Blacksburg



A. A. R. P.

NEWSLETTER

September 20, 1994

Volume 11, Number 6

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Chapter 2613

John G. Palmer, Editor

What a beginning to another active year in B'burg! Not only has the weather been just great, but mutual friends are back in town and familiar organizations of interest will call upon us for some service. And how about that HOKIE football team in their first two games? Not only that but autumn colors are yet to come, and once again we'll be gearing up for a big election on November 8.

FUTURE ATTRACTIONS

September 20 * * * * * But that ain't all! You may have noted in a newspaper article or notice from Blacksburg Parks and quite recently a Senior Programs Supervisor has been appointed. Our speaker will be that appointee, JOY HERBERT, who will provide 20 hours per week to needs of persons in our age group. She WILL ACTIVITIES underway FOR ALL SENIORS in our town. Ms Herbert, a vibrant and enthusiastic person, will also be open to comments and suggestions. Come and bring one or more friends. Each of us might find an activity of interest or have another one to suggest. Also, volunteers will be needed to help her develop a program that will satisfy needs of many different capabilities and interests.

You'll need to watch newspapers and incoming mail henceforth for upcoming programs and activities.

Now you really should bring \$5.00, i.e. five bucks, to this meeting for purchase of a ticket to the annual October luncheon meeting, which is described in the listing for October 18.

October 10 * * * * * * Observance of Columbus Day instead of October 12.

October 18 * * * * * * This meeting comprises the chapter "Soup and Sandwich"
luncheon and program of the year. As usual, this
meeting will take place in Custom Catering at 902
Patrick Henry Drive. The principals will include
vegetable-beef soup, assorted sandwiches, tossed
salad, and lemon meringue pie. You may drink iced

(continued from page 1)

tea or coffee. Lou Kassem will present some children's literature for your enjoyment.

The assemby TIME will be 11:30 AM and SERVING WILL START at 11:45. Be sure to put the date, time, and place on your calendar.

- October 30 * * * * * * I never know whether I should cheer or boo when DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ends!
- October 31 * * * * * * This is the day or evening that's enjoyed by pumpkins, witches, trolls, goblins, and other friends of children and parents.

You CAN HELP Out

A university graduate student, Ms Juli J. Lin, seeks participants aged 50 to 75 years of age for a study that has two objectives: (1) development of methods that will make consumer products such as remote controls for TV, CD, etc., more accessible and usable by individuals with special needs and (2) evaluation of how various features on controls will affect usability by persons with near-vision. In other words, individuals who need reading glasses, bifocals, or trifocals for reading and close-up work can really contribute to help the youngsters and oldsters who have this problem.

If you can read print in a book or newspaper that you hold but can't read traffic signs at 100 feet, then there'll probably be research in the future to help you.

Volunteer participants will spend one (1) to one and one-half (1 1/2) hours operating a Photo CD player under various simulated conditions and complete a few questionnaires about his/her impressions of the remote controls in the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory within the Department of Industrial Engineering at Virginia Tech. Sessions will be conducted days, evenings, and weekends, and transportation can be provided during evenings and weekends.

Lin can be contacted by phone in the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory at 231-9089 during the day or at home at 552-8994 in the evening after September 25, and a few orange fliers should be on the table by the door at the meeting on the twentieth, if I don't forget.

Completion of a part in this study will be rewarded by a Kodak Single-use camera, and helping these researchers is very rewarding.

PARTICIPATE IN SUCH HEALTH STUDIES when you can. Alta and Bill Burgess reported that they were selected by-chance among 10,00 over-70-agers for a study about aging and health funded by the National Institute on Aging. Each interview took an hour + and dealt with finances, health, and other aging problems. No prizes but satisfaction was the pay-off!

707. TU1!

'Twasn't mentioned at the beginning, but how about that Old Farmer's Almanac forecast for heavy snow next winter in the southern Appalachians & upper midwest? There'll be little difference in Wisconsin but maybe last year's ice will be next year's snow here in Virginia. I'd rather shovel than slide, given a choice!

