

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.



WWW.MCPSRETIREES.ORG
MCPSRA MAILING ADDRESS:
P. O. Box 4367
ROCKVILLE, MD 20849-4367

VOLUME 2007-08, ISSUE #4

APRIL 2008

County Council District 4 Elections

Marilyn Praisner, a 17 year council veteran, passed away after complications from heart surgery. She was a former school board member and the longest serving member of the county council.

The death of Mrs. Praisner leaves the District 4 County Council seat vacant. District 4 includes all or parts of Ashton, Aspen Hill, Burtonsville, Calverton, Cloverly, Colesville, Derwood, Fairland, Olney, Sandy Spring, Silver Spring, Spencerville, Wheaton and White Oak.

Candidates must file with the county Board of Elections by 5 p.m. March 24. The Primary Election will be April 15 followed by the General Election May 13. Only those living in County Council District 4 may vote in this election. District voters will be notified of the location where they are assigned to vote.

LeeAnn Kaye, Political Action Chair

INSURANCE INSURANCE INSURANCE

MCPS has announced plans to hold three Health Fairs between April 28 and May 16, 2008. These Fairs will most likely be held in the auditorium at the Carver Center (central office) 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD. Any changes you or MCPS make to the insurance plans will take effect July 1, 2008. We are told by an MCPS representative that efforts are being made "toward system changes to allow the non-Medicare-eligible member to remain in the POS plan while the other (i.e., the spouse who is eligible for Medicare) moves to the Medicare supplement plan."

Tom Hickman, Insurance Co-Chair

MCPSRA LUNCHEONS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 24, 2008

June 26, 2008



LUNCHEON JAZZ TIME

The Paint Branch High school Jazz Ensemble will entertain us at our April 24 MCPSRA Luncheon. The Jazz Ensemble is made up of students in grades 9 – 12. They play a wide variety of music from Big Band Swing to Bebop, Bossa Nova to Rock, Funk and more. This Jazz Ensemble has been active in our county for many years. During the current school year they have performed at the MCPS Jazz Festival, worked with world-renowned soloist Chris Vadala and performed at a community dance and fundraiser. So, you're invited to come out, eat some good food and enjoy the music!

Gerald W. Johnson, Vice President and Program Chair

Swing in Spring!

It's time for golf! The GBTLA 14th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, **May 16, 2008** at Hampshire Greens Golf Course in Silver Spring. The tournament is held in the morning—shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. If you can't make it for golf, come by for the great barbeque lunch! Take advantage of the Early Bird Registration by registering before April 16th. Tournament fee is \$100 prior to April 16th and \$125 after.



To register, please call the GBTLA office at 301.320.6545 or visit the GBTLA Web site at www.gbtlearningacademy.org.

It's a great day for a great cause, so sign up now!

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IN MEMORIAM – APRIL 2008

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 Roby H. Wells
 Barbara Zeiders

THANK YOU FOR

- suggesting MCPSRA membership to friends employed by MCPS who are considering retirement
- reminding them we are the **only** organization dedicated to representing **all** MCPS retirees, no matter what their job was
- suggesting they sign up for automatic dues deduction
- providing **ONLY ONE ADDRESS FOR MCPSRA mailings**
- informing MCPSRA of changes in your name, address, phone number by mailing the information to MCPSRA, P.O. BOX 4367, ROCKVILLE, MD 20849-4367 or by emailing membership chair Juliette Trevino at jgtrevino@comcast.net
- coming to the Luncheons and supporting the many projects mentioned in the Newsletter.

The Montgomery County Public Retirees Association, Inc. publishes a Newsletter five times a year. All submitted content, including paid advertising, represents the view of its author alone and does not necessarily represent the views of this Newsletter, its staff or the MCPSRA, Inc.

COMPLETE THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Maryland Retired School Personnel Association
Montgomery County Public Schools Retirees Association
Application for Membership**



Name _____ Soc. Sec. # _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____ Email _____

Please sign authorization for dues deduction (see below) **or** make check payable to MCPSRA.

Mail to: MCPSRA – Membership Chair	MRSPA DUES	\$25.00
Box 4367	Local Dues	<u>10.00</u>
Rockville, MD 20849-4367	Total	\$35.00

I hereby authorize the Retirement and Pension System of the State of Maryland to deduct annual membership dues for the MRSPA and the MCPSRA from one of my retirement checks each membership year.

I understand that my social security number is required if I wish to become a dues deduction member.

SSN _____

This authorization will remain effect until cancelled by written notice mailed to the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association.

Signature _____ Date _____

===== **CUT HERE** =====

MCPSRA Special Projects Urgently Need Your Help – NOW!

Reflecting on the incredible success of our fundraising efforts last year for our Toolkits, Books, and Backpacks Projects for the Title I and homeless children in the Summer Adventures in Learning Program, it is most disheartening that our efforts have fallen considerably short this year. At this time last year some 198 individuals had sponsored one or more toolkits for the needy kindergartners for a total of exactly \$10,000. Right now only 105 donors have stepped forward with donations totaling \$4905, less than half of where we were last year at this time.

