

2022 AARP Andrus Award

Faller Awarded AARP Andrus Award



On Monday October 17, 2022, Deborah Faller was awarded a 2022 AARP Maryland Andrus Award for outstanding community service.

The in- person event took place at Carpaccio's Italian Kitchen in Annapolis.

AARP Maryland annually recognizes a member of MRSPA that exemplifies the volunteerism of NRTA (National Retired Teachers Association) and AARP founder Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus. If you'd like to learn more about Dr. Andrus, check out the video about her life created by NRTA to celebrate their 75th anniversary [here](#).

MRSPA President Carla Duls introduced the MRSPA Andrus award winner sharing Deb's commitment to helping children in St. Mary's and Calvert Counties. Deb is a member of St. Mary's County Public Schools Retirees Association. After learning of many children in the county that had no bed, Deb started the work to create a local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Working with hundreds of volunteers, dozens of business



and community partners along with government agencies and the local public school system, Deb and Sleep in Heavenly Peace have built, delivered, and assembled 477 beds complete with bedding to needy children. The motto of SIHP is *In Our Town No Kid Sleeps on the Floor*.



Carla Duls, MRSPA President; Deborah Faller, St. Mary's County, Andrus Award Recipient; and Gary Faller, Deb's husband

In addition to her work with SIHP, Deb volunteers her time and talents with her local association, a local soup kitchen, local hospice and senior ride service. Deb exemplifies the words of Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus who proudly said, "We learn the inner secret of happiness when we learn to direct our inner drives, our interest and our attention to something besides ourselves."

Congratulations Deb!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Carla Duls

MRSPA News

is published five times each year by the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association.

Editor

Debbie J. Hance

Officers

President.....Carla Duls
Past President.....George D. Denny, Jr.
Vice President.....Nancy Gordon
Secretary.....Janet K. Williams
Treasurer.....Dr. Stephen Raucher

MRSPA Business Office
8379 Piney Orchard Parkway
Suite A
Odenton, MD 21113-1508
Phone: 410-551-1517
Toll Free: 877-625-6782
Website: www.mrspa.org
Email: mrspa@mrspa.org

Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.

-Voltaire

As Thanksgiving approaches, we remember all for which we are thankful. As Thanksgiving 2022 draws nearer, I find that, as Voltaire suggests, I appreciate all that is excellent in MRSPA and the locals and the manner in which we work together in partnership to achieve our goals.

Although my travels around the state have just begun, I am thankful for the enthusiastic leaders I have met. Presidents or Co-Presidents have planned informative and well organized meetings for attendees. Committee chairs and members are going about the business of recruiting new members, carrying out community service projects, and raising funds for scholarships. Newsletter editors are publishing interesting newsletters, brimming with important news for members, pictures of smiling faces at various events, and calendars of upcoming events. And most importantly, members are participating enthusiastically in association activities.

MRSPA continues to offer assistance to locals in achieving their goals. Local Membership Committee chairs met once again virtually to discuss strategies for improving recruiting, retaining, and regaining efforts. The Leadership Workshop held in September focused on Member Engagement and Succession Planning, providing locals with practical ideas to implement in their associations. The annual legislative workshop will be held in the new year and will provide speakers who will

address important legislative topics and provide an update on the state of the pension system.

During the last month, I have had the honor of celebrating four MRSPA members for excellence in volunteerism at two award ceremonies. The MRSPA Community Service Award Winner, Deborah Faller (St. Mary's County), received a Maryland AARP Andrus Award on October 17 and on October 20, three MRSPA members were inducted into the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame: Judith Engelmeyer (Anne Arundel County) Ellen Earp Baker (Carroll County) and Tony Mattern (Cecil County).

(Continued on page 4)

Why wait for the mail?

Receive MRSPA News up to two weeks earlier with email delivery!

