

# NEWSLETTER



September-October 2021

Who would have believed a year ago that 12 months later we would still be talking about a surge in Covid-19? Now that the fourth wave is sweeping the country, plans are again being upended, especially for anticipated and long-awaited travel, but as of this writing, schools are committed to opening in person and ARTA is committed to continuing its VIRTUAL programs! At our June Board meeting, we agreed that we'd stay virtual at least until the beginning of 2022, a plan which now proves to have been a wise decision. After publishing just three newsletters the past two years since we didn't need a fourth one to announce spring luncheon plans, we are again planning to do four issues this year, hoping to have our end-of-year luncheon again at the Fairfax Army Navy Club on **May 25!** Mark your calendars and hope for the best!

Did you know that ARTA is now beginning our **50<sup>th</sup> year?!**  While it's hard to plan ahead, I think we'll want to have some celebration next fall when the actual 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary date arrives. In the meantime, we hope you'll join us each month this fall for our virtual programs – the first two of which, **September and October**, are announced here. Meanwhile, our past officers are staying on in their roles, though only temporarily for treasurer Randy McKnight, who will stay only until January in order to train a still-needed volunteer!!

## ARTA OFFICERS FOR 2021-2022

PRESIDENT	Nancy King 703-978-8017	SECRETARY	Cathy Eckbreth 703-534-4402
VICE PRESIDENT	Lynne Lilly 703-536-2550	TREASURER	Randy McKnight 703-516-0401

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2021-2022

Budget	Randy McKnight	Program	Lynne Lilly
Membership	Michele Mildner	Concerns/Health Issues	Cathy Eckbreth
Directory	Lynn Juhl	Parliamentarian	Cathy Eckbreth
Telephone Tree	Bonnie Fowler	Nominations	VACANT
Historian	VACANT	Hospitality	ARTA Members
Legislative	Jeanne Trabulsi	Scholarship	Cathy Eckbreth
Newsletter	Ellen Bartlett	Fundraising	Sandi Green
Publicity	ARTA Board	Registration/Nametags	Ellen Bartlett

**Fall 2021 Meeting Place: Your home!**

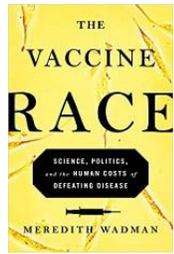
**Virtual on Zoom**

In advance of each month's virtual program, you will receive the link via email.

**Usual Meeting Date/Time:**

Second Wednesday unless announced  
1:00 p.m. virtual presentation

**Join us online!! Invite a member without broadband or others.**

**SEPTEMBER 8 at 1:00 p.m. via ZOOM: THE VACCINE RACE BY MEREDITH WADMAN**

Our first **virtual program** will be presented by writer **Meredith Wadman** who will talk about her gripping book, *The Vaccine Race: Science, Politics and the Human Costs of Defeating Disease*, which tells the tale of WI-38, a fascinating cell line with a colorful and controversial history and a huge public health impact – the book is not about the development of the Covid vaccine but about the race to conquer other illnesses, especially the much-feared polio. *The New York Times* said, "A real jewel of science history...brims with suspense and now-forgotten catastrophe and intrigue . . .Wadman's smooth prose calmly spins a surpassingly complicated story into a real tour de force."



**Ms. Wadman** has covered biomedical research politics from Washington for twenty years. She is a reporter at *Science* and has written for *Nature*, *Fortune*, the *New York Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. A graduate of Stanford and Columbia, she began medical school at the University of British Columbia and completed her medical degree as a Rhodes Scholar at the University of Oxford.

