

FCRE

FAIRFAX COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS



Advocate

VOL. XXXVI, No. 8

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

MAY, 2015

TRANSITIONS AND CHANGES...continue.

by John Dent, President, FCRE

Hello to all FCRE Members! And may I wish you a productive Spring season!

I hope that our May newsletter finds you preparing for a long awaited trip to an exotic location, enjoying the spring flowers and the Cherry Blossoms, or just satisfied to have completed your tax returns safely, correctly, and on time!

In an article in the *Washington Post*, editors lamented the decline in newsprint production in favor of digital copy via hand held devices and computer applications. The transition can be hard on some of us who did not grow up with computers, but clearly the future is the digital presentation of news and information. In order to get into the digital age, we are now offering the FCRE *Advocate* digitally by email. **But**, if you are not interested in receiving the FCRE *Advocate* digitally, do not worry! We will continue to send the newsletter by U.S. Mail. If you are interested in not receiving more paper mail, fill out the form on page 6 of this newsletter, mail it to us, and we will send you an email when the newsletter is published. You can also sign up for the digital newsletter on our website: www.fcrc.org

As educators who have retired during the last quarter century, we look back and see the changes that have occurred in all phases of our world, and technology certainly takes a major role in that time period.

At the start of my term as President, we looked at our processes and procedures to determine how efficiently we were working on behalf of FCRE members. To date, we have identified multiple changes that will allow us to move forward to continue our work as advocates on your behalf. Sending the newsletter by email is just one item that we have looked into.

At FCRE, we have long utilized traditional methods in media production to communicate with our members. Printed newsletters such as you might be reading now are expensive because of rising mailing and production costs. We evaluated our vendor services to reduce those costs as we moved into our new office in Springfield Va. We have changed printers, and we have been able to save on the printing of the newsletter. We are also starting to send the newsletter by Standard Mail which will again save us some money. Sending the newsletter by First Class mail costs us \$ 0.46 for each newsletter. With approximately a thousand members, this adds up. Sending the newsletter by Standard Mail will be a saving of almost 1/2 to 1/3 the cost of a single issue, depending on the pre-sorting. Your newsletter may be a little later than usual, so keep a watch out for it!

FCRE plans to be present at the Fairfax County Public Schools Spring Retirement Ceremony held at W. T. Woodson High School on April 30, 2015. By the time you receive this newsletter, 400 additional school personnel will have retired. Members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of FCRE plan to be at Woodson to hand our information which gives the new retiree a one year free membership to FCRE.

We recognize that the strength of FCRE is our
(continued in second column on this page.)

membership, and we work hard so that you can transition to retirement, explore new adventures, keep learning, and stay involved in our greater community. And we continue to need volunteers to assist us on various committees. The positions of Luncheon Coordinator and Membership Director remain open. These positions are critical event planned positions needing creative and innovative Directors. So, think about it. We need your help. And it is not hard!

Our tremendous thanks goes to **Joyce DeLong** for continuing to plan our luncheons this year as she steps down from the position and hopefully takes a well deserved rest. Thank you so much, Joyce!

The Membership Director position has been vacant for this year, but duties have been handled by veteran staff from the Board of Directors. Being present at the Fairfax County Retirement Ceremonies has enabled various Board members to congratulate and welcome new retirees to retirement and raise awareness of FCRE. (continued on page 2, second column)

DR. KAREN GARZA!

Dr. Karen Garza will be our guest at our final luncheon on featuring our Ford Foundation Scholarship Winners. Make your reservations as soon as possible for Thursday, June 11, 2015. Telephone: 703-923-9877 or email us at luncheon@fcrc.org.

MEMBER SERVICES TOURS

by
Doris Patteson, Director



Immediately is the time to get your deposits in for our spectacular trips! Take advantage of early booking discounts!

Splendid Sicillia--October 16-25, 2015--a few spaces left. Call Doris as soon as possible if you are interested in this great trip.

Maritime Coastal Wonders: Nova Scotia--to leave on **August 24--September 3, 2015**. Cost is \$3651, double occupancy, includes airfare. Again, call Doris as soon as possible. There are a few spaces left.

Heart of the South: Deposit date is May 1, 2015.
Dates of trip: November 8-15, 2015. Cost is \$2,209, double occupancy, includes airfare.