With the current state of the US economy, it is understandable that personal budgets are constrained. Consider, though, what it must be like for the neediest of our county's families and especially those with children. Diane Mohr, MCPS Title I Coordinator, has already indicated that the number of sites for the Title I summer school programs will increase from last year's 22 schools to 28 this coming July. The need to help is more crucial than ever before.

When we retired from MCPS service and, for the last time, walked out of the classroom, office, bus, cafeteria, or school in which we worked, we did not leave behind our love for and commitment to the children we served. Our Special Projects provide ways in which you can continue to play a very important part in the education of thousands of needy children all over our county. We assembled and distributed 1,025 toolkits last August. We anticipate that that number will increase drastically this coming summer. PLEASE help by sending in a sponsorship form with your TAX-DEDUCTIBLE contribution. There are over 2700 members in our association. If everyone sponsored only one toolkit with a \$10 donation, the success of all three of our Special Projects would be assured for this coming summer. Enough bottle caps have been collected for this year's kits but continue to save colored ones (except for blue) for next year. In addition, new backpacks, books, and especially glue sticks are desperately needed and may be brought to the next two luncheons.

===== **CUT HERE** =====

MCPSRA TOOLKITS SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please provide (print clearly) the following information and mail it along with a check (payable to: MCPS Education Foundation, with "Toolkits Project" on the memo line) to Mrs. Joan Donovan, 13 Hilton Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3521

Name: _____

Address: _____

I would like to sponsor # _____ toolkits at \$10 per kit. Donation enclosed: \$ _____

Optional: In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FRED EVANS



On February 1, 2008, Montgomery County lost a tremendous leader, and strong advocate of education with the passing of Councilmember Marilyn J. Praisner. Ms. Praisner was the longest serving current member of the council, as well as the longest serving woman in the history of the council. She was the council president in 1993, 1997 and 2007, as well as vice president in 1992, 1996 and 2006. Among many strong attributes, Marilyn always “did her homework” when working on the many complex issues facing the council. I got to know Marilyn when she served on the Montgomery County Board of Education from 1982 to 1990. She was not afraid to ask the tough questions, but she also had a great sense of humor. She was a tireless advocate for the citizens of Montgomery County and will be missed.

By now, each of you should have received your new MCPSRA Directory. A big thanks is extended to Ms. Juliette Trevino and Ms. Betsy Doyle for their work in getting the directory to our over 2,700 members! The association also received strong support from the MCPS staff in the printing office. Obviously, there will be changes, and some errors, in this edition. Please notify our membership chair, Ms. Trevino, at 14720 Waterway Drive, Rockville, MD. 20853, or email her at jgtrevino@comcast.net with those changes.

The Montgomery County budget shortfall, estimated at \$300 million, and the state budget crisis, are causing a great deal of anxiety among the many local and statewide agencies and non-profit organizations. The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) and our association are keeping a close watch on any proposed legislation that could reduce our retirement benefits. At the writing of this article, any legislation to shift retirement costs to the local jurisdictions has not been successful. As always, we will continue to monitor all legislation that could affect our members.

Our Vice President, Gerry Johnson, organized an excellent program for our February 28th luncheon on Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The 80 attendees heard Ms. Anja Caldwell, MCPS Green Building Program Manager, describe the innovative environmental and energy-saving practices at Great Seneca Creek Elementary School, the first “green” school in the system. Ms. Caldwell not only reviewed the program in MCPS, but also shared ideas that each of us can utilize to save energy and energy costs in our homes. Reach her at Anja_S_Caldwell@mcpsmd.org if you want more information.

At our March meeting, the MCPSRA Board of Directors began a series of discussions to **Plan for Our Future**. The purpose of this effort is to develop a process for improving our practices and our services to members. We have a very involved and committed board and I believe that it is important to examine how we operate to assure that we continue to be a vital and relevant organization. On that note, I encourage each of you to contact me if you have any suggestions about how we can improve our organization. I can be reached via our web site at www.mcpsreitrees.org or by my email or telephone listed in this newsletter.

Spring is upon us and don't forget to take advantage of our many great trips. Ms. Frieda Price and Ms. Mary Ann Davis do a superb job at organizing the program. Finally, I am in the third month of piano lessons and enjoying them very much!



SCHOLARSHIP TIME is approaching again!

Early in March, announcements were placed in the Bulletin, sent via PONY to all work locations (schools, depots and offices), and posted on the MCPSRA website. Teachers and staff were alerted to apply for an MCPSRA Scholarship by the April 14 deadline.

In late April the Scholarship Committee reads every application and makes recommendations for interviews which are held in early May. The scholarships are awarded at the June Luncheon.