If you'd like to receive MRSPA News via email, just let us know, and we'll add you to our electronic distribution list. You'll receive the publication faster AND help us reduce printing costs. Email your request to:

mrspa@mrspa.org and put "Newsletter by Email" in the subject line of the email and please include your full name and your email address.



From the

Executive Director

Wanda Ruffo Twigg



I imagine most of us recall those staff development or college class activities where you had to decide in a group who to save on a life raft. Debating the value of a person's life in a group of colleagues was fascinating and strange while also being seriously thought provoking and uncomfortable. What a way to get to know people.

At MRSPA, we strive to show our members that we value them and to discern what our members value. Knowing what our members value is important as decisions at the state and local level are based on those values. We believe that if we understand what our members value and if members value what we offer them, that our membership will remain strong and grow.

In recent years, we have struggled to find the magic formula for recruiting and retaining more members than we are losing to death and attrition. We seek to understand what our members value about their membership and learn why some retirees will join and some will not. Is it the comradery and connection of attending a local luncheon, picnic or happy hour, the advocacy on pensions and health insurance, the wonderful opportunities to make a difference through community service projects, the access to discounts on a variety of products and services or to travel with a

group of educators? Or is it simply to belong?

Whatever your reason for membership may be, we thank you for valuing our work and for your continued support. This holiday season and all year through, we are thankful for you, our valued members. We will do everything we can to keep everyone in the raft. Happy Holidays!



Wicomico "Not" Back to School



Cecil travels to Alaska



St. Mary's 50-50 Raffle



Washington Annual Picnic



Virginia Crespo, MRSPA Legislative Aide



Calvert donates to Meals on Wheels

Vision Statement

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association inspires the dedication, commitment, skills and abilities of its members in service to fellow retirees and the entire community in an ever-changing world.

Mission Statement

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association is a nonprofit organization comprised of retired school system personnel. It serves as an advocate for retirees and provides expanding services to members, empowering them to enrich the quality of their lives. The Organization is dedicated to excellence in education and life-long learning. It promotes community service by its members through a myriad of volunteer activities.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

We, the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, are evolving to reflect the goals and aspirations of a contemporary organization. Through our shared values, we create an environment where all members are included, respected, and appreciated.

MRSPA Foundation Fund

The MRSPA Community Service and Scholarship Committees provide tremendous support to students and staff in our schools across Maryland. Therefore, we are seeking **donations** to the *MRSPA Foundation Fund* so that we can continue our work. Again, this year, raffle tickets will be purchased solely through the MRSPA newsletter using the form below and through local association newsletters using the same form. All donations are tax deductible and come with our thanks and appreciation!

Your name will be entered into a drawing upon receipt of your donation based on this criterion: Donations of \$10 will earn 1 raffle ticket while donations of \$25 will earn 3 raffle tickets incrementally. MRSPA staff will write your name on the correct number of tickets when we receive your check. The drawing will take place at the May 2023 Annual Business Meeting whether held in person or virtually. You can win the \$300 cash first prize, a Maryland themed basket valued at \$150 second prize, or one of 5 third place themed baskets valued at \$75: Cooking, Spa, Wine Lover, Movie Night, and Sports Lover. Out of state winners will receive gift cards in lieu of basket contents.

Entering the drawing is fun and easy!

1. Make your check payable to **AEF FBO MRSPA Foundation Fund R22420**
2. Write **MRSPA Foundation Fund R22420** on the FOR line
3. Date and **sign** your check
4. **Mail** check and completed form to MRSPA at 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A, Odenton, MD 21113 **before March 22, 2023**

Will you send a donation today?

Receipts will be sent via US Mail.



MRSPA Foundation Fund

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

(President, continued from page 2)

Their unselfish desire to help others is something we can all appreciate. Details of their accomplishments will be included in future issues of the *MRSPA News*.

MRSPA and the locals can be proud of the services they provide to their members, their communities, and education, and I appreciate all that is being done to make ours a collaboration of excellence.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays!



