



# THE CHRONICLE

RALEIGH-WAKE COUNTY CHAPTER #3689

<http://AARPchapter3689.weebly.com>

[aarpnc3689@gmail.com](mailto:aarpnc3689@gmail.com)

*Kelly Vick – Editor*

**September 21, 2023**  
**Waltonwood at Lake Boone**

## Speaker for Today

**Joe Lucas**

**Medicare Representative**  
**Health Markets**  
**Insurance Agency**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Chapter Officers

### **Co-Presidents**

James Nelson  
Claude Lee

### **Vice President**

Cordelia Blackwell

### **Co-Secretaries**

Hannah Gathings  
Tom Gill

### **Co-Treasurers**

Willi Webb  
Brenda Smith

\*\*\*\*\*

## Committees

Community Service (Oweida Cole)  
Fundraising (Lorrie Berlenbach)  
Legislative (Karen Clark)  
Membership (Karen Youmans)  
Nominating (Allan Younger)  
Program (Allan Younger)  
Sunshine (Claude Lee)  
Telephone (Pat Toothman)

## Staff Coordinators

Ambassador (James Hines)  
Historian \_\_\_\_\_  
Newsletter (Kelly Vick)  
Reflections (Grace Krishnamurty)  
Webmaster (Claudia Harris)

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS

*James Nelson & Claude Lee*

### Enhancing Your AARP Journey: Major Grant and Collaborations

We trust you had an enjoyable summer and are delighted to share some exciting news that will enhance your AARP chapter experience.

This summer, we secured a significant **AARP National grant** of \$963, marking a historic moment for our Chapter's progress. These funds will be put to good use in the coming months to bring you even more engaging activities and improve our website.

Our upcoming **General Meeting** on September 21<sup>st</sup> will take place at Waltonwood at Lake Boone, providing a dedicated and spacious venue at a reduced meal cost of only \$7.50. We extend our heartfelt thanks to *Ms. Lauren Higdon* and *Ms. Tiffany Ashton* for their gracious support, which has made this arrangement possible.

In the spirit of **collaboration**, we have been working closely with fellow AARP leaders: *Ms. Peggy Gutman* of Cary's AARP and *Ms. Shirley Duke* of Southeast Raleigh's AARP. Together, we are exploring activities that promise mutual benefit, enriching our Chapter's offerings.

Additionally, our recent meeting with *Ms. Allie Crawford*, Adult Active Program Director at **Raleigh Parks**, presents a unique opportunity. It allows us the possibility to secure cost-free at Raleigh Parks facilities for our upcoming events, along with city-provided vans and comprehensive liability coverage. This partnership can not only facilitate our travel plans but also enhances the visibility of our events through Raleigh's center network, aiding our recruitment efforts. We are also thrilled to announce that *Ms. Jennie Griggs* of the **Wake North Senior Center** has agreed to partner with us in future activities.

And there's more good news! *Ms. Natalie Dorsett Ray* has graciously agreed to chair our **2023 Holiday Extravaganza**, ensuring that we close the year with memorable and joyful celebrations in your honor.

We are dedicated to making your AARP experience better than ever, and these developments are just the beginning. Thank you for being a part of our wonderful chapter and we look forward to sharing these exciting enhancements with you.

## *In Loving Memory of Two Faithful Chapter Members*



*Anne Best*

*October 2, 1936 – July 9, 2023*

Anne Spencer Best, 86, died on July 9th after a short battle with an autoimmune disease and cancer. She was born on October 2, 1936 in Plymouth, NC. Anne was the daughter of the late Herman Bly and Marjorie Spencer and the wife of the late W. Dean Best. Anne was an alumna of Goldsboro High School, attended Women's College/UNCG and graduated in 1958 with a degree in mathematics. She married Dean in 1958 and after being a stay-at-home mom raising two children, she became a realtor with Howard Perry and Walston where she worked for 36 years.