She lives in Arlington and has two sons who graduated from the Arlington Public Schools. More about her at <https://meredithwadman.com/about-meredith/> and about her book at <https://www.amazon.com/Vaccine-Race-Science-Politics-Defeating/dp/0525427538>

**OCTOBER 13 via ZOOM: TRIVIA FUN WITH TOM MCGEADY!!**

Last year we skipped our October meeting since we could not safely have a field trip. This year we're in the same situation, so we've planned a fun virtual event in lieu of travel [hoping to have a "live" field trip in April 2022]. Polish up your trivia skills and join us virtually for what Board member Sandi Green describes as a lot of fun! She has seen **Tom McGeady** when he has hosted programs for the Great Falls Senior Center and at a bi-weekly team trivia program occurring at The Old Brogue Restaurant in Great Falls VA.

This will obviously be a participatory event and a chance to meet and enjoy a fall get-together!

**Please Note:** ARTA programs begin at **1 p.m.** You will be emailed the program link in advance of the program and it will be active that day beginning at **12:45 p.m.** for pre-program visiting. There will also be a chance to chat online after the program. However, we will not be posting any program videos, so do not click on the link post program. Post-program clickers will just see themselves staring at the screen! [As far as we know, there are no changes in our health insurance that would warrant a Health Benefits forum in October. We'll email if one is later announced.

**ARTA IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF RIF OF NOVA'S 4<sup>TH</sup> BOOK IT FOR BOOKS 5K!**

As we did in 2017 and 2019, ARTA is an official sponsor of **Reading Is Fundamental of Northern Virginia's (RIF of NOVA) Book It for Books 5K Run/Walk**. This year's event will be held on **October 16 at Bluemont Park**, 329 N. Manchester St. at 9 a.m. The race will raise money to provide books for deserving students in Arlington, Fairfax and Prince William counties and in the City of Alexandria. ARTA's sponsorship was funded through the generous donations of six leadership team members. Consider joining in the fun that day and see the ARTA logo displayed on the race shirts and race materials. If you are more comfortable running/walking on your own but still want to support RIF of NOVA's young readers, you can choose the virtual option and run/walk anywhere you want! Visit [www.rifnova.org](http://www.rifnova.org) for run and sponsorship information and to see our logo under Paperback sponsors! Registration is open at:

<https://potomac.enmotive.com/events/register/2021-book-it-for-books-5k> Serious and fun runners, walkers, children, and families are welcome! **Want to volunteer that day? Contact Nancy King.**



## FROM THE DESK OF ARTA'S PRESIDENT!

Dear Friends,

I hope this finds each of you and your family members well and able to have enjoyed some earlier summer freedoms. Thank you for your continuing confidence in me and my fellow members of the ARTA leadership team. The team met remotely in June to develop the budget and plan an exciting year of programs and events. We will start the year gathering via Zoom with hopes that in person sessions can safely resume in the spring. I hope to see many of you on Wednesday, September 8 when we will host Meredith Wadman, author of *The Vaccine Race, Science, Politics, and the Human Costs of Defeating Disease*. Definitely a timely topic with which to begin the year! We will gather remotely at 12:45 p.m. to chat before welcoming our speaker at 1 p.m. Mark your calendars!

The Board also met in July to problem solve a plan to find a treasurer to support Randy McKnight's need to give up the position. He will continue until January with the support of other members of the leadership team who have taken on the tasks related to membership renewal. We have contacted members we felt may be interested in the treasurer position. None are currently available. Perhaps you or you and a friend would be interested in stepping up to a role that requires an average of 2-3 hours/week. Some tech savvy is needed, but records are in good order, data spreadsheets are up to date and Quicken is set up for continued use. Please contact me for more information about this important job, the best part of which is getting to work with the committed volunteers that provide ARTA's leadership.

Thank you for your generous response to Cathy Eckbreth's letter to support our **Future Educators Scholarship**, administered by the Arlington Community Foundation (ACF). Your donations of close to \$20,000 and ACF's wise investing have pushed the fund to over \$52,000. The investments powering our original fund, the **Arlington Retired Teachers Association Scholarship**, have successfully increased the original from \$200 to \$255 thousand! Both awards are for \$2,500, renewable for up to five years.