2022 Raffle Winners Recognized

During the May 2022 Annual Business Meeting, the winners of the raffle prizes were announced. Those winners were Terrie Butt, St. Mary's County, \$300 first prize; Charlotte Booze, Dorchester County, Maryland themed basket, second prize; and the five third prize winners were Spa basket, Ronnie Bohn, Howard County; Movie Night, Carol Leveillee, MRSPA; Sports Lover, Ronald Stover, Charles County; Cooking, James Douglass, Montgomery County, and Wine Lover, Kathy Campagnoli, Frederick County. Congratulations to all the winners!

On page 4 of this newsletter, you will find information about and a form to purchase raffle tickets to support the *MRSPA Foundation Fund* raffle for 2023. The MRSPA Scholarship and Community Service Committee's appreciate the support of our members for these worthy causes!



Terrie Butt, St. Mary's County



Charlotte Booze, Dorchester County



Ronnie Bohn, Howard County



Kathy Campagnoli, Frederick County



YOU'LL NEED ANOTHER WHEN YOU SEE THE BILL.

Ambulances and airlifts aren't always covered by Medicare. **One trip can cost \$50,000 or more.** With Medical Air Services Association (MASA), you'll get best-in-class emergency transportation 24/7 from home or anywhere in the world. No premiums, deductibles or other hassles.

DISCOUNT PRICING
FOR MEMBERS OF



Learn More: 1-877-556-4582

ambamedtransport.com/mrspa

MRSPA - Maryland Retired School Personnel Association





Have a friend that is retiring soon?

Earn a \$10 Walmart gift card for each New Member you sign up as a Dues Deduction member.



Dues Deduction allows you to save trees, time, and postage, while ensuring your MRSPA membership stays up-to-date!

To claim your gift card, write your name on the [membership application](#) as recruiter. Return the completed application to:

MRSPA

8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A
Odenton, MD 21113

Questions: Email MRSPA at mrspa@mrspa.org or call MRSPA at

410-551-1517

Gift card incentive is available to all MRSPA members. There is no limit to the number of new members you can recruit or gift cards you can earn.

**SCREENSHOT or BRING IN
THIS COUPON & SAVE**

MRSPA Members Special Offer



15% OFF

Entire Invoice

- ✓ No appointment necessary
- ✓ Our friendly, certified technicians complete 270 hours of training.
- ✓ We perform 18 additional vehicle maintenance & safety checks for FREE with every oil change.



4.6 CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SCORE*
*Based on a survey of over 250,000 Valvoline Instant Oil Change customers annually.

*Offer not valid with any other same service offers or discounts.
Good at participating locations only.

VIOC Store Employees:
Select Local/National Fleet and enter
MRSPA
Account #P4026121

STAY-IN-YOUR CAR DRIVE-THRU OIL CHANGE



Proud to support the education community

Educational Systems Federal Credit Union offers special financing and services for the education community.

