

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.



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

VOLUME 2011-12, ISSUE #2

DECEMBER 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In October a group of MCPSRA members attended the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association convention at Wisp in Garrett County. It was an informative and enjoyable one. I was impressed by guest speaker Sheri Jacobs' presentation: "How to Move People to Action." She offered

suggestions for encouraging people to become members of organizations. Our MCPSRA has 2,649 members as of November 3, 2011. This sounds like a lot: It really isn't considering the number of retirees MCPS has. Each year we have deceased members. We gain some new members, but we need more. If each of us would recruit one new member and he/she decides to join, we would double our number of members! We can make this happen; we just need to do it.

When you are asked about what we do, tell them that MCPSRA

- Helps retirees with questions about health insurance and benefits,
- Provides "tool kits" for Title I Summer School children,
- Presents more than 12 \$1,000 scholarships to MCPS employees for course work,
- Sponsors travel opportunities,
- Prints Retirees Directory,
- Offers a golf outing
- Hosts the October, February, April and June luncheons,
- Maintains a website www.mcpsretirees.org
- Represents retirees in Annapolis,
- Interviews candidates for state and local offices,
- Publishes brochures with applications for membership

Increasing our membership numbers is of great importance. The greater our numbers; the greater our clout at the state and local levels.

Joy Schwab

2012 Elections

It's not too early to think about the upcoming 2012 elections. Primary Day, April 3, will be here before we know it! While everyone has heard about the Presidential candidates, you may not be aware that we will also be voting for U.S. Senators, House of Representatives and Montgomery County Board of Education.

Because the Board of Education does not get the same public attention as other races, the Montgomery County Public Schools Retirees Association (MCPSRA) Political Action Committee (PAC) will be actively involved in the local Board of Education races.

There are three BOE seats which are up for election: BOE At-Large, currently held by Philip Kaufman; BOE District 2, currently held by Laura Berthiaume; BOE District 4 currently held by Christopher Barclay.

The MCPSRA PAC will interview all Board of Education candidates and make recommendations to the membership. If you are interested in being part of the process, contact LeeAnn Kaye at geolakaye@verizon.net

Some Important Dates for the Primary Election

- **Voter Registration Deadline**-March 13, 2012 at 9:00 p.m.
- **Early Voting**-Saturday, March 24 thru March 29, 2012-10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Sunday hours noon-6 p.m.)
- **Absentee by Mail Deadline**-March 27, 2012 by 11:59 p.m.
- **Absentee Voting in Person**-Begins at the Board of Elections, March 28, 2012
- **Early Voting Closes**-March 29, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.
- **Primary Election Day**-Tuesday, April 3, 2012 7:00 a.m.-8 p.m.

MCPSRA DIRECTORY CHANGES

MCPSRA is updating its directory this fall. If you have changes of name, address and/ or telephone number in the current directory, please send the corrections to our **Membership Chair Julie Trevino** at jgtrevino@comcast.net or 14720 Waterway Dr. Rockville, MD 20853.

MCPSRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President.....	Joy G. Schwab.....	301-253-3294
	schw35@aol.com	
Vice President.....	Stephen M. Raucher.....	301-460-9092
	sraucher@comcast.net	
Immediate Past President.....	Gerald W. Johnson.....	301-466-1714
	LGFJHN@aol.com	
Recording Secretary.....	Mary D'Ovidio.....	240-246-7818
	ldovidio01@comcast.net	
Treasurer.....	Kenneth K. Muir.....	301-460-9583
	kkmuir@aol.com	

