

# Blacksburg News



*AARP Chapter #2613, P.O. Box 10082, Blacksburg, VA. 24060.  
Staff: Frank Lau, Darrel Clowes, Elaine & Jim Gaines (Newsletter)*

*<http://civic.bev.net/aarp>  
Webmaster: Connie Anderson*

**Write it down, check it off, whatever you need to do to remind yourself! Next General meeting is April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. Our feature speaker will be Bill Kallio, State Director, Virginia AARP. Reporting to the Chapter about the recently concluded legislative session will be the Honorable John S. Edwards, 21<sup>st</sup> Senatorial District, and the Honorable James Shuler, 12<sup>th</sup> House of Delegates District of our General Assembly. Shuler is also an active member of the Blacksburg AARP Chapter. Senator Brandon Bell and Delegate Dave Nutter were invited, but declined because of scheduling conflicts. They are a first rate group of "In the Know men" in the Commonwealth! ---- A meeting NOT to be missed----**

**--- Don't forget our Picnic at Nellies Cave Park, 11:30 am on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Details next issue, but set aside some unique item for donation to WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION --**

## **From the President:**

AARP National Day of Service,  
Thursday May 12, 2005

Our Blacksburg AARP Chapter has been invited to be one of 10 Chapters in Virginia to be part of a state-wide home modification effort for low income seniors living in their own house. The emphasis will be on helping a senior family to remain safely in their own home rather than vacate for some type of long term care facility. The Home Depot Corporation has agreed to support this AARP effort with direct help at the local store level. This means in our area the Christiansburg Home Depot store will provide a Team Leader and several skilled staff members to work along side Blacksburg AARP volunteers and our other local partner, New River Valley Habitat For Humanity.

In mid-April the three local partners will meet to workout a plan of action, then visit the home selected for modification and develop an on site assessment approach which will suit all parties. This is an unusual opportunity for our chapter members to get involved with some very direct community service. Any member or friend who would like to volunteer to help in the skilled or unskilled aspects of this important project please contact me at: [cmcd@vt.edu](mailto:cmcd@vt.edu) or by phone at 552-5818 as soon as possible, but no later than Monday May 2, 2005. Thank you for your help with this great chance to provide some needed community service in our area.  
Regards, Carl McD

## Understanding Your Mailing Label

Is spelling correct?

Check membership: 2004 means your dues are not paid for 2005--- DON" T MISS OUT! Your mailing label will be removed on April 30<sup>th</sup>, and you will not be eligible for the annual picnic.

2005 means you are up to date---- THANK YOU!

2005N means new membership with dues paid--- WELCOME!

A comprehensive membership list will be available at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

April 5th, 2005

Ben Crawford (for Harriet Damant, Secretary)

Blacksburg AARP Chapter, Blacksburg, Virginia

### Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 5, 2005, Blacksburg Community Center

#### MINUTES

#### Present

Ben Crawford	Frank Lau	Donald Elson	Dale Oliver
Jane Lane	Cerrie Coil	Mary Ellen Moore	Jim Moore
Darrel Clowes	Jim Shotts	Glen Mitchell	Joyce Martin
Carl McDaniels	Jim Gaines	Connie Anderson	Catherine Malone*

\* Cathy is an intern to us from the VT Service Learning Center, working on Membership.

1. President *Carl* called meeting to order at 9:32 am:
2. Reported *Harriet Damant* ill and passed card for all to sign,
3. appointed *Crawford* as Secretary for this meeting,
4. welcomed *Catherine Malone*, VT Psychology Senior-- assisting us with membership via Service Learning Center. Her email [camalone@vt.edu](mailto:camalone@vt.edu)
5. **Agenda** reviewed and approved with additions
6. **Treasurer's Report:** VP *Martin* reported for Treasurer *Allen* (illness in family). Handed out Financial Report showing income and expenses for Feb. and Mar, 2005. Bank balance end of Mar. \$3,098.82. Suggested newsletter (due to cost) be a maximum of 4 double-sided (8) pages. Motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept Treasurer's Report: **APPROVED**

*Martin* gave **membership report:** 261 members. Was mentioned *Malone* (above) spent 1 & 1/2 hours at Kroger's (UMall) promoting chapter--gave out 12 chapter brochures. This has Kroger management OK. Positive discussion and **consensus to continue.**

7. *Crawford* reported on **programs** April through June (see Apr. newsletter). Note **June 21 at noon-- a Pot Luck at Nellies Cave Park** followed by fun and games. Chapter furnishes drinks.
8. **Newsletter:** *Clowes* and *Lau*. Discussion on listing officers and contact information
9. *Anderson* mentioned and maintains new **Chapter Web site**—<http://civic.bev.net/aarp/>
10. **Tax Aid:** *Lau* noted 75 electronic returns completed, 8 pending. 120 persons serviced involving more than 134 volunteer hours. Moving **away** from appointments toward walk-ins.
11. **Sept Health Fair:** no report. **5/12 Day of Service:** working on. Home Depot will provide staff and financial assistance. We need to locate suitable home to "fix up/make safer." **Volunteer Recognition** here this Sat 10 to 11:30 a.m.—approx' 30 nominations per *Oliver*.
12. **Legislative Report:** *Mitchell* and *McDaniels* presented draft letter (by committee) to our congressmen, with our concerns and suggestions regarding Social Security. Long discussion. Consensus to send on behalf of Board, as modified during discussion, over President Carl's signature. **5 wishes** postponed to next meeting. **ADJOURNED 11:a.m.**