Join today



esfcu.org



301.779.8500



esfcu.org/Locations



Federally insured by NCUA



Educational Systems
Federal Credit Union

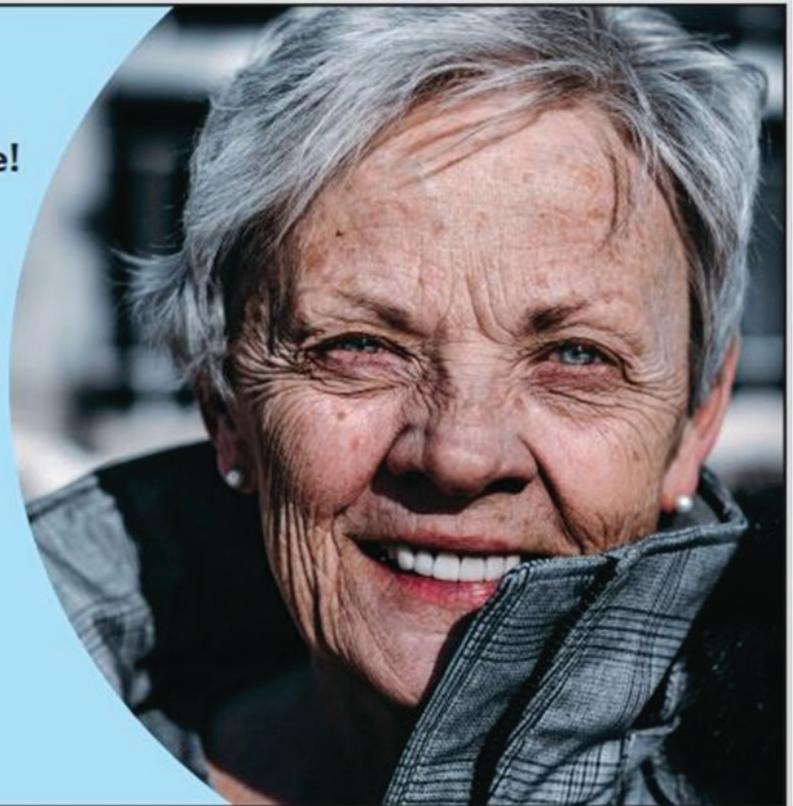
“...After retiring from MCPS, I discovered [Osher at JHU] and now I never want to leave! You have helped to create an organization for vital and curious retirees, where we can always continue to learn....”

*Nancy Schultz, 2010
Osher at JHU Member*

Keep learning with Osher at JHU's noncredit courses both in-person and online. For more information, call 301-294-7058 or email osher@jhu.edu.



JOHNS HOPKINS
KRIEGER SCHOOL
of ARTS & SCIENCES





Maryland Retired School Personnel Association
 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A
 Odenton, MD 21113-1508

NONPROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 JOPPA, MD
 PERMIT NO. 100

MRSPA CALENDAR

- Dec. 22 - Jan. 3.....Winter Break
MRSPA Office Closed
- Jan. 10.....Executive Committee Meeting
Hybrid
- Jan. 11.....Opening Day General Assembly
Annapolis
- Jan. 16.....Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
MRSPA Officed Closed
- Jan. 18..... Gubernatorial Inauguration
Annapolis
- Jan. 31.....Legislative Workshop
Comfort Inn, Bowie & Hybrid
- Feb. 20.....President's Day Holiday
MRSPA Office Closed



MRSPA TRIPS AND TRAVEL

2022-2023



Southern Italy & Sicily, April 28 - May 10, 2023 (Collette – Travel Leaders/Action Travel), Contact Leigh Ann Keller at 301-843-0087 or (630) 673-0773 or leigh_ann@actiontraveltours.com

Iceland & Norway Cruise, June 4 -15, 2023 (Grand American Tours), Contact Amy McMasters or Cherie' Shows at 800-423-0247 or amym@grandamericantours.com or cheries@grandamericantours.com

Mount Rainier & Olympic National Parks, September 14 - 22, 2023 (Mayflower Tours), Contact Debbie Martinez at 810-797-5710 or debbie@mayflowercruisesandtours.com

Portugal & Spain: Treasurers Along the Golden Douro, September 15 – 29, 2023 (Vantage Travel), Contact Cheryl Sheehan at 800-322-6677 or scheehan@vantage.com

Iceland, Land of Fire, November 1-7, 2023, (Mayflower Tours), Contact Debbie Martinez at 810-797-5710 or debbie@mayflowercruisesandtours.com

Check our website at www.mrspa.org, click *Travel* to locate more information on trips.

Stay tuned for information about upcoming short/regional trips!

All MRSPA trips are open to MRSPA members, their family and friends. Please use **Code: GO-28192 anytime** you travel with Grand Circle Tours to access a special deal for you and MRSPA, even if it's not a MRSPA sponsored trip.