Committee Chairs

Archives.....	Elizabeth P. Doyle.....	301-947-0733
	edoyle3233@aol.com	
Auditing.....	George B. Thomas, Sr.	301-460-6960
	georgegbtla@msn.com	
Budget.....	Kenneth E. Huff.....	301-622-2161
Development	kenandmarylou@gmail.com	
	Ernest Solar.....	703-938-8122
	elsolar@verizon.net	
Community.....	Mary D'Ovidio.....	240-246-7818
Service	ldovidio01@comcast.net	
Consumer Education	To Be Announced	
Hospitality/Luncheons.....	LeeAnn Kaye.....	301-598-5480
Co-Chairs	geolakaye@verizon.net	
	Trish Bendler.....	301-540-5160
	patricia_bendler09@comcast.net	
Insurance and Benefits.....	J. Thomas Hickman.....	301-929-9660
Co-Chairs	CTMAR28@yahoo.com	
	Stephen M. Raucher.....	301-460-9092
	sraucher@comcast.net	
Legislative.....	Jane Hardy.....	301-774-9494
	hjanehardy@aol.com	
MCPSRA Projects.....	Joan Donovan.....	301-253-6099
Co-Chairs	jcjonovan@aol.com	
	Trish Bendler.....	301-540-5160
	patricia_bendler09@comcast.net	
	Jane Hardy.....	301-774-9494
Membership.....	Juliette Trevino	301-460-9670
	jgtrevino@comcast.net	
Newsletter Editor.....	Carol M. Dahlberg.....	301-253-2212
	jdahlberg2@verizon.net	
Nominating.....	Elizabeth P. Doyle.....	301-947-0733
	edoyle3233@aol.com	
Parliamentarian.....	Nickie Neary.....	301-869-0057
	nearynic@msn.com	
Political Action.....	LeeAnn Kaye.....	301-598-5480
	geolakaye@verizon.net	
Public Relations.....	Fred S. Evans.....	301-424-5169
	Fredevans1970@gmail.com	
Recognition.....	Joan Donovan.....	301-253-6099
Co-Chairs	jcjonovan@aol.com	
	Jane Hardy.....	301-774-9494
Scholarship.....	Joy G. Schwab.....	301-253-3294
Co-Chairs	schw35@aol.com	
	Ann Eberly.....	301-766-7550
	anneberly36@myactv.net	
Trips.....	Frieda J. Price.....	301-926-2286
Co-Chairs	fjprice@verizon.net	
	Mary Ann Davis.....	301-253-6256
	giddygam@verizon.net	
Louise S. Walker.....	Richard C. Ahlberg.....	301-251-5560
Scholarship		
MRSPA Membership.....	Elizabeth P. Doyle.....	301-947-0733
Recruitment Chair	edoyle3233@aol.com	

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 9:30 am on the first Thursday of each month with the exception of July. All MCPSRA members are welcome to attend the meetings which will be held in Room 129 in CESC on the following dates:

- December 1, 2011
- January 5, 2012
- February 2, 2012
- March 1, 2012
- April 5, 2012
- May 3, 2012
- June 7, 2012

LUNCHEON DATES

MCPSRA business meetings and luncheons are held at the Golden Bull in Gaithersburg four times a year.

Dates remaining for 2011-2012 are as follows:

- February 23, 2012
- April 26, 2012
- June 14, 2012

Please save these dates. We hope to see you there! You will notice the prices are higher this year. This was necessary due to increased prices. MCPSRA does not make money on the luncheons. These price increases allow MCPSRA to break even.

In Memoriam

**Floris Davisson
Ann M. Jett
Sarah McCullough
William R. Porter
Thomas E. Smith
Gertrude Stanley
Thomas W. Stevenson
Russell Wheeler**

Note: In the October newsletter, George Baker's name was listed in "In Memoriam." George W. Baker is the retiree who died. George E. Baker is alive and well living in Florida.

Printed by the MCPS Editorial, Graphics and Publishing Services

MEMBERSHIP ALERT

MRSPA Membership Chair: Betsy Doyle

MCPSRA Membership Chair: Juliette Trevino

MRSPA is the state "watchdog" of our pension and retirement funds as well as of our health-care coverage. It is up to all of us to help recruit new members. The more members we have, the more attention and support we have in Annapolis. Where do we get these new members? We get them from you, our retirees, of course!! As chairperson of the state membership committee, I challenge all of you to recruit and to sign up just one (1) new member. Please talk to all of your retiree friends and encourage them to sign up if they are not already members. We have included this form for you to give to those who are not yet members.

WE DO NEED YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!!

=====CUT HERE=====

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 _____ Email _____

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

NOTE **Mail to: MRSPA** **MRSPA DUES** **\$45.00**
ADDRESS **8379 Piney Orchard Parkway** **(This includes both state and local dues.)**
 Odenton, MD 21113

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 _____

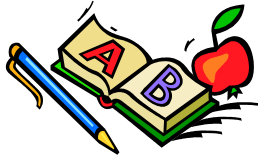
This authorization will remain effect until cancelled by written notice mailed to the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association.

