



COASTAL NEWS

AARP Chapters are separately
incorporated affiliates of AARP

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

www.southcoastalaarp.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How lucky we are to live in an area here on the East Coast where we can appreciate the beauty of fall. Color abounds on the trees and in gardens that encourage us to decorate and express our thanks. Smiles appear on our faces as we breathe the fresh air and greet our neighbors.

We just had a wonderful luncheon gathering at Cripple Creek this week. Many of us met new people and shared common ideas. The **magic** we shared was enjoyable and gave us a hearty laugh. How blessed we are to have an organization that welcomes new members and shares ideas.

Please consider getting active in our organization. We always need new ideas and opportunities for all of us to share. Hope to see you soon.

Terry Baker

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COMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

A new Membership year has begun! If you haven't already, use the form on the last page of this newsletter to update your membership.

Monthly Club Schedule (page 3):

- BINGO at Salted Rim – Mon., Oct. 13
- MET OPERA at Cinema Art Thtr. – Sat., Oct. 18
- LUNCH at Daybreak Cafe – Mon., Oct. 27
- BOWLING at Millsboro Lanes – Fri., Oct. 31

Dine & Donate: Cottage Cafe – Wed., Nov. 12

THIS MONTH'S LUNCHEON PROGRAM

Our October 21st luncheon and Chapter meeting at Cripple Creek features Dan Finocchiaro, a former stand-up comic, corporate safety trainer, engineer and race car driver. Dan is a presenter who gives lifesaving driver tips from a unique point of view delivered with an engaging and entertaining style. Our October speaker was first bitten by the racing bug when he entered the Soap Box Derby at the age of ten. He is still racing today, currently competing in a Formula car.

TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT AND SELECT YOUR MEAL, PLEASE SEE PAGE 4

Wear your name badge to the meeting
for a sweet treat!



For the **FASTEST** and **BEST** way to ensure you see the most recent newsletter, visit the Chapter Website on the 4th Tuesday of each month at:
www.southcoastalaarp.org/newsletters.
While you're there, check out the rest of the site for information on Chapter Activities, Travel opportunities, and more!

MEMBERSHIP

We are one month into our 2025-2026 Membership Year. Our current membership (as of September 16, 2025) stands at 436 members. Eighteen new members were added since the September newsletter. Welcome Janet Angell, Joy Beatty-Bannister, Jerry Bannister, Carol & Cary Gaulding, Donna Hardy, Mindy & David Hayes, Margaret & Ed Hill, Maureen & Jim Hobday, David Marr, Gloria Mercer, Jan Rouse, Cathy & Jerome Sturm, and Jean Sullivan. Stop by the membership table at the next luncheon to pick up your name badge and to say Hello. Continue to reach out to your friends and neighbors and encourage them to join us. Word of mouth really works!

The membership year began September 1. The 2025-2026 Membership Renewal form is available in this newsletter. Each member is required to complete a membership form every year. Forms will be available at the October luncheon and on our website at: www.southcoastalaarp.org. Remember to update your National AARP membership expiration date on the local chapter form. To date, 215 members have renewed their membership for 2025-2026. If you are not certain whether you still need to pay your dues, contact me via email at joinaarp5226@gmail.com OR call me at (302) 732-6977.

There are still 23 members who receive the monthly newsletter via the Postal Mail service. The South Coastal Chapter incurs a loss on each newsletter that is distributed with this method. REMEMBER: Postal mail service is provided to those members who have NO CAPABILITIES of electronic communication. A mailed newsletter may not be received for several days after it is posted on the website, which could be a problem when trying to reserve a spot at the luncheon.

Magnetic Name Badges

Magnetic, plastic name badges are available for purchase. The cost is \$15/badge. See Kay Houston at the monthly luncheon meeting (membership table) or mail your request along with a check to: South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226, PO Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970. Please be sure that the name you request is legible.

A magnetic name badge 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, Membership Chair

SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR THREE BOARD POSITIONS

As a growing and vital organization, our Chapter is seeking two or more people interested in heading up our Executive Board in the positions of President and Vice President.

