

Virginia Triad Chapters Successful Activities

2008-2009

The following information was provided to the Office of the Attorney General by local Triad chapters. If you have a successful event you would like to be listed online please email us at seniors@oag.state.va.us .

Alexandria Triad:

We have held numerous presentations on senior safety. We have responded out to various locations within the city to conduct these presentations. Some of these locations include Senior Centers, Senior Care facilities, as well as adult communities. We have also brought Project Lifesaver to the City of Alexandria. Donated funds were identified, and collected to get the program started. To date we have distributed 24 transmitters to citizens. Both the Police and Sheriff's Deputies were trained on the equipment. We also had the Easter Bunny (a SALT Council member) make an appearance at the Charles Houston Recreation Center to hand out safety brochures to the seniors and have lunch with the seniors.

Appomattox County Triad:

Most beneficial are our monthly meetings where current issues are discussed and information is shared. We participate with File of Life and Project Lifesaver.

Bristol/Washington County Triad:

Our most successful event was the Seniors Prom. We had 250 seniors present at the event which was a Hawaiian Luau. The event required significant planning and involved the Bristol Virginia Sheriff's Office, Bristol Virginia Police Department, the Senior Centers for both Bristol TN and VA, the Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Fellowship Chapel Church, Performance Food Group – Hale Brothers, the local office of the Attorney General and volunteers. Through advertisement from both senior centers and the library, attendance was maximized. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office and staff from the AG's Office prepared the food. Volunteers led by Sheriff Jack Weisenburger served the food and local businesses donated door prizes. The event was a success.

Buchanan County Triad:

Our most successful activity was our Senior Expo held June 6th from 9AM to 2PM. We had 98 seniors in attendance and our programs were Refuse to be a Victim presented by Master Trooper David Olinger; Your Rights presented by Commonwealth's Attorney Trama Neo; and a Safety Presentation by Sheriff Foster. The S.A.L.T. Council partnered with many local businesses who provided door prizes, giveaways, and set up as vendors with valuable information to give to our seniors. A breakfast snack and afternoon meal was served and Bluegrass Music was sponsored by our four funeral homes in the county. An educationally great time was had by all those who attended. Our S.A.L.T. Council also sponsors Christmas for Seniors in December. Home health organizations, our local hospital, and churches give us names of seniors who may have fallen through the cracks so to speak – those who can't get help although they need it. We give them a

questionnaire, they are asked to fill in a need and a wish. On most, their wish is their need – food/firewood/coal/blanket/coats, etc.

Campbell County Triad:

2008 was a rebuilding year for our council. In the interest of our seniors, surveys were conducted at each senior center as to what type of presentations and programs they would like to have presented. Once the surveys were complete the council scheduled dates and speakers to attend each center with the information. Each senior center director was asked to join our council, so that each member of the center had a liaison to voice concerns to law enforcement, public safety, and court services. With the additional members from our senior centers, general public, law enforcement, public safety, and court services, Campbell is back on track to continue its efforts to keep our seniors aware and safe. We also participated in the Senior Angel Program (Christmas). This program provides Christmas gifts to local shut in and needy seniors in the county.

Charlottesville/Albemarle Triad:

In 2008, we reached over 500 senior citizens with our programs. We have developed a Senior Safety Seminar Series. The series includes unique one hour programs on subjects such as home safety, scam awareness, storm preparedness, safe shopping on the internet, a gadget fair (inexpensive home security gadgets), fraud awareness, gang awareness, safe shopping in the community, and neighborhood watch. We are heavily involved in the distribution of the File of Life packets and emergency storm flashlights. Our Home Safety/Gadget Fair is in high demand. We averaged about 50 seniors at each of the four events that focused on these topics. We tried to present home safety and the gadget fair at the same time, as they complement each other. We had a three-person presentation team that included Col. O'Kelley, Mr. Al Highsmith and Deputy Martin. Each played a role in the presentation and plenty of time was allowed for questions, answers, and concerns from the seniors.

Chesterfield County Triad:

Senior Day was our most successful activity in 2008 and served the most people – approximately 1,000. We had 70 vendors (county departments, non-profits, for-profit organizations) who told seniors about their services; a program on fire safety and personal safety; and a continental breakfast was provided to the participants. We also held educational programs throughout the county for seniors. In addition to Senior Day, Chesterfield Triad partners with the Senior Citizens Police Academy, File of Life Program, Fire Safety Program, Telephone Reassurance Program.