Signature _____ Date _____

NEW MEMBERS – December 2011

Barbara Armstrong-Green	1036 Tanley Rd.	Silver Spring, MD 20904	301-622-5846
Rosemary Baugher	2534 Monocacy Bottom Rd	Adamstown, MD 2170	301-831-8817
Mary Gale Brown	5326 Wye Creek Dr.	Frederick, MD 21703	
Barbara A. Deitsch	2 Avondale Dr.	Ocean View, DE 19970	302-539-7627
Joan Hanley	536 Azalea Dr.	Rockville, MD 20850	301-279-0492
Clare E. Keller	4515 Willard Ave. #214	Chevy Chase, MD 20815	301-221-3215
Alicia Krape	4406 Edgebrook Rd.	Silver Spring, MD 296	301-942-4274
Janice A. McCall	4808 Moorland Lane	Bethesda, MD 20814	
Karen Otis	14613 Brookmead Dr.	Darnestown, MD 20874	301-948-3875
Suzanne Lee Peang-Meth	1361 Teakwood Lane	Germantown, MD 20874	301-972-1251
Alan J. Schneider	7305 Swan Point Way	Columbia, MD 21045	
Tanya Settles	15606 Glastonbury Way	Upper Marlboro, MD 20774	301-627-0972
Eleanor K. Shutak	4814 Eades St.	Rockville, MD 20853	31-942-8150

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EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO LEARN

Are you aware that our association’s **Toolkits, Books, and Backpacks Project**, besides winning local, state, and national awards, has now gone to even greater heights and recognition through the world wide web and other far-reaching media? It’s true! All of you who have faithfully donated your time, talents, money, and other resources to assuring the success of this project during the eight years of its existence are responsible for helping our project evolve into what it is today and should share in the notoriety that it has achieved.

In September of 2008, the National Retired Teachers Association, AARP’s Educator Community, presented MCPSRA with their Excellence Award at their Ninth Annual NRTA *With Our Youth!* National Awards Banquet in Washington, DC. That is where it all began! Since then AARP has contacted our project committee chairperson several times for additional information about our project and what we do that leads to its success year after year. AARP consulted with us as they initiated their *Created the Good* national program and their *Equipped to Learn Campaign*. In October of last year, Joan Donovan, project coordinator and committee co-chairperson, and our Toolkits, Books, and Backpacks Project were featured on the AARP website (to read this article go to: <http://createthegood.org/article/5907?promo=inspiring-stories>) to inspire individuals across the nation to start similar projects or to donate school supplies to needy children in their communities as the new school year began. This past summer AARP called upon Joan to share the story of our project with millions of listeners throughout the nation in a broadcast interview called *AARP Prime Time Focus* that aired on approximately 500 radio stations. And then, in September, Kathy Kines from the AARP Office of Volunteer and Civil Engagement and Karen Reyes from their California office requested that Joan become even more involved with their *Create the Good* volunteers website when they wrote a feature article called “Meet Two Experts Who Make a Difference With Youth” and created a volunteer chat room where individuals in other states could post comments and ask questions about our project. Joan was thrilled to be considered an expert and to be able to share the story of our project’s success in the hopes that others will initiate similar projects that benefit children throughout the United States. Several people shared how impressed they were with the magnitude and scope of our project and asked advice on what they needed to do to get started, too. (Go to: www.aarp.org/volunteerchat and select *Create the Good* group chat room.)

So, there it is! We’ve gone big time! As we embark on the ninth year of our project, we cannot sit back on our laurels and feast on our past successes. Each year it has become harder and harder to raise the funds necessary to provide the same level of services through our project to our county’s needy summer school children. Our expenses for this past summer were just shy of \$20,000 but our fundraising efforts for the year only netted a little over \$17,000. Luckily, the association’s budget includes \$2,000 for our project. That, along with a small fund balance carried over from last year, enabled us to meet our goal. But we desperately need every member to step forward this year and sponsor at least one toolkit (and hopefully more!). On the AARP website there is a quote by Ethel Percy Andrus: “The Challenge, to live up to our better selves, to believe well of our fellow men and perhaps by doing so to help create the good, to experiment, to explore, to change, and to grow.” Help *Create the Good* by equipping children with the things they need to help them learn. Donate to our **Toolkits, Books, and Backpacks Project** today.

----- detach here -----
MCPSRA TOOLKITS SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please provide (print clearly) the following information and mail it along with a check (payable to: **MCPS Educational 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 _____

WINNER OF 2011 FALL GOLF OUTING

JIM MEEHAN

The 21st MCPSRA Annual Golf Outing was held at the Laytonsville Golf Course on a chilly but sunny day October 28, 2011. The best score of the day was by Jim Meehan, with an outstanding round of 80. The lowest net score of 72 was achieved by Tom McAulliffe, an excellent golfer who usually finishes in the winner's circle.

