



CHAPTER 1917



Ocean City, Maryland – WWW.AARP1917.ORG

January 2016

OFFICERS

President

John Bloecher
410 213-1608

Vice President

Sue Harting
410-250-3497

Recording Secretary

Debi McCluskey
410 250-0980

Treasurer

William Shoop
410-723-6409

DIRECTORS

Norma Bull
Charlie Herbert
John Lucas
Jeff McArthur
Bob McCluskey
Chris Norris
Alcea Sprung
Emeritus
Ray Jackson
Frank Hoover

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership

Andrea Albrecht
410 250-4533

Travel

Alcea Sprung
Sunshine Lady
Deb Mc Cluskey

Communications

Michelle Donovan

Web Masters

John Bloecher

Travel Web Master

Alcea Sprung

Health Fair

Dr. Melvin Friedman

Historian

Mary Ann Lemay

The President's Corner ...

Greetings to all:

As your incoming President of Chapter 1917. I hope you are in good health and spirits as the New Year begins.

In 2016 we hope to improve on last year's performance, increase membership, and continue with the goal of providing the best service to our chapter.

The key to our success is growing membership, allowing us to draw from a dedicated group to lead our chapter into the future. We are looking for everyone to share their talent, skills and knowledge and become more involved in community affairs by volunteering for chapter functions – for example, our health fair, tax preparation, political forums, etc. – or simply serving as a chapter leader or committee participant. Many opportunities to help will occur in the coming year. I hope several of you will step up to assist with the tasks involved in providing these valuable programs. We will be telling you more in our upcoming meeting on January 14, 2016.

The officers and board members of your chapter do our best to manage your affairs in a conservative, responsible manner with an eye toward chapter success, quality and longevity.

We look to you individually and collectively to join us in our efforts. Grab a friend, a neighbor, a fun relative and enjoy the camaraderie at the health fair, community events, the November elections, or our own monthly meetings. We need you to make it work. Bring a snack, suggest a speaker or travel event, share a talent, invite yourself to one of our committees. Get out of your comfort zone, meet new friends and have fun. In the near and the long term your board is focused on you, our chapter member.

See you on January 14 at our general meeting at the Ocean City Senior Center.

Best regards, John

P.S. To ENJOY this newsletter and more in LIVING COLOR, google aarp1917.org or [CLICK HERE](#)

Our Meetings



Our membership meetings are held at the Worcester County Senior Center located at 41st street, Bayside, Ocean City, second Thursday of the month. When looking at the Convention Center from Ocean Highway, the Senior Center is located to the right, almost under the water tower. There is free parking next to both the Senior Center and in the Convention Center parking lot.

You do not have to be a resident of Ocean City to join our chapter, and you can already belong to another chapter; that's fine with us.

Tell your neighbors! See you there at 9:30 a.m.!

BE a SNACK VOLUNTEER for our monthly meeting!

2nd THURSDAY every month

Bring Meeting Munchies



We are looking for assistance with helping to organize our monthly snack donations. Grab a friend and help us out. Make an offer to our new president, John Bloecher.

NEWS YOU SHOULDN'T MISS

□ TALK IT UP AND SPREAD THE WORDFOR OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

OC AARP Chapter 1917 will sponsor a public scholarship fundraiser for the students of Stephen Decatur High School at Carrabba's Italian Grill on Saturday, March 12th from 12 noon to 2 pm. A three course luncheon will be served to include: cup of minestrone soup or Caesar salad, choice of Chicken Marsala, Spaghetti with Meatballs or Chicken Caesar Salad and a Mini Cannoli. Complimentary bread and soft drink is also included. Tickets are \$15.00 and may be purchased at the Membership table during the monthly meetings or by contacting Norma Bull our scholarship committee chair at 443 523-8576 or John Bloecher at 443 373 1295.

