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# Coastal News

South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226  
of AARP, Inc.  
P.O. Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970

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[www.southcoastalaarp.org](http://www.southcoastalaarp.org)

**FEBRUARY 2023**

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Rose Verona	630-297-2562
VICE PRESIDENT	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
PROGRAM CHAIR	Susan Kerwin	302-236-3481
SECRETARY	Jane Bartolomeo	302-436-8208
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	(vacant)	
TREASURER	Sheila Bower	602-688-5300
ASST. TREASURER	Robert Lesperance	302-537-7845

## DIRECTORS

Joan DeMarco	2023-2025	410-250-0963
Jack Beall	2023-2025	302-616-1695
John Macken	2021-2023	914-522-9309
Ida Crist	2022-2024	302-732-6336
Dottie Rieck	2022-2024	302-539-2654

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Annlynn Ayres	2023-2024	302-242-0236
Sandy Raymond	2023-2024	301-651-2284
Lana Linz	2023-2024	302-436-2156
Larzar Cherry	2022-2024	646-523-0668
Zelda Cherry	2022-2023	347-807-6481

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Kathy Lesperance	302-537-7845
Legislative/Environ	Ted Spickler	302-927-0050
Membership	Dottie Rieck	302-539-2654
Scholarship	Shirley Price	302-236-7046
	Ida Crist	302-732-6336
Tours	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
Web Coordinator	Frances Hart	703-801-7216
Chorus	Ann Jaeger	302-645-8023
Hostess/Luncheon	Roberta Shoff	302-539-6952
	Anna Woodrum	302-537-0826
Newsletter	Donna Spickler	302-296-6903
Sunshine	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
50/50	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
	Velma (Cookie) Butts	302-541-9264

## CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING FEBRUARY 21, 2023, at CRIPPLE CREEK COUNTRY CLUB

**SPEAKER:** Michele Procino-Wells, elder lawyer, opened her own office in Seaford, DE, in 2005, now known as Procino-Wells & Woodland, LLC. The firm was already working in estate planning, but it was clear that helping families in a more comprehensive way was necessary. The idea was born to focus strictly on elder law, which includes helping families create Wills, Trusts, and Powers of Attorney; planning to protect their assets from the costs of long-term care; and administering their loved ones' estates.

Michele maintains membership with Elder Counsel, Wealth Counsel, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the National Care Planning Council, and the Elder Law Section of the Delaware State Bar Association.

## LUNCHEON MENU CHOICES:

Citrus Cod Salad - Baked citrus cod salad served over mixed greens topped with pickled onions, cherry tomatoes, bell peppers and feta cheese. Served with balsamic vinaigrette dressing. **OR**

Turkey Melt - Thinly sliced, oven-roasted turkey breast, crisp bacon, sliced apples, melted brie cheese and cranberry mayo. Served on grilled sourdough bread. **OR**

Santa Fe Chicken Bowl - Packed with grilled chicken, brown rice, black beans, bell peppers, sauteed onions, house-made pico de gallo and cilantro.

Beverages-Tea, Lemonade & water

Dessert – Chocolate Mousse, Coffee Service

Doors open at **11 AM** for social hour with lunch at **12 Noon**, followed by Chapter news and announcements. **Cost: \$21.00. Cash or checks only.**

Members may make their lunch reservations by calling or emailing **Mary Ann Dougherty, (302-541-9412), [madod@aol.com](mailto:madod@aol.com) by noon, Monday, February 13.**

**Please wear your name badge to the meeting.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Anyone who cancels after the deadline or does not show for any reason will be billed the full amount of the cost of the luncheon. **No walk-ins are permitted.**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

This year should be an exciting and eventful time for all of us. We have a special committee dedicated to increasing our membership and community awareness of Chapter #5226. Our first initiative was to develop a Monthly Press Release for the local *Coastal Point* newspaper. The plan is for a monthly release to highlight our activities, chapter meetings and speakers. This information will either be in the hardcopy edition of the paper or online. In addition, our committees are active and will be announcing specific events at our monthly chapter meetings/luncheons.

I look forward to our February Chapter Meeting and hope to see you there. **Please attend the Chapter meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of February (2/21/23).** Please place reservations within the time frame allotted.

