

Historic Triangle Senior Center

Enriching the quality of life for all seniors in the Historic Triangle

Fall 2009

Volume 14 Issue 1

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The Senior Times

Q&A: New Membership Fee by Douglas Panto, Board Chairman

The Board of Directors of the Senior Center is committed to providing quality services to all seniors in Greater Williamsburg. Recently, after careful deliberation, the Board voted to initiate a membership fee at the Senior Center.

I want to assure you that no one will be turned away from the senior center because of his/her inability to pay the membership fee. I have prepared the following list of questions and answers to clarify any concerns you might have:

Why did the Board of Directors decide to initiate the membership fee?

Due to the economy, the Senior Center received cuts from the local jurisdictions, United Way, and our corporate sponsors for FY 09/10. Because of the recession and the drop in the stock market, many foundations and other funders have less grant money to award to our community. Our funders are encouraging us to look for alternative sources of revenue.

What if I can't afford the membership fee? If you have financial constraints which prevent you from paying the membership fee, simply check the appropriate box on the application form. No one will be turned away.

Is the Senior Center a county or city agency? No. The Senior Center is a 501 (c)(3) independent, nonprofit organization incorporated in the (continued on page 3)

Join us for our trip to the Biltmore House in NC!

The Senior Center will be making a trip by charter bus to the Biltmore House near Asheville, North Carolina, April 26-29, 2010.



The French Renaissance-style mansion was built by George Washington Vanderbilt II between

1888 and 1895. It is the largest privately-owned home in the United States with 175,000 square feet and 250 rooms. Still owned by one of Vanderbilt's descendants, it was ranked eighth on the *List of America's Favorite Architecture* by the American Institute of Architects. Besides the house, the grounds also feature approximately 75 acres of formal gardens and a winery.

The trip in April also includes a tour of historic Asheville, NC and a stop



at Harrah's Casino. Price: Members \$365, Nonmembers \$380. Please call the Senior Center at (757) 259-4187 to sign up.

See page 3 for other exciting destinations and events!

Board of Directors

Chairman
Douglas Panto
Vice Chairman
William Carmines
Treasurer
Tabitha Patterson
Secretary
Sharon Bryson

Lisa Chapin
Debbie Davis
Brian Freer
Ed Golden
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Executive Director
Lisa Gibson

Current Challenges That Senior Centers Face



From the Executive Director

Lisa Gibson

In their book, Senior Centers: Opportunities for Aging, Beverly Ann Beisgen and Marilyn Crouch Kraitchman examine the changing role of senior centers in the United States.

Longevity and earlier exit from the workforce have led to a growing population which is spending extended years in retirement. Senior Centers help bridge the gap between work and retirement and are poised to help retirees reach their goal of vital and successful aging. Senior Centers are empowering thousands of older adults in achieving their full potential in life.

Although there are many dynamic senior centers today, things are changing. By 2010, the baby boomers will constitute more than 2/3 of the population 50 years of age and older. Senior Centers will have to adapt to meet the needs of this generation while continuing to serve the needs of older seniors. This will be quite a challenging task.

To survive, senior centers will have to change the way they do business. Traditional sources of funding, like the older Americans Act and state grants, are drying up. Centers will increasingly rely on non-traditional sources of income like membership fees, fees for services, corporate sponsorships, donations, fundraisers, and other earned income. Centers which do not diversify their income will be at greater risk of closing their doors over the next ten years. Relying heavily on grants can lead to a financial crisis.

Be assured, we at the Historic Triangle Senior Center are working hard to ensure that our doors will be open for many years to come! We are expanding our programs and diversifying our funding to prepare for the challenging but exciting road ahead.

Please invest in the future of our seniors by donating to the Historic Triangle Senior Center today. Thank you so much for your support.




Join us for the Holiday Dinner and Dance

December 4, 2009
4:30–8:00 p.m.

Call 259-4187 for reservations.

Members \$10
Nonmembers \$12.50



The Sewing Group would appreciate donations of yarn. Please call 259-4187 or drop off your donations at the Senior Center, M-F, 9-4.

In Appreciation of our Corporate Sponsors

Platinum

Humana Marketpoint

Gold

**Care Advantage, Inc.
Morningside Assisted Living**

Silver

**Chambrel
Comfort Keepers
Home Instead Senior Care
Mobility Center of Virginia
Riverside Health Systems
Senior Advocate
Susan I. Jean & Associates
Williamsburg Landing**

Bronze

**Consulate Health Care of Williamsburg
Family Care Solutions
Patriots Colony
Spring Arbor
Williamsburg Retina Center
Windsor Meade**