Anne was active until the end of her life. Playing tennis into her 80s then pickleball and walking. Her only complaint was she had a hard time finding people to play tennis and pickleball with her at her age! Anne enjoyed many years of travel and boating with her husband Dean. She adored her lifelong tennis friends from NRCC and all their girlfriend trips to the US Open Tennis in NYC. The past few years Anne loved playing bridge both online and in person with "The BBs." She was a voracious reader and enjoyed being a member of a book club. She was a wonderful cook, experimenting with different ethnic cuisines and had a great appreciation for the 5:00 wine hour.

Anne was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and brother (William Conrad Spencer II). She is survived by her daughter Melissa Noble Best of Raleigh; her son Matthew Spencer Best and wife Cheri, of Louisville, KY; step-grandchildren Nick Wall, Andrew Wall and Rochelle Wall of Louisville, KY; Lou Carpenter, sister-in-law of Raleigh; Mary Rose Spencer, sister-in-law of Richmond, VA and several nieces and nephews.

The world lost a special lady on Sunday, July 9th. She touched so many lives and spread so much love. Ann joined AARP Raleigh Chapter #3689 in 2011. She was a faithful member and served as Co-Chair of Community Services. The family received friends at a gathering Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at North Ridge Country Club. Several members of Chapter #3689 attended (Claude Lee, Pat Toothman, Mary Weathers, Teresa Nutter, Claudia Harris, Allan and Marjorie Younger).



*Mary Louise Madlon*

*July 31, 1932 – August 6, 2023*

Mary Louise Elizabeth Aliotta Ranieri Madlon, 91, of Raleigh, NC, passed away on Sunday, August 6, 2023 at her home in hospice care as a result of complications from a fall and stroke. She has left an indelible mark on the hearts of those fortunate enough to have known her. Born on July 31, 1932, in Poughkeepsie, NY, Mary was a beacon of strength and resilience, weathering life's challenges with grace and a steadfast spirit. She was the daughter of the late Emanuele and Rosa Toscano Aliotta, immigrants from Gela, Sicily. She attended Mt. Carmel School and Poughkeepsie H.S. In 1947. Her family moved to Brooklyn, NY, where she graduated from Bay Ridge HS and Hunter College with a degree in art education. Mary started her first teaching job at Dewey Jr HS in Brooklyn. In 1957, she returned to Poughkeepsie and married the late James Ranieri (1972), the father of her five children. She taught elementary art in both the Hyde Park and Arlington School Districts.

In 1984, she married the late Eugene Madlon. In 1989, they retired to Raleigh, NC. They also enjoyed traveling across the country and visiting family outside of NC. Mary was a member of the following organizations: Bay Ridge Alumni, Hunter Alumni, NYSTRA, Arlington Administrators and Raleigh Italian American Club. Mary was also a faithful member of AARP Chapter #3869 and served as Co-President for several years.

She is survived by her five children, five stepchildren, seven grandchildren, eleven step grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, eight step great grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, cousins, and a special friend June Zollo; who will forever carry her memory in their hearts.

A memorial service was held at 10:00am on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Renaissance Funeral Home, 7615 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27615, followed by visitation/fellowship with refreshments. Several members of AARP Chapter #3689 attended (June Zollo, Claude Lee, Claudia Harris, Willi Webb, Oweida Cole, Edmond & Gayle Gayton, Allan & Marjorie Younger, Stewart & Kelly Vick). Interment of ashes was Monday, August 21 at 10:30am at St. Rafael the Archangel Catholic Church Columbarium in Raleigh, NC,

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## SUNSHINE

Birthday cards were mailed to members listed below who have birthdays in September. Sympathy cards with a donation from our Chapter were mailed to Ann Best and Mary Madlon families for their death. If you know of anyone who is ill, a bereaved family or you are having your "90<sup>th</sup> Milestone Birthday", please call Claude Lee (919-971-3317) or e-mail him at [claudealeejr@gmail.com](mailto:claudealeejr@gmail.com).