Each year, there are more qualified applicants than available scholarships.

If you are interested in making a contribution to help someone further their education, you can make a tax-deductible contribution by writing a check payable to MCPS Education Foundation and indicating MCPSRA Scholarship Fund on the notation line.

If you want your contribution to be given in honor of or in memory of someone, please note this as well, and include an address for the acknowledgement notification.

All checks should be mailed to:

Montgomery County Public Schools
MCPS Educational Foundation
850 Hungerford Drive – Room 149
Rockville, MD 20850-1718

Joy G. Schwab and Ann Eberly
Scholarship Co-Chairs

Welcome!



NEW MEMBERS - APRIL 2008

Campbell Laurel V.
Cutler Susan
Faden Janice
Griffin Marion L.
Hetrick Brenda W
Jordan J. Jordan
Katz Kay
Kelsch Mark Edward
Mason Dana L
McCormick Charles
Nevins Elizabeth (Betty)
Porter Brian J.
Reese Patricia A.
Rosenthal Paula
Schramm Jean L.
Seidler Marilyn
Urick Nick
Whitt Dorothy S.

DIRECTORY CHANGES - APRIL 2008

Vetter Joan Maureen

NOTE:

PLEASE REFER TO 2008 DIRECTORY FOR ADDRESS CHANGES FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS

Abbott, Anne T	Edwards, H. Ken	Lafkas, James K.	Randolph, Margaret L.
Auriti, Anthony A.	Everett, Kitto R.	Lambert, Freddie E.	Ruark, Carroll
Bayne, Josephine	Evry, Allen	Leas, Albert	Sherwin, Tess I.
Belt, Catherine R.	Fletcher, Sherry T.	Lowe, Ethel K.	Skidmore, Sydney H.
Berry, Pallie M.	Gallagher, Robert	Matsumura, Patsy S.	Smith, Norman R.
Bidwick, Albert, Jr.	Gaughan, Cynthia B.	Maysak, John	Strickrott, Elizabeth
Blevins, James E.	Henry, Thelma M.	Moquin, David N.	Taliaferro, James
Casula, Jeanne A.	Hinkel, John P.	Nelson, Marilyn	Taylor, Anne P.
Cherry, Rebecca A.	Jagemann, Patricia	Nixon, Nancy	Tolson, Tolson M.
Cohen, Anna A.		O'Connor, Jeanne	Towers, Richard L.
Daly, Marjorie	Karpf, Jill	Ogilvie, Jean D.	Wagner, Rita M.
Dhyse, Suzanne	Kelly, Larry	Petersen, Marilyn M.	Weeda, Penelope K.
Dickson, Winifred S.	Klick, Ruth C.	Pickerill, David N.	Winterbourne, Rita E.
Eberly, Ann	Kozar, Esther V.	Posey, Mary Linn	Yeager, Henry Jr.
Eberly, J. David	Kreitman, Leon	Preston, John E.	



When the Green Building Program for Montgomery County Public Schools was established in 2003 the system's total utility expenses were at about \$20 million per year. That equates to about \$1.00 per square foot per year for every MCPS facility. Today, due to the steep increase in energy costs, this number is over \$2.30, more than double.

To control costs a mandate was put in place to save at least five percent at every school through simple behavior changes, like turning lights and computers off when they are not in use. School Eco Response Teams (SERT) have supported this effort since 1993 by patrolling the schools and successfully saved one million dollars last year.

But green at MCPS goes beyond energy conservation. Green building is a holistic approach that looks at a building's entire ecological footprint: the energy, water and land consumed; the materials harvested, processed, transported and disposed; and the toxicity of finishes used during construction. To grade the greenness of a building the US Green Building Council created the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating system, which awards points for staying below environmental thresholds at a basic certification: gold, silver and platinum levels. This system provides a roadmap for school designs to exceed local code requirements and raises the bar towards more sustainability. This means less energy and water use of the systems installed and, for the building user, better health through better air quality and, ultimately, higher productivity. The rating system also supports green school environments that are infused with natural daylight and clean fresh air-- and we all like that.

The new Great Seneca Creek ES in Germantown was MCPS's and Maryland's first school to achieve a LEED rating, and, in this case, even LEED Gold. The school uses 35% less energy, 43% less water and recycled 86% of the construction waste. Toilet partitions are made of recycled soda bottles and the building is heated and cooled by tapping into the earth's constant temperature.

Anja Caldwell, an architect from Germany and the Green Building Manager in the Department of Facilities Management, is the LEED-accredited professional on staff. She calls herself the proud parent of Maryland's first LEED-certified school and is currently involved with five more LEED schools for MCPS. The LEED certification of any new school building became a county mandate in 2006.

