



AARP Chapters are separately incorporated affiliates of AARP

# Coastal News

South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226  
of AARP, Inc.

P.O. Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970

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

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## EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

Co-President	Terry Baker	410-812-9063
Co-President	Kathy Johnson	302-829-8956
Vice President	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
Program Chair	Susan Kerwin	302-236-3481
Secretary	Jane Bartolomeo	302-436-8208
Asst. Secretary	Paula Pinkett	302-228-6284
Treasurer	Sheila Bower	602-688-5300
Asst. Treasurer	Bob Lesperance	302-537-7845

## DIRECTORS

Jack Beall	2023-2025	302-616-1695
Ida Crist	2022-2024	302-732-6336
Joan DeMarco	2023-2025	410-250-0963
Sandy Raymond	2024-2026	301-651-2284
Dorothy Rieck	2022-2024	302-539-2654

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Annlynn Ayres	2023-2024	410-242-0236
Coleen Cardy	2024-2025	724-238-3967
Larzar Cherry	2023-2024	646-523-0668
Zelda Cherry	2024-2025	347-807-6481
Terry Griswold	2024-2025	443-752-4513

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Kathy Lesperance	302-537-7845
Chorus	Ann Jaeger	302-645-8023
Legislative/ Environmental	Ted Spickler	302-927-0050
Membership	Kay Houston	302-732-6977
Newsletter	Nancy Archey	703-919-8254
Scholarship	Ida Crist	302-732-6336
	Shirley Price	302-236-7046
Sunshine	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
Tours	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
Web Coordinator	Frances Hart	703-801-7216
50/50	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
	Cookie Butts	302-541-9264

Our March 19<sup>th</sup> Luncheon meeting at Cripple Creek Country Club will feature Sheila Grant, a registered lobbyist with AARP for eight years, and whose role involves relationship-building with influential public and private leaders across the state. Ms. Grant also serves as a member of the Advisory Council to the *Delaware Division of Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities*. This month's presentation is sure to be interesting and informative.

### Luncheon Menu Choices

#### Caribbean Fried Chicken Sandwich

Jerk marinated chicken, fried to golden brown and served with lettuce, tomato, and smoky ranch dressing, on a toasted brioche bun.

#### Orzo Salmon Salad

Orzo pasta, chickpeas, cucumbers, mangos, peppers, onions, tomatoes, feta cheese with pan seared salmon. Served with a citrus vinaigrette.

#### Meatball Sliders

House blend meatballs with marinara sauce, provolone cheese and served with a side Caesar salad.

#### Dessert

Lemon Twist

Water, Iced Tea, Lemonade and Coffee included.

**Cost is \$23.00.** *Cash or checks only.*

Doors open at **11 a.m.** with lunch at **12 noon**, followed by Chapter news and announcements.

Members may make their lunch reservations by calling or emailing **Mary Ann Dougherty** at **(302) 541-9412** or **madod@aol.com** by **noon, Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.**

*Please wear your name badge to the meeting.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Anyone who cancels after the deadline (March 11<sup>th</sup>) or does not attend for any reason will be billed for the full cost of the luncheon.

*No walk-ins are permitted.*

## Presidents' Corner

Our Board members are busy organizing opportunities for our members to participate. How can YOU join in?

You can help the Community Service Committee by bringing non-perishable food items for the food bank when you come to the monthly luncheon.

The AARP's legislative focus will be addressed at our March meeting, and the Legislative Committee will be seeking volunteers like you to help implement some of those initiatives in Sussex County.

The Scholarship Committee has been busy planning for the Artisans Fair to be held on May 25 to support the scholarship fund. They will need a large number of volunteers for this effort. How about you?

Why not consider making a choice to participate in one or more of the above? You will be welcomed with open arms.

We will see you at Cripple Creek. Bring your appetites and your desire to participate.

**Terry and Kathy, Co-Presidents**

## Legislative/Environmental

Delaware AARP is closing in on specific issues to address, including support for the new *AGING Caucus* that we hope will become a standing committee.