The new year offers opportunities for you as members to help the board to increase our activities and include the types of events that would provide more opportunities to become more active. Do not hesitate to reach out to me with any ideas or suggestions that you believe would help to grow our local chapter. We are in the process of the development of a survey outlining possible activities which could be made available for our organization. When this survey is available, please take the time to respond. I would like to better understand your

specific interest in activities for this organization.

I continue to encourage you to become more involved by volunteering. If you have any questions about the opportunities available, please contact me, and I will be happy to review these with you. As we enter into the 2nd month of 2023, **we have an open position for Assistant Secretary for the Executive Board for the 2023-24 time period.** Please let me know if you have an interest in this position.

Remember, the more volunteers we have, the less time per member is needed to accomplish necessary tasks. This is **YOUR** organization, and you can play a valuable role in enhancing our events.

**Rose Verona**  
**President, South Coastal DE, Chapter #5226**

### **COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

#### **Membership - Dottie Rieck**

Our current paid membership stands at **296** paid members. We welcome new members, **Steve and Denise Lesniewski and Jackie Lynch.**

Dues are **\$10 per person** if you want your newsletter sent by email and **\$13 if you want your newsletter sent by US Mail.** If there are two members in the household receiving the newsletter by US Mail, only one pays the \$13 fee and the other the standard \$10 fee. Please submit a new membership form along with their dues. Send your check (**made out to South Coastal DE Chapter #5226**) and your **membership form to Dottie Rieck, PO Box 286, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.**

If you have any questions, please contact **Dottie Rieck by phone at 302-539-2654 or by email at [Rieck5226@aol.com](mailto:Rieck5226@aol.com).**

## Legislative/Environmental – Ted Spickler

Legislative plans for AARP Advocacy in 2023:

**DE EARNS** (HB 205 from last year). AARP staff will be working with the State Treasurer over the next couple of years, helping to implement the HB 205 program, which will create a way for employees of small businesses to save for retirement through a payroll deduction (similar to a 401K plan).

### **“Vision Zero”/Pedestrian and traffic safety.**

Last year, we helped to pass a concurrent resolution (SCR 94) to reduce traffic deaths, and this year, the numbers went UP instead of down. So, this year we are working on a new bill with some muscle in it, to really spur DelDOT to improve the design of our roads to make them safer. Livable Communities: Newport Project—we will be advocating for safer streets, a walkable town center, a re-built train station, and a bike trail along the Christina. We'll be working with a consulting team from Smart Growth America to push for these changes.

### **Housing (universal design, affordable, accessible housing, manufactured homes).**

Last year HB 374 and SB 317 clarified and protected the rights for persons living in affordable housing. More efforts to come.

**Elections.** Near the end of 2023, we'll be planning for the 2024 elections, when Delaware DE will elect a new Governor Lt. Governor and Senator (Sen. Carper will be up for re-election).

There may be an opportunity to work with legislators on a new bill to allow voting by mail and same-day registration. Both SB 320 and HB 25 were struck down by the DE Supreme Court, so they will likely require a constitutional amendment, (which takes 4 years).

**Caregiving.** Serving on the Division of Aging Advisory Council and the Caregiver Action Network, (Sheila).

Serving on Sen. Mantzavinos' Long-term care and memory task force. (Lucretia)

A calendar of advocacy meetings and a couple of advocacy training opportunities will be announced, hopefully shortly. We are always **looking for volunteers to meet with legislators, send emails, and letters to the editor, and attend committee hearings.** If you are interested in joining the Legislative/Environmental committee, contact **Ted Spickler at 302-927-0050.**

## Community Service - Kathy Lesperance

The Community Service Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the **“Gifts for Seniors.”** The number of gifts received was amazing!!!

We are collecting **non-perishable** food items for the **Pyle Center Food Pantry.** Please check the expiration date on your items and bring them to the monthly Chapter Luncheon/Meeting. Thanks so much!

## Scholarship - Ida Crist & Shirley Price

Plans are proceeding for the Artisans Fair on Saturday, May 27, at Lord Baltimore Elementary School in Ocean View. This will be the first Artisans Fair since 2019, and we are excited to be able to bring this arts and crafts fair to the community as we hold the largest fundraiser of the year for our scholarship fund.