The President supervises our business affairs and property, presides over monthly chapter meetings, and carries out the actions and resolutions of the Board of Directors. In addition, the President appoints chairpersons for the Chapter's standing committees and helps identify and develop our future chapter leaders.

The Vice President's primary goal is to assist the president and, in that role, is often assigned leadership of important Chapter functions and committee efforts. The Vice President steps in and performs the duties of the President in his or her absence.

We are also looking for a **Legislative Committee Chair**. (See the related story on next page.)

Please consider offering your time and talent to one of these important and rewarding positions. Candidate names will be presented to the Board in October, and nominees voted upon at the November chapter meeting.

These three positions will start in January, 2026. The Board meets the second Tuesday of every month, except July and August.

If you're interested in helping to make a difference in the role of President or Vice President, or would like more information, please contact any of the Nominating Committee members listed below by September 30th:

- Maureen Eisenhardt, at 302-988-1196, or irishmom08@gmail.com
- Linda Burns Filer, at 302-354-5656, or lbj356@hotmail.com
- Terry Griswold, at 443-752-4513, or tagessner@yahoo.com
- Mable Ruddo, at 302-541-8549, or theruddos@yahoo.com

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

A Dine and Donate event and basket auction to benefit our scholarship fund will be Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Cottage Café in Bethany Beach. Dining hours are from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. with the drawing for the baskets at 7:30 p.m. There will also be a 50-50 cash raffle. If you win a basket or the cash raffle, we will call you and ask if you can come to the restaurant that evening to pick up the items you have won. We will need your name and phone number on each ticket, so if you have labels with that information, bring them. It will save you a lot of writing. However, our volunteers are always willing to help you fill out your tickets.

In 2025, we will give a total of \$9,000 in scholarships – two \$1,500 scholarships to Indian River High School students and \$6,000 to adult students 25 years and older at Delaware Technical and Community College. Two of the Del-Tech scholarships are designated for nursing students, one scholarship goes to a student studying in a medical-related field, and an additional scholarship goes to a student studying in any area of study.

If you have any interest in serving on the Scholarship Committee or the planning committee of the Artisans Fair – the main fund-raiser for the Scholarship Committee, which is held the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend in May – contact Ida Crist at 302-732-6336.

Ida Crist, Chair

JOIN A SOUTH COASTAL AARP CLUB!

BINGO is held at [The Salted Rim Bar and Grill](#) at 35553 Atlantic Ave in Millville on the second Monday of the month. Come for dinner around 4:30pm and play Bingo (free, w/prizes) at 6pm on **Monday, Oct. 13th**. Questions? Call Sheila at 602-688-5300.

OPERA IN HD – See and hear *La Sonnambula*, **Saturday October 18th** at the [Cinema Art Theater](#) in Lewes. Contact Ida Crist at 302-732-6336.

LUNCH at [Daybreak Cafe](#), 37427 Gateway Lane, Selbyville (located behind the Car Wash on Rt. 54) on **Monday, October 27th at 12pm**. **RSVP** to Maureen Eisenhardt at 302-988-1196 **by October 24th**.

BOWLING with Paula Pinkett (302-228-6284), who arranged for \$3.50 per game and \$3.50 for shoes with [Millsboro Bowling Lanes](#). Play time starts at 1pm on the last Friday of each month. Play this month on **Friday October 31** at 1pm. (Next date in January.)

SEEKING A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Legislative Committee is responsible for monitoring legislative activities and representing the opinion of the Chapter membership at public hearings and with public officials, in compliance with AARP policies and, as appropriate, in consultation with the AARP state office. Kathy Johnson, Past Chapter President, is heading up the search committee for the next Chair of the Legislative Committee. If you think you might be interested in this position or if you would like more information, please contact Kathy Johnson at kajfinancial@gmail.com or 302-829-8956.