THREE CHEERS

Quite often one or more members of this chapter are cited for a good deed in contribution to one or more of our communities. It's happened again!

In the July 23 Roanoke Times &* World News, *Ken Martin*, chairperson of our Health Care Committee and personnel officer for the Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension Service, received the state distinguished service award from Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity.

In the August 28 issue of the same newspaper, Rotarians were cited for work on the Nellies Cave Park where we had the June picnic. Bill Rogers, Jim (the Shorter) Moore, and Frank Elmore were recognizable and deserved an "A" for effort!

BLOOD DONATIONS are badly NEEDED BY THE RED CROSS because demand for transfusions requirements have been exceeding donations. I understand that the rules of collecting and schedules for collecting are being changed by the national and local agencies. Some good - some bad?

HEALTH, HOSPITALIZATION, MEDICINES, ETC.

Prez Ray Murley reports that he receives much literature from the national AARP urging support of the national AARP campaign on health reform.

Ken Martin says that most of us do not understand any group's current proposal.

The next few weeks will be interesting and hopefully informative. In any case, most of us should pay attention to what's in the proposals, which may contain 1,500 words. The final decision on support or non-support will probably be made by national AARP officers but you should know what's in it for you, your children and grandchildren, and our nation.

We also have to think about costs and their payments.

The chapter will donate \$125.00 TO AARP's ANDRUS FOUNDATION. Among other activities, research grants for problems of aging are awarded, including at least one here at Virginia Tech.

HUNGER LURKS HERE! DON'T FORGET THE FOOD PANTRY located AT THE BLACKS-BURG BAPTIST CHURCH!! Severe SHORTAGES of canned goods, dried milk, other non-perishable foods, and cash donations STILL EXIST. Please try to help the less-fortunate at (1) our chapter meetings; (2) the "Food Pantry" itself, which is located on Progress St. at Faculty St. (behind the church); (3) your local place of worship; or (4) at other community deposits. Our chapter and the other agencies will receive such donations all year long!

LEARNING & FUNNING

Bob Blanton, Chairperson of the Membership Committee, reports a 1994 roll of 278, which is the highest enrollment ever.

A chapter information bulletin is available and will be taken to the Chamber of Commerce office by Jim (the Shorter) Moore. Help circulate it!

The annual June picnic was a howling success according to BILL HAAS of the Ways and Means Committee. A total of \$289.89 was provided to the chapter treasury. Bill REQUESTS that DONATIONS OF VALUE be brought to this meeting, i.e. September 20, and others, no doubt. Some donated hamburger chips will be auctioned AT THIS MEETING, too.

Ruby Murley really needs help in identification of members and their families that need help. It ain't easy, what she does! Call 552-5039.

You'll probably be hearing about the "Retire Blacksburg Exposition" that is planned for 1995. Attraction of new residents in our age bracket to this town of 36,000, counting students, is the objective. Jim (the Shorter) Moore is also active in this effort.

We quite often read poems, quips, etc., about we seniors, but I've always been interested in those notes that suggest that if we remember certain events, clothes, habits, humor, etc. then we know we're "up there."

Examples might be: Tr-motored Ford airplanes, knickers, a "ruptured duck," bobby sockerx, a flu epidemic, the Sons of the Pioneers, coal-oil kitchen stoves, engine roundhouses, heat registers in the floor, iceboxes, Al Jolson, Amelia Earhart, Estes Kefauver, white margarine with an enclosed color packet, lye soap, page-boy haircuts were the rage, gas street lamps, orders for ice delivery in the window, open-air trollies, holding a buttercup under the chin, the Charleston dance, boop-boop-adoo.

Lenna Moore AARP Chapter #2613 1607 Greenwood Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060

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Blacksburg
AARP CHAPTER MEETING
Tuesday, September 20, 1994
Blacksburg Community Center
Patrick Henry Drive
11:30 AM = Lunch & Conversation
12:00 Noon = Program