Other prize winners included the following:

- 2nd low gross Dick Ryan
- 3rd low gross Frank Sweeney
- 2nd low net Ralph Bunge
- 3rd low net Joe Scallion
- Closest to pin #5 Dick Ryan
- Closest to pin #16 Ralph Bunge
- High Net Jane McAulliffe
- High Gross Fred Evans

Our thanks go to Bruce McKay and Harvey Strine for their handling of the outing details and scoring with the Callaway System and to Harry Swope for his help scoring. Others who contributed to the success of this year's outing include the following:

- MCTFCU for umbrellas
- Bill Barrett for two dozen golf balls
- Mark Diley, pro, for a free golf lesson (won by Fred Evans)
- Wayne Rohauer, Montgomery County Golf, for two free rounds of golf for 4 players
- Mike Grantham, Assistant Pro, Laytonsville Golf Course, for two free rounds for 4 players at Laytonsville Golf Course
- Tom Hendershot Financial Group for a free round of golf for 4 players at Montgomery Village Golf Club
- Meeder Financial for four \$50 gift certificates at Montgomery County Golf shops
- Eric Mills and George Thomas for \$50 donations to the Scholarship Fund

Thanks to all who helped to enrich the MCPSRA Scholarship Fund through this outing.

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS

The MCPSRA and Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) would like to know about your volunteer activities. Included would be such activities as volunteering with hospice, hospitals, church groups, schools, community groups and food banks. Each year MRSPA recognizes volunteers and we would like to have members of MCPSRA well represented.

Contact Trish Bendler, the MRSPA Community Service Committee Chair, to inform her of your volunteer activities or ask for further information. She may be contacted at Trish

Bendler, 13341 White Church Circle, Germantown, MD 20874 or patricia_bendler09@comcast.net or 301-540-5160.



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EXCERPTS FROM "CONSUMER CONNECTION"

This publication of the MRSPA Consumer Education Committee provides the following tips and information:

- ***Emails You Did Not Send.***

If people are getting emails from you that you did not send, someone has probably gained access to your account or you may have a virus. This is happening most often with web-based email such as AOL or Yahoo.

What to do: Run your antivirus software to be sure a virus is not present. You don't have a virus, so change your password. Then go to your account management page and review and/or change the information that you find there. Fortunately, this is not happening frequently—especially if you keep your virus software updated.

- ***Helpful Websites***

www.AllAboutBirds.org – This is a bird identification guide. Photos and videos are from Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

www.Ready.gov – This will help you make a family emergency plan.

www.Recreation.gov – This is a comprehensive source on recreation opportunities at National Parks, forests, monuments and other federal lands.

www.DialAHuman.com – and

www.GetHuman.com – These sites let you bypass automated phone menus. They list customer service numbers and tell you how to bypass them.

www.Riddler.com – Have some fun on your computer. Play CyberDarts, IQ Trivia, Wheel of Fortune and others for free.

- ***Believe It or Not***

Purple, violet and lavender enhance your brain power. These colors have a surprisingly strong effect on your ability to think and therefore achieve.

Proposed Amendments to By-Laws

The MCPSRA By-Laws require any amendment must be publicized to the membership and voted upon at an announced Membership Meeting. Our next Luncheon, scheduled for February 23, 2012, will begin with a general membership meeting at which time you will be asked to vote on the following by-law changes. These changes have been endorsed by the Board of Directors and are recommended for your approval.

Amendment # 1 -Article V – Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of MCPSRA shall be President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, **and** Treasurer. ~~and Assistant Treasurer.~~

Section 3. The term of office of the President, Vice-President, and Recording Secretary shall be two years. The term of office of the Treasurer ~~and Assistant Treasurer~~ shall be three years. ~~No person shall be elected to the same office more than two successive terms.~~

Rational:

(a) Assistant Treasurer is no longer necessary and has been unfilled for several years, (b) If an individual is performing a job well, there should be no impediment to continuing in office. If an individual is NOT performing, the nomination/election process is available to replace him/her.