Proud to be a part of the ARTA community,

~ Nancy King, President



## LOOKING BACK

Our **February 10, 2021**, program via Zoom brought us **Robert P. Watson, Ph.D.**, all the way from **Florida**, speaking on **100 years of Women in Politics**. Michele Milden had highly recommended Dr. Watson and rightly so, as he was a fascinating speaker! After her introduction [including details of his background that I included in the last newsletter], one of Dr. Watson's early comments was that in **1793** there was a pandemic, also, when people were told to wear masks and walk on opposite sides of the street. Things didn't go well as conservatives didn't believe the science or the risk – sound familiar?! In tracing the history of the **19<sup>th</sup> Amendment** which gave women the right to vote, Dr. Watson began with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott in 1840. Elizabeth wanted to go to England on her honeymoon as she heard there was an anti-slavery convention there – and then they wouldn't let her in. There she met Lucretia, who was also excluded, and Frederick Douglass. They came home and planned their own convention for women; in 1848, more than 300 attended – admitting men only on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day -- and established a list of rights that women should have, including to own property and to vote. [Men said that women were too emotional/sentimental to vote.] The Civil War intervened in their efforts to advance their cause, but in 1869, Susan B. Anthony [conservative and pro-life] joined with Lucy Stone, who was more radical. Carrie Chapman Catt tried to bring the group together and prepped young women to speak because men didn't think women had the capacity to govern. Deciding to push first for states, not Congress, to grant women the vote, Catt focused on the West

where there were few women, telling men that if they gave women the right to vote, she'd get women to move out there, open up businesses, etc. In the 1912 election, women supported Woodrow Wilson, who promised to follow Teddy Roosevelt's progressive legacy – but then Wilson flip-flopped and opposed the right to vote until after his wife Ellen died and he met the scandalous Edith, who drove her own car and went to parties unescorted. When they got married, he then decided to push for women to vote and the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was passed by the House 304-89 and the Senate 56-25. Then it went to the states to ratify, finally achieved by Tennessee's ratification and 24-year-old Harry Burns' change of heart on his mother's advice, "Don't forget to be a good boy and put the 'rat' in 'ratification,'" which he did! Next, Dr. Watson traced the history of women running for president or vice president in the U.S., starting in 1872 with Victoria Woodhall, Bella Lockwood in the 1880's, and no more until Senator Margaret Chase Smith ran in 1964 [people would call her Mrs. Smith instead of Senator Smith], a history we already know about. FDR was the first President to put a woman in the Cabinet – Frances Perkins as Secretary of Labor; Biden has put the most. Dr. Watson responded at the end to many comments.

Arlington's new **School Superintendent Dr. Francisco Durán** was our speaker for the **April 14, 2021**, Zoom meeting. APS had recently successfully completed the March 2021 phased return of students and staff to hybrid/in-person learning and was making plans to resume five-day schedules in the fall of 2021 [which is now to happen when school starts on August 30]. Dr. Durán gave figures as of March 26, with approximately 14,500 students receiving in-person learning while 12,250 continued in full-time distance learning. APS continued to keep safety at the forefront and in-school COVID-19 transmission rates low. [The phased return began back in November when students with disabilities in need of in-person support returned to in-person learning, and then Career and Technical Education in February. Other students were phased in by grade level throughout March.] Dr. Durán said that when the State Superintendent Dr. Lane visited Arlington shortly before our meeting, he wanted to see one high school program, so Dr. Durán took him to the Arlington Tech High School program at the Career Center. Dr. Lane met with students scheduled to graduate that year – one was accepted to six colleges and was going to UNC, another to Harvard. Vocational/tech programs are the way to go – Dr. Lane was very impressed. Joan Mulholland chimed in to testify about her son Loki's getting his start through film work at the Career Center, Mildred complimented APS for honoring all the religious holidays when Fairfax wouldn't. He said that when he was in Fairfax, he had a community group work to identify which are the most important days off, and he brought that knowledge with him.