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION CELEBRATION**  
**APRIL 9, 2005**  
**10:00-11:30 A.M. at the Blacksburg Community Center**

More than 70 individuals were on hand for the Volunteer Recognition Celebration held April 9. The Celebration was sponsored by our Blacksburg AARP Chapter, the Voluntary Action Center, the American Red Cross, and the YMCA at Virginia Tech. The purpose of the event was to recognize outstanding volunteers from throughout the New River Valley

Twenty-five nominations were made from organizations throughout the New River Valley in recognition of outstanding volunteers. Mary Ellen and Jim Moore, nominated by our Blacksburg AARP Chapter, received the Jim and Lenna Moore Citizenship and Community Service Award for exemplary volunteer efforts.

Mary Ellen and Jim have been actively involved with the Blacksburg AARP Chapter for 15 years, with Jim having served as treasurer and both having spearheaded numerous chapter activities. They have for many years worked with the Christmas Store and have served on 11 Red Cross national disaster teams, including New York and Florida. Both were leaders in establishing the Blacksburg Senior Center and continue to contribute to the center programs. Mary Ellen was a volunteer trainer with the local mental health board for 10 years and Jim

president of the local chapter of the National Association for Retired Federal Employees. Among their current volunteer activities, Mary Ellen is providing a meal, transportation, and games twice a month for 12 mentally handicapped persons, while Jim is extensively involved in Virginia Tech and Red Cross disaster planning efforts.

**CONGRATULATIONS** Mary Ellen and Jim on an outstanding volunteer record!

The Celebration featured entertainment, awards recognitions, and light refreshments. Besides the four organizations sponsoring the event mentioned above, others contributing to it included the Blacksburg Senior Center, the Retired Senior Volunteer Programs of Floyd, Pulaski, and Montgomery-Radford. Further, monetary contributions were received from the Montgomery Regional Hospital and the Carillion Hospitals of the New River Valley.

Joyce Martin, Dale Oliver, and June Schmidt participated in planning for the event. Also helping from our chapter were Kenneth Martin, photographer; Carrie Coil and Mary Ellen Moore from our Hospitality Committee; and Barbara Blanton



**Above, (L to R): Master of Ceremonies Ben Crawford, Jim and Mary Ellen Moore, and Allen Moore (Lenna and Jim's son).**

# Celebration honors area's volunteers

More than two dozen volunteers were recognized by various New River Valley community groups.

By Dawn Baumgartner Vaughan  
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381-1671

Sixteen community organizations from across the New River Valley came together earlier this month to recognize their volunteers and choose the recipient of the 2004 Jim and Lenna Moore Community Service and Citizenship Award.

Jim and Mary Ellen Moore, who were nominated by Blacksburg AARP, received the award at the New River Valley Volunteer Recognition Celebration held at the Blacksburg Community Center on April 9.

The Moores were recognized for their service to the Montgomery County Christmas Store, American Red Cross, the Blacksburg Senior Center, Blacksburg AARP and National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

The award is named in the memory of community volunteers Jim and Lenna Moore.

It was created after Lenna Moore died in 1999 by the four organizations in which she was most active — the YMCA, American Red Cross, AARP and the Voluntary Action Center.

Last year's winner was Bob Blanton, who was active in several community groups including the Blacksburg Host Lions Club, before his death earlier this year.

Previous winners include Dan Level, Nelda Pearson and Robert Stuart.

Other volunteers recognized were:

■ Esther Eaves Jones, by the Montgomery County and Radford Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

■ Bill Absher, by the Blacksburg Host Lions Club.

■ Kathleen Gross, by the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley.

■ Bob Gribben, by the New River Valley Agency on Aging.

■ Barbara Smith, by the Cranwell International Center at Virginia Tech and YMCA International Programs.

■ Nic Carter, Ann Saacke, Sandy Bosworth, Mary Britt, George McNeil and the Somali Bantu Resettlement Initiative, by the YMCA at Virginia Tech.

■ Lisa Bass, by the Montgomery County/Floyd Chapter of the American Red Cross.

■ Hetta Slusher and Rober-

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## FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

ta Shoemaker, by the Floyd Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of New River Community Action.

■ Mike Gunther, by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia.

■ Jolee Crawford, by Children's Health Improvement Partnership of the New River Valley.

■ Donna Mills and Clarence and Viola Nolen, by New River Community Action.

■ Mary Moyer, by the YMCA of Virginia Tech and the Humane Society of Montgomery County.

■ John Doyle Pauley, by Hunter's Lodge 156.

■ Coreen Mett, by the American Red Cross.

■ Rosie Tomlinson, by the Order of the Eastern Star McDaniel Chapter 47 and the Christiansburg Rescue Squad Auxiliary.

■ Bud Chambless, Carolee Madero and Eileen Bostic, by the Giles Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of New River Community Action.

## Applause also goes to ...

■ Employees of the New River Valley Mall, who will sponsor and build a house for