Amendment # 2: Article IX – Duties of Officers

DELETE

~~Section 6. The Assistant Treasurer shall:~~

- ~~a. Collect and deposit fees from members for luncheon meetings and provide a written report of receipts to the Treasurer;~~
- ~~b. Prepare name tags and meal tickets for those who make luncheon reservations, distribute them at the meeting, and provide a list of those attending to the Recording Secretary; and~~
- ~~c. Assist the Treasurer as the need arises.~~

Renumber all subsequent Sections and articles

Rational: *Officer is unnecessary and eliminated by Amendment # 1 above*

Amendment # 3: - Article VII – Meetings

Section 1. ~~Three~~ **Four** luncheon-business meetings shall be held each fiscal year – one in October, one in **February, one in** April, and one in June.

Section 2. Additional meetings may be called by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. [no change]

Rational: *Conform to current practice*

What's My Number ???

Recently, I went to withdraw some money from my MCPS Sponsored 403b Retirement Account. The process is relatively easy and is all done “on-line.” However, I couldn’t get past the sign-on screen as I needed three pieces of information – my name and Social Security number (no problem) and my employee ID number (What’s that?)

As I investigated further, I discovered that MCPS assigned each of us an Employee ID Number (separate from the Social Security number). I understand that was done, at least partially, to stop the wide spread use of Social Security numbers and thus protect our identities from fraud or abuse. It is now the “key” to the MCPS personnel and payroll systems. Active and recently retired folks saw this number on every paycheck stub and official MCPS form. However, many of us retired before the use of this number became commonplace and we may have no idea what that number is. Now we have to know it to access such things as our retirement accounts. HELP!

Good news! There are multiple ways you can learn your number. First, you should check the mailing label of **Retiring Times**, the quarterly newsletter sent to your home by MCPS. It is printed on that label. Second, if you carry health insurance through UnitedHealthcare, like Medicare Supplement, it is listed on your insurance card as your Subscriber ID. If you are not able to locate your employee ID in either of those places, you can contact the MCPS Employee and Retiree Service Center directly and request it. They are available by phone at 301-517-8100 or e-mail at ERSC@mcpsmd.org.

MCPS has been very responsive in rapidly providing the number upon request and will also emphasize the fact that it is part of your address label in the next issue of **Retiring Times**. So, fear not – you can get your number!

Steve Raucher, Vice President

MRSPA 36TH CONVENTION

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association held its 36th convention on September 13-15, 2011, at the Wisp Resort Hotel and Conference Center. MCPSRA was represented by Ken Muir, Betsy Doyle, Kass Ahlers, Joy Schwab, Julie Trevino and Jerry and Lois Frick.

We all had a great time doing activities and attending meetings and, of course, eating. Some memorable moments include the long ride to McHenry, MD; lodging in the Wisp Resort Hotel; exhibits; hospitality room; delicious food – bar-b-que dinner, Western buffet, Santa Fe Grille, DC Restaurant; bingo; fitness activities – walking, swimming, golf, dancing, etc.; general sessions, speakers; break-out sessions; entertainment; door prizes; parade of presidents and area directors; and not much sleep.

Following all of this was the long ride home talking about all we had experienced. More of us should plan to go to the next convention. It will be well worth it.

MCPSRA COMMITTEES

At the October 27, 2011, luncheon, President Joy Schwab introduced the members of the Board of Directors. During the luncheon, several people indicated that they would like to know what the committees do. In the newsletters, information will be provided regarding the responsibilities of the committees.

Archives Committee...What Is It?

According to the dictionary, an archive is “a particular collection of documents.” MCPSRA has such a collection of documents. They are housed in three file cabinets at The Concord School in Bethesda. This collection has many, many items pertaining to our association since its beginning. It contains letters, pictures, awards, financial records, choral music (used by the chorus), and much, much more. Any member who would like to see what is in the archives may contact Betsy Doyle at edoyle3233@aol.com or 301-947-0733 and we can have an afternoon of reminiscing. Also, if you have anything about Montgomery County school system that you think would be worth while saving, please let Betsy know.

Auditing Committee

Each year an independent auditor is hired to review the MCPSRA financial records and provides a report to the Board of Directors. The last report indicated that the finances are in good order.

Budget Development Committee

In the spring, the committee members develop a budget for the following year based on requests from the officers and committee chairs. The budget is then published and presented to members of MCPSRA during a business meeting that precedes the scheduled luncheon.

Join a committee: If you would like to become involved and serve on a committee, contact the chairperson listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

A WANT AD?

