

December 1, 2017



Keeping You in the Loop

From the desk of Donna Copenhaver

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

Season's Greetings!

Only 7 more days until Breakfast with Colleagues! There is still time to register, but hurry! *(email Clair Price to register – Brightleaf@comcast.net)*



Only 24 more shopping days until Christmas!

Only 30 more days until the Dutch Apple trip to see White Christmas!

Only 31 days until we usher in 2018!

Time keeps marching along and so does BCRSPA. The Nominating Committee is in the process of seeking candidates for some pivotal Executive Board positions and the various committees are always searching for members. The Social Committee has started planning trips and activities for 2018. Information will be forthcoming in the new year.

Here's hoping you enjoy the holiday season.

Donna

On the Horizon:

- *4th Annual Breakfast with Colleagues, at Columbus Gardens, December 7, 2017@ 9.30am. (email Clair Price to register – Brightleaf@comcast.net)*
- *BCRSPA's holiday trip to the Dutch Apple Theatre on December 30, 2017 to see the holiday favorite, White Christmas (Registration closed.)*
- *Articles due to Editor for March UPDATE Newsletter, January 15, 2018*
- *Executive Board Meeting: January 16, 2018 @ St. Isaac Jogues – Church Hall (Please consider attending. Just eMail me dmcopenhaver@gmail.com for directions and details.*

FYI...

Report: by Parker Koons, Legislative Chairperson

Last week, Judy Zahren and I represented BCRSPA at the annual Legislative Workshop in Annapolis. This is a time that MRSPA introduces its legislative priorities for the upcoming session in January. A state budget overview was presented by the Senior Operating Budget manager who explained how the process works on the state level and the parameters in which the governor and legislators must work. Dean Kenderdine, the Executive Director of the Maryland State Retirement Agency stated that they had reached a funded ratio of over 70%, a little over \$50 billion in assets.

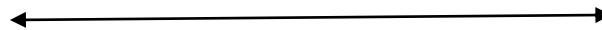


MRSPA's major objectives in 2018 are:

- 1.) To protect the defined benefit pensions through full actuarial funding.
- 2.) To hold legislators accountable for the promised, make up contributions to the state pension system is of great concern to retirees. MRSPA supports all legislation that provides protection from such criminal activities.
- 3.) To support services and communities to help older adults age in place.
- 4.) To advocate for the prevention of abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults.
- 5.) To support legislation that protects all citizens from identify theft and scams
- 6.) To support public education in all Maryland jurisdictions.

Legislators like to hear from their constituents, so if you have any concerns, contact your representative. Contact them at <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/> or call 1-800-472-7122. Individual Representatives addresses are on the BCRSPA website as well as the Shutterfly website.

Parker Koons, Legislative Chair



The Woman's Club of Glyndon Annual Charity Tea

Please join us on Wednesday, December 13th from 11:45 - 3:00 at the clubhouse, [4627 Butler Road, Glyndon 21071](#). All proceeds from the \$20 reservation ticket support local 501 (c-3) charities and schools. Come enjoy a festive luncheon and FUN! Call 410-833-2756.



Quilt for a Cause Raffle!

Have you ever wished you had a gorgeous handmade quilt, but realized it was too expensive to buy? Well now is your opportunity! BCRSPA is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a King size throw quilt, handmade and donated by member Della Curtis. This beautiful quilt has been appraised at \$1,200, but you could take chance to win it for \$1.00 per ticket. The drawing will take place at the Annual Luncheon Meeting in April 2018 (need not be present to win).

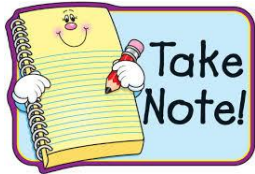


To purchase your chance(s) to win the prize of a life time, contact Parker Koons at 410.828-5852. Tickets will also be available at the Breakfast w/Colleagues on December 7, 2017. All proceeds will go directly to the Scholarship Fund.

Here's a way to support BCRSPA causes and possibly win a valuable quilt. Good Luck!