From now through May, we will have a volunteer signup for the Artisans Fair at the monthly Chapter Meetings. Please consider being a greeter or runner, helping with parking, setting up on Friday afternoon, May 26, or helping break down on Saturday after the show. The Fair will run from 9 a.m. through 3 p.m., with a Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to at least 1 p.m. The volunteer coordinators this year are Coleen Cardy (724-238-3967) and Sandy Raymond (301-651-2284). If you cannot be at the monthly meetings to sign up, please call Coleen or Sandy. The parking coordinator is Ted Spickler (302-927-0050). We will need

parking attendants from 6 a.m. when the first exhibitors start arriving until early afternoon when the traffic for the Fair lessens. So, give Ted a call to volunteer.

With everyone pitching in, we can have another successful Artisans Fair and continue to support two college scholarships for Indian River High School students and three scholarships adult students at Delaware Technical Community College.

If you are interested in either the Scholarship Committee or the Artisans Fair, contact **Ida Crist at 302-732-6336**

### **CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS/ACTIVITIES**

Our Chapter Meetings are held on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. All these meetings/ luncheons will be held at Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club September 2022 through June 2023.** The process to make a lunch reservation process is found on p. 2 of this monthly newsletter.

Any member who is interested is welcome to attend our Board Meetings. They always occur on the **2nd Tuesday of each month at 11am in the John West Municipal Building on West Ave. in Ocean View.** The next Board meeting will be **Feb 14, 2023.**

### **AARP Driver Safety Classes**

Online courses are available. Sign up today at [www.aarp.org/auto/driver-safety/](http://www.aarp.org/auto/driver-safety/) or call **1-800-350-7025.**

Upon completion of a driver safety class, you may be eligible to receive an **auto insurance discount.** Consult your insurance agent for details.

### **Sunshine - Joan Wolf**

If you know of anyone who needs a greeting card, please contact **Joan Wolf at 302-541-0513.**

### **Blood Bank**

To schedule an appointment call **1-888-825-6638** or schedule online at [www.delmarvablood.org](http://www.delmarvablood.org). Check for donation locations in Sussex County on the website.

### **Chorus - Ann Jaeger**

The chorus will begin rehearsals for the Spring concerts in February at Ocean View Presbyterian Church. If you are interested in joining the chorus, please **Contact Ann Jaeger at 302-645-8023.**

### **Tax Return Preparation**

The AARP Tax-Aide program offers free tax return assistance and preparation to taxpayers with low and moderate incomes, with special attention to those 50 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 by appointment at the Masterson Center, St. Ann Catholic Church, Route 26, Monday through Wednesday, beginning February 6. Appointments will be from 8:30 AM until 1:00 PM. The phone number to call to make an appointment, starting January 23, will be **302-858-3575.**

When they arrive for their appointment, taxpayers must present photo ID(s), must have proof of Social Security Number (SSN) for every individual to be named on the return, and must bring last year's (2021) Federal and State tax returns. All 2022 tax documents, including income statements, proof of deductions and credits (when applicable), and health insurance statements, should be removed from their envelopes and made available to the tax preparer. A taxpayer who may be able to itemize deductions should bring a summary of the expenses to be itemized along with supporting documentation.

## CHAPTER TRIPS

**2023**

**April 23**

**VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO**

**WAIT LIST ONLY**

**Overview:**

The largest spectacle of music and might in the United States, the Virginia International Tattoo offers an astounding display of inspirational military music, majestic, massed pipes and drums, show stopping drill team maneuvers, colorful and elegant dancers, and much more. Each year's Tattoo is different, with new performers from across the globe, new themes of honor and patriotism, and new sights and sounds to amaze you.

A tattoo is meant to celebrate pride and patriotism, culture, and history through the unifying power of music that enralls spectators and those heroes serving in the armed services.

**Price Includes:** Premium seating at the VA International Military Tattoo, Dinner at The Island House Restaurant on the water after the show featuring broiled Island House crab cakes, chicken marsala, carved top round of beef au jus, roasted red potatoes, steamed green beans, sweet potato biscuits, cheesecake, coffee, tea and soda, round trip motor coach transportation, tips, tax, and gratuities.

**Price: \$165.00 per person MEMBERS ONLY**

For Reservations, contact Joan DeMarco, Escort @ (410) 250-0963.

