



Massachusetts PATRIOT

Massachusetts Life Care Residents' Association (MLCRA) Summer 2016

The Residents' Advocate—Management's Friend www.mlcra.org

Aging in community, scams, and "care forces"

Mass. Elder Affairs Head Outlines Program Priorities at MLCRA Annual Meeting at Brookhaven

What a wonderful time we had at the MLCRA Annual Meeting at Brookhaven on May 13! Those who were lucky enough to be there can surely tell you stories; this report will give you only the flavor of the event and a brief recital of the highlights of the day.



Scenes from Annual Meeting *Marvin Ungar*

It started off with a brief introduction by Will Holton, president of MLCRA, in which he outlined the successes and the challenges of the past year. Will spoke about the many Executive Board meetings that had been accomplished with the help of teleconferencing, allowing members from far-off communities to attend from their homes. This has made possible a great change in our meetings, making them less of a challenge to attend and allowing for a greater interchange of ideas. He spoke about trips to Overlook in Charlton and Sweetwood at Williamstown this

year, allowing us more exposure in the western part of the state. He outlined the Area 3 and 4 meeting in March which brought together folks from the eastern parts of Massachusetts. He talked about outreach to the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and to the Joint Committee for Elder Affairs, a task made more difficult with the retirement of Ang Giambusso who had acted as our legislative liaison for quite some time. And he talked of **plans for the future—surveys of member communities** so we can learn which issues are of most concern to you, **recruiting new board members** with the energy to take on tasks we just never seem to get to, **improving the Patriot, and the Website** so they can bring information to a broader group of people, **and investigating other means of communication.**

MLCRA Treasurer Jeanne Stolbach gave a brief explanation of our finances. We had income last year (Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting) of \$13,435, almost all of it from membership dues. Our expenses were \$7,919.76, with the cost of printing and mailing the *Patriot* being by far the largest expense. Our available assets amount to \$64,781.45. So we are in good shape, running a lean organization and are well placed to move on.

Will then introduced the other members of the Board before introducing our Keynote Speaker, Alice Bonner, Secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA). Secretary Bonner spoke about the mission of the Office of Elder Affairs, which is primarily to assure the independence and empowerment of older folks within the limits of their (*cont'd p. 4*)



On the Road with Will Holton

MLCRA's President Recently Visited the Edgewood Community in North Andover

In June of 2016 MLCRA President Will Holton made a delayed visit to the Edgewood Community in North Andover to attend a meeting of their Independent Residents Association. He handed out past issues of the *Patriot* and information on the value of joining MLCRA before speaking briefly to a large group of residents. There were good questions from the audience and many people expressed interest in MLCRA and its goals for the near future. The Edgewood Council President, Bill Schirmer, wants to link MLCRA with Edgewood strongly again and has appointed Morgan Kiker to be the MLCRA Representative. There are plans for an ambitious membership drive beginning in the early fall.

Edgewood resident Angelo (Ang) Giambusso is remembered fondly by many MLCRA members as the long-time Chair of our Legislative Committee that pushed our legislation through the Massachusetts Legislature. Ang was fit and tanned sitting in the front row when Will Holton spoke, saying that he played golf the day before! He wants to be remembered to all his MLCRA friends. We are glad that Ang's health has improved and we wish him and his wife the best as she faces illness. ●



Edgewood Resident Association Council
 First row (l-r): Bob Kingsley, Dick Kemp, and Dorothy Sterge. Standing (l-r): Bill Schirmer (president), Beverly Everett, Bobbi Braverman, Ted Kruse, Ken Goldstein, and Morgan Kiker. Two absent: Rosie Smith and Rusty Dunbar.

Photos: Will Holton

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