Highlights of this trip:

New Orleans	Vermilionville--230 acres of
Natchez	living history.
Lafayette	
French Quarter	An option offered: Cruise
Cajun Cooking School	on the Mississippi
Baton Rouge	and lunch!
Martin Accordions	

Southern California New Year's Celebration--
Dates of trip: December 29-January 3, 2016.
Cost of trip: \$2549, double occupancy, airfare included.

Highlights of this trip:

Three nights in Los Angeles
Two nights in San Diego

Tournament of Roses Parade

Pasadena

Festivities surrounding the Tournament of Roses Parade: view the floats as they are being finished; band fest of the bands who will play in the parade.

New Year's Eve Gala Dinner Dance

Reserved seating for prime viewing of the Parade.

San Diego featuring Gas Lamp Quarter, Balboa Park, Coronado Island and Old Town San Diego.

Winter in Yellowstone--January 24-30, 2016

Deposit date: July 17, 2016. Get your deposit in early to take advantage of early booking discounts. Check details in last month's (April *Advocate*) or call Doris for a brochure. This is a wonderful, magical winter trip. You may have been to Yellowstone but never in the wintertime. You stay in the Park itself which is an adventure on its own. This is not to be missed!

For all our trips, there are early booking discounts, so get your deposits in early. Remember, should you have to cancel any trip, it is possible to do so up to the last day, before departure, no questions asked. You will get a **full refund** minus the insurance cost.

(Continued from first column):

If you have any questions, please call **Doris Patteson at 703-534-3975** or email Doris at **dpatteson@verizon.net**

And, if you would like to take any trip offered by Collette that we are not booking as a group, Doris can arrange those trips and give you discounts!

Think ahead and plan your fall and winter trips! You can think about cooler temperatures when we are all sitting in the A/C, drinking cooling drinks, and wondering when the heat wave will break. Imagine Yellowstone in Winter!

BOOK NOW!

(Continued from Page 1:)

TRANSITIONS AND CHANGES...continue.

Being able to contact new retirees as they leave Fairfax County employment is critical to our efforts to grow FCRE membership. If you know of any one who is retiring this spring, please let us know so we can give them a free one year membership. Plus, consider offering some of your time to participate in gaining new members.

Next month is our last Member Luncheon of the year, June 11, 2015, and is also the luncheon where we celebrate the winners of our W. Harold Ford Foundation Scholarships. We are happy to announce that **Dr. Karen Garza** will be with us again. She graciously accepted our invitation to come back and be our guest. She will be bringing **Dr. Steve Lockard**, Deputy Superintendent, with her.

Start making your reservations for the June Member Luncheon now! See you then!♦



(continued on this page, second column)



STILL SPRING CLEANING? DON'T FORGET FCRE AND OUR DECEMBER SALE!!!!

Thank you so much for what you have already donated! Those of you still spring cleaning: **DON'T FORGET FCRE AND OUR DECEMBER SALE!**

If you need suggestions for what would be good donations, here is another list of suggestions:

- Gently used scarves
- Necklaces
- Earrings
- Cookbooks that you are finished with
- Kitchen knives--singles or set
- Hand mixers
- Espresso machine, Keurig machine, etc.
- Toaster
- Small vacuum cleaner or large vacuum cleaner.
- Set of drinking glasses.
- If food items, check the expiration date; we cannot sell outdated items!
- Children's toys--a big seller!
- Children's books
- Children's DVDs
- Spa products (make up a basket!)
- A bottle of wine
- Gardening tools--single items or a set
- Gently used purses, wallets, change purses
- Sunglasses
- Screw drivers--Phillips head, straight edge
- Hammer
- Electric drill
- Silk or dried flower arrangements
- Paintings--large or small--we have had wonderful donations here!
- Christmas decorations--a big seller!
- Vases--large and small
- Platters
- Bowls

(continued second column, this page:)

FCRE RECOMMENDATION:

FCRE RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WITHDRAW FROM YOUR FAIR-FAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPONSORED HEALTH PLAN. IF YOU DO, YOU CANNOT REJOIN!

THANK YOU!

**FCRE WOULD LIKE TO THANK
APPLE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN
OUR ENDEAVORS!**

(continued from first column:)

- Glass bowls of all sizes and shapes
- Camping equipment

As you clean and spruce up, you will find all kinds of items that will become someone else's treasures when they help our Scholarship Fund! Bring items to the June Luncheon! Thank you so much!♦

A GENTLE REMINDER:

A gentle reminder: when you come to the FCRE Office located in the Springfield Apple Federal Credit Union, please come in the side door. We have our own private entrance. All you have to do is ring the door bell! Just remember, please call before you come, so someone can be there to let you in: telephone number: 703-923-9877. The FCRE Office is manned on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11:00 a.m until 1:00 p.m.

