

Fall, 2001

Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge



Upcoming Program:

The Gift That Keeps
on Giving-Donor
Bank

Tuesday, March 19,
noon at Blacksburg
Sr. Center in
conjunction with
AARP

Board of Trustees

Class of 2002
Taylor Albright
Gerry Anderson
Isabel Berney

Class of 2003
Darrel Clowes
Frank DuPont
Franklyn Moreno

Class of 2004
Arthur Snoke
Goldie Terrell
Pat Traynor

Annual Meeting Held in Christiansburg

The first annual meeting of the Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge was held on October 15 at the United Methodist Church in Christiansburg. Bylaws of the organization were adopted. They can be found on the web site or members may request that a paper or electronic copy be mailed. The web site is found at www.funerals.org/fcavbr/

Now that the bylaws have been adopted, FCAVBR can complete the process of qualifying for tax-exempt status.

The Board of Trustees was elected. All members of the steering committee were elected to Board terms along with Pat Traynor. Three of the Board members will serve for one year,

three for two years and 3 for three years. Opportunities exist for members to serve. See listing at left.

The Board of Trustees met to elect their officers.

President: Isabel Berney

Vice Pres: Frank DuPont

Secretary: Arthur Snoke

Treasurer: Darrel Clowes

"Information You Are Dying to Know"

Taylor Albright, a local attorney, presented the program at the annual meeting. Speaking about legal documents we all should have, Albright addressed wills, powers of attorney, and medical directives.

Albright admitted that lawyers generally do not like generic forms

for such documents. However, she was pleasantly surprised when she saw the form included in the FCAVBR membership packets. "It is a perfectly adequate form, and does what it is supposed to do."

In June the LA Times reported that Americans are reluctant to confront

death. Only about 10% have living wills. Very few actually talk to their families about preparing for death. As a result most important end-of-life decisions are: "...made ad hoc with tear-filled eyes by distraught family members who can't agree on a movie rental, let alone death decisions."

**Funeral Consumers
Alliance of the
Virginia Blue Ridge**

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.funerals.org/fcavbr/

Reciprocity and Transfer of Membership

We live in a mobile society. Members will move from our service area. One of the FCA tenets is that membership in this Alliance is transferable to or from any other affiliated group. This reciprocity is one of the benefits of membership.

Please let us know if you will be moving. We will send you a transfer form to register with the alliance in your new area. You can find the directory on the web site at www.funerals.org or we can mail you a printed version.



Funeral Home Survey Begins

The first order of business for your new board members was to initiate the funeral home survey. There are approximately 30 funeral homes in our service area, a

surprising number for our population.

The annual price listing of area funeral homes is one of the most popular services that affiliated funeral consumer alliances

provide to members.

If you would like help with this important work, please call or e-mail the FCAVBR.

About the FCAVBR

Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge is a non-profit organization of area residents dedicated to helping our neighbors make funeral arrangements that

are dignified, meaningful and affordable. We are also interested in all end-of-life choices and are dedicated to consumer-education.

FCAVBR
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