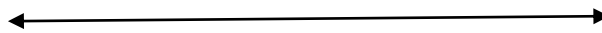
Phone Number Changes



BCRSPA has recently changed phone carriers. Our old system was antiquated and no longer functioning properly. As a result of this change, we now have 3 numbers available for your questions/concerns.

The numbers are:

- **President** 443.793-5867
- **Scholarship** 443.793-6261
- **Membership** 443. 793-626



Join Our Facebook Page For Updates!

BCRSPA's Facebook page encourages group communication and an opportunity for people to share their common interests and express their opinion. It provides a place for members to come together around a common cause, issue or activity to organize, express objectives, and discuss issues, post photos and share related content.



If you would like to join our closed group, simply click the + JOIN box below our profile picture. As long as you are a member of BCRSPA, you can be added to this page. Once your membership is verified, you will be added to the group! Once you join, visit BCRSPA "wall" by searching (top of your window or screen) for BCRSPA

Treasures of Peru

MRSPA is offering a Treasures of Peru excursion in April 2018. A detailed flier is attached. At the current time, not enough people have signed up for the trip to go forward. Six more travelers are needed to ensure the trip leaves as planned.



If you've ever wanted to see Lima, or Cusco, or Machu Picchu, now is your chance! Travel with fellow MRSPA members, or bring along your kids and grandkids, and make it a once-in-a-lifetime family adventure.

The deadline for registration is December 13, 2017. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Odysseys Unlimited at [888-370-6765](tel:888-370-6765).

Longwood Gardens, Kennette Square, PA (Spring 2018)

Interest Survey

Watch as the landscape awakens, and the splendor of spring emerges. With dogwoods, magnolias, wisterias, azaleas, foam-flowers, and more than 240,000 tulips, *Spring Blooms* creates a symphony of color. Wander the outdoor gardens and discover more colorful geophytes emerging from the ground. Experience Peirce's Woods alive with flowering trees and a robust layer of herbaceous plants. Breathe in the fresh air and relish the beauty of spring!

Trip cost approximately \$100 includes the bus, driver gratuity, lunch and snacks. We must fill the bus with 54 people. To express your interest, email C. David Copenhaver at cdcopenhaver@gmail.com or call him at 410-515-0456.

Moving to Oak Crest Village?



Did you know that BCRSPA has a partnership with Oak Crest Village? Well we do! Any time a BCRSPA member moves into Oak Crest and informs them that they are a member of our association, Oak Crest will donate \$500 to our scholarship fund. That's a significant contribution that you can make to BCRSPA, and it won't cost you a dime!



So, if you are contemplating a move to Oak Crest Village, be sure to mention that you belong to BCRSPA, and you will earn \$500 for our scholarship program. Also, remember to send a change of address to MRSPA/BCRSPA Membership

8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A Odenton, MD 21113-1508 to receive your newsletter.



Will Roger's advice - on growing older

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved!



Clever Ideas and Solutions (Best of 2017 ½ dozen)

I just love it when I get emails with hints like these — you're never too old to learn.

1. How to hull strawberries, all you have to do is poke em' with a straw! You start at the bottom of the strawberry, push the straw up, and the stem and white bit just pop right up!
2. Can you hear me now? Place your iPhone in a bowl and crank up the volume. The concave shape of the bowl will amplify the music.
3. Recycle disinfectant cloth containers by making it into a container for "doggie poop bags." But it could work for plastic grocery bags too.
4. Microwave Popcorn in a brown paper bag. Add a 1/2 cup scoop of bulk popcorn kernels to your brown paper bag. Fold the bag over twice. Don't use staples to secure the bag — this might spark in your microwave. Stick the popcorn bag into your microwave. I set mine for 3 minutes on high. Stop the microwave when the popping slows to one to two pops per second. A pinch of salt with a dab of butter is the most popular way to eat popcorn or add gourmet toppings.
5. A simple way to find small lost objects is by placing pantyhose over the head of the vacuum hose, securing it with a rubber band (so the pantyhose don't get sucked up!), and vacuuming under tables and chairs. The objects are quickly picked up without getting sucked away into the vacuum!
6. Flattened pillow? Put it in the sun for 30 minutes. The sun will absorb the moisture and plump up your pillow.



BCRSPA working together to Engage and Empower!