

AARP Chapter 1917
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 13, 2024

The general membership meeting of the AARP Chapter 1917 was called to order by President Bob McCluskey at 10:00 A.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bob.

Officers present: Bob McCluskey, Charlie Herbert, Donna Reid, John Lucas, Tish Michel and Margaret DeGeorge

Officers absent: Sandy Kvech and Mary Jo Breslin

Bob announced that it was official that the Berlin Chapter of AARP had folded. This Chapter had always sponsored the "Shredding Event" and some of the work had already been done, so we will piggy-back with them on making sure this event takes place. It will be on the grounds of the Berlin Library sometime in June and be combined with a food drive. Larry Yates, past President of the Berlin Chapter for 11 years shared his feelings of sorrow about the Chapter folding. His Board and many members will likely be joining this Chapter. Bob assured Larry that they will be given a warm welcome.

The guest speaker was Ms Kim Abplanalp from Md. Coastal Bays. She gave a very informative and interesting program on the efforts being made to provide artificial nesting sites for the terns. There were many questions from the members and lots of oohs and aahs with the pictures of the baby terns. Their efforts so far have been a huge success.

Treasurer's Report: In Sandy's absence, she had informed Bob that the Treasury is in good financial shape.

Health Fair: Tish Michael, who is coordinating the volunteers from the Chapter, passed out sign-up sheets for volunteers. She is in need of a tall man to attach numbers to the vendor booths and about 5 more volunteers would be good to take care of other jobs.

Travel, 50th Gala and Xmas Party: Fran Smith said the Gala will be at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club on June 12th from 3-7 and the price was \$35 per member, \$42 for non member. You will have 3 months to sign up for this event and sign-up sheets were on the back table.

There are a few seats left for the Oriole game on May 2nd.

Payments for the N.E./Canada trip are due by May.

Trips for November and December are being worked on and will be announced at a future date.

President's Report: Bob reminded the members that their yearly AARP chapter dues need to be paid now.

He said that those members interested in the AARP tax program must make an appointment to use this service and the number is: 443-373-2667

The 50th Gala will be on Wednesday, June 12th which is the date of the membership meeting and therefore there will be no membership meeting in June.

Since the Lunch Bunch is no longer active, there is a list on the email giving local restaurants' specials. These may be subject to change and it is suggested that one call ahead. If anyone knows of others not on the list, just pass it on to Michelle and she will add them to the list.

No one responded to the need for a volunteer for the Board to replace Ed Pinto. It is not imperative that the Board consist of 9 members and the 8 that are on the Board now can be sufficient.

Mrs. Sunshine: Sharon sent a get-well card to Debbie Betkey who had hip surgery. Our membership chair, Andrea will be having knee surgery next week if anyone wants to send a card.

Sharon had goody bags for anyone with a March Birthday.

April's guest speaker will be Matt James, O.C. Council President.

Old/New Business:

Community Activities- The Community Church in Ocean Pines is having a fundraiser lunch at Carrabas on 3/23 from 11-2 for \$20.

The 50 Plus Center is sponsoring a fundraiser for a Police Officer's wife who is in need of expensive medical treatment.

A pinochle training class will be given at 50 Plus Center, conducted by Patty and Ed on 4/2 and 4/16 from 10-12.

St. Patrick's day parade will be on March 16th beginning at 12 noon.

St. Joseph's day Festival will be at St. Andrew's hall on March 23 from 11-6.

A member suggested some companies that can be contacted to inquire about reduced prices on some prescription drugs. Other members had more suggestions and a list of companies that offer these reduced prices will be put in an email to the members.

50/50: The winner received \$56.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret DeGeorge, Secretary
AARP Chapter 1917