For our one musical program of the year, **on May 12, 2021**, we welcomed **Daylin James** by Zoom all the way from **Roblin, Manitoba, Canada!** The previous newsletter had given a long



description of Daylin's career, so Ellen Bartlett's introduction was very brief, and at 1 p.m. on the dot, he joined us on screen singing "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" from the musical *Oklahoma*, continuing with 13 others from musicals such as *Guys and Dolls*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *Hello Dolly* [on the latter, singing in voice imitation of both Louis Armstrong and Carol Channing]. Taking a step away from his basement studio stage, Daylin returned as old Tevye from *Fiddler on the Roof*, singing "If I Were



a Rich Man." During the question/answer period afterward, he explained that this was among his hardest songs to sing because of the variation in tonal

quality for an old man, plus the beard sometimes slips down or hairs get in his mouth! The most impressive staging was with the title song from *Phantom of the Opera*, in which Daylin appeared in full costume and mask, with



stage effects of fog as well as candles and a picture of "Christine," in lieu of the real heroine. He ended the program with two songs from *Grease*,

including one of my favorites, "Greased Lightning," and then returned for questions and answers, giving the audience a chance to know him better.

**ARTA BUDGET: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**  
**Submitted by Randy McKnight**

	<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>ADOPTED</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
ARTA Dues	\$5,610.00	\$6,605.00	\$5,390.00
Luncheon	\$1,200.00	\$0	\$1,200.00
Scholarship Fund	\$500.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 500.00
VRTA Dues	\$1,580.00	\$1,980.00	\$1,500.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$8,890.00</b>	<b>\$8,715.00</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Church	\$0	-\$300.00	\$900.00
Communications	\$1,000.00	\$1,657.40	\$1,000.00
Directory	\$2,200.00	\$2183.60	\$2,200.00
*Donations	\$1,250.00	\$2,450.00	\$1,600.00
Hospitality	\$0	\$0	\$100.00
Luncheon	\$1,200.00	\$0	\$1,200.00
Membership	\$650.00	\$611.36	\$650.00
Newsletter	\$2,200.00	\$1,687.12	\$2,200.00
Programs	\$500.00	\$660.00	\$500.00
**Scholarships	\$500.00	\$326.00	\$500.00
Tax Prep	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
VRTA Conference	\$1,000.00	\$0	\$1000.00
VRTA Dues	\$1580.00	\$1980.00	\$1500.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$12,230</b>	<b>\$11,305.48</b>	<b>\$13,550.00</b>

\*The Board each year votes on “donations,” which this past year included donations made to RIF of NOVA, the Outdoor Lab [AOEA], Arlington Food Assistance Center, Arlington Free Clinic, and the Mulholland Foundation. \*\* The big difference in scholarship money is that the Arlington Community Foundation is now handling our scholarships for us and hence less will go through the ARTA budget.

**Note:** The above **2021-2022 budget** was presented and approved at the June 2021 Executive Board meeting, though some projections continue to be based on estimates from past years.

With Heartfelt  
*Sympathy*

**IN MEMORIAM**



We extend our sympathy to friends and family in the loss of these dear ARTA members and APS associates. We were late hearing about some of these deaths:



**Lucy Maud Kibler**, 92, of Morganton passed away on **Sunday, July 5, 2020**.

Born in Burke County, NC, in 1927, after her education, Lucy worked as a speech therapist. She had worked for Chicago Public Schools, the Junior League of Speech Correction in Columbia, SC, High Point NC Public Schools, Easter Seal Society in Palm Springs, CA; and the Arlington County Public Schools in Arlington, VA, retiring from system-wide K-12 special ed.

