

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

CO-PRESIDENTS	Lee Shoff president@aarp5226.org Maureen Eisenhart president@aarp5226.org	539-6952 988-1196
1 st VICE-PRESIDENT	Rosemarie Kistenmacher r.kistenmacher.ov@gmail.com	443-745-0930
2 nd VICE PRESIDENT	Jim Harding jameshrdq@yahoo.com	537-5206
SECRETARY	Marie Thomas bettybop33743@mchsi.com	541-0603
ASST. SECRETARY	Sharon Tweedie bbtweedie@verizon.net	541-5462
TREASURER	Carolyn Kelly ckelly2@aol.com	537-2598
ASST. TREASURER	Lillian Sneddon clansneddon@mchsi.com	539-2497

DIRECTORS

Gary Meredith	Past President	539-0532
Andrea Gowetski	2012-2014	541-4751
Dottie McGovern	2012-2014	436-2335
Claudia Howard	2013-2015	541-4995
Kathy Tirella	2013-2015	436-4007
Al Thomas	2014-2016	591-6086
Jeannette Douthwaite	2014-2016	829-1377

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joan Thomas, Chair	2014-2015	539-1367
Dave Jaeger	2014-2015	436-5173
Valerie Reeves	2014-2015	539-8212
Lois Rubinson	2013-2014	537-2906
Anna Woodrum	2013-2014	537-0826

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Sandra McGrath Kathy Lesperance	537-7709 537-7845
Legislative/ Environmental	Robert Chin Robert Gallagher	539-1393 541-4569
Membership Programs	Janet Shroy Rosemarie Kistenmacher	537-2786 443-745-0930
Public Relations Scholarship	Bette Meredith Shirley Price Ione Phillips	539-0532 539-6738 539-2172
Tours	Jim Harding	537-5206

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Blood Bank	Kathy Brendel	537-2395
Chorus	Ann Jaeger	436-5173
Hostess/Luncheon	Roberta Shoff	539-6952
Newsletter	Andrea Gowetski	541-4751
Sunshine	Joan Wolf	541-0513
Webmaster	Ralph Brown webmaster@aarp5226.org	539-8169

PUBLIC ADVOCATE FOR DE WILL BE OUR MARCH 18 SPEAKER AT CRIPPLE CREEK



David Bonar has headed the Public Advocate's office for Delaware since mid-2013.

The Public Advocate's office represents customers of regulated utilities in rate cases before the Public Service Commission, including those involving electricity, natural gas, water, waste water, basic cable television and land line phones.

Mr. Bonar will describe his recent efforts as Public Advocate and answer your questions about rates and rate increases for various public utilities of interest.

The luncheon menu will feature:

Rueben Sandwich with a side of Coleslaw **OR**
Vegetable Quiche with a side of Kale Salad (kale, shallots, lemon juice, olive oil, parmesan cheese.) **OR**
1/2 Turkey Panini with Melted Brie, Sliced Apples, and Dijon Mustard, served on a Cabatta Panini with a Cup of Maryland Crab Soup

Beverages include Ice Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, and Water. Dessert will consist of Plates of Brownies and Cookies.

Doors open at 11 am for social hour with lunch at 12 noon followed by the program and chapter news and announcements.

Cost: \$16 members and \$17, guests.

Members may make their lunch reservations by calling **Peggy Bennett, 539-7456**, or **Mary Ann Dougherty at 541-9412**. by noon, **Thursday, March 13**. To cancel after the deadline, please contact **Pat Mann at 947-1636**. **Cancellations after the deadline or no-shows must be paid.**

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Legislative/Environmental - Bob Chin/Chuck Schonder

In the dozen years since I moved to Delaware, my electric bill had doubled and my water costs had quadrupled. The elderly tend to use more utilities because we are at home a lot. We like it cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. We watch TV longer and flush more often. An AARP study found utilities account for a higher percentage of expenditures for the elderly than younger age groups, by as much as 10%. For us, the price must be fair.

In Delaware, the Public Service Commission oversees the costs of electricity, natural gas heating, water, waste water, telephones and cable TV. The Public Advocate is charged to "principally advocate on behalf of residential and small business consumers". In the case of electricity, the utility makes most of its' money from "costs" (building infrastructure and placing equipment in service) plus a profit margin. In essence, the more money they spend, the more money they make. The trick is for the PSC and the utilities to agree on what are the costs. A job for experts and lawyers.

The ordinary consumer is no match for the Delmarva, Tidewater and MediaComs of this world. The Public Advocate is supposed to even the odds and to speak for us. He cannot do this without hearing from you. David Bonar, our current PA, will speak at our March luncheon meeting. Here is your chance to learn, ask questions and express your opinions. An educated and expressive consumer is the best defense against the ever rising cost of utilities.