CHORUS

The Singers of Note, the South Coastal DE AARP Chorus, began rehearsals in September, but it is not too late to join. The chorus is under the direction of Laura Weaver, who, upon the retirement of long-time director Ann Jaeger, stepped up to lead the choral group after singing tenor with the chorus for several years. Barb Clair is the new accompanist. We have at least eight new singers and several “new” returning singers who had to take a hiatus for various personal reasons. The chorus needs more tenors to have a balanced SATB (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) mix. We welcome both women and men who sing tenor. So, if you or someone you know can sing that part, please, Lend Us a Tenor!

The chorus practices every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Ocean View Presbyterian Church. To reach the church, turn on West Ave. from Route 26 and take the first left into the church parking lot. You cannot enter from Central Ave., because that entrance is private and has street barriers which prevent anyone from entering safely. For more information, contact the director at lweaveraarpchorus@gmail.com or 302-382-4564.

Laura Weaver Director

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Community Service Committee will be having their “Dollars for Coats for Kids” fundraiser for the John Clayton Elementary School. The funds collected go towards coats, underwear, shoes, etc. for the schoolchildren. Containers will be on the tables at the October and November luncheon meetings. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Kathy Lesperance, Chair

CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President	Terry Baker	410-812-9063
Vice President	Jim Harding	302-245-8511
Program Chair	Joanne Spink	302-463-0199
Secretary	Paula Pinkett	302-228-6284
Asst. Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>	
Treasurer	Sheila Bower	602-688-5300
Asst. Treasurer	Coleen Cardy	724-238-3967
Past President, Advisor	Kathy Johnson	302-829-8956

DIRECTORS

Ida Crist	2025-2027	302-732-6336
Joan DeMarco	2023-2025	410-250-0963
Susan Kerwin	2025-2027	302-236-3481
Kathy Lesperance	2025-2027	302-537-7845
Sandy Raymond	2024-2026	301-651-2284

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Maureen Eisenhardt	2025-2026	302-988-1196
Linda Burns Filer	2025-2026	302-354-5656
Terry Griswold	2024-2025	443-752-4513
Mable Ruddo	2025-2026	302-541-8549
Vacant	2025-2026	

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Community Service	Kathy Lesperance	302-537-7845
Chorus	Laura Weaver	302-382-4564
Legislative/Environmental	<i>Vacant</i>	
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
Asst. Web Coordinator	Nancy Archey	703-919-8254
50/50	Joan Wolf	302-541-0513
	Cookie Butts	302-541-9264

Board of Directors Meetings

Meetings of the Chapter's Board of Directors are held the second Tuesday of the month, September through June, at 11:00 a.m. at the Ocean View Community Center on West Avenue in Ocean View.

All members are welcome to attend.

* LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS *

To reserve a spot for the luncheon on **OCTOBER 21st**, send an email with your meal selection to: **Mary Ann Dougherty** at madod@aol.com by **NOON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 13th**.

(If you are unable to use email, you may call Mary Ann at 302-541-9412.)

Mary Ann will confirm receipt of all messages.

Cost: \$26.00 Payable by cash or check only.

October's Menu

Chicken BLT

Grilled chicken, crispy bacon, sliced tomato and lettuce topped with zesty ranch on an Artisan bun, served with French fries

Fall Harvest Salad

Mixed greens, toasted almonds, cranberries, cherry tomatoes, shredded carrots and feta cheese topped with seared salmon and raspberry vinaigrette

Beef Pot Pie

Beef vegetable stew served in a flaky puff pastry bowl

Beverages: Iced Tea, Lemonade and Water
Coffee and Tea Service

Dessert: Apple Pie Bread Pudding

Doors open at 11 a.m., and Lunch is at 12 noon.
Chapter news, announcements and program will follow.

Remember to wear your name badge!

IMPORTANT LUNCHEON INFO:

We cannot take walk-ins. If you send [Mary Ann](#) an email or leave her a voicemail, you'll receive a confirmation from her for your reservation and meal. If you don't receive a confirmation, you won't have a reservation.

If you cancel after the deadline, *Mon. Oct 13th*, or do not attend for any reason, you will be billed for the full cost of the luncheon unless there's a waiting list.