**Carl Thoburn**, a math teacher first at Thomas Jefferson Junior High and then at Washington-Lee, passed away **January 10, 2021**. “He had recently moved to Ashby Ponds in Ashburn where he frequently announced that ‘his boss’ (Herb Ware, who reported Carl’s death to us) was also living. Frequent were the occasions when someone would come up to Herb and say, ‘I ran into somebody who says you were once his boss!’ Herb would respond with, ‘Oh! That must be Carl Thoburn!’” A good storyteller, Carl quickly found his way into the Ashby Ponds community. Herb, then as mathematics supervisor, hired Carl in 1967. Cathy Eckbreth added that she taught with Carl “at the TJ Annex, the 7th grade Annex in the former Hoffman-Boston Junior Senior HS, in 1967, and in 1972 when I transferred to Swanson, I taught Carl's son in 7th grade American Studies.”



**Peggy Glenn Stephenson**, age 87, an ARTA member until 2019 after her memory started fading, died **February 19, 2021**, at the Abingdon, VA, Health and Rehab. Retiring as an English/Language Arts specialist at the APS Education Center, she was past president of the Virginia State Reading Association. ARTA members recalled her fondly: “*I had the privilege of knowing Peggy as a colleague in the English Language Department during my years as a reading teacher. She always had an encouraging word and kept us in good spirits.*” ~

John Scott Cleveland. “*She was one of the kindest colleagues I can remember over my 32 years of teaching. As a young teacher at Fort Myer, Peggy made me feel very welcome, often inviting me to join her and others after school at the Fort Myer Officers’ Club. She even made a laminated membership card for each of us that I still have. It said M.A.S.H. I think it stood for Member of the After School Happy Hour . . . so many laughs back then.*” ~ Linda Spollen Haile

**Retiree Ann Potter** died at the Jefferson on **May 21, 2021**. Ann was the beloved librarian at McKinley Elementary school for approximately 35 years. She retired in 1996. Even at the end of life, stories about schools and children brought a smile to her face. After retirement, Ann loved singing in the Little Falls Presbyterian Church choir and was an active member of the church.

The younger brother of our dear treasurer **Randy McKnight** died this past May and Randy wrote and shared his touching obituary with Board members, parts of which are excerpted here:

*“Thomas Harrison McKnight, III was born Lee Harrison McKnight . . . When he turned 18, he changed his legal name to Thomas Harrison McKnight, III because of his love for and admiration for his father and grandfather. Later in his life he was known as Helpful Israel. Whether as Lee or Tom or Helpful, he always was a man of many lifetimes that were all focused on a pursuit of connection to family and friends. His defining purpose throughout his life was his family, knowing how they were doing, who was having children, and who needed a little help. . . . After college he found himself on a spiritual pilgrimage from Europe, across the Middle East, and into India where he found enlightenment and a deeper connection to God. Returning from that voyage, Lee joined The Love Family in Seattle, WA and began his new life as Helpful Israel. There he worked to build a community focused on family, became a partner to Dedication (Kathleen Crampton), and a father to his son Glad (Glen), and a friend to so many. Upon leaving the Love Family with a lifetime of stories that he would pepper the rest of his life with, he earned his master’s in Business and Computer Science . . . [and] pursued a long career as a computer programmer for many growing tech companies. In 2002, he returned to Memphis to care for his parents, working for AutoZone from which he could watch the Mississippi River--a place of many happy childhood memories--flow by. Once retired, he hit the road again and returned to a nomadic life of highways and travel trailers . . . But after several years of fighting with Pulmonary Fibrosis, which ended his traveling days, he found his way to his brother and sister-in-law’s home in Cape Charles, Virginia. Even in his passing, Lee will be helping others as he donated himself to the Virginia State Anatomical Program for medical research.”* **Randy**, ARTA’s deepest sympathy in the loss of your brother who helped so many others and gave so much love, as you did to him. Thank you for sharing him with us.

Have you been thinking about getting the Shingles shot? Take some time to do some research to save on the cost of these two shots. I have the UHC Medicare Supplement Insurance and I got my two Shingles shots, two months apart, at my primary care office as part of an annual exam. The cost to me was \$386. Original Medicare does NOT pay for these shots. I checked at my local Safeway Pharmacy and learned that they are not allowed to charge any more than \$225 for these same shots. However, another ARTA member checked at her Giant Pharmacy and was told that under our UHC Medicare D RX plan, there would be only a \$25 copay for each shot. It will save you money if you do your own research before getting the Shingles shots.