Colonial Triad:

The Colonial Triad serviced from 750-800 citizens in the Williamsburg-James City County area during 2008. The citizens were provided with information on home safety, identity fraud, reverse mortgages, and information on the HDTV conversion. The Operation Share was a successful activity for 2008, being that we served over 150 senior citizens by providing them with a wonderful Thanksgiving meal, information on home safety, scams and fraud, identity theft, and information packets on the HDTV conversion. The citizens were also given a power failure night light which allows them to have emergency lighting and a motion sensor. The activity was also very successful with the help of the Williamsburg-James City Sheriff's Office,

James City Police Department, Williamsburg Police Department, and great volunteers from the local community.

Fluvanna County Triad:

Senior Safety Day with approximately 75 seniors attending. Various community, civic, and public agencies participated.

Front Royal/Warren County Triad:

We were successful at fundraising and providing LifeLine to 7 low income, fall risk seniors and we provided emergency response dialers to 36 residents. We also recruited and trained volunteers to assist seniors with hooking up the service. We raised funds for LifeLine thanks to the Moose, the American Legion, and the Elks Club.

Grayson County Triad:

The implementation of the File of Life Program. So far we have given out 600 packets to local seniors with assistance from a local business who sponsored. Media helped advertise. At least quarterly, we hosted a covered dish luncheon with a safety or crime prevention topic discussed during the meal.

Greene County Triad:

We have speakers at each of our monthly meetings. We also participate with File of Life, Project Lifesaver and do cell phone/E911 drives.

Hanover/Ashland Triad:

We have 23 seniors in our Adopt-A-Senior program that we serve as well as other seniors that we identify that might need help. We also conduct a senior academy each year. We delivered Ukrops Thanksgiving Dinners to our 23 Adopt-A-Seniors that were paid for by the Mechanicsville Rotary. We partnered with the Hanover AARP to hold a Christmas Luncheon where we brought our Adopt-A-Seniors together at the AARP December meeting to hear a second grade class sing Christmas carols, we had a sing along of Christmas carols, door prizes, and Santa Claus delivered presents to the seniors what were provided by the EVB Banks partnership Angel Tree. EVB also gave each senior a fruit basket, then we all had a great lunch and the seniors were carried back home by their deputy with a nice poinsettia.

Isle of Wight County Triad:

Annual conference which hosted approximately 300 seniors. Local civic organizations and professional agencies provided speakers and literature. Individual assistance to seniors on specific questions was provided. Also provide safety beacons for seniors; cell phone distribution; Triad presentations to requesting groups; Project Lifesaver.

Lee County Triad:

Held Triad Senior Fair (annual event). Businesses and organizations bring information and are on hand to answer the seniors' questions. We have speakers on senior safety who address the attendees. Businesses provide door prizes.

Henrico County Triad:

Through advertising we had safety programs as various senior groups meet in the county. We have monthly meetings, each with a speaker. Topics recently covered include: CASA, Project Lifesaver, ElderFriends, Fire Safety, Security/Financial Security, ElderHomes, Police Use of Force, Medical Reserve Corp – Disaster Preparedness. We held 2 social events for our SALT Council last year. At June's social event, we collected cans of food for the food bank. At December's event we collected mittens, hats, and scarves for the ElderFriends Christmas baskets. At our meetings we do a monthly sunshine fund which is given to the organization from which our speaker came. We assisted with the holiday ACT NOW, a multi-generational non-enforcement holiday-season shopping mall patrol program – 26 volunteers partnered with different neighborhood watch coordinators and police.

Madison County Triad:

Annual Crime Prevention conference for 200+; handouts at two local street fairs; Aging Together/Triad Senior Prom; Intergenerational Safety Day.

Martinsville/Henry County Triad:

We directly interact with approximately 2,000 seniors each year, through our seminars and our attendance at area health fairs. We offer bi-monthly seminars dealing with important and timely issues. In 2008 our seminars covered topics such as brain injuries, reverse mortgages, voter's rights, DTV conversion, etc. We also offer a Senior Police Academy and participate in programs such as File of Life, 911 Cell Phone Bank, and Project Lifesaver. At our seminars and at local health and information fairs we distribute flyers and publications pertaining to other important senior issues. This past year we distributed small, LED flashlights and magnifying bookmarks to a number of our seniors. We hold 2 Brunswick stew fundraisers each year which bring in the majority of our operating expenses. We also offer our seniors a free meal at each of our seminars. Our June seminar is replaced by a catered picnic at a local park, which usually includes some form of entertainment and door prizes. The member agencies also offer a great number of benefits and programs to the local senior population.

Our bi-monthly seminars are easily our most successful activity. The average attendance of our seminars in 2008 was around 175 people, with the exception of the voter right seminar, which has a lesser number of attendees. Our DTV conversion seminar, presented by a local TV host and station owner drew a particularly large crowd.

