



The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Association of Retired State Employees
Philadelphia-Bucks Chapter
www.parsephilabucks.org

Inside PARSE

Spring 2016

Message from the President

Dear Fellow State Retiree,

Ah! It's spring and the PARSE luncheon is right around the corner. We will be meeting at noon on Wednesday, May 25th at Romano's Caterers, Castor Ave. and Wingohocking St.

Our featured speaker will be Thomas B. Judge, our newly elected state president. He will update us on issues pertaining to PARSE and his ideas on the future direction of our organization. This should be a very worthwhile and informative presentation.

We will also have two preliminary speakers: one from PISI, our insurance provider, and the other from the Center for Advocacy for the rights and interests of the elderly (CARIE). They will address our insurance needs and possible Medicare and Medicaid fraud, respectively.

There was a positive response to our Delaware River cruise. Our next planned event is our Maryland Live casino and shopping trip scheduled for August 2nd, details to follow. So, save the date.

Our membership through mid-April was 1,217. This represented over 86% of last year's total of 1,410. Statewide we were 18,549, over 91% of the 2015 total of 20,377. Topping 1,500 remains our goal, locally.

Let's all have a safe and joyous spring and summer and continue to recruit new members. As I have said many times,

"THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS!"

Sincerely,

Leon Cerullo
PARSE Philadelphia-Bucks Chapter President

Executive Board:

President	Leon Cerullo
Vice President	Luticia Gary
Secretary	Evelyn Y. Trent
Treasurer	Edward Finfer

Members

Mattie Berry	Sandi MacLaren
Ernestine Blackston-Brandon	John Marcus
Fred Bostwick	Faye Matter
Mike Garth	David Rosner
Maurice Gold	Barbara Taylor
Gloria Hamilton	Tom Wombough
Connie Johnson	Carol Roberts (<i>Acting</i>)
Paul Aerow (<i>Acting</i>)	

President Emeritus

Leo J. Burke, Jr.

Member Emeritus

Myrna Brown

Dues Reminder!!! \$20.00

If your dues are unpaid, please complete the enclosed membership application and include a check for your **2016 dues** of **\$20.00** per person, made out to:

"PARSE PHILA-BUCKS CHAPTER"

Mail to our chapter treasurer

Edward Finfer

189 Harmony Court
Bensalem, PA, 19020
(215) 244-1330

***Please also include your May 25, 2016
INFORMATION LUNCHEON reservation at
\$20.00 per person***



A New Breed of Con Artists

Today's scammers are on the phone, at your door and online.

According to a survey by **True Link Financial**, older Americans are criminally defrauded of \$12.76 billion annually. This includes identity theft and all those crazy scams you hear about.

How Scammers Find You

Ever wonder how scammers get your phone number, address or email? Is it random or is there science to the targeting? Experts say it's both. AARP Foundation's Amy Nofziger, who has degrees in criminology and sociology, cites three reasons.

1. **Data purchases.** "Scammers buy phone numbers from companies that sell data," she explains. "They'll use the same methods legitimate marketing companies do, but for nefarious purposes."
2. **Con artists network.** "If you've been a victim of a fraud or scam, you're put on a so-called sucker list," Nofziger says. "The lists are bought, sold, traded and stolen among scammers because they're perceived as potential gold mines. Scammers will usually target the victims with a 'recovery' or 'reload' scam. They pretend to be from a consumer group or law enforcement agency and trick you into thinking they'll help get your money back — for a fee."
3. **Volunteered info.** This is personal info you willingly divulge by entering giveaways and sweepstakes, or when filling out surveys. "Scammers use all this to create profiles for who they want to target," Nofziger says. "Often they'll target older adults, who they perceive as holding the majority of wealth in this country."

Silent call

Has this been happening to you? The phone rings, you pick it up, say "hello," but there's no one on the other line. It's a new type of robocall — an automated computer system making tens of thousands of calls to "build a list of humans to target for theft," according to **The Financial Fraud Research Center**. It's the first step in opening you up to many of the phone-based scams discussed in this article.

Your Plan If you haven't already done so, ask your phone company to put caller ID on your landline. Then simply screen your calls, and don't pick up if the number is unfamiliar.

Directions to:

Romano's Catering, 1523 E Wingohocking Street Philadelphia, PA 19124 215-289-2020

From I 76 East and West

Take exit 340B to merge onto Roosevelt Blvd/US-1 N, slight right at Adams Ave, turn right at E Wingohocking Street

From I 95 North and South

Take exit 26 for State Route 90/Betsy Ross Bridge/Aramingo Ave, keep left at the fork to continue toward Aramingo Ave,, turn right at Aramingo Ave, take the 2nd right onto E Butler St, turn right at Frankford Ave, turn left at E Hunting Park Ave, turn right at Castor Ave, take the 3rd right onto E Wingohocking Street

Roosevelt Blvd South/US-1 S Head south on Roosevelt Blvd toward Pratt St, turn left at Pratt St, turn right at Castor Ave, turn left at Adams Ave, turn right at E Wingohocking Street

Roosevelt Blvd North/US-1 N

Head north on Roosevelt Blvd toward Adams Ave, slight right at Adams Ave, turn right at E. Wingohocking Street