



# BLACKSBURG NEWS

Volume 19, Issue 7

Chapter # 2613

September 2002

## AN INVITATION

Some of you are receiving this issue of the **BLACKSBURG NEWS** as a means of inviting you to join the **Blacksburg Chapter of AARP**. The monthly membership meeting is held the third Tuesday of each month (no meetings in July or August) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Senior Center, Blacksburg Community Center.

**We encourage you to join the Chapter.** The dues are \$6 individual and \$10 for husband and wife. You, the community, and the Chapter will all benefit by your participation. Please pack a lunch (coffee and tea provided) and join us at the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

R. B. "Ben" Crawford

Fall is near: beautiful, beautiful Fall in the New River Valley. A rainbow of colors is beginning to show in the foliage. Football excitement is in the air. More than twenty-five thousand Virginia Tech students, from nearly every state and from numerous countries, crowd the streets, stores and halls of learning.

And Blacksburg AARP picks up where we left off last June when a hundred or so of us enjoyed our annual picnic with delicious home-cooked food and great fellowship. The Blue Ridge Model A Club, whose members joined us with some ten antique show cars; and the new trash disposal demonstration by Blacksburg Town staff, made the picnic even more exciting and interesting. We greatly appreciate the help and the participation of the Club and the Town.

I'm grateful we reside in an active town with a vibrant university community even though it seems sometimes we have too much to do and too little time. For example, the YMCA'S "Open University" is currently offering sixty-nine (69) different courses in Fitness & Health, Dance, Well Being, Arts & Crafts, Food, Music & Language, Business and

Special Interest. A Special Interest course was mentioned at our September Board meeting that may be of interest to you because of its timeliness and importance:

**CITIZEN INTRODUCTION TO FEDERAL BUDGETING and SPENDING** Your share of the national debt is \$21,000. Want to learn more? Then join us three consecutive Monday evenings 6:45 to 8:45 beginning September 30 for a "Citizen Introduction to Federal Budgeting and Spending." The course is designed for persons **WITHOUT** expertise/understanding of our country's federal budget, its revenue sources, and major consumption areas. Attention will be given to creating an understanding of major budget categories, frequently heard budget concepts, and accumulated national debt, as well as to major entitlement programs including Social Security. The course will conclude with an in-depth discussion of potential social and fiscal consequences related to legislative action/inaction. Course leaders are a group of concerned citizens affiliated with the Roanoke-Southwest Virginia Chapter of the Concord Coalition." ([www.concordcoalition.org](http://www.concordcoalition.org)). To register for

this course, call 231-4208, or for more information call me at 961-5733.

With the trite but true adage that education begins in the cradle and ends in the grave, another course I recommend you consider is the **55 ALIVE—AARP SAFE DRIVING PROGRAM For SENIORS**. If you missed this course in our Blacksburg Senior Center September 12 & 13, there is another two afternoon course Wednesday, October 30 & Friday, Nov 1, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Christiansburg Recreation Center (old Lowes building). Graduates receive a reduction in their automobile insurance for three years per Virginia law. More importantly, it will make you a safer driver. To register, call **Sherry Kostric** at 382-2349. Fee \$10. The instructor is **Bill Wagoner**, an experienced AARP volunteer.

Speaking of driving, this is for those who remember seeing these signs along the highways many years ago. You might also enjoy reading the history of the company at the end.

DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD  
TO GAIN A MINUTE  
YOU NEED YOUR HEAD  
YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT  
\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

DROVE TOO LONG  
DRIVER SNOOZING  
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT  
IS NOT AMUSING  
\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

CAUTIOUS RIDER  
TO HER RECKLESS DEAR  
LET'S HAVE LESS BULL  
AND LOTS MORE STEER  
\*\*Burma shave\*\*

THE MIDNIGHT RIDE  
OF PAUL FOR BEER  
LED TO A WARMER  
HEMISPHERE

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

SPEED WAS HIGH  
WEATHER WAS HOT  
TIRES WERE THIN  
X MARKS THE SPOT

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

AROUND THE CURVE  
LICKETY—SPLIT  
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL CAR  
WASN'T IT?