Membership – Janet Shroy

Please welcome 13 new members for the month of February 2014: Carolyn Bacon, Frank & Nancy Cote, Roger & Sylvia Cullen, Lana Ward, Frank Jones, Kathleen O'Donnell, Mary Pantos, Paul & Juliana Ducott, Annlee Goetter, and Raymond Sudina.

Total Members - 486

Community Service - Kathy Lesperance/Sandra McGrath

Dental Program: Thank you for your generous donations of children's toothpaste. AARP had another successful Dental Program lead by Dr. James Kramer at Phillip Showell School in Selbyville, on February 5. Our thanks to Dr. James Kramer for once again participating in this very important program.

Food Bank: We are still in need of food for the food pantry. These contributions of non-perishable items are needed to help many needy families in our area stretch their food dollars. Please check the dates and bring **unexpired** items to each meeting.

Coupons for Military Families: Please bring your clipped, unexpired coupons (good for 90 days after expiration) to the chapter meeting. Be sure **not** to clip off the **bar code** and **expiration date**. Please sort according to food and non-food items. Mary is also collecting cereal box top coupons.

SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

You and your friends are invited to a Luncheon/Tea with background music by Ernie Fehnel on Tuesday, April 1, at Cripple Creek Country Club.

The net proceeds will support HOME OF THE BRAVE, located in Milford, DE. This is a new facility, for homeless female veterans and their children, who are transitional after serving our country. This fundraiser will enable us to purchase a computer for their study hall.

A reservation form is included in this newsletter. Please support our veterans. To learn more about this organization go to <http://homeofthebravefdn.org/>

Scholarships - Shirley Price/Ione Phillips

Plans are underway for the Seventh Annual Artisans Fair to be held at Lord Baltimore School from **9 AM to 3 PM** on **Saturday, May 24**. This invitation-only craft show is the major annual fundraiser for the chapter's Scholarship Fund.

The fair will feature more than 40 crafters in all media. Other features of the fair include a large

bake sale, an auction featuring contributions from the exhibitors, 50/50 and concessions.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

AARP Sponsored Book Club

The AARP Book Group will be meeting on Thursday, March 6, to discuss "The Black Count" by Tom Reiss. This is the real life story of Alex Dumas, father of the writer Alexandre Dumas. The group meets from 10:30 AM until noon at the South Coastal Library. All are welcome!

Bowling – Gary Meredith

With seven weeks left in the season, the Alley Cats led by Ginger Collins and Ray Thibeault hold a slim lead in the standings. Only two games separate the first five teams. Lee Hall continues to lead the men with a 190 average. Ann Hurley leads the women with a 171 average. The league bowls on Mondays at **2 PM** at the Millsboro Lanes. Persons interested in joining the league should contact **Gary Meredith** at **539-0532**.

Chorus--Ann Jaeger

The AARP Chorus is back in session after the holidays. We are working on a few new pieces as well as some old favorites. If you have been thinking of joining us, now is a great time to do so. We can all learn at the same time. We really need some men, all types of voices, and new women are always welcome. We have a great time! We practice at the South Coastal Library on Wednesdays, 10 AM to noon. No tryouts! Just come and enjoy singing! Call **Ann Jaeger** at **436-5173** for information.

Blood Bank - Kathy Brendel

To make a Bloodmobile appointment, call **1-800-548-4009**. The bloodmobile will be at St. Ann's in Bethany on **Wednesday, March 12** from **8:30 AM** until **1:30 PM** and on **Friday, April 25** from **8:30 AM** until **1:30 PM**. The dates for Selbyville have yet to be determined. For information contact Kathy **(302) 537-2395**.

Driver's Safety Classes--Gloria DeMartino

The Standard Driver's Class is for those who have never taken a class or if it has been more than

three years. The next Standard Class is scheduled for **Monday, April 7** from **10 AM** to **4 PM**. **NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FROM 9 AM**. To register, call **Gloria** at **(302) 934-9727**.

Refresher Classes are for drivers who have previously taken the Standard Driver's Safety Class. You must take the Refresher Class every **three** years in order to qualify for a discount on your auto liability insurance.

Refresher Classes are scheduled for: **Monday, March 3** (CLASS IS FILLED) and **Monday, May 5** from **10 AM** to **2 PM**. **NOTE TIME CHANGE FROM 9 AM**. To register, call **Gloria** at **(302) 934-9727** and **Monday, June 2** from **9 AM** to **1 PM**. To register, call **Reno** at **(302) 537-4877**.

All classes are held at the South Coastal Library in Bethany Beach. The cost is **\$15** for AARP members and **\$20** for non-members. Younger drivers are welcome and qualify for a discount on their auto liability insurance.