We are supporting a *Gift Card Fraud bill* to protect seniors and others from being tricked into giving fraudsters access to their finances and personal information.

The *Livable Communities project* is looking at issues including improvement to local zoning regulations for which we may need help from AARP members.

The state *Rental Help program* needs more funding as does the state Housing Development Fund.

These issues and others will be discussed at the March luncheon meeting when Sheila Grant from AARP comes from Dover to speak with us.

**Ted Spickler, Chair**

## Membership

Our current membership stands at 345 paid members. We welcome new members Kim Miegel, Paul & Rita Schaffran, and Sharon Palmer. Your current membership year continues through August 2024. The new membership year will begin in September. In the meantime, reach out to your friends and neighbors to encourage them to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Houston by phone at 302-732-6977 or by email at [joinaarpsc5226@gmail.com](mailto:joinaarpsc5226@gmail.com).

### **Magnetic Plastic Name Badges**

Magnetic Plastic Name Badges are still available for purchase. To date, 74 members have purchased the magnetic badges. The cost is \$10/badge. See Kay Houston (at the membership table) at the monthly meeting or mail the request along with a check to Kay at South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226, PO Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970. Be sure that the name you request is legible. Once I have enough to place the order I will, and then distribute at a subsequent meeting.

*(This is **TOTALLY OPTIONAL**. We will continue to print badges with the plastic sleeve that you hang around your neck at no cost to you.)*



**Kay Houston, Chair**

## Support the Scholarship Fund

If you are reading this on Wednesday, Feb. 28, or earlier, please join us for a Dine and Donate at Fins Ale House and Raw Bar in Bethany Beach, across from Sea Colony, to raise funds for our scholarship fund. Dining hours are from 4 until 8:30 p.m. There will be a 50-50 cash drawing. The restaurant will give us a percentage of the proceeds from the evening.

It is not too early to sign up to volunteer for the Artisans Fair Saturday, May 25, at Lord Baltimore Elementary School, Ocean View. The fair is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to at least 1 p.m. However, we need parking and unloading volunteers as early as 5:30 a.m. So, if you are an early riser, there is a volunteer opportunity for you. In addition, we need volunteers throughout the day.

To volunteer, sign up at the monthly chapter meeting prior to or after lunch, or contact Coleen Cardy, volunteer coordinator, at 724-238-3967 or [Coleen.cardy@yahoo.com](mailto:Coleen.cardy@yahoo.com)

Proceeds from the Artisans Fair fund two \$1,500 college scholarships for Indian River High School seniors and three scholarships for students 25 and older at Delaware Technical Community College. Nursing students at Del Tech are eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship each semester, and a non-nursing student is eligible for a \$500 scholarship each semester.

**Ida Crist, Co-chair**

## AARP Smart Driver™ Course

Refresh your driving skills and perhaps save on your auto insurance! Members can take the course at a discounted rate in a classroom or online. Call 1-800-350-7025 or visit <http://www.aarp.org/auto/driver-safety/> for more information.

## Survey Participation?

The [Caron Foundation](http://www.caronfoundation.org) is looking for participants 55 years and older to participate in a survey exploring perceptions, beliefs, and medication use. The goal of this survey is to use the data to develop a toolkit to help educate healthcare professionals in the state of Delaware in their care of adults over 55. At the end of the survey, you can enter a drawing to win one of five Amazon gift cards. If you are interested in participating, click on the link below (or copy the url into your web browser) to start the survey. *This is not an AARP survey.*  
<https://redcap.caron.org/surveys/?s=P9FL8XYH374M3K48>

## 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 years 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 5<sup>th</sup>. Appointments will be from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. To make an appointment, call 302-858-3575.

When taxpayers arrive for their appointment, they 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 (2022) Federal and State tax returns. All tax documents for tax year 2023, including income statements and proof of deductions and credits (when applicable), should be removed from their envelopes and made available to the tax preparer. A taxpayer who may be able to itemize deductions must bring a summary of the expenses to be itemized along with supporting documentation. Additional information about required forms and the process for tax return preparation will be provided to the taxpayer when the appointment is made.

