

November 1, 2015



Keeping You in the Loop . . .

From the desk of C. David Copenhaver

Change Your
Clocks Back &
Smoke Alarm
Batteries



*Daylight Savings Time ENDS
Sunday, November 1st*

Hello BCRSPA members,

If you were not able to attend the Fall Luncheon Meeting, you missed a good time. The morning started off with super entertainment by the Perry Hall High Pan Groove Steel Drum Band under the direction of Scott Engle. They made sure we were all awake and ready to enjoy the day. The music was lively and the musicians were fun to watch. They even played Happy Birthday to BCRSPA as a tribute to our 70th Anniversary celebration.

We heard from the Baltimore County Teacher of the Year, Orly Mondell. Her talk was filled with fun tidbits about her family and early years as a teacher in New York. She told us about her current teaching assignment at New Town HS and shared her love of teaching.

We heard from the Office of Benefits. They shared two big pieces of information: no price increase for members 65 and over and as of January 1, 2016 Express Scripts will no longer service our prescription plan. Please see your benefits book that was mailed out to every member for specifics.

Lunch was superb! Many compliments were heard about the food. Besides the usual ice cream sundae bar, there was a beautifully decorated cake for our anniversary. Billy Burke, of Dr. Dance's Staff, and David Uhlfelder, Chair of BCPS Board of Education spoke. Both delivered messages of praise to our organization. Oak Crest Village representative, Jim Antonakos, presented BCRSPA \$1,000 check as part of our partnership. The 50/50 raffle to benefit the Scholarship Fund netted \$122.

This was a great meeting/luncheon. We hope more of you can join us at the Annual Business Meeting in the Spring.



Rejuvenated Bylaws In The March UPDATE!

As you know, the BCRSPA Bylaws are being updated to reflect verbiage and organizational changes that will keep our organization current and “with the times”. This Ad hoc committee has been working for almost a year and is close to completing their work. The current version of the Bylaws is available on both websites for your convenience: on the original BCRSPA website, go to... <http://www.bcrspa.org/index.html> , it also contains a link to Shutterfly. Or you can access it by using the following ... <https://bcrspaevents.shutterfly.com/>, (password – bcrspa) and click on “About BCRSPA”.

- Bcrspa)

Important: Your Input Is Needed!

The new version of the Bylaws will be published in its entirety in the next newsletter that will be distributed in early March. **We ask each member to examine the new Bylaws carefully. We will be voting to accept the revisions at the Annual Business Meeting in the Spring.**

Because of the lengthiness of the Bylaws, the March UPDATE will be devoted almost entirely to that document. We will resume our usual newsletter format with the June edition.

On the Horizon:

- *The annual MRSPA Legislative Workshop will be Wednesday, November 4, at 10 a.m. at the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis. (Parker Koons, Donna Copenhaver and C. David Copenhaver will represent BCRSPA)*
- *Executive Board Meeting: November 17th TABCO – 305 Joppa Rd Towson Maryland 21286 (Please consider attending. Just eMail me for directions and details.)*
- *2nd Annual Breakfast with Colleagues, at Columbus Gardens, December 10, 2015 @ 10:00am (See attached registration for details)*
- *Miracle of Christmas show trip, Decembr 15, 2015 @ the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA (Final call ... registration ends 11/3/2015; eMail me for request (cdavidcopenhaver@gmail.com.)*

FYI...



Be Prepared To Stay Safe And Healthy In Winter

Winter storms and cold temperatures can be hazardous, but if you plan ahead, you can stay safe and healthy. Prepare your home and cars. Prepare for power outages and outdoor activity. Check on the older adults.

Although winter comes as no surprise, many of us are not ready for its arrival. If you are prepared for the hazards of winter, you will be more likely to stay safe and healthy when temperatures start to fall.

Many people prefer to remain indoors in the winter, but staying inside is no guarantee of safety.

Take These Steps To Keep Your Home Safe And Warm During The Winter Months.

Winterize Your Home:

- Install weather stripping, insulation, and storm windows.
- Insulate water lines that run along exterior walls.
- Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.

Check your heating systems:

- Have your heating system serviced professionally to make sure that it is clean, working properly and ventilated to the outside.
- Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
- Install a smoke detector. Test batteries monthly.
- Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.
- Prevent carbon monoxide (CO) emergencies.
 - Install a CO detector to alert you of the presence of the deadly, odorless, colorless gas. Check batteries regularly.
 - Learn symptoms of CO poisoning: headaches, nausea, and disorientation.

(Source: National Center for Environmental Health, read more: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/>)

Thoughts To Ponder ...

"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience." - Eleanor Roosevelt



Happy
Thanksgiving

BCRSPA together, creating a moment!