A reminder to ARTA members who have United HealthCare as their Medicare Supplementary insurance that UHC does NOT have to pre-approve any surgical procedure. Medicare is our primary insurance and they then forward the remaining bill on to UHC. And Medicare does not require a pre-approval for procedures.

As of the date for this newsletter we do not know of any changes in the health insurance plans for APS retirees but we will keep you posted should changes be upcoming.

**2021 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

By Jeanne Trabulsi



Only good news to report this month. Our retirement system, VRS, hit a historic high at \$100 billion this year—an \$18 billion or 22% increase from last year. Although this investment income generates 2/3 of the money to fund benefits for VRS’s 772,000 public employees, the remaining 1/3 is derived from VRS employee contributions. Well, what’s wrong with that, you may ask? Over half of the teachers hired since 2014 have not been making voluntary contributions toward their retirement other than the 5% required by state law. Offered only the hybrid plan, these educators would receive only 36% of their income in retirement—if this trend continues.

**GA 2021 Session—January-February 2021**

A quick review of the consequences of laws passed in the 2021 Session of the General Assembly follows:

- Teachers will receive a 5% salary increase; August checks will reflect a 1.23% COLA.
- Teachers will be evaluated on level of cultural competence.
- Schools will open for in-person learning 5 days a week.
- Health insurance credit will now be disbursed to all school staff: bus drivers, custodians, assistants, office staff.
- Teachers may now negotiate contracts with their school divisions provided that the local school board passes a resolution.

**GA Special Session—August 2021**

A quick review of the possibilities for the allocation of \$4.3 billion in Virginia ARPA funds follows:

- Support school-based wraparound and support services, which would make schools community hubs for accessing mental health, food access, and tutoring.
- Create an Equity Fund (fairness, impartiality and justice) by investing \$62 million per year for high-poverty schools, both rural and urban.
- Invest in Allowable General School Infrastructure by modernizing schools.
- Invest in broadband, especially in rural areas.

**\*\*\*\*\* BITS AND PIECES \*\*\*\*\***

**Linda Allen** became our final new member for the 2020-2021 year, joining as a LIFE member just before the directories went to print in April. [Welcome to ARTA, Linda!] Here’s a bit of news from her: “We welcomed a perfect new grandchild, Joshua Louis, in May. I upgraded to a new e-bike, and my husband and I are (again) riding the GAP Trail from Pittsburgh to Cumberland MD during the week of 8/16. I am Director of Outreach for the Shenandoah County Democratic Committee and I’m leading our Postcards to Voters effort in the County, reminding 6,300 households to vote. It’s a heavily red county, but we do what we can to encourage people who lean blue to vote blue! And here we are, hunkering down once again, trying to avoid the delta variant. I hope the masks + vax = a year of in-person learning! “

**From Anne Dilworth in Texas:** “Sadly . . . NO tour guiding in DC (March -June) again. ☹️ ☹️. Summer was ho hum until mid-June. I signed on to direct HS students going to TEXAS college campuses . . . in person for students who are academically advanced, but with financially challenged family. Rising sophomores and juniors had three days of tours at major Texas colleges and universities, including Baylor U, Texas A&M, UT Austin, UT San Antonio, U of Houston., Texas State, Texas A&M Galveston, Corpus Christi A&M, Sam Houston. They visit 4-5 colleges... get to enjoy some cultural experiences i.e. NASA and some fun... SA Riverboat ride and Dave/Busters are examples. The organization that puts these trips together is called GEAR UP [Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs]. The campus tours are given by students in attendance at their respective colleges. Question and answer time at end of tours and then a trip to the college book store! Conversation about college visit later on the coach with teacher Chaperons. Wonderful to witness.”

