



# Journey

## Butler County Chapter Newsletter

Website: [www.pasrbutler.org](http://www.pasrbutler.org)

Home Chapter of PASR  
State President Mary K  
Davis



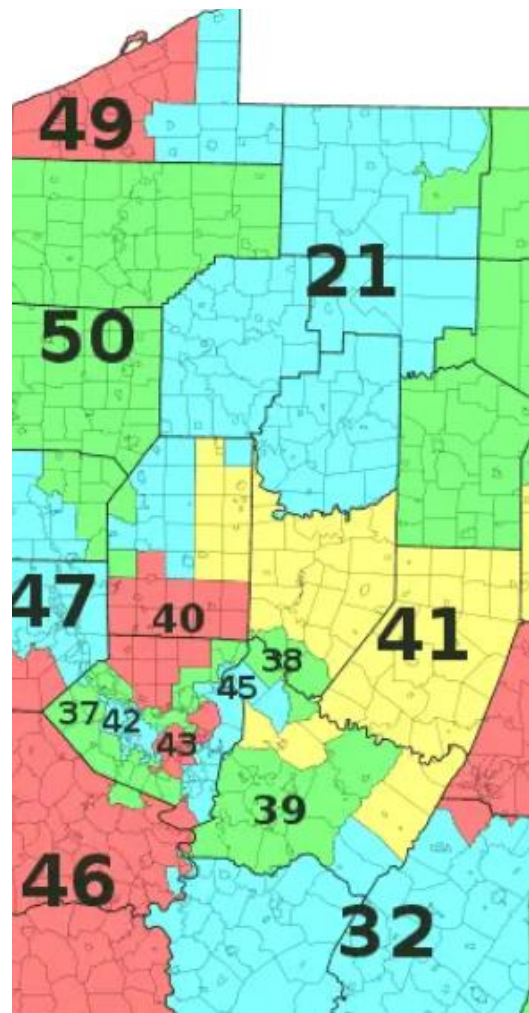
**May 28, 2025**  
**Remember: 11:00**  
**meeting time at Alameda**  
**Park, Masonic Shelter.**

### PASR Butler President's Message

**GOOD COLA NEWS!** HB 411 passed the PA House with a vote of 131-72. This step forward wouldn't have been possible without PASR members statewide whose outreach and dedication amplified the voices of over 60,000 retirees who have waited more than two decades for a **Cost of Living Adjustment**.

Now it is time to apply pressure on the Senate. Although you may write to whomever you like, understand that if you are not a constituent of that official, your voice may not be heard. It is said to be most effective to express opinions to your own elected officials.

The map shows that Butler County is divided among senators from 21, 40, 41 and 50, plus some of our members live over the line in neighboring counties.



## **Butler Chapter Officers**

President..... Polly Shaw  
724-584-0371 pollyshaw3@gmail.com  
President-elect ..... **OPEN**  
Recording Secretary ..... Fran Geisel  
Immediate Past Pres ..... Peg Harding  
.....harding.margaret@gmail.com  
724-502-4065  
Treasurer .....James Huemme  
khuemme@zoominternet.net  
Asst. Treasurer.....Joanne Van Deusen  
Membership Secretary..... Mary K Davis  
Chapter Website www.pasrbutler.org  
Region 8 Director.....Polly Shaw  
State website www.pasr.org  
State President Mary K Davis

### **Standing Committee Chairs**

By-Laws..... **OPEN**  
Community Service ..... Peg Harding  
Educational Support .... Diana Bowman  
Legislative and L/PEC ..... Peg Harding  
Membership/Mem. Benefits & Services **OPEN**  
Nominating ..... Peg Harding  
Program ..... Diana Bowman  
Public Relations ..... Polly Shaw  
RECREO ..... **OPEN**  
Retirement Planning ..... **OPEN**  
Soc.Ser/Memorial Honor Fund..Ruth Scott

### **Ad Hoc Committees**

Reservations ..... Donna Vogel  
Hosting ..... Diana Bowman

### **PASR School Entity Area Chairs**

Butler.....Kay and Jim Huemme  
BC3.....Ruth Scott  
Karns City ..... **OPEN**  
Knoch.....Virginia Shirey, Doris Herceg  
Mars.....Minette Thompson  
Moniteau.....Carol Ball  
Seneca Valley.....**OPEN**  
Slippery Rock .....Ellen McIntyre

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To find contact info for your elected officials, go to:  
<https://www.palegis.us/find-my-legislator> It will require your street address and will then show you contact info for your PA Representative and Senator, as well as your US representative and Senators.