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

PASSING CARS  
WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE  
MAY GET YOU A GLIMPSE OF  
ETERNITY

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

NO MATTER THE PRICE  
NO MATTER HOW NEW  
THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE  
IN THE CAR IS YOU

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

AT INTERSECTIONS  
LOOK EACH WAY  
A HARP SOUNDS NICE  
BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

BOTH HANDS ON THE WHEEL  
EYES ON THE ROAD  
THAT'S THE SKILLFUL  
DRIVER'S CODE

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

THE ONE WHO DRIVES  
WHEN HE'S BEEN DRINKING  
DEPENDS ON YOU  
TO DO HIS THINKING

\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

PASSING SCHOOL ZONE  
TAKE IT SLOW  
LET OUR LITTLE SHAVERS GROW  
\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

YOU CAN DO  
A MILE A MINUTE  
BUT THERE AIN'T  
NO FUTURE IN IT  
\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

The O'Dell brothers who lived in Minneapolis and had a little plant in the Bryn Mar district created Burma-Shave. On Mondays they would drive along the highways, near a town, and place these signs. Then, they would proceed to the next town and repeat the process. Late on Thursday and into Friday they would backtrack and call upon the local drug store(s) asking; "No doubt you have had calls for Burma-Shave." They would take orders and leave the merchandise along with reorder forms. That's how they got started in the thirties, and they did it for years. Finally, in the 60's, Philip Morris became interested in this little Burma-Shave Company. It is believed the company's sales were about \$900,000 a year when the business was sold to Philip Morris. Philip Morris then proceeded to buy a series of one-minute TV commercials on NFL football, which cost something like \$150,000 each. This decision actually destroyed a good little profit-making company in one football season. You might say it went up like smoke!

BURMA-SHAVE MADE THEIR SALES  
USING SIGNS, POSTS AND NAILS  
PHILIP MORRIS TRIED TV  
AND NOW YOU NO LONGER SEE  
\*\*Burma Shave\*\*

P. S. Please make a note of September 26. That Thursday, join millions of others across the county for **AARP'S National Day of Service**. On September 26, spend a portion of the day making a difference in someone's

life. Do something special to help another or others. Then let me or any member of the Board (listed in this newsletter) know what you have done. Thank you, and we'll tell you more about this at our regular meeting on the 17th. Hope to see you there.

## FUTURE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

The September membership meeting will be on **September 17** at the Senior Center in the Blacksburg Community Center. As in the past we will gather at **11:30 a.m.** to eat our bag lunches. The meeting will begin at 12 noon. Program: **Dr. Marie Suthers-McCabe, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.** Her topic will be "Lessons Learned About the Human-Animal Bond at Ground Zero." Be sure to make a special effort to attend and remember to bring a friend.

October 15 – Day Center at Virginia Tech, Alison Galway, Director

November 19 – Elder First Aid, representative from Red Cross.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Pat Palmer is our Membership Chair. If you have friends who should be members, please bring them to the September meeting and encourage them to join. Dues can be paid at the meeting or sent to Pat. His address follows:

**Pat Palmer**  
**2003 Scott Drive**  
**Blacksburg, VA 24060**

Have I paid my dues for 2002? Check the mail label on your Newsletter. If "2002" appears on the label, you have paid. There has been a question as to the meaning of the "N" at the end of the 2002N on some of your

mail labels. "N" denotes that you are a new member.

Those of you who are 90 years old and older do not pay dues. Your label should read "Life Member." The current membership list has the following members that are 90 years of age or older:

Fay Hoy	Wesley Judkins
James McCann	Esther McKenna
Beverly Printz	Nelle Trent
Lottie Trimm	

If you know of corrections to this list, please tell Pat or Don Elson so that our membership records are correct.

## AARP MEMBERSHIP LIST UPDATES

Please make these changes to your membership list that was included in your June Newsletter (on blue paper).