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 camera ready in the mail

Deadlines for future Newsletters are as follows:

January 6, 2012 for the February 2012 issue

March 2, 2012 for the April 2012 issue

May 4, 2010 for the June 2012 issue

Send advertising copy (jdahlberg2@verizon.net) or by 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

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(301) 762-8900

PARKING INFORMATION

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

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, you will get a letter with up-to-date information, including parking details. 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 published deadline, 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. **We do not provide transportation to and from the airport for trips that require flying.**

Those 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.

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

MCPSRA TRIPS in 2011-2012

All trips are listed and described on the web site:

www.mcpsretirees.org

2011 Trips

December ? White House Holiday Tour

NOTE for those who signed up for this tour:

When we are notified of the date and time, we may include breakfast OR lunch as part of the trip. Cost of the meal would be on your own and would be at a very nice restaurant.

2012 Trips

March 5 or 8 Philadelphia Flower Show
Theme: Hawaii

April 2 Odyssey Luncheon Cruise
April 17 Renwick Museum and National Portrait Gallery

April 27 Bermuda Cruise
April 29-May 3 Myrtle Beach and Charleston
July 18 Sight and Sound Theatre : JONAH
Details in February newsletter

September 10-13 Finger Lakes, New York
Details in February newsletter

November 3 Hawaii Cruise

PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

Monday, March 5, 2012

Theme: HAWAII, ISLANDS OF ALOHA

Visitors will be immersed in the flora and culture of the six BIG ISLANDS OF HAWAII. A giant wave of white orchids and palms, a living wall of tropical plants, towering waterfalls, hula dancers, torch-twirlers and a Hawaiian Village of shops and craft demonstrations will be among the highlights.

***Since weather is such an unpredictable factor for trips in March, our alternate date in case of inclement weather is **Thursday, March, 8, 2010**. Please reserve both dates on your calendar. **Tickets are non-refundable.**

9:00 am Depart Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
 12:00 noon Arrive Philadelphia Flower Show
 Afternoon and lunch on own
 5:00 pm Depart Philadelphia
 8:00 pm Arrive back at Norbeck Park and Ride Lot

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE passenger motor coach, admission to Flower Show, taxes and gratuities
Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator
Cost: \$80.00 per person
Due date: January 26, 2012

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

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

ANNUAL ODYSSEY LUNCHEON CRUISE

Monday April 2, 2012

Join us as we enjoy good food, good service and good company while cruising down the beautiful Potomac on the ODYSSEY III, the only craft of its kind in the U.S. Outside decks and glass ceilings provide panoramic views of cherry blossoms, historic national monuments and Washington skyline.

9:00 am Depart Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
10:00 noon Drive through monuments as time permits
11:00 pm Board ODYSSEY III
11:30am-2:00pm Luncheon and Cruise
3:00 pm Approximate time of return

Included: Transportation on deluxe EYRE passenger motor coach, luncheon and cruise on the ODYSSEY including taxes and gratuities
Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator
Cost: \$91.00 per person
Due date: February 28, 2012

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

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

RENWICK MUSEUM AND NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Tuesday April 17, 2012

The first Gallery we'll visit will be the Renwick to see "**Splendor in the Past**," an exhibit which showcases some of the White House's décor. There are ninety-five objects on display including the coverlet for the Lincoln Bedroom crocheted by Grace Coolidge. The collection has been organized in celebration of the White House Historical Association which was formed fifty years ago. Many of the selections for this exhibit were made because of the great stories associated with the items.

The second stop will be the Portrait Gallery and a chance to view "**One Life, Ronald Reagan**," in celebration of the centennial birthday of our fortieth President. The exhibit focuses on his early years in Illinois and goes through his acting career and his political career up to his presidency from 1981-1989.

9:00 am Depart Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
12:00 noon Ride to second gallery
3:00 pm Return to Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE passenger motor coach, travel between galleries
Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator
Cost: \$30.00 per person Lunch on your own.
Due date: March 27, 2012