Mathews County Triad:

Our annual senior safety fair attracted over 150 seniors. Our Triad newsletter is published quarterly and is distributed to local businesses and mailed to 175 citizens. Our LifeLine project is successful with 19 of our 21 citizens received this service for free. Our senior academy entails 6 weeks of informational activities and lectures to our seniors which is held at the active lifestyle center.

Mecklenburg County Triad:

We have given out between 200-500 files of life; have a shredder program; emergency beacon lights; install peep holes, crime prevention seminars and programs; and a senior citizen police academy. Numerous benefitted from our shredder program – local police departments and

libraries places shredders in their location giving a secure place for seniors to shred their important documents.

Nelson County Triad:

Our most successful activity is the installation of the Personal Emergency Dialers. In 2008, we celebrated the installation of our 200th PED. Jennifer Aulgur was our guest speaker. We also initiated the Project Lifesaver service.

Norfolk Triad:

During Thanksgiving, a turkey giveaway was sponsored by the Sheriff's Office. Each Triad member who requested a turkey was given one for a Thanksgiving meal. Over 150 were issued.

Orange County Triad:

The 8th Annual Art of Aging Expo was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 from 10AM to 1PM at the Rhoadesville Baptist Church. Exhibitors in attendance were: Alzheimer's Association, Hospice, Senior Care Giving Services, Assisted Living Facilities, Culpeper Regional Hospital, Community Services, Law Enforcement, Social Security Administration, Senior Identification Ids, Free Glaucoma Screening, Vision Screening, Safe Assured ID Program, Triad, and Project Lifesaver. Approximately 150 seniors attended and were able to see first hand the services available to them from the Community and Regional Offices. Being able to speak directly with representatives from these services was very beneficial to all in attendance. This is the 8th year for this event and a good database is set up on exhibitors interested in participating and this is accomplished by letters and registration forms sent to each possible participant. We have an average of about 24 to 26 exhibitors involved each year. We move the event around the county in order for different areas to be available to senior who are not able to travel. We partner with the senior sites which bring their members to the Expo in a van for their event for the month. Posters are placed strategically around the County and media coverage is placed frequently as the date approaches. A week before, radio coverage is added. We are one of the few Triads – maybe the only one – that is a line item in the county budget. With this money we are able to successfully fund many of our programs and we do get donations from regulars, such as Lake of the Woods AARP, Orange County AARP, Young at Heart Club, and various donations from citizens of the County.

Page County Triad:

The most successful activity in 2008 was our senior crime prevention conference. The Luray Moose and local businesses assisted with the conference. Vendor tables were held – no cost for non-profit but a small fee for the for-profit businesses. Over 100 seniors benefitted from the conference. Our educational media campaign was also successful. Fliers and Triad/S.A.L.T. Council brochures were sent out through a mailing list to educate the community on the Triad. Triad hosted a "Share the Bounty" event which raised funds to benefit Meals of Wheels and the S.A.L.T. Council.

Petersburg Triad:

Our numbers increase at every meeting. We bring in various experts in the crime prevention field that interest senior citizens; but we also provide fun and interactive activities for them as well. We have over 400 seniors registered with our Triad. We call each of them during any type

of inclement weather (snow, excessive heat or rain) to make sure they are not in need of anything, and if they are, we get it to them. Our 2nd Annual Senior Resource Day and Fish Fry was on May 15th from 9AM to 2PM. We had a program and lunch with approximately 56 vendors who provide services to seniors on site. Each had giveaways at their table as well as door prizes. We serve approximately 400-500 seniors that day. We started planning well in advance and partnered with Petersburg Parks & Leisure Services Department and the Crater Area Agency on Aging. We also take our seniors on various outings – circus, gospel plays – assessing them a minimum donation.

Portsmouth Triad:

We participate regularly at civic league meetings and neighborhood watch groups where crime prevention talks are presented to our senior population in an effort to combat fraud, identity theft, and those that prey on the elderly to defraud them of their life savings. In 2008, the S.A.L.T. Council promoted 8 crime prevention programs for seniors.

We have adopted two nursing homes. The S.A.L.T. Council actively participates in planned activities at each home. We sing, read, talk about the good old days and allow patients to dialog and reminiscence about their lives when there was tranquil behavior and how people got to know one another. We have purchased personal items for distribution to our seniors in nursing homes. We also prepared breakfast for seniors on special occasions at no charge.

During the Thanksgiving holidays, the S.A.L.T. Council has purchased baskets for distribution to seniors on a fixed income.