<b>SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS</b>
<b>Cynthia Bradley (8)</b>
<b>Kaye Denning (9)</b>
<b>Alvita Roberts (10)</b>
<b>Wende Crabtree (10)</b>
<b>Brenda Smith (13)</b>
<b>Mary Weathers (26)</b>
<b>Claude Lee (28)</b>

## TELEPHONE

In October Natalie Ray will be joining the Calling Committee. A special thanks to Natalie. At the present time, the callers are Pat Toothman, Cheryl Gill and Helena Nabors. We will continue with monthly calling with meeting information and other pertinent events. This is also a way to keep in touch with members who have questions or concerns. Some members have volunteered to call members on their birthdays, as well as Claude Lee sending out cards. Donations of cards or stamps are appreciated. Let us remember previous members or those who are isolated or lonely by phoning or sending a card. A special thanks to all members who responded to the telephone callers with their lunch orders for this meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP

We are available for membership renewals or if someone would like to join our chapter. Our chapter membership dues are \$10.00 per year. You must be a member of the National AARP and you will need your national membership card to complete the renewal form and the membership form. These forms are on our website with instructions on where to mail it.

## FUNDRAISING

At our September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Fundraising Committee decided not to have the Jazz Event in 2023. We decided to plan a celebration to combine the Jazz Event and our Chapter #3689 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for 2024.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

"You don't always need a plan. Sometimes you just need to breathe, trust, let go and see what happens". (Mandy Hale)

Thank you, thank you and thank you!!!!!!

The drive to collect specific school supplies for Fox Magnet School went very well. We received practically all the items that were requested; and would like to take a moment to thank all of you who participated, for your generous contributions. In addition, if there are other contributions, we are available to receive them as well. Just contact Oweida Cole (919-803-7569) and she will be at your service.

As we drift back into our routine, please be aware that Community Service did not take a sabbatical from volunteering. Rather, we continually volunteered at the Food Pantry, delivered summer clothing to Healing Transitions, donated adult disposable products to an assisted living home; and we also made a very generous donation of brand new books, workbooks, as well as teacher editions to Loaves and Fishes as part of their beginning tutoring program.

As always, please be aware that Community Service Committee could not function without you. Even though we do most of the "leg work", we could not deliver without you, the members. A special shout out to Brenda Smith and Cordelia Blackwell for being instrumental in my being able to provide and deliver these items.

# HELLO FALL!!!



Fall begins in Raleigh September 23<sup>rd</sup>. It is a season full of exciting festivals, events, pumpkin treats and lots of happenings in Wake County and beyond to our North Carolina borders. Although summer has past, the festivities and excitement remain in the City of Oaks, as there are so many Raleigh fall festivals and events to keep you entertained through the season. September and October are typically the best months of the year to travel in North Carolina.

Fall also sees the return of tailgating at our local sporting events. With universities surrounding us in the Triangle, **NC State**, **UNC-Chapel Hill**, **Duke**, **Shaw** and **St Augustine**; college football fever will be all around – with basketball soon to follow. Our national **Carolina Hurricanes** ice hockey team always shows up with big action and crowds at PNC Arena. For more information, go to [Raleigh Fall Festivals & Events \(2023\) \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com). Below are a few fall activities in Wake County and surrounding areas in September and October, 2023.

<b>Benson Mule Days, Sept 21- 24, 2023</b>	<b>N.C. State Fair, Oct. 12-22, 2023</b>
<b>Downtown Cary Fall Festival, Sep 23, 2023</b>	<b>Falling for Local, Oct 7, 2023</b>
<b>Festa Italiana, Sept 23, 2023</b>	<b>NC Wine Festival, Oct 28, 2023</b>
<b>IBMA World Of Bluegrass Festival, Sept 29-30, 2023</b>	<b>Clayton Harvest Festival, Oct 26-29, 2023</b>
<b>Triangle Oktoberfest, Oct 6th-7th, 2023</b>	<b>Zombiepalooza, Cary, October 20, 2023</b>
<b>Celebrate Fuquay Varina, Oct 7, 2023</b>	<b>Pumpkin Flotilla, October 27, 2023</b>
<b>The 95th Wendell Harvest Festival, Oct 7, 2023</b>	<b>Movies on the Lawn: Halloween Double Feature, Oct 29</b>
<b>Cary Diwali Festival, Oct 14, 2023</b>	<b>HollyFest, October 28, 2023</b>
<b>SAS Championship, Oct 9-15, 2023</b>	