



FAIRFAX COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS  
703-923-9877 WWW.FCRE.ORG

# THE ADVOCATE

VOLUME XLI, Number 7

April 2020

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**Cathy Shelton**

At this time, we have decided to cancel the April 23 luncheon. With the constant changes in how to deal with the health issues caused by the coronavirus, we thought it best not to hold the luncheon. We hope to schedule our speaker, Francis Gary Powers, Jr for a fall luncheon. Right now, we intend to hold the June 11 Scholarship Luncheon.

We are omitting information about the Cinema Arts Group, the Book Groups, and the Bridge Groups from this issue. In all likelihood those groups will not meet for the next few weeks or months. You can refer to the February *Advocate* if you want to contact one of those group leaders.

While you are sheltering at home, please read the travel updates on the next pages. Dreaming about and planning a getaway for 2021 will help pass the time. Stay in touch with your family and friends through all the wonderful tech tools that we now have. Most of all, stay healthy during this uncertain time.

## **ARE YOU IN THE PINK?**

**If the answer is "yes," it is time to renew your membership!**

**Here's how to know and what to do:**

- Check the expiration date above your name on your mailing label. If it reads "Expires June 30, 2020," then it is time to renew.
- To renew:
  - ✓ Write your check (payable to **FCRE**) for either \$30.00 (for a 1-year renewal) or for **\$75** (for a **3 year renewal**)
  - ✓ Mail your check to: FCRE  
Membership Renewal  
PO Box 682  
Springfield, VA 22150-0682

## Travel Updates

by  
Alicia Clelland



I trust that everyone is hunkered down and staying healthy. Our usual spring outings have been canceled. Netflix, reading and solitary walks are helping maintain our sanity.

This is the perfect time to think about your 2021 travel plans. Collette has several trips planned for our members. These are as follows:

- February 25, 2021 – Hawaiian Adventure
- April 26, 2021- Imperial Cities; Prague, Vienna and Budapest
- May 23 or June 6, 2021- American Cowboy Country
- August (date TBD), 2021- Maritime Coastal Wonders
- September 15 or 22, 2021- Spotlight on Tuscany
- October (date TBD), 2021- Spain and Morocco
- October 4 or 11, 2021- London and Paris

A complete description of these trips can be accessed on the Collette website ([gocollette.com](http://gocollette.com)).

Our 2020 summer and fall trips are still scheduled as planned. Please be aware that the Collette Travel Protection Plan allows you to cancel right up until the day prior to departure and receive a full refund (less the cost of insurance).

	<p><b>October 7-12: Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta</b></p> <p>The Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta has grown into one of the world's most photographed events. This exciting journey also includes time in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, two culturally rich cities. Visit the unique shops and restaurants of Old Town Albuquerque. Set out on an open-air tram tour of Santa Fe with a local guide. Experience the Santa Fe School of Cooking.</p> <p><b>Deposit Deadline: April 30, 2020</b></p>
	<p><b>November 3-14, 2020: Costa Rica – A World of Nature</b></p> <p>From discoveries on water to journeys <i>terra firma</i>, experience Costa Rica – a living Eden on Central America's isthmus. Experience the rainforest, sample the fresh cacao during a visit to a local plantation, visit the green sea turtle research station in Tortuguero National Park, and admire the white sand beaches of Manuel Antonio National Park. This is the very best of Costa Rica – a world of nature.</p> <p><b>Deposit Deadline: March 27, 2020</b></p>

Trevor Major is our contact for information on our Collette trips and Shillelagh Day trips. You can reach him at 703/242-2204 or by email [trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com](mailto:trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com). Please remember to mention that you are a FCRE member when signing up for trips.

## **SHILLELAGH DAY TRIPS**

Shillelagh has several day trips planned for this summer. Slots fill up quickly as these are popular in our community. Visit the Shillelagh Travel Club website ([shillelaghtravelclub.com](http://shillelaghtravelclub.com)) for detailed descriptions of their day trips. You can also see any future trips planned and reserve your seat before they are sold out.

Information about the day trips is given below or can be obtained by contacting Trevor Major at 703-242-2204 or [trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com](mailto:trevorm@shillelaghtravelclub.com)

- **A Day in St. Michaels, MD**

- Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 Cost: \$152.00 per person
- Package Includes: motor coach transportation, guided tour of Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, 65-75 minute cruise on the Miles River, 3-course luncheon at St. Michaels Crab & Steak House, taxes and meal gratuities
- Schedule: depart 7:15 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 7:15 PM to same location

- **Crab Feast**

- Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 Cost: \$107.00 per person
- Package Includes: motor coach transportation, crab feast at Fisherman's Crab Deck on Kent Island, taxes and meal gratuities
- Schedule: depart 11:00 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 5:00 PM to same location.

- **A Day in Virginia Wine Country**

- Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 Cost: \$169.00 per person
- Package Includes: motor coach transportation, 3 course lunch at Griffin Tavern in Flint Hill, Virginia, wine tastings at The Winery at Bull Run and Gray Ghost Vineyards, souvenir wine glass, taxes and meal gratuities.
- Schedule: depart 10:15 AM from 100 East St. SE, Vienna, VA, and return at 6:15 PM to same location.

\*\*\* MANY THANKS \*\*\*

*FCRE wishes to thank the Apple Federal Credit Union.  
Your continued support is greatly appreciated.*



APRIL 2020

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Springfield, VA 22150-0682

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Upcoming FCRE Luncheon Date at the  
Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd.,  
Fairfax, VA  
  
Thurs., Jun. 11 -- reserve by June 5

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>April 2020</b> <b>FCRE <i>ADVOCATE</i> VOL. XLI</b></p> <p>The FCRE <i>ADVOCATE</i> is published by the Fairfax County Retired Educators Exclusively for its members. © Fairfax County Retired Educators Change of address, letters, comments should be sent to the FCRE address above or emailed to: fcre@fcre.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * * * *</p>	<p><b><u>BOARD of DIRECTORS</u></b></p>
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