**From Eric Christenson:** “With a conference in Nijmegen in 2013, another in Paris in 2017, and applications for NEH-Digital grants, our Marshall Plan film projects were ongoing when we “retired” to Penick Village. Last week our 100 pounds of books arrived at the Marshall Center in Leesburg and 300 pounds of old interviews, catalogs, and other research detritus are on their way to Brown University archives. Linda had helped a couple of PhD candidates with their research, and one of them is now a busy Brown professor of history, film, and culture. Linda has been able to find workarounds as Alzheimer’s crept in until she couldn’t. The not-so-long-term is profoundly sad, but the days are happy. Our daughter Anne lost her husband at 56 to this disease, has a close relationship with Duke Neurology, and is Linda’s unofficial and highly competent case manager. I’m the pill dispenser, chief hugger, and in-house comedian. With COVID and Linda’s illness, our travel is virtual via YouTube documentaries from the BBC, DW, Tally Ho Rebuilding, etc., but I am busy with current plans to be on a wheel to make about a thousand dollars in potter inventory for the Penick art show in Feb. It’s my yearly contribution to the foundation that keeps residents here even when their resources are gone. (Google Linda Dalton Pottery and you’ll see the studio I’m using.) And I use my interviewing and writing skills from teaching and the documentary to write up new residents for the Penick newsletter. Few like to do this, some hate it, but I love the challenge. We are lucky to live at Penick Village and happy to answer any queries. It’s a 15-minute walk to the Amtrak station in Southern Pines and adjoins Weymouth Woods Nature Preserve where I walk some of my daily 4 miles. Please note my new address: [ehchristenson@gmail.com](mailto:ehchristenson@gmail.com).”

**From Paula Routten:** “I traveled to VA to see son Malcolm and his family currently stationed in Portsmouth with the Coast Guard. Then I moved on to NC to visit with daughter Corrine and her family. The last part of the trip friend Don met with me, and we visited Asheville. What a wonderful city to visit and the Biltmore Estate was beautiful to see. It was a nice respite from the heat of Florida. Finally, in August I traveled alone to the Finger Lake Region of NY to visit with my brother. While there I was able to check off another bucket list item - seeing Niagara Falls!!”

**Jean Barton wrote,** “Sorry to say that Richard and I have stayed close to home and have no adventurous tidbits to share. We are just getting creaky and grumpy with old age. We do hope that there is at least one more cruise in our future. I did attend a retirement party for **Carol Cadby**, Drama teacher at Yorktown. You may remember that I was also the Yorktown Drama teacher for ten years before I moved to Swanson as a counselor. Anyway, the new teacher taking Carol’s place was there, **Alani Kravitz**, pictured on the right here.”



**From Marilyn LaBarbera:** “Staying close to home except for trips to Biloxi, MS. We have a cruise with Princess planned for January from LA to Hawaii, it has been cancelled 4 times because of Covid-19 so we are keeping our fingers crossed. We are going stir crazy and can hardly wait to start cruising again. We have our Covid vaccine and are ready to travel again.”

**From Mary Ann Penning:** “Consider supporting the *Tinagona Foundation* to help send rural children in Zimbabwe to university: Two years ago, I traveled to Zimbabwe with our daughter and grandson to visit Harare, the home of Dr. Tererai Trent, Oprah Winfrey’s “All- Time Favorite Guest.” (Oprah pledged \$1.5 million to rebuild Matau, Tererai’s rural village school.) We took with us many donations: school supplies, socks, and soccer balls to name a few. We were able to visit two of the twelve rural schools that Tererai helps support through her *Tinagona* (It is achievable.) *Foundation*. Today, Tererai is trying to send her third cohort of students to university – 11 students (60% girls). Because Covid has collapsed her speaking

engagements, a source of Foundation income, she is reaching out to others to help fund these students for their three-year educational journey. (It costs \$3,000 (US dollars) per year for each student; \$9,000 total per student for their entire university education.) Tererai is making a difference and trying to stop early marriage for girls, which continues a cycle of poverty. She sees education as the future for these children. Her story is amazing. Visit <https://tererai.org> to learn more.” ~ **Mary Ann Penning (703-522-2450)/[maryannpenning@yahoo.com](mailto:maryannpenning@yahoo.com)**.