Anja gave a presentation to MCPS retirees on February 28. She shared some tips about energy and water conservation at home with the audience, as her own electricity bill has been as low as \$8 a month. Her family accomplished this through the installation of Energy Star rated appliances, a programmable thermostat that schedules heating and cooling, and the installation of compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) instead of the good old Thomas Edison incandescent lamps. Her family is tuned into conservation by cutting waste without compromising a comfortable lifestyle. Not only does this protect the environment, it also educates her own children. Her daughter now gives out tickets for any parent showers over five minutes.

At Great Seneca Creek Elementary School children not only visit a green school, they learn to understand it through signage, lesson plans and environmental activities. Fifth graders created a virtual walk-through of the school last year, which can be downloaded from Anja's website at www.Schools2Green.org

Anja will also offer a workshop called "Going Green at Home" for the MCPS Parent Academy on April 30th at 7 pm at White Oak Middle School in Silver Spring. Call to register by phone: 301-517-5940 or 301-279-3100 or use this link to the MCPS Parent Academy to register for the workshop: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy>

She is also always looking for volunteers to help with mentoring and organizing student design competitions, conducting school surveys about technology pilots, general office work, editing, staffing tables at expos etc. Her E-mail is Anja@ecoschools.us

More resources on green building and going green:
US Green Building Council www.usgbc.org
MCPS Green Building www.Schools2Green.org
Energy Star Appliances: www.energystar.gov
MCPS LEED School: www.greatsenecacreekes.org
SERT program: www.greenschoolsfocus.org
Much more on going green: www.thegreenguide.com



WANT A WANT AD?

The MRSPA Board of Directors has agreed to accept advertising. Dimensions and per issue rates are as follows:

Business card	3.0" wide x 2.0" tall	\$35
Quarter page	3.5" wide x 4.75" tall	\$60
Half page	7.5" wide x 4.75" tall	\$110
Full page	7.5" wide x 10.0" tall	\$200

An ad cannot exceed the above dimensions and should be emailed to the Newsletter Editor as a WORD attachment or as camera ready copy via US mail. WORD formatting will be provided on request to the Newsletter Editor. If you need professional help in following these guidelines, it is available, pro-rated at \$85 per hour, at A.G. Fiorill Printing (www.fiorillprinting@aol.com) or at 301-776-0585 or by FAX at 301-776-0592.

Deadlines for future Newsletters are as follows:
May 1, 2008 for the June 2008 issue
Sept. 4, 2008 for the October 2008 issue
Nov. 6, 2008 for the December 2008 issue

Send advertising copy (email to zoracamp@yahoo.com; surface mail to Newsletter, P.O. Box 4367, Rockville, MD 20849-4367. Mail check payable to MCPSRA (in advance of publication) to Treasurer, P.O. Box 4367, Rockville, MD 20849-4367.



THE GEORGE B. THOMAS, SR. LEARNING ACADEMY, INC. (GBTLA)

Still Time to Volunteer

The GBTLA is having a great year! As of March 1, nearly 3,000 students are enrolled in the program and we expect to continue to enroll students throughout second semester. The tutoring program runs through the end of April, so there is still time to work with our wonderful group of students. Both lead tutors and volunteers are needed. Individuals with certification are eligible to serve as lead tutors and will receive a stipend of \$35 per hour. Those without certification can serve as volunteers.

All twelve center locations are in need of both lead tutors and volunteers:

Montgomery Blair Center	Albert Einstein Center	Gaithersburg Center	John F. Kennedy Center
Northwest Center	Magruder Center	Paint Branch Center	Rockville Center
Sherwood Center	Springbrook Center	Watkins Mill Center	Wheaton Center

Tutoring sessions are held on Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. from October through May. If you are interested, please contact Michael Thomas, Executive Director, on 301.320.6545.

You're Invited to the GBTLA Closing Ceremonies!

Closing ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 3, at 8:30 a.m., at all GBTLA center locations. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please consider joining us as we celebrate our students and their outstanding accomplishments. Come and see what a difference the GBTLA makes in the lives of our children

LINDA GRAY, GRI, SRES

ECO-Broker

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Energy tip of the Month:

Turn off the VAMPIRE lights in your house.

Vampire lights are those glowing lights that stay on when you think your appliances, TV, computer, etc. are turned off. These standby lights suck energy 24 hr a day. Plug them into a switchable power strip or a single switch plug and turn on only when needed.

The Farm House

**A Family and Corporate Retreat Center
Dames Quarter, Maryland**



Return to a quieter time...the Farm House, a year-round beautifully restored six bedroom, six bath retreat center, is perfect for your next family or corporate gathering. Meeting space is available for a variety of group uses.

Enjoy visiting on the screened porch, playing croquet on the shady front lawn, fishing, kayaking, birding, cycling, and crabbing...a perfect location from which to explore and enjoy the Maryland Eastern Shore.

For more information:

nancy_goldsmith@comcast.net or 410-784-2179

Retirement, a *heck* of a time to run out of money!