- Our annual Worcester County health fair will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd, 2016. Mark your calendars now for the many benefits of Dr. Friedman's leadership in this process contributing to the healthy lifestyle and screening of our community. It is not too early to consider volunteering for this special event for our community and especially seniors.
- Mary Martinez is resigning her role as Membership Chair effective this month. Special thanks to Andrea Albrecht who will assume the chair position. Members are reminded to renew their \$7.00 memberships if they have not already done so.
- Please remember Louise Guylas' family in your thoughts and prayers. Louise passed away on December 17th. She served our chapter as Sunshine Lady for several months this past year and for many years, the town of Ocean City.
- Deb McCluskey who has been acting Sunshine Lady in a temporary capacity, has volunteered to continue as Ms Sunshine for our Chapter.



2016 - It's a NEW YEAR!

Bring your thoughts on how to improve, upgrade or otherwise make our AARP chapter more interesting. We need to hear your thoughts and comments or have you email them to us. As we vote in new officers today, each will be receptive to any suggestions you make regarding items such as private speakers who might spark interest, travel trips that sound attractive, ways to enhance our volunteer efforts, lunch bunch choices, or other ways in which to promote camaraderie and fun among our members. We are here for you and other seniors in our community. It would be great if you could enhance our value and service for yourselves and others.

DON'T STAND UP AND BE HEARD, instead SEND AN EMAIL [TO INFO@aarp1917.ORG](mailto:INFO@aarp1917.ORG) with your suggestions. I promise your name will remain anonymous.

AARP FOUNDATION TAXAIDE

STILL LOOKING FOR

VOLUNTEERS

FOR 2016 SEASON

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax preparation and assistance service, is seeking volunteers to help taxpayers seeking assistance in preparing and filing their 2015 tax returns. Volunteers do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to participate.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers receive free tax training, AARP supplied laptops, and are reimbursed on a limited basis for qualified program-related expenses. They help taxpayers at sites around the state, learning new skills while giving back to countless communities.

Tax-Aides have said, "Over the years, we have assisted thousands of people in preparing and filing their tax returns, and could not do it without all of our loyal volunteers who make an indelible mark on the communities they help."

Last year, Tax-Aide volunteers helped over 1,000 taxpayers across the Lower Shore. They join the more than 35,000 Tax-Aide volunteers across the country, helping millions of taxpayers each year. Volunteers for the 2015 season are needed for the Salisbury and Worcester County offices in Ocean City, Ocean Pines, and the Snow Hill – Pocomoke areas.

For more information on how you can join the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide team, visit our web site at www.aarp.org/giving-back or call John Bloecher, District Coordinator, 410-213-1608.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in conjunction with the IRS.

2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TRAVEL NEWS AND FUN UPDATES - 2016

March 16, 2016: Harrington Casino Slots, \$20/person. Includes bus transportation, \$15 play money and \$7 voucher towards Harrington's famous buffet luncheon. **Payment due by February 11th.**

April 5, 2016: Cherry Blossom Cruise, Washington DC, \$129/person. Includes bus transportation & driver tip, lunch, cruise and live music. **Final payment due by 03/10/2016.**

**May 18, 2016: Candlelight Dinner Theater, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, \$85/person. Includes bus transportation & driver tip, lunch and show.
\$25 deposit requested by 01/14/2016. Final payment due by 3/10/2016.**

September 16 -24, 2016: *Romantic Danube River Cruise* - Viking River Cruises on the Longship Freya. Cabin rates from \$3030.50, Double Occupancy. Viking Air special for January includes **FREE air out of Philly (\$100/person out of Balto) for Cabins Category "D" and above. Reservations and deposit must be made by January 31st with final payment by February 29th. **Contact Oasis Travel 410-213-9330.****

NEW!* October 19-21, 2016: West Virginia Scenic Railroad Adventure, \$475/person (Dbl Occupancy). Single supplement, add \$165. Includes bus transportation and driver tip, 2 night's accommodations, 5 meals, 2 train rides and 2 "Branson Style" Music & Comedy Variety Shows. **Payment due by 06/09/2016.*

Check our website Travel page for more information. [Just Click Here.](#)

DON'T FORGET BOB'S LUNCH BUNCH PLANS – Join us after our monthly meetings (Not far to travel, but good fun and a sample of OC's food)