**May 17**

**MURDER MYSTERY DINNER—Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club**

**OPEN**

**Overview:**

In this roaring 20's Murder Mystery Show performed by Riddlesbrood Touring Theatre's crime pays off big time! With shady characters, suspense, tommy guns and cheesy puns. The year is 1926, and two bumbling gangs are duke' in it out for control of the bootleg business. But be careful! The jokes and action can be a blast...so if there is a lot of gun play...don't forget to duck. But if prohibition has got you down, and you're hankering for some illegal hooch, just stop by...tell them "Sharkie" sent ya!

Dinner Selection, Choice of one: Chicken Parmesan, Flounder Picatta or Prime Rib. Salad, dessert, rolls/butter, coffee, tea, lemonade or soft drinks. Cash bar available

**Price includes:** Dinner and show

**Price \$60.00 per person**

For Reservations, contact Jim Harding (302) 245-8511 or Lucille Kurtz (302) 537-4389

**June 7-9**

**QUAINT AMISH GETAWAY**

**WAIT LIST ONLY**

**3 Days 2 nights**



**Overview:**

This wonderful trip will give you a little bit of everything. We start this trip off with a relaxing train ride through Lancaster County's famous Amish Country. After our train excursion we will head over to Hershey Farm Inn for a wonderful buffet lunch before heading to Sight & Sound to see Moses. The new production of Moses, set adrift as a baby, he is an unlikely hero-until God calls him to lead. This is one of the Bible's most epic stories. To finish off the night we will head to Shady Maple for a tremendous dinner buffet. We will see a new production of "Dear Soldier Boy" dinner show at Bird in Hand Stage. A 2-hour guided Amish Farmland Tour with stops along the way. We will visit Lapp Valley Dairy Farm, where they make their own ice cream, and raise the cows. It is the best ice cream for which everyone will have a chance to sit on the front porch and enjoy a dish or cone of ice cream. You will have time to browse and shop the stores in Kitchen Kettle Village and you will have time at the Amish Farmers Market in Bird in Hand. You can bring coolers for your shopping. A wine and cheese social under a beautiful gazebo allows for some down time and socializing.

**Price includes:** 2 nights hotel accommodation, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 2 dinners to include Shady Maple & Bird in Hand. 1 wine & cheese social, Round Trip Motor Coach Transportation, taxes, gratuities, and admission to all venues per itinerary, and guides

**Price: \$485.00 per person based on Double Occupancy**

**\$610.00 per person based on Single Occupancy**

Trip Protection Insurance can be purchased through Square Mouth Insurance (800) 240-0369.

For Reservations, contact Jim Harding, Escort (302) 245-8511 or Maria Harding, Escort (302) 381-0980.

Oct 1-5

**AUTUMN IN THE WHITE MOUNTAINS**

**WAIT LIST ONLY**

**5 days 4 Nights**

**Overview:**

The White Mountains of New Hampshire are absolutely beautiful this time of year. We have packed this trip in order for you to view beautiful colors of the mountains from all different viewpoints. \*A Scenic Railroad Dinner along the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee where you will travel through the village of Weirs Beach and along Paugus Bay towards Lakeport, NH. You'll enjoy breathtaking views of New Hampshire's largest lake. \*We will ride up the White Mountains on the first mountain-climbing cog railway in the world. This cog train will climb through three climate zones to arrive on the top of the White Mountains. \*Travel to the top of Cannon Mountain on an aerial tramway whisking you above timberline to the 4,100-foot summit with outstanding views of the White Mountains and into Maine, Vermont and Canada. \*Enjoy a picturesque boat cruise on Lake Winnepesaukee located in the beautiful lake region at the foothills of the White Mountains. \*Visit Franconia Notch State Park with dramatic views, as we travel through the Notches, we will see covered bridges, scenic waterfall, mountain streams and the beautiful Mt. Washington Hotel. \*Tour the Castle in the Clouds Mansion, a mountaintop estate, built 1913/1914. This estate is a unique example of Arts and Crafts architecture in New England. \*A performance at the M&D Playhouse at the historic Eastern Slope Inn Playhouse. \*Explore Wolfeboro and Weirs Beach nestled on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee.