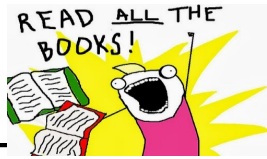
Our physical address is 6708 Backlick Road, Springfield, Va. Our mailing address is:

**FCRE
Box 682
Springfield, Va. 22150-0682
Email: fcre@fcre.org**

ARE YOU IN THE PINK? IF SO, IT IS TIME TO RENEW!

1. Check the expiration date above your name on your mailing label. If it reads, "Expires June 30, 2015 and is outlined in PINK, it is time to RENEW !!! It is easy to renew; here is what you do.
2. Write your check (payable to FCRE) for \$75.00 for 3 year renewal, or \$30.00 for one year renewal
3. Please write your **membership number** (it is on the line above your name on your mailing label) and the word **Renewal** on the memo line of your check.
4. Mail your check to: (One year--\$30.00)
FCRE (Three years-\$75.00)
**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
P. O. BOX 0682
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22150-0682**

That's all you do to renew! Renew now!



MEMBER ACTIVITIES FOR MAY

by
Barbara Marshall, Director

BOOK GROUPS	BRIDGE GROUPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annandale Book Group--Lois Brown, coordinator. Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 12 noon in Lois' home. • Fairfax City Group--Sue Williams, coordinator. Meets at 10:30 a.m. on the 1st Thursday in Barnes and Noble at Fairlakes. The book for May 8 is The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins. • Tysons Tower Group--Anita Cline, coordinator. Meets at 2:00 p.m. the 3rd Wednesday. Book to be decided. • Vienna Tuesday Book Group--Joey Graves, coordinator. Meets the 2nd Tuesday at the Providence Community Center. The book for May is All the Light We Cannot See by A. Doerr. • Vienna Retired Ladies Group--Marlene Gregory, coordinator. The next meeting will be the 2nd Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Oakton Library. The book for May is The Spark: A Mother's Story by Kristine Barnett. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCRE Group--Meets 2nd and 4th Monday mornings. Contact person is Barbara Marshall at 571-203-0375 or bmarshall12@verizon.net. This group will meet at the Vienna American Legion this month. The Legion is located at 303 Center St., Vienna, VA 22180. • Tuesday Morning Group--Coordinator is Sandy Smith. Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in homes. • Third Monday Evening Group--Coordinators are Claudette Coffey and Joey Graves. Meets in homes at 7:00 p.m. • 1st, 3rd, and 5th Monday Bridge Group--Coordinator is Nancy Smagala. Meets at David R. Pinn Community Center on Zion Road in Burke at 9:45-12:00. Players do not stay for lunch. Email nsmagala@aol.com for more information. • The Review Bridge Group with Dave Meadows meets at the Vienna American Legion on the 2nd 4th Mondays at 1:00 p. m. Note: The Review Bridge will take a break until the fall after the April 27 session. Thank you, Dave Meadows!

CINEMA ARTS GROUP

Meet your friends at the Cinema Arts Group which meets at the Cinema Arts Theater on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Cinema Arts Theatre in Pickett Shopping Center across from Woodson High School.

Join your friends for a good movie and lunch afterwards at the First Watch Café.

Contact person is **Alicia Clelland** at cllelaap@cox.net Email Alicia if you would like to be included on the email list for the next film.

NEW ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER:
 FCRE's new address is in the Apple Federal Credit Union in Springfield, VA. The street address is 6708 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA, 22150.
Please come in the side door marked for FCRE. Do not go through the Apple Federal Credit Union entrance. We have our own private entrance on the side. Our new phone number is: 703-923-9877.

FCRE Request for Digital Version of Advocate Newsletter

If you are interested in receiving the FCRE newsletter in a digital format instead of the hard copy presently mailed to you, please fill out the form below and return it to the FCRE office. We are offering this option as we move towards digital communications with our members.