Sunshine - Joan Wolf

if you know of anyone who needs a card, please contact **Joan Wolf** at **541-0513**.

No-Cost Income Tax Returns

Again this year, the AARP Tax-Aide program will offer free tax return assistance and preparation to taxpayers with low and moderate incomes, with special attention to those 60 and older. Taxpayers do not need to be members of AARP to use this service. In the Bethany Beach area, the service will be offered at St. Ann's Church, Route 26, Monday through Thursday during the morning hours, beginning February 3. **Call 302-858-3575 for an appointment**. For information about other Tax-Aide locations, call the toll-free number, 1-888-AARP NOW (1-888-227-7669), or visit the Web site at www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Fitness, Fun and Fellowship

At our February meeting Mr. Paul Gatty, from The Senior Olympics of Delaware, was our speaker. If you would like to learn more about the DSO, please go to www.delawaresenirolympics.org. The website has lots of information on activities that may be of interest to you and will link you to other organizations.

CHAPTER TRIPS

2014

April 24

Baltimore Inner Harbor - Visit the Aquarium, shop on your own. We will stop at Trader's Joe's on the way home. **Price: \$60** includes aquarium fee, bus transportation, and driver's gratuity.

May 7

Kinky Boots - NYC hilarious comedy. Story of a struggling shoe factory owner whose boots are beautiful but expensive. Unless he comes up with a new boots model that will wow buyers at the next show in Milan he will have to close the factory. By chance he meets diva drag queen Lola. **Price: \$188** includes transportation, orchestra seats and driver gratuity. Lunch on your own.

May 15

Annapolis - Tour the town, Naval Academy and the Pennsylvania Dutch Amish Market. On the way home, dinner on your own at the Fisherman's Wharf. **Price \$53** includes transportation, driver and guide's gratuity.

New

June 4

Tangier Island and Crisfield, MD - Trip includes bus transportation & drivers tip, boat cruise and time to explore the island with lunch on your own. We will stop at the LONGHORN RESTAURANT on the way home for dinner on your own **Price: \$53**.

June 11 -13

West Virginia Train Trip - 3 days/2 nights includes 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, and 1 lunch on board train. 2 trains in one day (Cheat Mountain Salamander and Durbin Rocket) Performance at the American Mountain Theater, photo stop at the Blackwater Falls and Visit to Historic Village of Beverly, WV. **Price: \$420** per person, double occupancy. Includes taxes, meal and driver gratuities, baggage handling, motor coach transportation,

Sept 9-11

Finger Lakes Wine Tour - 3days/2 nights includes 2 nights hotel, 2 breakfast, 1 lunch on board Seneca Lake boat cruise, 2 winery dinners with wine tasting, 1 dinner at historic castle on Seneca Lake, Seneca Lake boat cruise with 2 wine tastings. Admission to the Corning Museum of Glass with a special Hot Glass Show for our AARP group. **Price: \$517** based on double occupancy. Standard taxes, meal gratuities, baggage handling, motor coach transportation, and driver's tip included.

Oct 1

Fassetos Murder - Mystery dinner at Cock 'n Bull Restaurant in Peddler's Village in historic Bucks County, PA. Includes dinner, show, bus, tax, and gratuities. **Price: \$85**.

Oct 20-23

Cape Cod, MA - 4 days/3 nights includes 3 hotel nights, 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners including 1 lobster, welcome reception upon arrival, scenic ferry ride to tour Nantucket Island, Cape National Seashore tour, guided tour of Provincetown along scenic Route 6A, wine tasting with souvenir glass, guided tour of Chatham and historic Newport, RI. **Price: \$574** based on double occupancy. Standard taxes, meal gratuities, baggage handling, motor coach transportation and driver's tip included.

Dec 3-4

New York City Christmas - 2 day trip, tour NY City (Brooklyn Christmas lights Dyker section) shop the next day at various bazaars--Bryant Park, St. Bart's Church and the Train station. **Price: \$282** based on double occupancy.

2015

Jan. 23 – Feb. 2, – Cruise on the new Royal Caribbean's "Quantum of the Seas." This ship offers many amazing features including an observation pod, a skydiving simulator, a large sports complex and an entertainment hub. We'll cruise from Cape Liberty New Jersey with stops in San Juan, Puerto Rico; Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas; Basseterre, St. Kitts; and Philipsburg, St. Maarten. Prices range from \$1599 to \$2029 per person, depending upon cabin selection and includes all meals, port charges, taxes and transportation to and from Cape Liberty Pier. Go to aarp5226.org and select the Travel section for more details about the cruise and the ship. **There has been an increase in room prices. Book now before prices increase again.**

(Go to www.aarp5226.org for more details about the many trips offered.)