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20877 (301) 987-7211 5/07

THE NEA RA IS COMING TO TOWN!! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

It's a huge event—over 10,000 people strong—and volunteers are needed to help make the Representative Assembly run smoothly. You need not be a member of the National Education Association to volunteer. All members of the education family are invited.

Try to imagine what it is like to have 10,000 school personnel talking and trying to conduct business. It is possible by using the RA Telephone/Microphone system. Volunteers are responsible for staffing and operating the microphones so representatives can communicate with the Presiding Officer and the Assembly. Don't worry, you don't need to speak on the microphone; you only relay messages to the front table.

Volunteers receive \$40 each day worked as well as lunch, snacks, breaks and reimbursement for parking/bus/metro expenses. Hours are approximately 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers are needed from July 2-6. You need not work every day, but consecutive days are encouraged.

The Annual Meeting is held at The Washington Convention Center located at 801 Mt. Vernon Place, NW, Washington, DC. The Mt. Vernon Square Metro stop on the green and yellow line is right in the convention center, so it's really easy to get there.

To learn more, contact LeeAnn Kaye, 301-598-5480 or lakayeneaconvention@comcast.net

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MARYLAND STATE SYMBOLS

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 Cat | ___ <i>Ephora gardnerae gardnerae</i> (Wilson) |
| 2 Dog | ___ Baltimore checkerspot butterfly |
| 3 Gem | ___ Center Stage and Olney Theatre |
| 4 Bird | ___ Chesapeake Bay Retriever |
| 5 Boat | ___ "Maryland, My Maryland" |
| 6 Fish | ___ Diamondback Terrapin |
| 7 Song | ___ Rockfish (striped bass) |
| 8 Tree | ___ Patuxent River Stone |
| 9 Sport | ___ <i>Astrodon johnstoni</i> |
| 10 Drink | ___ Black-eyed Susan |
| 11 Horse | ___ Baltimore Oriole |
| 12 Insect | ___ Thoroughbred |
| 13 Reptile | ___ Square dance |
| 14 Flower | ___ White oak |
| 15 Theatres | ___ Blue crab |
| 16 Dinosaur | ___ Lacrosse |
| 17 Team Sport | ___ Skipjack |
| 18 Folk Dance | ___ Jousting |
| 19 Fossil Shell | ___ Calico |
| 20 Crustacean | ___ Milk |



Answers on page 9



LITERACY TUTORS NEEDED

The Literacy Council of Montgomery County has over 200 adult students on its waiting list for tutors. Become a volunteer literacy tutor and teach an adult to read, write, or speak English. No foreign language skills are necessary. Tutors work one-on-one or with small groups, and typically meet with students in libraries or community centers at mutually convenient times. Tutor orientations will be held at the Rockville Library on April 9 from 10:30 to noon, and on April 14 and May 1 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. A session also will be held at the Gaithersburg Library on May 7 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Registration is required. Call 301-610-0030 or email info@literacycouncilmcmd.org

Pay Parking begins at the Rockville Town Center Garages

The City of Rockville plans to implement pay parking on March 10, 2008. The pay parking hours will be 7:00 am - 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Weekdays after 7:00 pm and weekend parking is FREE. **Patrons of the Library and the Literacy Council will have two hours free parking available to them.** Details on how to obtain free parking will be forthcoming

FROM MRSPA

GREAT NEWS for MRSPA TRAVELERS

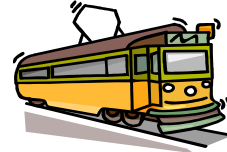
FREE AIR - Save \$300 per person on the September 16 departure for the GREAT RIVERS OF EUROPE RIVER CRUISE. Make a reservation by March 31 and receive FREE air from Baltimore, MD. This is a savings of \$300 per person. Go to www.mrspa.org for further information about this trip. Call 1-800-955-1925 and save today. Don't forget to mention your group number: G821-467

BASKET BINGO for MRSPA
Featuring Longaberger Baskets

April 5, 2008 at Sykesville Fire Department Hall, 6680 Sykesville Rd., Sykesville, MD. Doors open at 5:30 pm; Bingo begins at 7:00 pm. Proceeds to benefit MRSPA scholarships to active school employees enrolled in teacher certification program. Call MRSPA at 410-551-1517 for tickets.

TROLLEY MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

The National Capital Trolley Museum located at 1313 Bonifant Road, Colesville, is seeking men and women volunteers for the ongoing tasks of maintaining, restoring, and operating vintage trolleys; for the upkeep of track, switches, and electric wires; and for docents to interpret the heritage of trolleys to the many Montgomery County families who visit the museum. Although knowledge and experience in these areas are desired, all comers are very welcome and will be taught what they need to know. If you are interested in volunteering, or wish more information, please contact Joanie Pinson at educator@dctrolley.org or at 301 384-6352. The next orientation session is scheduled for Saturday April 12, 2008 so please do not delay.