Name (please print): _____

Email address (please print): _____

Send this form to:

FCRE
P.O. Box 682
Springfield, VA 22150-0682



**PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR
FAIRFAX COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS
July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

**W. HAROLD FORD
SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.
Budget - Fiscal Year 2016
July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

**FAIRFAX COUNTY
RETIRED EDUCATORS, INC.
Budget - Fiscal Year 2016
July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

INCOME:

Dedicated Donations	
FCRE	\$ 2,000.00
Apple Fed. Cr. Union	2,000.00
Mary O. Ambler Trust	2,000.00
Bobbi Vest Memorial	4,000.00
Raffle & Table Donations	400.00
Individual Donations	1,100.00
Silent Auction/Quick Sale	600.00
FCRE Admin. Fund	900.00
Interest – Apple FCU CDs	300.00

TOTAL INCOME: \$ 13,300.00

EXPENSES:

2016 Scholarship Awards	
FCRE	\$ 2,000.00
Apple Fed. Cr. Union	2,000.00
Mary O. Ambler	2,000.00
Bobbi Vest	4,000.00
W. Harold Ford	2,000.00
Administrative costs	900.00
Tax preparation	400.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 13,300.00

**NOTES TO THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR
THE FISCAL YEAR, JULY 1, 2015 TO
JUNE 30, 2016**

The proposed budgets can be amended by the membership at the June 11, 2015, luncheon meeting.

INCOME:

1. Membership Dues	\$ 20,000.00
2. Member Services	0.00
3. Interest—Apple FCU Accts, CDs	300.00
4. Miscellaneous Income	0.00
5. Transfer from Reserves	11,160.00

TOTAL INCOME: \$ 31,460.00

EXPENDITURES:

11. Information & Publications	\$ 5,000.00
12. Postage—Info & Publications	5,000.00
13. Copy Equipment—Supplies	500.00
14. Copy Equipment—Maintenance	350.00
15. General Office Supplies	600.00
16. Post Office Box Rental	135.00
17. Telephone Services	2,200.00
18. Computers—Programs and Main.	700.00
19. Tax Preparation & Audit	500.00
20. Corporation Liability Insurance	2,300.00
21. Internal Website & ISP	0.00
22. Miscellaneous	0.00
23. State Annual Incorporation Fee	25.00
24. Office Manager	5,800.00

OFFICERS & DIRECTORSHIPS:

31. President's Fund	\$ 1,000.00
32. Remembrance	400.00
33. Government Relations Team	1,300.00
34. Membership Development	500.00
35. History & Photography	300.00
36. Scholarship Director	900.00
37. Directors & Committees	200.00
38. Legato School Museum	150.00
39. W. Harold Ford Scholarship Fund	2,000.00
40. Luncheon Set-ups & Programs	900.00
41. Members Services—Tours	500.00
42. Change and Petty Cash Fund	200.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$ 31,460.00

FCRE *ADVOCATE*
FAIRFAX COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS
P.O. BOX 682
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22150-0682

MAY 2015

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ARE YOU IN THE PINK?
THEN, IT IS TIME TO
RENEW!

SEE PAGE **3!**

FCRE LUNCHEON DATES!

**JUNE 11, 2015--Last luncheon of
the year! Special guests: our
Scholarship Winners and
Dr. Karen Garza!**

MAY, 2015

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MAY 2015

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Editors: Billie Johnson and Walt Mika

Change of address, articles, letters, and comments should be sent by mail only to:

Fairfax County Retired Educators

FCRE *Advocate*

P. O. Box 682

Springfield, VA 11250-0682

Email: fcrc@fcrc.org

Website: www.fcrc.org

OFFICERS FOR 2014—2015(July 1, 2014—June 30, 2015)

President.....John Dent

Vice President..... Eva Pappas

Secretary.....Dennis Pfennig

Treasurer.....Barbara Dent

Past President Billie Johnson

Parliamentarian.....Walt Mika

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Budget and Finance.....Walt Mika

Communications.....Ken McDaniel

Health Benefits.....Walt Mika

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, continued:

History and Records.....Phyllis McDevitt

Information/Publications.....Billie Johnson

Legato School Museum.....Sue Langley

Government Relations/Legislative...Barbara Allen

Luncheon Director.....Joyce DeLong

Membership..... To be filled

Member Activities.....Barbara Marshall

Member Services-Tours.....Doris Patteson

Parliamentarian.....Walt Mika

Program Director.....Eva Pappas

W. Harold Ford Scholarship..... Phyllis Rittman

Office Manager..... Anita Francis

Remembrances..... Kathleen Donnelly

Mary McKinley

Receipts Accounting.....FCRE Elf

Membership Records.....Dee Kirby

**TO REACH
FAIRFAX COUNTY RETIRED
EDUCATORS:
CALL: 703-923-9877 OR
EMAIL US AT: fcrc@fcrc.org and
luncheon@fcrc.org
WEBSITE: www.fcrc.org**