**Kathy Johnson**

## Special Interest Groups

If you are interested in any of the following groups, please contact the organizer.

**Book Club**, Marie Fletcher, 978-595-6690  
[yuletidechimes@gmail.com](mailto:yuletidechimes@gmail.com)

**Bridge or Scrabble**, Ida Crist, 302-732-6336  
[idacrist@aol.com](mailto:idacrist@aol.com).

**Canasta or Mexican Train\***, Anita Ferm, 301-704-3550

*\* If you plan to attend, please send me an email at [anitalferm@verizon.net](mailto:anitalferm@verizon.net) so I can gather the equipment needed. Thank you*

**Pickleball**, Susan Bresuciak, 443-243-5994  
[sbresuciak@gmail.com](mailto:sbresuciak@gmail.com).

**Poker, Texas Hold 'Em or Euchre**, Ed Bresuciak, 443-504-3568, [breslite@verizon.net](mailto:breslite@verizon.net).

**Trips to Museums, Studios or Historical Sites**, Sandy Raymond, 302-539-3941  
[sandyraymond15@gmail.com](mailto:sandyraymond15@gmail.com).

**Walking Club**, Marge Mariotti, 609-505-3183.  
[eastgoingwest@outlook.com](mailto:eastgoingwest@outlook.com)

# TRAVEL

Welcome to the Travel Page. We have changed our format to help condense our pages. If you have a computer, [this is a link](#) to connect you directly to the website's travel page where you can find all the information you need.

## CHAPTER TRIPS 2024

### March 6 PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

WAIT LIST ONLY

#### Overview:

The show features large-scale garden, elaborate landscapes, and over-the-top floral creations. Dazzling floral color, creativity and garden beauty are presented at the largest horticultural event. Enjoy the Reading Terminal's mouth-watering aromas, locally grown, exotic produce, Amish specialties, fresh meats, seafood and poultry, handmade confections and bake goods straight from the oven.

**Price Includes:** Entrance to Flower Show, round trip motor coach transportation, tax, tip and gratuities

**Price:** \$97.00 per person

**For Reservations Contact:** Karl or Gail Hettel, Escorts (610) 442-6117

### April 21 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 plus much more.

**Price Includes:** Dinner at Capo Capo Italian Restaurant after the show, premium seating at the VA International Military Tattoo, Roundtrip Motor Coach Transportation, tip, tax, and gratuities.

**Price** \$167.00 per person

**For Reservations Contact:** Lana Linz, Escort (302) 245-3502

### June 2-8 ST. AUGUSTINE, AMELIA ISLAND, & JEKYLL ISLAND OPEN TO EVERYONE

#### Overview:

Founded in 1565, St. Augustine is the oldest continuously occupied settlement of European and African-American origin in the United States. A tram tour of Millionaire's Row on Jekyll Island, with views of historic structures and cottages of America's most wealthy and prominent citizens. While in St. Augustine we will tour Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth, St. George Street, Castillo De San Marcos, Flagler College, Pirate and Treasure Museum and Fernandina Beach. Plus much, more

**Price Includes:** 6 nights hotel accommodations, 6 breakfasts, 4 dinners, including dinner at the Columbia Restaurant, dinner w/show at the Alhambra Dinner Theatre, Round Trip Deluxe Motor coach Transportation, luggage handling in Florida, taxes, and gratuities.

**Price:** \$1,210.00 per person based on Double Occupancy

\$1,589.00 per person based on Single Occupancy

**For Reservations Contact:** Maria Harding, Escort (302) 381-0980 or Jim Harding, Escort (302) 245-8511

### August 5-8 CASTLES OF NEW YORK & LAKE GEORGE

WAIT LIST ONLY

#### Overview:

We start our tour in the Alexandria Bay area near the Canadian Border. A boat tour of Singer Castle built in 1905 and Boldt Castle on Heart Island. Lake George is a beautiful area, and we will tour the lake then go to the Village of Lake George. Our next stop will be Wing's Castle with its unique architectural marvel on the Hudson River. Millbrook Winery is regarded as one of the top wineries of New York where we will have a wine tasting.