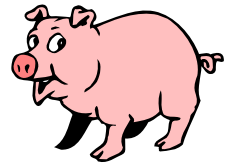


ELEMENTARY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT WANTED

The National Capital Trolley Museum, 1313 Bonifant Road, Colesville, is looking to hire a part-time half-day Educational Assistant to help work with elementary-school aged museum visitors on Thursdays and Fridays March 15 - May 15; June 15 - August 15; and October 1 - November 15. The position pays \$10 per hour. The staff is great and it is a fun place to work. For more information please contact Joanie Pinson at 301-384-6352 or at educator@dctrolley.org.



Arguing with an adolescent is like wrestling with a pig in mud...eventually you come to the realization that the pig is having a good time.



Answers to Maryland State Symbols Quiz:

SOURCE: Maryland State Archives/Washington Post Montgomery Extra: Thursday, Feb. 14, 2008

Solution: 19 – 12 – 15 – 2 – 7 – 13 – 6 – 3 – 16 – 14 – 11 – 18 – 8 – 20 – 17 – 5 – 9 – 1 - 10

PARKING INFORMATION

Day trip parking information will be indicated in each trip description. Overnight trips will leave from Park & Ride lot on Norbeck Rd. & Georgia Ave.



TRIPS IN PROGRESS – 2008

Trip descriptions in previous newsletters:

- May 3 Longwood Gardens (Feb.)
- May 7 Dutch Apple Theatre – Show: Guys and Dolls (Feb.)
- Aug. 3 Lion King – Kennedy Center (Feb.)
- New deadline: May 2**
- Sept. 18-27 New England and Canada Cruise from Baltimore (Oct.)

YOUR TRAVEL INFORMATION

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION. SHARE IT, ALONG WITH SPECIFIC TRIP INFORMATION, WITH YOUR GUESTS.

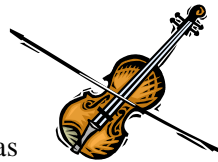
1. We all travel at our own risk.
2. There is always some walking involved as we travel. Read each itinerary carefully, keeping in mind your own capabilities.
3. Itineraries, times and details are approximate. Changes are sometimes necessary and unavoidable.
4. Trips are open to members, their families and friends (adults)..
5. Smoking and drinking of alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the coach.
6. About three to five days before a day trip, participants are called to remind them of the day and departure time of the trip. For overnight coach trips, about two weeks prior to the date of departure, a letter with up to date information, including parking details, and one baggage tag per person will be mailed to you.
7. Write a separate check, payable to MCPSRA, for each trip. Include name and date of trip on check...
8. Send check with completed reservation form.
9. Your reservation is definite upon receipt of deposit/full payment, whichever is required. If a trip has to be cancelled because of insufficient numbers of participants needed by the deadline as published, your check will be returned to you. Feel free to call to find out if your reservation and payment were received.
10. Refunds are made only when your space can be filled.
11. Gratuities for driver and local guides are not included in the price of the trip.
12. Anyone interested in insurance for overnight trips should call Ellen at Eyre Tour and Travel at 301-854-6600, ext. 3252 or 410-442-1330, ext. 3252 or 1-800-321-3973, ext. 3252.
13. We do not provide transportation to and from the airport for trips that require flying.

New trip descriptions in this newsletter:

- May 27 Andre Rieu Concert, First Mariner Arena, Baltimore, MD
- June 11 Madame Tussauds Museum PLUS the Lincoln Cottage
- July 15 Harrisburg, PA – Land, Rail, Cruise
- August 19 Boston Pops - Wolf Trap
- Sept. 2-5 Boston, MA – plus more

COMING IN THE JUNE NEWSLETTER

- Oct. 2 La Fontaine Bleu – lunch and musical show: As Time Goes By
- Oct. 22 Tour U.S. Capitol, lunch, Roosevelt Island
- Nov. 30- Asheville, NC (Biltmore Estate) and
- Dec. 5 Nashville, TN (Opryland Hotel)



ANDRE RIEU CONCERT **First Mariner Arena, Baltimore, MD** **Tuesday, May 27, 2008**

We were able to obtain a limited number of tickets for this wonderful musical evening. The concerts broadcast on PBS are enjoyable and up-lifting, but to see and hear them live is even better! The program will include favorites from TV programs as well as new selections.

- 6:00 pm Depart Norbeck Park & Ride Lot (near the intersection of Rtes. 97 and 28)
- 11:00 pm Approximate return to Park & Ride Lot

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE Motorcoach, admission to concert. (Gratuity for driver **NOT** included)

Cost: \$108.00 per person
Due: April 22, 2008

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed Registration form to:

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017

TRAVEL CO-CHAIRS

Frieda J. Price..... 301-926-2286
105 N. Summit Ave. #4, Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2935

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017



MADAME TUSSAUDS WAX MUSEUM AND THE LINCOLN COTTAGE

Washington, DC
Wednesday, June 11, 2008

A day of “New” things in Washington, DC should prove to be of interest to our travelers. For years, Madame Tussauds Wax Museum has been a favorite tourist attraction in London and, more recently, in New York City. Now one has been added to the Washington scene, containing wax likenesses of famous, notorious and recognizable political figures, artists, theatrical and sports personalities, dead or alive! Bring your camera to have your own picture taken next to these life-like figures that are arranged in four themed sections, each with its own array of exhibits and interactive experiences.