**Judy Klevins** has a new address [see **Directory Changes**] and she writes “I got a pass for the Tidal Basin paddle boats if anyone wants to come down and play!

**Myra Britton** wrote: “I just learned that **Roberta Timberlake** recently passed away. She was my ESOL/HILT assistant for several years at Oakridge.”

After years of living in Germany, **Janice Damico** and her husband Chris Massey are returning to their Arlington home on **September 1** – see **address change under Directory Updates and Changes**. Chris wrote, “*This will put us in better position for health care (Jane's having memory issues) We will toggle back and forth between the U.S. and E.U. as per which way the most pleasant winds are blowing.*” Welcome back to Arlington, Janice – we hope some of your old friends can get in touch with you through Chris!

Re the above announcement about coming back to the U.S., Chris Massey also sent a short account of how he and wife **Janice Damico** ended up in Germany to start with: “*It started with a month-long visit to a small town, Lezan, near Nimes in the south of France and coincided with Janice's retirement. We decided it would be the honeymoon we had always postponed. That decision changed our lives. Our daughter spent her 3rd year abroad in Florence, Italy; our son spent his 3rd year abroad in Montpellier, France. Now Jessica is married to a German and lives in Frankfurt with 3 kids. Alex got his MS and PhD in mathematics from ETH in Zurich and has lived in Montpellier for the past 13 years. With Janice and me in Frankfurt since 2012, it appears that our entire family has migrated back to the Old World.*”

Congratulations to **Sara Jane Knight** who was recognized as one of two **Martha Wood Distinguished Service Awardees** for her years of work in AEA, AEA-R [of which she was a founding member], VEA, and NEA.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES AND REMINDERS



**Membership renewal forms for 2021-22** were mailed out on **August 10** and each member should have received one. Even for those who have paid in advance or become ARTA Life Members, we sent a form so that any updates in address or directory information would be sent back to us. Write in only needed changes, and return forms promptly. Note that the deadline for return is **December 31** if you want to remain a member and be in the 2022 directory, with a **late charge of \$5** assessed for any late payments after that date.

**Our president, Nancy King**, requests ARTA members who learn of a member’s **death** to please immediately notify **her** at **703-978-8017** so that we can call or email our members of pertinent details/arrangements. Also notify **Cathy Eckbreth**, our “Concerns” chair, of any occasion for which she should send a card, especially surgery or illness. Call her at **703-534-4402** or e-mail her at [cwe5409@verizon.net](mailto:cwe5409@verizon.net). Happy occasions warrant cards, too,

**Cathy Eckbreth** also reminds us, “If you wish to donate to the ARTA fund that has replaced the former Arlington County Scholarship Fund for Teachers, please make checks payable to **Arlington Community Foundation** and write “**Future Educators Scholarship Fund**” in the memo line. Mail your check directly to **ACF at 818 N. Quincy Street, Suite 103, Arlington, VA 22203**. I will send my usual letter in February 2022 to remind you!”

**From your editor:** The deadline for news to be submitted to the next ARTA newsletter, for **November 2021-January 2022**, is **October 18, 2021**. **Send to:** Ellen S. Bartlett, 908 North Daniel Street, Arlington, VA 22201-1930, **call me at 703 524-3312, or email me at [ellenbartlett@verizon.net](mailto:ellenbartlett@verizon.net)**

**Congratulations** to **Jack Wilson** on his **97<sup>th</sup>** birthday this past February, to **Dorothy Ramale** on her **100<sup>th</sup>** on April 30, and to **Eileen Delany** on her **97<sup>th</sup>** this August!

**Don’t forget to vote in November! It’s a big election year for Virginia!**