We designed a vest in which the concept was mimicked after a Northern Virginia Triad vest and added our Sheriff, Police, and retired seniors logo together with the Triad logo. We had the wording on the vest embroidered. Members take great pride in wearing the vest at all Triad functions thus promoting the image and concept of what the Triad organization represents. The S.A.L.T. Council conducts church visitations every 5th Sunday to area churches where members are encouraged to attend as a group. We are blessed that we have a City Councilman as a member of our S.A.L.T. Council and our Sheriff attempts to make some visits with the group.

The S.A.L.T. Council conducts quarterly excursions to meat plants in North Carolina where seniors (who are able to ride with us) purchase bulk mats at reduced prices. We transport 12 seniors per trip who enjoy the 1 day outing.

Roanoke Valley Triad:

Our Triad held a “special meeting” that was in concordance with the Boomer and Beyond Senior Expo. During the Senior Expo, the Triad meeting was set up in an adjacent room. Light refreshments were provided. Scheduled lecturers spoke to attendees on topics such as Identity Theft, Senior Media and Crime Prevention, as well as an Alzheimer’s question and answer session. A full explanation of the Triad and how law enforcement and Triad work together was given by Ms. Kathy Terry of the AG’s Office and Mr. Don Thorne, President of the Triad. We were able to dispense crime prevention information to over 3,000 seniors during that “special meeting.” Our organization also records Triad meetings for live internet broadcasts. This type of meeting has reached an untold amount of viewers, as well as the regular monthly attendees. Our organization is always working towards more efficient means of providing the seniors citizens of the Roanoke Valley with crime prevention information.

Rockingham Regional Triad:

In June 2008, we held our annual regional meeting. Topics for the day were Top 10 frauds and scams presented by Cpt. Barry Whittig; Medications: What Do You Need to Know? Presented by Curtis Shinaberry, a local pharmacist; Issues Impacting Virginia Senior Citizens presented by Marcia Garst, Commonwealth's Attorney. There were approximately 50 people in attendance, including the speakers and the SALT Council. We also invited non-profit organizations to have displays with information that is relevant to senior citizens. This was held a local senior community. Partners were the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office, the Commonwealth's Attorney, Costco, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Valley Programs for the Aging, Caregiver's Community Network, Virginia 211, and others.

Scott County Triad:

Our 3rd Annual Senior Safety Fair was a success. Approximately 80 people attended – community agencies and businesses also participated. We are partnering with our E-911 agency and we'll be going to each senior center and speak to them about Triad, E-911 program and frauds/scams in the area.

Spotsylvania/Stafford County Triad:

In 2008, we gave several briefings to seniors including reverse mortgages and safety.

Tazewell County Triad:

Tazewell Triad's more successful activity of 2008-2009 was the publication and distribution of a Senior Resource Guide to provide seniors with contact information for law enforcement and consumer affairs agencies and organizations. Content was prepared by the Triad council members, printed and distributed to seniors at our annual Senior Safety Day Seminar. Copies of the Resource Manual were provided to member agencies, including AASC, for distribution to the seniors they serve.

Virginia Beach Triad:

The 2008 Triad Crime prevention senior grant program funded the purchase of 312 large view peepholes. To receive the service the recipient must agree to have a home security assessment conducted by a Virginia Beach Police Officer from the Crime Prevention Unit and reside in the City of Virginia Beach. Upon completion of the assessment, a 1/38" large view peephole would be installed in the front door of the residence. Three-inch screws will be installed into the strike plate of the front and rear exterior doors. A Crime Watch Lamp Adapter 911 Flashing light will be placed into the front porch light socket. It's a lamp adapter that can turn any lamp or light fixture into a life saving device. With two flips of the existing light switch, it activates a flashing light to signal neighbors or quickly directs EMS help to the home.

Triad ambassadors represent the Virginia Beach Triad at various functions. These functions include, but are not limited to displays, presentations, assistance with Senior Citizen Police Academies, special projects, etc.

York/Poquoson Triad:

We provide seniors with community presentations, file of life materials, project lifesaver, operation lookout/lockout program, home security surveys, and bi-monthly safety programs at our senior center. We assist the Fire Department with their weekly blood pressure screenings

and we conduct yearly ice cream socials on our anniversary with key note speakers who talk on senior safety. We also conduct dances and picnics for the seniors. The Lookout/Lockout program which was funded by a grant from the Attorney General's Office in FY08 was continued by community donations in FY09. We were able to reach numerous residences in both York County and the City of Poquoson. We have installed over 200 door scope viewers and over 60 deadbolt locals in seniors homes. We had members of the Sheriff's Office meet and talk with seniors about safety precautions they can observe while inside of their homes while fortifying their home portals.