Just opened on the grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home (formerly Soldiers Home) is the Lincoln Cottage. During his presidency, the Lincoln family spent many summer hours here to escape the heat and humidity of the city. A copy of the Emancipation Proclamation is on display. Visitors may be seated at the large wooden table where Lincoln met with members of his cabinet. There is an interactive computer program which allows the visitor to debate emancipation. The 34-room Gothic-Revival style cottage was built in 1824 for G.W. Riggs, a banker, who sold the property to the government in the 1850’s. The Visitor’s Center, owned by the National Trust, is the first advancing the idea that historic preservation can be on the cutting edge of sustainability and is certified for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – in other words, it’s environmentally correct and **GREEN!**

- 9:30 am Depart Norbeck Park & Ride Lot (near the intersection of Rtes. 97 and 28)
- 10:30 am Arrive Madame Tussauds Museum
- 11:30 am Depart for Lincoln Cottage
- **** **Bring a brown bag lunch/snack** to eat on the coach enroute to Lincoln Cottage (Bottled water available at no cost)
- 12:15 pm Visit galleries, exhibits and Visitor’s Center at Lincoln Cottage
- 1:00 or 1:15 pm Divide into groups for guided tour
- 2:00 or 2:15 pm Completion of tours
- 2:30 pm Board coach for return to Park & Ride Lot
- 3:00 pm Approximate time of return to Park & Ride Lot

This trip will be limited to 30 people, first reservation and check received – first on list.

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE

Motorcoach; admission to Madame Tussauds Wax Museum and to Lincoln Cottage. (Gratuity for driver **NOT** included)

Cost: \$54.00 per person

Due: April 24, 2008.

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed Registration form to:

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017



HARRISBURG, PA

Motor Coach – Train Ride – River Cruise
Tuesday, July 15, 2008

- 7:30 am Depart Norbeck Park & Ride Lot (near the intersection of Rtes. 97 and 28)
- 10:00 am Arrive Middletown and Hummelstown Railroad. This is a steam railroad.
- 10:30 am Enjoy a narrated scenic ride through the Swatara Creek Valley area.
- 12 noon Lunch on your own in the cafeteria in the State Capitol building. We’ll tour the State Capitol with its 272 ft. dome, bronze doors, statuary, murals, stained glass windows and a marble grand staircase designed after the one in the Paris Grand Opera House.
- 2:00 pm Depart to board the Pride of the Susquehanna
- 3:00 pm Cruise on the Susquehanna, viewing City Island and Harrisburg with its river front mansions.
- 4:00 pm Depart for home
- 6:30 pm Approximate return time.

For your information: the train is not air conditioned; the boat is air conditioned.

Included: Round trip transportation by deluxe Eyre Motorcoach; admissions to the above; lunch and gratuity; taxes and tolls. (Gratuity for driver **NOT** included)

Cost: \$73.00

Due: May 17, 2008

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed Registration form to:

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017

**SPECIAL NOTE
LION KING
Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
Sunday, August 3, 2008**



Please see February 2008 Newsletter for complete description. If you are interested in attending this show, note the deadline date for reservations has been changed. It now is **Friday, May 2, 2008**. The price remains \$140.00 per person for orchestra seats.

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed Registration form to:

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017
=====

**Boston Pops
Wolf Trap Park
Tuesday, August 19, 2008**



This delightful musical evening in the park is one of our favorite and most popular trips. We arrive at Wolf Trap early enough for a special dessert or ice cream prior to the program. The concert theme was not available at press time, but should be available on the POPS website or in the Post closer to August

6:00 pm Depart Norbeck Park & Ride Lot (near the intersection of Rtes. 97 and 28)
11:00 pm Approximate time of return to Park & Ride Lot

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE Motorcoach; admission to concert. (Gratuity for driver **NOT** included)

Cost: \$63.00 per person
Due: June 16, 2008

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed Registration form to:

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017
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**BOSTON, SALEM PLUS MORE
Tuesday, Sept. 2 –Wednesday Sept. 5, 2008**

Tuesday, Sept. 2 – 6:30 a.m.
Depart from Rockville Civic Center on Edmonston Drive, arriving late afternoon at the Holiday Inn, Woburn, MA, just 20 minutes from downtown Boston. Dinner will be on your own at the hotel restaurant which features an extensive menu to suit all budgets and tastes.
Wednesday, Sept. 3

Included buffet breakfast at hotel. Depart for Boston for a guided morning City tour, including the Freedom Trail, USS Constitution, Faneuil Hall, Boston Common and a drive by the famous pub, “Cheers.” We’ll enjoy exploring Boston Harbor on a narrated **Luncheon Cruise on the Spirit of Boston**. We’ll spend the evening in colorful Quincy Market exploring the shops and boutiques. Dinner on your own; we have many choices in the Market.