Below are the area PA House of Representatives and their April 9 vote in the final passage. If yours voted yes, write to thank them. I have written to mine to express my disappointment. Of course, be respectful and professional.

### **VOTED YES**

**Lindsay Powell**, D District 21 part Allegheny

**Mandy Stelle**, R District 33, part Allegheny

**Arvind Venkat** D, District 30 part Allegheny

*Note that NONE are from Butler County*

### **VOTED NO**

**Josh Bashline** R. District 63, part Armstrong and Clarion

**Aaron Bernstine** R District 8, part Butler and Lawrence

**Timothy Bonner** R District 17, part Butler, part Mercer

**Abby Major**, R District 60. Part Armstrong, part Westmoreland

**Marci Mustello**, R District 11, part Butler

**Stephanie Scialabba** R District 12, part Butler

**Jeremy Shaffer**, R District 28, part Allegheny

**"To serve others in need and help one another"**

PASR Mission Statement

To see how each Representative voted: [House Roll Call Vote Summary #116 | 2025-2026 Regular Session - PA House of Representatives](#)

The vote was April 9. It was referred on April 11 to the Senate Finance Committee. We CANNOT let it die there.

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Make a plan. Try this: Make contacts weekly to your PA Senator, alternating email, US mail, and phone calls. Alternate local and Harrisburg contacts, but keep it up every week. This is a way that we grassroots folks can apply pressure.

So what is our message?

1. Ask that the COLA bill be considered.
2. Make it a priority. Some will say that everything is a priority but this IS a priority.
3. It needs to be at the budget table, not just in the Finance Committee. It needs to be part of the budget.
4. Convey a sense of urgency.
5. Add your personal story, if your wish.

Every voice matters. Together we can advocate for fairness and dignity for those who dedicated their careers to serving Pennsylvania.

**EASIEST WAY:** PASR has set up a shortcut. You can go to [www.pasr.org/legislative-form/?id=8](http://www.pasr.org/legislative-form/?id=8)

Fill out the form. Enter your home address to ensure that it is sent to the correct Senator. You can check your membership ID at [pasr.org](http://pasr.org) after you

sign in, if you don't have it handy. It will then give a sample message which you can send or alter to suit. Then send it!

Butler County Council PASR  
General Membership  
Luncheon Meeting  
March 26, 2025  
Christ Community Methodist Church

Meeting brought to order at 11:05.

Polly welcomed us. Pledge the Flag.

Floyd Wagner is celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A reminder to wait before entering restroom if day care children are inside.

**Treasurer-** May Day is Pay Day.

**President-** Polly asks that you contact her if you are not receiving the Journey and have any other questions. You can also visit the website at [www.pasrbutler.org](http://www.pasrbutler.org).

Will reserve Alameda Shelter as soon as possible for May luncheon.

Decorating for the luncheon will be on a volunteer basis instead of school districts. Volunteers needed.

An Adventure Group leader is needed to schedule activities such as a book club, wine tasting, painting, museum visit, etc.

We have no RECREO chair, check out state RECREO for opportunities.

Executive Board folder contains by-laws. Check to see if following. Focusing on one goal per meeting.

Vacancies-President Elect, Membership, RECREO.

**State President-** Stamp out hunger program 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in May.  
State Book Club on Zoom on state website.

**SS/MHF-** Center Avenue sent a Thank You for gift cards (\$500).

11:45 **Luncheon.**

**Program-** Mary Bach, independent consumer advocate, gave a presentation on the PA State Sales Tax regulations, product downsizing, and the necessity of reading the labels on products.

Fran Geisel won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Frances Geisel  
Recording Secretary

**Cards of Cheer**

Donna Vogel  
148 Spithaler School Road  
Evans City, PA 16033

Fran Geisel  
553 Callery Road  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066





This is the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center which will be the site of the PASR House of Delegates on Oct. 5-7. PASR Butler is entitled to three delegates. Peg Harding and Ruth Scott from the Executive Committee have indicated that they would like to attend. We need a third volunteer to represent us. Please note that Mary K Davis, PASR State President, and Polly Shaw, PASR Region 8 Director, are already scheduled to attend so will not be directly representing Butler. As a Chapter, we will decide at the May 28 meeting who will represent us, so that I can submit the names promptly.

Your commitment includes driving (or sharing a ride) on Sunday to Penn State. You need to attend the House of Delegates formal sessions on Sunday evening, Monday a.m. and p.m. as well as the Tuesday a.m. session. You can also register for some interesting breakout sessions, plus have lots of opportunities to chat with folks from across the state. Monday there will be a banquet with entertainment.