### Deceased

Alice Dewitt  
Alta Loop  
Edward Mundie  
Ruby Murley

### Change of Address

Ken and Harriet Cooper  
618 Woodland Dr  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

### Change of Telephone Number

Carrie Coil -- 552-4530

### Name Correction

Katherine Donald

### New Members

Mary Moore  
506 Forest Hill Dr  
Blacksburg, VA  
552-3383

If there are others corrections, please notify Don Elson.

## CHAPTER AWARDS

Bob Blanton

The Chapter Awards Committee began functioning in September 2000. Two awards are given annually at the December Christmas luncheon.

The *Community Spirit Award* will be given to a person in the Blacksburg community that best exemplify the goals of AARP through their volunteer activities at the national, state, or local level. The activities should better the lives of older Americans, although additional efforts related to other age groups will also receive consideration. The activities do not have to be done as part of an AARP program and the award recipient could be of any age.

The *Chapter Service Award* will be given to a member of the Blacksburg AARP Chapter for his or her activities in AARP, whether at the national, state or local level.

Nominations for both awards are to be made by Blacksburg AARP chapter members to the Awards Committee. You as members may make nominations until the deadline of Tuesday, October 1, the next Board meeting date.

A brief biographical sketch of the nominee and a written justification as to why the nominee should receive the award should accompany each nomination.

Please send names of nominees with the biographical sketch and justification to one of the following Awards Committee members by October 1:

Bob Blanton  
Charlotte Beamer  
Clara Jane Billig  
Ray Murley

## **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM PROGRAM**

**Dr. Charles Walcott** will speak on "Illusions of Progress: The Search for Campaign Reform" on Tuesday, September 24 at 12 noon at the Senior Center, Blacksburg Community Center.

This program is co-sponsored by the Montgomery County League of Women Voters and the Blacksburg Senior Center.

Since 1989, Dr. Walcott has been a Professor of Political Science at Virginia Tech. For 21 years prior to this, he was on the faculty of the University of Minnesota. He is co-editor of the journal, *Congress and the Presidency*, and has written four books on government and politics. His research and specialty is the U. S. Presidency. He teaches courses exploring the problems of money and politics, focusing on the problems that have arisen and the proposals for reform.

## **AARP E-MAIL LISTSERV**

The Blacksburg AARP E-mail ListServ is now usable. You may send broadcast e-mails to those who have given me addresses. Then, you may REPLY to ALL, or REPLY to just the sender. It's a start. The address is [aarp2613@listserv.bburg.bev.net](mailto:aarp2613@listserv.bburg.bev.net)

## **TOURS AND TRIPS FOR SENIORS**

### **Blacksburg Parks and Recreation**

Joy Herbert

**Call Immediately:** Joy Herbert, senior supervisor, 961-1134 to make reservations or for additional information.

### **Botetourt County Historical Museum**

Wednesday, September 25. Leave Center at 8:30 a.m. and return by 2:30 p.m.

Cost: Residents \$5 and non-residents \$10

Fees includes transportation, lunch extra.

### **Hawk's Nest State Park, West Virginia**

Wednesday, October 2. Leave Center at 8 a.m. and return by 6:30 p.m.

Cost: Residents \$20 and non-residents \$30

Fees includes transportation and lunch. Extra for tram and/or jet boat rides.

### **Peaks of Otter and D-Day Memorial Tour**

Tuesday, October 8. Leave Center at 8:30 a.m. and return by 4:00 p.m.

Cost: Residents \$34 and non-residents \$44

Fees include transportation, guided tour, and lunch buffet.

### **Smith Mountain Lake Cruise and Old Hales Ford Store**

Wednesday, October 23 Leave Center at 9:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m.

Cost: Residents \$36 and non-residents \$46

Fees include transportation, cruise, meal and gratuities.

R. B. Crawford, President  
AARP Chapter #2613  
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Blacksburg, VA 24060

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Virginia Tech Retires Association

Jim Moore