**Members of the Senior Center Society
1st Quarter FY 09/10**

Diamond
**Douglas Panto
William Carmines**

Gold
**Richard Drumwright
Lisa Gibson
Robert Mann**

Silver
**Lewis Edwards
Jonathan Jackson**

Bronze
**Lois Brissey
Sharon Bryson
Lisa Chapin
Judith Ewell
Helen Kopp**

Special Events	Date	Cost/Person
Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk Special Exhibit: Egyptian Treasures from the Brooklyn Museum. Lunch on your own.	November 12 Leave Center at 8:30 a.m. Return at 4:00 p.m.	\$15 members \$18 Nonmembers
Annual Senior Health Fair Flu shots, health screenings, and more.	November 6, 2009 8:30 a.m.-noon	Flu Shots \$32 All other services free
Annual Holiday Dinner and Dance DJ plus Elementary String Orchestra from Williamsburg Christian Academy	December 4, 2009 4:30-8:00 p.m.	\$10 members \$12.50 nonmembers
Festival of Lights Dinner at the Golden Corral and then on to Newport News for Holiday Display	December 14 Leave Center at 4:30 p.m. Return by 8:00 p.m.	\$20 members \$23 nonmembers
Ferguson Center: Band of the Irish Guards, Royal Regiment of Scotland Price includes motor coach and ticket	January 21 Leave Center at 6:15 p.m. Return around 10:45 p.m.	\$72 members \$77.50 nonmembers
Virginia Beach Flower Show Price includes ticket and motor coach	February 5 Leave Center at 9:00 a.m. Return at 3:00 p.m.	\$45 members \$50 nonmembers

Other: We will visit the Marine Museum, Washington D.C. in March and the Biltmore Estate, Asheville, NC April 26-29, 2010 (\$365 members, \$380 nonmembers); trips are being planned to Atlantic City and Lancaster!

Membership at the Center (continued from page 1)

Commonwealth of Virginia.

How much is membership?

Membership is \$50 per individual and \$75 per household. Membership will be prorated for those who join during the middle of the fiscal year. Guests may visit the senior center twice before paying.

Who is eligible? Residents 55 and older who live in James City County, the City of Williamsburg, and the Bruton District of York are eligible for membership.

If I am a member of the Senior Center, does that make me a member of the Community Center? No. HTSC is a separate entity from James City County.

Are volunteers at the Senior Center required to pay the membership fee? No, volun-

teers who work *regularly* at the Senior Center do not have to pay the membership fee.

How much money will membership fees bring in for the Senior Center? Membership fees will make up only 5% of the budgeted income for FY 9/10.

If I am a member, are there other fees I must pay? Many classes at the Senior Center are free. Members can continue to take these classes at no charge. In addition, members receive discounts on selected programs which charge a fee.

How do I apply for membership? Simply fill out the membership application which can be found on the receptionist's desk at the Senior Center. We will also post the application on our web-

site: www.theseniorcenter.org.

What are the benefits of membership?

There are many benefits of membership and we are working to expand the list: free registration for many programs and classes; member discounts on programs and classes with registration fees (exceptions apply); complimentary passes for two guests to selected programs and events; access to computer lab equipped with free internet access; member discounts on travel fees (see examples above); use of Center library; access to a range of programs promoting the six dimensions of wellness (physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual, social and vocational). If you have other suggestions for benefits, please call (757) 259-4181 or send an email to htsboard@yahoo.com.

US Postage
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Norge, Virginia
23127
Permit #22



Join us for the
Holiday Dinner
and Dance
December 4, 2009
4:30–8:00 p.m.

Call 259-4187 for reservations.

Q&A About the Senior Center

Where is the Senior Center? The Senior Center is located in the James City/Williamsburg Community Center at 5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg. The Center is located behind the elevator to the left as you enter the building. We are open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Who attends? Any senior 55 and older who lives in James City County, Williamsburg, or the Bruton District of York may attend.

How can I find out more? Call (757) 259-4187 or visit www.theseniorcenter.org.



Historic Triangle Senior Center
5301 Longhill Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188

ANNUAL SENIOR HEALTH FAIR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009
8:30 am-noon



Flu shots, health screenings
and more!

Weekly Activities

Call 259-4187 for more information.

- **Senior Walk-A-Bout:** MWF 8:30 am
- **Mah Jong:** Monday 9:00 am
- **Bridge:** Monday 12:30-3:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm
- **Wii Bowling:** Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30 am
- **Table Games:** Wednesday 1:00 pm
- **Line Dancing:** Tuesday 10:00 am (Quarterpath)
- **Sewing Group:** Thursday 9:00 am
- **JOY Singers:** Call for practice & performance schedule
- **'Jammin' in the Lounge:** Thursday 3:30 pm
- **"Days of Our Lives:"** 1st Thursday 1:00 pm
- **Seeds N Weeds:** 2nd Thursday 1:00 pm
- **Book Club:** 3rd Thursday 1:30 pm
- **Classic Movies:** 4th Thursday 1:00 pm
- **Reader's Theater:** 3rd Tuesday 1:00 pm
- **Computer Classes:** Tuesday (school year)
- **Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program:**
 - Level 1: Tuesday and Thursday 11:15 am
 - Level 2: Monday and Friday 11:05 am