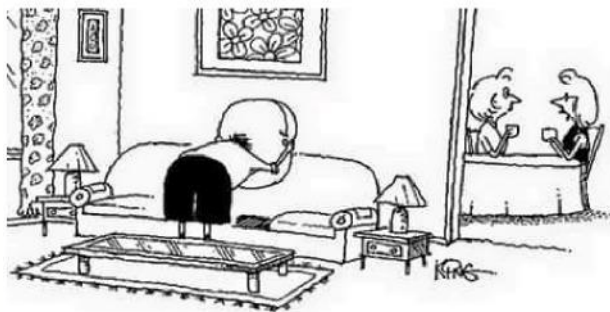
- Jan. - Crabcake Factory (Route 54 location), cost \$17.50
- Feb. - Green Turtle (Ocean City location), cost \$13.00
- Mar. - BJ's on the Water (75th St.), cost \$15.50
- Apr. - Dough Roller (41st St. location), cost \$11.00

Flyers listing the food choices can be seen on our website or at the general meetings prior to the luncheons.

SMILE A
LITTLE



What!!!! No texting in Heaven?



The doctor said he needed more activity. So I hide his T.V. remote three times a week.



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!

HOLIDAY FUN! ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



Many thanks to Chris and Helen Norris for all their work for our holiday party! Special thanks to Chris for his service to this chapter for the last several years. We are grateful that he will remain with us to serve on the board.



**November's Challenge and Holiday Fun!
Chris Norris gives us his American History Trivia Quiz**



Sometimes even discussion amongst us didn't help!

But you know what the experts say, we seniors have sooooo much information in our brains, that at our age, it is difficult sometimes to find or sort the specifics of one pointed question.

New Year Resolutions Anyone?



RULES FOR A HEALTHY LIVING

Less Soda, More Water
Less Alcohol, More Tea
Less Sugar, More Fruits
Less Meat, More Vegetables
Less Driving, More Walking
Less Worry, More Sleep
Less Anger, More Laughter
Less Words, More Action

Words for Wise Seniors in January

1. Prevent falls and injury;

- out of the snow and off the ice
- b. Look into a local community balance training program
2. Relieve stiff shoulders and knees with chair mobility exercises
3. Advance mobility and reduce pain with a yoga class for seniors
4. File your income tax early to avoid identity theft. Last year many individuals did not know that someone used their SS number until IRS rejected their own returns
5. Did you know that IRS will never call you; ignore calls from individuals looking for information or your social security number regardless of who they say they are. Check with a knowledgeable local authority or a good friend regarding the problem
6. Change your passwords on bank checking/savings, financial and mail accounts to avoid hackers at least every three months. Keep your passwords in a safe place.
7. Use a complicated word or a combination of words together that you can remember. Do not use common names, the name of a relative or your birthdate. Never use 1,2,3,4 or 00000 that is easy hacked. For example: horseandoatmeal2104?
8. Create a password that uses unusual combinations of letters, followed by a single or double digit number, followed by an exclamation, question mark or other punctuation choice. AstronautFickle6632!
9. Never use your debit card for telephone or on-line purchases; instead use a credit card with a small limit on purchases.
10. Make sure you have had your flu shot
11. Support our senior center; take a drive, fill out a short form, have your picture taken and become a member. We are working diligently to preserve this life adjunct for so many seniors in our community. Learn what all they offer for seniors. Suggest some events they might add to attract you and your friends.

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MEMBERSHIP 2015-2016 INFORMATION VERIFICATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT ONLY

Last Name:

First Name:

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

National Membership ID#: _____ **(From your AARP National card)**

Expiration Date: _____ **(From your AARP National card)**

Membership Fee: \$7 per person per calendar year

Make Check payable to: AARP Chapter 1917

Mail to: Membership AARP 1917, PO Box 4193, Ocean City, MD 21843

Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope; otherwise your membership card must be picked up at the membership table at a membership meeting.

Membership Requirement: You must be a paid-up member of the National AARP organization to become a Chapter 1917 member.

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month (except for July and August) at the Worcester County Senior Center, Ocean City, located at 41" street, next to the Convention Center. Coffee and Conversation is at 9:30 a.m. Meeting starts at 10 a.m.

Please visit our website www.aarp1917.org to find out more about us.