**Price Includes:** 4 nights hotel accommodations, 4 breakfasts, 3 dinners to include Fall Foliage Dinner Train. Round Trip Motor Coach Transportation, taxes, gratuities, and admission to all venues per itinerary, and guides.

**Price: \$1,229.00 per person based on Double Occupancy**

**\$1,499.00 per person based on Single Occupancy**

Travel Protection Insurance \$119.00 per person Double Occupancy \$145.00 per person Single Occupancy

For Reservations, contact Jim Harding (302) 245-8511 or Maria Harding (302) 381-0980, Escorts.

Nov 8

**THE FIRST NOEL—Presented by the American Music Theatre**

**SEATS AVAILABLE**

**Overview:**

“The First Noel” featuring incredible singers, astonishing dancers, wondrous costumes, breathtaking sets, and all the endearment of a perfect fireside family moment! Bask in the beauty of the season and cherish the stories of spirit and love as we bring all your favorite sights and sounds to the stage. This year’s all-new holiday show features your favorite seasonal and sacred Christmas songs – songs brought to life by marvelous vocal talent from across the country, accompanied by our masterful AMT Orchestra. Beautiful snows capes, child-like joy, cherished stories, the spirit of love, and all your favorite things about the holiday season are cast onstage in this glorious celebration of timeless holiday classics.

**Price includes:** The Kitchen Kettle Village for lunch on your own and some Christmas Shopping, dinner in a classic converted train dining car of The Casey Jones. A wonderful show at the American Music Theatre, round trip motor coach transportation, tax, tip, and gratuities

**Price: \$144.00 per person**

For Reservations Contact Jim Harding, Escort (302)245-8511 or email [james.aarp5226@gmail.com](mailto:james.aarp5226@gmail.com)

Dec 12

**THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS  
Presented by Sight & Sound Theatre**

**SEATS STILL AVAILABLE**

**Overview:**

This holiday season; travel back in time to Bethlehem as the original Christmas story unfolds all around you. Journey alongside Mary and Joseph, a flock of surprised shepherds, and three Wisemen—along with their camels! There may be no room at the inn, but God has a lowly stable prepared as the angels announce the coming of the Messiah! Experience MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS as it comes to life on stage with massive sets and live animals in this cherished holiday production from Sight & Sound Theatres.

**Price Includes:** The Kitchen Kettle Village for lunch on your own and some Christmas Shopping, dinner at Hershey Farm restaurant and a magnificent show at Sight and Sound Theatre, round trip motor coach transportation, tax, tip and gratuities

**Price: 150.00 per person** For Reservations, contact Mable Ruddo, Escort (302) 541-8549

**FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE ABOVE TRIPS OFFERED GO TO:**

[www.southcoastalaarp.org](http://www.southcoastalaarp.org)

**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.

**Trip Reservations**

To make a reservation for any trip, contact the trip coordinator listed on the flyer. Make checks payable to: South Coastal AARP #5226 and send to South Coastal AARP Tour Committee, PO Box 662, Ocean View, DE 19970. Please submit a check for each trip you sign up for. Note on the check what trip the check is to be applied to. If you are paying for more than one person, please make note on the check. We can no longer accept one check for multiple trips.

**Trip Rules**

**Day Trips**

- Payment is preferred at time of registration and must be made no later than 30 days after registration.
- Reservations made within 30 days of 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 trip coordinator listed on the flyer.
- 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.

**Overnight Trips**

- **Seating will be assigned when initial payment is received.**
- All overnight trips use a voucher system for the payment fee with a payment schedule. If Cancellation is necessary, we will try to fill the spot with someone from our wait list if available. After that has been exhausted member has the option then and only then to replace the reservation with interested party of their choice.
- Travel Protection Insurance is offered for all overnight trips. If cancellation is necessary due to illness member will submit claim to the insurance carrier for their reimbursement/ refund.
- Cancellation without insurance for illnesses -no refunds will be given unless we can replace your reservation as stated above.
- 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.

**Please Note**

- We offer three possible ways to notify you of our upcoming trips: **(1) blind broadcast emails sent out to all members supplying their emails, (2) the Chapter monthly newsletter, and (3) the Chapter website: [southcoastalaarp.org](http://southcoastalaarp.org).**
- Once notices have been sent, you have the option to book the trip being offered.

**WE ARE NOW WORKING ON TRIPS FOR 2024**