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

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

MYRTLE BEACH – CHARLESTON

April 29-May 3, 2012

Day 1 7 am Depart-Rest stops and lunch stop (on own)
5 pm Arrive at Myrtle Beach
6:30 pm Dinner at a local restaurant
Day 2 After a full breakfast, is a free day to relax and enjoy beach and amenities at the hotel.
Later in day, we travel to Broadway at the Beach for browsing, shopping and dinner on your own.
(Go to Google for description of Broadway at the Beach.)
Day 3 Depart for a fun and historic day in Charleston. Visit the famous Magnolia Plantation. Tour the house and gardens. Lunch is on your own.
Enjoy a narrated Harbor Cruise around Charleston Harbor which features the history of the Old South.
We'll have a city tour with a step-on-guide of historic sights. Afterwards, we visit the City Market Place for browsing, shopping and dinner on own.
8:00 pm Return to hotel
Day 4 Free day for activities of your own choosing.
Optional Trip to Brookgreen Gardens. (Go to Google for information On the Gardens.) The cost of \$10:00 is not included
Dinner and show.
Day 5 8:00 am depart for home. Rest stops and lunch stop (on own)
6:00 pm Approximate arrival time

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE passenger motor coach, 4 nights lodging, 4 full breakfast buffet, 2 dinners, 1 show, sightseeing in Charleston, taxes and tolls.
Transportation to Broadway at the Beach and Brookgreen Gardens
Baggage handling: 1 bag per person
Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator and tour guide.
Cost: \$769.00 per person double; \$969 single
Deposit due date: February 17, 2012- Deposit of \$150
Due date: March 22, 2012- Balance due

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

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

BERMUDA

With ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISE LINES
on ENCHANTMENT OF THE SEAS
7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS
April 27, 2012

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
1	Baltimore, Maryland		4:30 pm
2	Cruising		
3	King's Wharf, Bermuda	3:00 pm	Overnight
4	King's Wharf, Bermuda		Overnight
5	King's Wharf, Bermuda		12:00 pm
6	Cruising		
7	Baltimore, MD	7:00 am	

Inside Cabin Category M \$740
Outside Cabin Category I \$840
Balcony Cabin Category D1 \$1,210

**Rates are per person, double occupancy, and include cruise, port charges and government fees.*

VALID PASSPORT REQUIRED

DEPOSIT POLICY: An initial deposit of \$350.00 per person double occupancy or \$700 per person single occupancy is required to secure reservations and assign cabin. Final balance is due January 12, 2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT FRIEDA PRICE at 301-926-2286 or MARY ANN DAVIS at 301-253-6256.

FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT GRAND AMERICAN TOURS AT 800-423-0247.

We saw spectacular foliage on our trip to Vermont in October.



HAWAII

With NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE
on the PRIDE OF AMERICA
8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS
NOVEMBER 3, 2012

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
1	Honolulu		7:00 pm
2	Maui (Kahului)	8:00 am	Overnight
3	Maui (Kahului)		6:00 pm
4	Hilo	8:00 am	6:00 pm
5	Kona	7:00 am	6:00pm
6	Kauai	8:00 am	Overnight
7	Kauai		2:00 pm
8	Honolulu	7:00 am	

Inside Cabin Category IC \$2,625
Outside Cabin Category OA \$2,915
Balcony Cabin Category BD \$3,085

**Rates are per person, double occupancy, and include roundtrip airfare from BWI, cruise, port charges and government fees, taxes, and transfers to and from ship. Norwegian Cruise Line has advised that all air prices are subject to change and are not guaranteed until full payment has been received.*

DEPOSIT POLICY: An initial deposit of \$350 per person double occupancy or \$700 per person single occupancy is required to secure reservations and assign cabins. Monthly payments will be accepted. Final balance is due July 20, 2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT FRIEDA PRICE – 301-926-2286. FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT GRAND AMERICAN TOURS, 5 S. MORTON AVE, MORTON, PA 19070– (800)423-0247

Cruise with us to Bermuda from Baltimore Harbor or in Hawaii via BWI.



RESERVATION FORMS

PHILADELPHIA FLOWER-- SHOW March 5, 2012 (alternate weather date March 8, 2012)

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

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

*Cell phone# _____

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ANNUAL ODYSSEY LUNCHEON CRUISE—April 2, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

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

*Cell phone# _____

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A DAY FOR ART IN WASHINGTON, D.C.- Tuesday, April 17, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

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

*Cell phone# _____

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MYRTLE BEACH – CHARLESTON- April 29-May 3, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Address _____

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

Address if different from above _____

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

*Cell phone# _____



MCPSRA Luncheon/Business Meeting

GOLDEN BULL GRAND CAFÉ

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

Luncheon: 12:00 noon

Next Luncheon Date

February 23, 2012

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June.

This is the December 2011 issue.

**Montgomery County Public Schools
MCPS Retirees Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 4367
Rockville, MD 20849**

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