*2023 House of Delegates memories.* On the left is Mary Bach, who was also our March PASR Butler program. Mark K Davis was elected and installed as President at this House of Delegates. Her term is concluded at the end of this year. She will then serve another two years as Immediate Past President.



## **Conversations and Decisions**

At our 11:00 meeting on May 28, we need to talk a bit about finances. We have not had any fund-raising activities since covid. Because of previous success with our RECREO trips due to the late Margaret Hoffman, we have tightened the belt and are all right. The hall rental at Christ Community has increased. We need to think about finances moving forward.

- We did try a new RECREO trip but it didn't draw enough people to make it work.
- Some chapters have a dues increase. Many of our members are lifetime members so we have to think about how that would work for all.
- Some chapters offer a voluntary free donation along with the meal registration, a surcharge.
- We do have a 50-50 ticket sale at each meeting. Should we increase the price?
- What are your thoughts? It's time for some conversation about this.

## **Chapter Goals and Activities**

PASR has established Chapter Goals and Activities. At our April Executive Committee meeting, we reflected on the first one and will look at each at the subsequent meetings. These Goals and Activities are a good tool for reflection of our effectiveness. Let's reflect on this together at the May 28 meeting which begins at 11:00 at the Masonic Shelter, Alameda Park.

### **GOAL 1: Expand/Improve Services to Others**

*Activity #1 — Develop/Participate In/ Expand a Project or Activity Serving Youth* The Community Service Committee is encouraging chapters to develop/participate in/expand a chapter activity which benefits youth of any age in their areas.

*Activity #2 — Increase Educational Support Grant(s)* The Educational Support Committee is encouraging chapters to award one or more Educational Support Grant(s) or to increase the amount of existing grants to active school personnel and/or support personnel in their areas.

*Activity #3— Increase Social Services Memorial Honor Fund Services* The Social Service Memorial Honor Fund Committee is encouraging chapters to increase services to temporarily "confined" (hospital, homebound, assisted living and nursing homes) members.

*Activity #4— Initiate or Expand a Project or Activity Alleviating Hunger* The Community Service Committee is encouraging chapters to either initiate or expand a special project or activity to alleviate hunger in their areas.

*Activity #5— Promote Individual Giving to Memorial Honor Fund* The Social Service Memorial Honor Fund Committee is encouraging the giving of individual and chapter donations to the Memorial Honor Fund that are given in honor or in memory of individuals.

PASR TREASURER'S REPORT  
January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2025

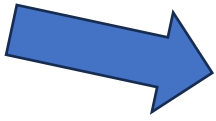
RECEIPTS:

ED Support	\$	250.00
Luncheon		557.00
Local Dues		210.00
State Dues		180.00
Raffle		57.00
Postal Service		1.36
		\$ 1,255.36

EXPENSES:

Woodson Awards	\$	250.00
Luncheon		434.00
State Dues		180.00
Hall Rental		155.00
Minuteman Press		134.37
Alameda Rent		90.00
Speaker		50.00
Decorations		46.64
		\$ 1,340.01

Beginning Balance	\$	1,666.51
Receipts	+	1,255.36
		292.87
Expenses	-	1,340.01
		1,581.86
Checkbook Balance		1,581.86
Savings	+	6,972.29
		\$ 8,554.15



**11:00, Wednesday, May 28, 2025**  
Catered by Monroe Hotel



We meet in the Masonic Shelter at Alameda Park in Butler Township. After turning at the traffic signal on Route 356 by Popeye’s Louisiana Kitchen, drive on Alameda Road to the first stop sign and turn right on Pool Drive. Continue straight, passing the Purple Park playground. The Masonic Shelter will be on your right, with parking just beyond the shelter.

**Boxed Lunch Picnic Meal**

- TURKEY or HAM wrap
- Macaroni Salad
- Cole Slaw
- Baked Beans
- Fruit Cup

**Alternative Meal**

Chef Salad

delicious dessert (caterer’s choice)  
coffee, tea, raspberry ice tea,

**Reservation due Wednesday, May 16, 2025**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1st time retirees and nifty nineties are free!

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations: Turkey wrap meal at \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Chef salad at \$15 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ham wrap meal at \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ **Total due:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Butler County PASR. Mail to:**

Donna Vogel, 148 Spithaler School Road, Evans City, PA 16033



**Remember that we now begin at 11:00 for our meeting. Luncheon is 11:45 followed by our program, The Butler Dog Training Association. They will demonstrate tricks the dogs can do plus other surprises. Most of the dogs become therapy dogs. Great outdoor picnic program!**