the first of March, emails are sent to junior class sponsors and counselors in every high school in order to obtain nominees for our HRSPA BOOK AWARD. These students are selected based on their outstanding service to other students through mentoring, tutoring, and encouraging others' learning. It is our hope to encourage potential teachers by rewarding their selflessness now.

We give each high school's nominee a Barnes and Noble gift card and a copy of **The Water is Wide** by Pat Conroy, his memoir of first year teaching on Daufuskie Island. The award is given at the Junior Recognition Assembly.

The names of our winners will be published in the fall newsletter.

Jackie Warren

Community Service Chair

## TREASURY

The **HRSPA** account balances as of 02/26/2026 are \$7,856.44 in the General Fund and \$9,571.93 in the Scholarship Fund which gives us a total bank account balance of \$17,428.37. The balance of our 2 scholarships were distributed in January, 2026; Alyse and Ryan, both Freshman at Old Dominion University, are enjoying their first year of college and thank HRSPA for our support.

The Virginia Retired Teachers Association (**VRTA**) increased their dues last year. A one-year membership/renewal is \$30, a 3 years membership is \$90 and a Life membership is \$200. If you are renewing your membership in VRTA, please remember to use the new membership form. **HRSPA** continues their current membership dues: one-year is \$10, three years is \$25 and a Life membership is \$100.

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. Also, turn in empty printer cartridges to increase our Rewards Points.

All monies for membership, luncheon and/or scholarship should be sent to 7276 Merle Smith Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111. Please be sure you 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 membership expires on June 30, 2026 will be US mailed May, 2026.

Cathy Durvin

Treasurer

## SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship information and application materials were forwarded to Rick Lily, Director of Student Activities, in early January to be sent to the schools. If you know of a graduating senior who plans to major in education in college, please encourage them to obtain materials from their school counseling office. We plan to introduce the winners to you at the spring luncheon.

Pat Rollison  
Scholarship Chair

## **HRSPS Scholarship Fund**

The **HRSPA** account balances as of 03/15/2026 are \$7,856.44 in the General Fund and \$9,871.93 in the Scholarship Fund which gives us a total bank account balance of \$17,728.37. We have collected over \$6,000 in scholarship donations this year and hope to communicate with donors to allow us to get the account to at least \$50,000 as soon as possible.

### **SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS**

#### **DONOR**

#### **DESIGNEE**

Betsy Pike	
Pat Rollison	
Raffle Transfer	
Greg and Beth Metcalf	
Lee Reynolds	Memory of Maripat Hyatt, Becky Goshorn and Cris Chilton
Jackie Warren	
Becky Miller	Honor of Bonnie Thompson's Birthday
Cathy Durvin	Honor of Bonnie Thompson and Becky Miller's Birthday
Jim Guthrie	Memory of Becky Goshorn, Brenda Gray, Cris Chilton and Theresa Hicks
Henry Johnson	
Jackie Warren	memory of Linda Sydnor
David Chilton	Memory of Cris Chilton
Bonnie Clatterbough	Memory of Becky Goshorn, Cris Chilton, and Elayne Baliff
Cash Donations at Fall luncheon	
Bruce Bowen	Memory of Al Dudley and Frank Solari
Bonnie Thompson	Honor of Becky Miller's Birthday
Margi Rapisardo	Honor of Bonnie Thompson's Birthday
Mary Anne Blazek	Memory of Deborah A Clary
Cathy Durvin	Memory of A.C. Little and Deborah Clary
Lisa Kaplan	
Ann and Jack Goshorn	Memory of Becky Goshorn
Cathy Durvin	Memory of Alice Robinson
Lee Reynolds	Memory of Alice Robinson
Elizabeth Baliff and Family	Memory of Elayne Baliff



## **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 your life. We are your only watchdog group and try to represent your concerns to local, state, and national legislators.

As of this writing, the General Assembly is wrapping up another session. The Democrats control both chambers of the state legislature and we have a newly elected Democratic governor. There are important changes to the state constitution that are being considered and voters will be asked to decide on these amendments. Please check with your local registrar and reliable news sources for the dates of these special elections.

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](mailto: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.)

## Miscellaneous



Membership cards are issued only once. If lost or not received contact Lee Reynolds for a new one.

## NEWSLETTER

After 24 years of serving as your Newsletter Editor, it is past time for me to give the pleasure to someone else. I can no longer keep up with the technology involved. If you or someone you know is interested, please let us know.



**Linda Owen was our raffle winner at the fall luncheon. Thanks to Linda for donating her winnings back to the Scholarship Fund.**

## Contact info:

**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 Shuler-Membership-804-747-1966**

**Lee Reynolds-Newsletter-804-273-0216**

## 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](mailto:hrspa@hotmail.com). Please send us any changes to your information so that we can keep our database up to date.

**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 Wednesday, April 15, 2026.**

**Mail to Cathy Durvin, 7276 Merle Smith Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.**

**Spring luncheon link: <https://forms.gle/eHeLbJPZFBAu3XJq5>**

**PLEASE PRINT**

**Name you want printed on your name tag: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name(s) 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](mailto:hrspa.treasurer@gmail.com). Please make sure to note the money is for the luncheon.**