CHAPTER TRIPS 2025

Coming soon Murder Mystery Dinner

CHAPTER TRIPS 2026

May 4-8 Holland Tulip Festival

New

Overview:

It's Tulip Time, the Holland, Michigan festival that boasts over 5 million tulips, planted & ready to burst forth in bloom in early spring. The City of Holland manages all the tulip plantings in parks, along city streets and in the downtown area. Our tour will take us to the Neli's Dutch Village  in Holland, Michigan is a really quaint little village! Walking through the charming streets of this Dutch Village while exploring the windmills, canals, and cozy houses make you feel transported to the Netherlands. We will visit DeKlomp Wooden shoes and Delft Factory: wooden shoes are a very practical footwear for gardening, getting the mail, and general use. See the shoe maker produce wooden shoes from block of poplar wood using authentic Dutch machinery (still used in Europe today). Delftware a Dutch pottery famous around the world; takes almost a full week to produce. We are the only production facility in North America, offering over 400 different hand painted Dutch pottery items. Follow the process of making these fine pottery items; from pouring the liquid clay into molds, to firing the clay at 2,000 degrees. Then talk to the artists as they hand paint Dutch designs and glaze each item for the perfect shine. No stop in Holland is complete without a visit to Windmill Island Gardens. Tour De Zwaan, the only authentic Dutch windmill operating in the United States – still turning and grinding wheat into flour! Other Dutch treasures include a street organ gifted by the City of Amsterdam and a hand-painted antique carousel. Other Dutch features include stately Friesian horses, a water exhibit and Little Netherlands – a maquette of Dutch life in the 1840s when Holland was settled. Many buildings are replicas of those found in the Netherlands including the ones housing a gift shop where you can pick up an authentic Dutch treat! We will finish up our trip with a great variety show in town for a relaxing evening.

WHERE TO BUY BULBS WHILE YOU'RE THERE:

Keep in mind, bulbs are not available in the spring but they can be ordered at the following locations for fall delivery.

Nelis' Dutch Village
Veldheer Tulip Garden
Windmill Island Gardens

Price includes: Round Trip Bus transportation from Giant to Holland, Michigan, entrance to all above listed venues, 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, 2 dinners, luggage handling in Michigan, taxes, tip, & meal gratuities.

Price: \$884.00 pp based on double occupancy
\$1,283.00 pp based on single occupancy

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

June 21-July 4 Greenland & Iceland Celebrity Cruise

New

Overview:

Embark on a 14-day cruise through the stunning landscape of Greenland and Iceland, starting from Cape Liberty, NJ. Visit the historic ports of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and St. John's Newfoundland, before tendering into the charming town of Qaqortog, Greenland, and cruising the majestic fjords of Purius Christian Sound. Explore Iceland's natural beauty with stops in Akureyri and Isafjordur, then conclude your journey in the vibrant capital, Reykjavik. Along the way, enjoy breathtaking views, rich cultural experiences, and unforgettable encounters with some of the world's most remote and awe-inspiring destinations.

Price includes: Bus transportation from Giant to Cape Liberty Cruise Terminal, 13 Nights in a Concierge Balcony Cabin, Transfer from ship to airport, Return Air Transportation from Reykjavik to Newark Airport, Transfer from Newark Airport to Giant Parking Lot in Millville, DE, Port Charges, Government fees, Ship Gratuities, Classic Beverage Package with Gratuity, Wifi Package

Price: \$5,849.00 pp based on double occupancy
\$9,529.00 pp based on single occupancy

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

AUGUST 4-7 New York's Thousand Islands

New

Overview:

This trip takes us up to the 1,000 Islands. We will visit the Eisenhower Locks to discover the seaway's history on the St. Lawrence Seaway which separates the United States and Canada. You will learn the history through cutting-edge, hands-on interactive viewing decks. We will watch vessels pass through the U.S. Eisenhower Lock up close from two separate outdoor viewing decks. We will travel on to the Clayton Island Boat Tours for a unique cruise of the 1000 Islands along the St. Lawrence Seaway. The natural beauty of the less inhabited islands with tranquil bays, marshes, and scenic shorelines as we discover birds and wildlife that inhabit the region. While we travel the St. Lawrence Seaway we will enjoy lunch on the seaway. Our next day we will visit the Antique Boat Museum, the premier freshwater boating museum in North America featuring over 320 unique boats plus thousands of related artifacts and the 106-foot houseboat, La Duchesse, built in 1903 for George Boldt. Then on to the St. Lawrence Spirits Distillery for a tasting of their high quality craft spirits which are distilled with 100% Saint Lawrence River Water. This distillery produces vodka, gin, absinthe, moonshine, whiskey and bourbon. While in Clayton we will spend the afternoon visiting the Thousand Island Museum, a quaint museum that features and eclectic displays of community artifacts and photographs. However, our trip wouldn't be complete without a visit to the Thousand Islands Winery for a tasting of their wines. Each night we will return to the Edgewood Resort on the St. Lawrence River where you will taste fabulous dinners by the resort.

Price includes: Round Trip Motor coach transportation, 3 nights hotel accommodations, 3 breakfast, 1 lunch, 3 dinners, entrance to all above venues, baggage handling, taxes, and gratuities.

Price: \$899.00 pp based on double occupancy

\$1,228.00 pp 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 by the South Coastal Delaware Chapter #5226 of AARP, Inc., (hereinafter, the Chapter). 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 participants 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 the Chapter and are in no way offered, sponsored, or conducted by AARP, which has no responsibility in connection with such tours.

The undersigned travels with the Chapter at their own risk and agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the Chapter as permitted by law, any claims, liabilities, damages, costs, personal injury, or contraction of disease or virus, which may result relating to this travel arrangement. The undersigned agrees to adhere to tour group guideline of the Chapter.

The Chapter reserves the right to cancel programs prior to departure, terminate a program early, and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis when, in the Chapter's opinion, the health, safety or well-being of participant(s) requires such action.

Travel insurance is available for all extended tours and is strongly recommended. Those who choose not to purchase travel insurance will be asked to sign a waiver. No refunds will be given for extended tours cancelled by the traveler(s) unless substitute travelers can be found. If a trip is cancelled by the Chapter, full refunds will be provided to all paid participants.

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



**South Coastal AARP
Chapter 5226**

**New Member and Renewal Application
2025-2026**

Membership year runs from September 1 through August 31

Renewing members' dues must be received by **November 1, 2025**, to receive the next newsletter. (Please complete the form by typing, printing legibly, or using a mailing label). *Up-To-Date Membership in the National AARP is required to join local chapter.**

CHECK ONE: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewing Member Date: _____

Name (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss) _____

Name Preferred on Badge (if needed): _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

* National AARP Membership No. (Required) _____ Expiration: _____

Your national membership and expiration date are on your membership card and the mailing label of *AARP THE MAGAZINE*. Membership in National AARP does not make you a member of your local chapter.

Current/Previous Occupation: _____

Service to Your Chapter

Your involvement is crucial to our Chapter's success. Please check any opportunities below to which you would like to contribute:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative/Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Artisans Fair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Auditing | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chorus | <input type="checkbox"/> Tour Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Newsletter | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Meeting/Luncheon Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamber of Commerce Liaison | | |

Officers/Board of Directors

Would you consider serving as an: ☐ Officer ☐ Board Member ☐ Committee Chair

Please share with us any experience or skills that would be of value to our Chapter programs:

Most Chapter Newsletters are emailed. Members opting for U.S. mail will incur an additional \$3 fee in membership dues to help cover Chapter costs for printing and postage. Please choose mailed paper copies *only* if email is not an option for you. For households with two members, only one printed newsletter will be sent for \$18; the other member's dues would be \$15.

Please check one: ☐ **\$15** for emailed newsletters or ☐ **\$18** for newsletters sent via U.S. mail.

Please add news@southcoastalaarp.org to your email contact list

Make checks payable to: South Coastal DE AARP Chapter #5226.

Mail your application and check to:

Kay Houston, South Coastal AARP Ch#5226, PO Box 225, Ocean View, DE 19970

Phone: (302) 732-6977 Email: joinaarpsc5226@gmail.com