**Price Includes:** 3 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts, 1 boxed lunch, 3 dinners, admission to all above stated venues i.e.; Boldt Castle, Singer Castle, Wing's Castle, St. Lawrence River Cruise, Boat Cruise on Lake George, Millbrook Vineyards and Winery Tour, round trip Motorcoach Transportation, taxes and standard gratuities.

**Price:** \$779.00 per person based on Double Occupancy

\$1,008.00 per person based on Single Occupancy

**For Reservations Contact:** Maria Harding, Escort (302) 381-0980 or Jim Harding, Escort (302) 245-8511

## Sept 24-28 DAKOTA'S BUFFALO ROUND-UP

WAIT LIST ONLY

### Overview:

This Fabulous trip will take you to something new, a Buffalo Round-Up in Custer State Park and afterwards the Arts Festival with over 150 vendors. Visit Mt. Rushmore and see the lighting ceremony, explore National Historic Landmark of Deadwood, tour of Black Hills and the Badlands. A private Native American Culture presentation of Dahl Art Center and the Norwegian Chapel in the Hills and much more

**Price Includes:** Round-trip Airfare, Round-trip bus transportation to the Airport, 4 nights hotel accommodations, 4 breakfasts, 3 dinners including a Chuckwagon Dinner & Show, escorted guide, entrance to all venues as listed, taxes & gratuities.

**Price:** \$2,299.00 per person based on Double Occupancy  
\$2,799.99 per person based on Single Occupancy

**For Reservations Contact:** Maria Harding, Escort (302) 381-0980 or Jim Harding, Escort (302) 245-8511

## Nov 10-15 CHRISTMAS IN THE SMOKIES

WAIT LIST ONLY

### Overview:

Dollywood's Smoky Mt. Christmas is a seasonal event with over 6 Million Christmas Lights and we will experience the beauty of the park all lit up. A guided tour of the Great Smoky Mountain range, then become a passenger or crew member and experience what it was like on the ship Titanic. We will visit Shadrack's Christmas Wonderland of Christmas Lights Orchestrated and Choreographed to Music. Visit to the Cherokee Indian museum where we will listen to the story of the Cherokee people and set the scene for the Cherokee Heritage Trails.

**Price Includes:** 5 nights hotel accommodations, 5 breakfasts & 3 dinners, including Dolly Parton's Stampede dinner show, and meal voucher at Dollywood, 2 additional shows; Country Tonight and Charlie Bob Smith Morning Variety Show, Round Trip Deluxe Motor Coach, luggage handling in Pigeon Forge area, Entrance to all listed venues, taxes and gratuities.

**Price:** \$950.00 per person based on Double Occupancy  
\$1,289.00 per person based on Single Occupancy

**For Reservations Contact:** Maria Harding, Escort (302) 381-0980 or Jim Harding, Escort (302) 245-8511

### 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 RULES

- No refunds for payments can be given unless a substitution can be made. If the trip is cancelled by the Tour Committee full refund will be provided to all paid participants.
- To cancel a trip 48 hours or less before departure call trip coordinator listed on flyer
- Price subject to change if the price of diesel fuel increases by more than 20% after original contract with bus company
- Overnight trips seating will be assigned when initial payment is received
- Travel Protection Insurance is offered for all overnight trips

### What's the Tour Committee Working On?

Air Mobility, John Dickinson Plantation  
Naval Base Cruise, Cape Charles & Barrier  
Islands  
Chester River Fall Foliage

Daniel @ Sight & Sound  
Cleveland & Mackinaw Island 2025  
Christmas in Wheeling West Virginia 2025  
Fall in Hudson River Valley 2025