Thursday, Sept. 4

Following the included breakfast, we depart with our guide and drive to tour Concord and Lexington where the American Revolutionary War started. Continuing on to Salem, we have lunch, on our own, at Pickering Wharf. We will witness first hand a complete look at the Salem With Hysteria at the Witch Museum. Next we stop at Nathaniel Hawthorne’s House of Seven Gables, a 17th century dwelling made famous by the classic tale. A brief guided tour follows. Our final stop will be the famous Gloucester House to enjoy a traditional **New England Lobster Bake** overlooking the harbor. It was in this town that the movie “The Perfect Storm” was filmed.



Friday, Sept. 5

Following the included breakfast, we depart for home, taking with us many fond memories of our visit to Boston and beyond. Arrival approximately 6:00 pm.

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE Motor coach; 3 nights accommodations; 3 buffet breakfasts; luncheon cruise; lobster bake; admission to attractions listed above; gratuities; baggage handling (one per person); taxes and tolls.

Not included: Gratuity for driver and local guides

Cost: \$680.00 per person, double
\$880.00 single
\$650.00 per person, triple
Due: \$200 deposit due May 21, 2008
Balance due June 25, 2008

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed Registration form to:

Mary Ann Davis..... 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017

If you would like to pay by credit card, you may call Ellen at Eyre Tour and Travel (301-854-6600 or 1-800-321-3973, ext. 3252)

TRIP RESERVATION FORM: Andre Rieu Concert, Baltimore, MD

May 27, 2008

Name _____

Phone # _____

Name _____

Phone # _____

Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.



TRIP RESERVATION FORM: Madame Tussaud's & Lincoln Cottage

June 11, 2008

Name _____

Phone # _____

Name _____

Phone # _____

Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA



TRIP RESERVATION FORM: Harrisburg, PA Motorcoach-Train Ride-River Cruise

July 15, 2008

Name _____

Phone # _____

Name _____

Phone # _____

Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA



TRIP RESERVATION FORM Boston Pops Concert at Wolf Trap

August 19, 2008

Name _____

Phone # _____

Name _____

Phone # _____

Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.



TRIP RESERVATION FORM: Boston, Salem Plus More

Sept. 2 - 5, 2008

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check to MCPSRA

Single _____ Double _____ Triple _____ Smoking _____ Non-smoking _____





DIRECTIONS TO WILLOW TREE INN
 At the Montgomery Village Golf Club
 19550 Montgomery Village Avenue
 Gaithersburg, MD 301-948-8832

MCPSRA Luncheon
Thursday, April 24, 2008

Tossed Garden Salad

- Take Exit #11 off I-270. Go north on Montgomery Village Avenue, through nine traffic lights.
- After you pass the traffic light at Club House Road, get into the left lane.
- Take the next left into the entrance to the Willow Tree Inn.
- Pass the upper level parking lot on your immediate left.
- Bear left on the drive which takes you to the lower parking lot.
- Enter the Inn by the stairs or ramp adjacent to the lower lot.



- Grilled Salmon/au gratin Potatoes**
OR
- Sliced Beef Sirloin/au gratin Potatoes**
OR
- Pasta Marinara**
- Fresh Vegetable Medley**
- Hot Rolls and Butter**
- Chocolate Cake**
- Coffee or Tea**

Please be aware that if Montgomery County Public Schools are closed that day, the luncheon is cancelled. If there is a delayed opening of any kind, the luncheon will be held.



RESERVATIONS FOR MCPSRA LUNCHEON/BUSINESS MEETING
Thursday, April 24, 2008 at the Willow Tree Inn

Gathering: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 11:30 a.m. Luncheon: 12:00 Noon Program

Price of Luncheon: \$17.00

CIRCLE ENTRÉE CHOICE

Name. _____	Phone _____	Salmon	Beef Sirloin	Pasta
Name. _____	Phone _____	Salmon	Beef Sirloin	Pasta

Reservations for 1 or 2 @ \$17.00 Total: \$ _____

Mail reservation form and check PAYABLE TO MCPSRA to:

Angelina Goffredo
5304 Flanders Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895-1139
For information: 301-942-2573

YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 21, 2008.

MCPSRA Luncheon/Business Meeting

Thursday, April 24, 2008

THE WILLOW TREE INN

Gathering: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 11:30 a.m.

Luncheon: 12:00 noon

Program

The MCPSRA Newsletter is published in
October, December, February, April and June

This is the APRIL 2008 issue.



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