A three-payment plan is used for all overnight trips: 25% initial deposit; 25% 90 days from the trip; 50% 55 days from the trip. Trip payments should be mailed to: South Coastal AARP Tour Committee, C/O Jim Harding, 90 Neptune Drive, Frankford, DE 19945

DISCLAIMER: These tours are a project of and are offered to the South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226 of AARP. The chapter and any agent it may use in arranging these or any other tours are not responsible in whole or in part to the tour member for any loss, damage, or injury, whether financial or otherwise, to persons or property, however caused during or in connection with these or any other tours. These tours are activities conducted by South Coastal DE AARP #5226 and are in no way offered, sponsored, or conducted by AARP, which has no responsibility in connection with such tours. **Lee Shoff and Maureen Eisenhart Co- Presidents**

Trip Reservations: To make a reservation for any trip, contact **Jim or Maria Harding, (302) 537-5206. (jameshrdg@yahoo.com)** Make checks payable to: **South Coastal AARP Tour Committee** and send to **South Coastal AARP Tour Committee, C/O Jim Harding, 90 Neptune Drive, Frankford, DE. 19945.** Indicate trip you are signing up for on your check.

Trip Rules

- Payment is preferred at time of registration and must be made no later than 30 days after registration.
- Reservations made within 30 days of a scheduled trip must be paid at time of registration.
- No refunds for payments can be given unless a substitution can be made. If a trip is cancelled by the Tour Committee, full refunds will be provided to all paid participants.
- To cancel a trip 48 hours or less before departure, contact the tour escort for that trip.
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed on buses during chapter-sponsored trips.
- **Price subject to change:** If the price of diesel fuel increases by more than 20% between the date of the contract with Bus Company and the date of the charter, the Tour Committee may charge a fuel surcharge to participants.

March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	<p>3 Driver's Refresher Class South Coastal Library 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</p> <p>Tour Committee 10:30 a.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Bowling 2 p.m. Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>4 Community Service Com. 10:30 a .m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Legislative Committee - 1 p.m. South Coastal Library</p>	<p>5 Chorus - 10 a.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Crafts - 10 a.m. Clearwater Village Club House</p>	<p>6 AARP Book Club South Coastal Library - 10:30 - Noon</p>	7	8
9 Daylight Savings Begins	<p>10 Bowling 2 p.m. Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>11 AARP Board Meeting 10 a.m. South Coastal Library</p> <p>Scrabble 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Grotto's on Route 26</p>	<p>12 Bloodmobile St. Ann's 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Chorus - 10 a.m. South Coastal Library</p>	<p>13 Deadline Luncheon Reservations/ Cancellations 12 noon</p>	<p>14 Bloodmobile St. Ann's 8:40 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</p>	15
16	<p>17  St. Patrick's Day</p> <p>Bowling 2 p.m. Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>18 Chapter Luncheon - 12 noon Meeting 1 p.m. Cripple Creek Country Club</p>	<p>19 Chorus - 10 a.m. South Coastal Library</p>	20	21	22
23	<p>24 Bowling 2 p.m. Millsboro Lanes</p>	<p>25 Scrabble 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Grotto's on Route 26</p>	<p>26 Chorus - 10 a.m. South Coastal Library</p>	27	28	29
30	<p>31 Bowling 2 p.m. Millsboro Lanes</p>					

South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226

Of AARP, Inc.

P.O. Box 225

Ocean View, DE 19970

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NEWSLETTER

**Plan to attend the Tea/Luncheon at Cripple
Creek Country Club on April 1, 2014. Proceeds
to benefit Home of the Brave.**

SUPPORT OUR VETERANS



**SOUTH COASTAL AARP CHAPTER 5226
TEA LUNCHEON**

**Tuesday, April 1, 2014
Cripple Creek Country Club
11 AM Social Hour with Cash Bar
12 Noon Welcome and Served Luncheon
Music by Ernie Finhel**

MENU

**Scones with Lemon Curd
Cup of Creamy Tomato Soup
Assorted Tea Sandwiches
(Shrimp, Chicken, Chef's Choices)
Assorted Dessert Miniatures
Tea Service, Coffee, Iced Tea and Lemonade**

Cost: \$25 per person including gratuity

**Proceeds will be donated to the women's division of Home of the
Brave. A homeless veterans shelter in Milford, DE**

RESERVATION FORM

Please complete and return this form with your check made out to AARP Chapter 5226 no later than March 25, 2014 to Sandra McGrath, 37915 William Chandler Blvd., Ocean View, DE 19970.

Member _____ Phone _____

Guest _____ Phone _____

Guest _____ Phone _____

Guest _____ Phone _____

Check to AARP Chapter 5226 for \$ _____ is enclosed

Cancellations after the deadline or no shows must be paid.