



Journey

Butler County Chapter Newsletter

<http://www.pasrbutler.wix.com/butler>

Facebook: PASRbutler

March 2019

President's Message

The good news is that our by-laws enable PASR Butler to continue as always. Although we did not meet in December as a chapter due to the venue remodeling, and therefore did not install new offices, we carry on. I was elected as your president-elect two years ago and therefore on January 1, 2019, I officially became your chapter president. We will hold a formal installation at our March 27 meeting, a hold-over from the traditional December meeting. Likewise, SS/MHF will lead a memorial tribute for our members who have passed.

Peg Harding served us so well for double two-year terms as our chapter president. She now continues, with our great thanks, to serve as immediate past-president, in addition to her region responsibilities. Peg, as well as many other members, holds a great institutional memory that is a treasured resource for our chapter.

We have many members whom I have not met, so it would be appropriate here at the beginning of this term to share some highlights of my background. I first joined PASR Butler in 2011, as a 37-year veteran of Seneca Valley School District where I was a primary teacher, grades K-3. I served as SVEA President and was a negotiator.

I'm a lifelong Butler County resident and a Butler High graduate. My husband and I first lived for a few years in Zelenople and have been in Portersville since 1977, where we raised our three children. They are now grown, and the family includes six grandchildren, ages 2 months to 8 years.

It was my honor to serve eight years on the Slippery Rock School Board, including two as President. Locally, I am starting my 22nd year as a state park volunteer. Last year I was recognized as state (DCNR) volunteer of the year. *Moraine State Park*, published by Arcadia Publishing was

Butler Chapter Officers

President...724-584-0371...Polly Shaw
pollyshaw@zoominternet.net
President-elect**OPEN**
Recording Secretary.....Fran Geisel
Corresponding Sec'y**OPEN**
Immediate Past Pres. Peg Harding
harding.margaret@gmail.com
724-502-4065
Region VIII Director Mary K Davis
Treasurer James Huemme
Asst. Treasurer.....Joanne Nolsheim
Website pasrbutler.wix.com/butler
State website www.pasr.org
Facebook group.....PASR Butler

Committee Chairs

Legislative and L/PEC Peg Harding
Retirement Planning.....**OPEN**
RECREO M. Hoffman, J. Nolsheim
Social Services/Memorial Honor Fund
.....Ruth Scott
By-Laws Joanne Meredith
Educational Support.... Diana Bowman
Community Service..... Peg Harding
Member Benefits & Services **OPEN**
Membership.....Sharon Kline
Nomination**OPEN**
ReservationsDonna Vogel
Resolutions**OPEN**
Public Relations Polly Shaw
Luncheon.....Donna Vogel

PASR School Entity Area Chairs

Butler AreaSharon Kline
BC3 Ruth Scott, Pattie Bajuszik
Karns CityPat Hauman, Enid Wilson
Mars Priscilla Beblo
Moniteau Carol Ball
Seneca Valley ..Sue Campbell, Ruth Kirk
Slippery Rock..... Ellen McIntyre
South Butler Virginia Shirey,
..... Doris Herceg

(continued from page 1)

my first book. I have presented over 60 informative programs in the area. Within our chapter, I have received the 2015 PASR Butler Outstanding Volunteer, and that same year was recognized at the state level with the NRTA *With Our Youth!* Dedication Award. In 2018 I was awarded the Butler Chapter John J Dillon Service Award.

For our PASR Butler Chapter, I serve as your *Journey* editor. I have attended several state conferences as a delegate and attended various PASR trainings. I do have much to learn but have some good foundation on which to build as our chapter moves forward together. We have an outstanding PASR Chapter!

Thanks to all of our volunteers who serve on our Board as officers and committee chairs and members, as well as each one who has served in the past. I love to see members entering our meetings, always with a smile for old friends and welcoming to new visitors and members.

Help Wanted!



We have an opening for president-elect. This can be your turn to step up. It is a two-year term. Duties include attending

four executive board meetings and four general membership meetings each year. Fill in if the president is absent. There can be opportunities to attend regional and state events as well as working on chapter activities. Please consider this opportunity to serve. For more, contact Polly Shaw or Peg Harding.

PASR Butler General Membership
Luncheon Meeting Sept. 26, 2018,
Christ Community Methodist Church

South Butler representatives hosted the meeting and the book centerpieces were donated to the Center Ave. Community School.

A slide presentation on the Butler County "Little Red Schoolhouse" was viewed before the luncheon and \$281.00 was collected by the members to help repair the furnace at the historical school house.

The PASR Butler Chapter Scholarship of \$500 was awarded to Brianna Simmons, (pictured below, with Peg) a student at BC3, who is majoring in Early Childhood Education (Pre-K) program. The BC3 Education Foundation dinner at Founders Hall was held on Saturday October 13, 2018. There were over \$200,000 in student scholarships for the 2018-2019 academic year at BC3.



Our By-Laws chairperson, Sue Campbell, recently passed away. Sue will be greatly missed. Joanne Meredith

has agreed to replace Sue as By-Laws chairperson.

The Butler County Chapter of PASR nominated WISR 680 AM radio station in Butler, PA and commentator, Dave Malarkey, for the PASR Media Recognition Award. Polly Shaw, the PASR Region VIII Public Relations chair and the Butler Chapter chair will present this award to Dave during his WISR radio broadcast on Friday September 28, 2018 at 1:30 PM. (See page 7 for the story and pictures.).

In the future, written permission will be needed from anyone whose picture is used in our newsletter or on our website. (See pages 6-7.)

Our Region VIII Director, Mary K Davis, informed the membership of the upcoming PASR Leadership Conference to will be held at State College, PA on October 16-17, 2018. Polly Shaw, Ruth Scott, and Peg Harding will represent our chapter.

We need a chairperson for the Legislative Committee.

The John Dillon Award was presented to Polly Shaw for her service to PASR.

Since the Christ Community United Methodist Church will be renovating the bathroom facilities during the early part of December, Joanne Nolsheim moved and Joanne Meredith seconded to cancel the December luncheon and general membership meeting. Motion carried.

The Executive Council will still meet on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 10 AM and the December PASR Butler Chapter newsletter will still be sent to members.



Principal Keenan McGaughey, from Center Avenue Community School in the Butler Area School District, was the guest speaker at the luncheon. The school services students K-12 for all school districts

in Butler County. There are 80 students now attending the school, mostly for emotional support. The goal of the school is to have each student return to his/her regular school after completing the program.



For the past 3 years, PASR Butler Chapter has partnered with Center Ave. in collecting donations such as clothing, snacks, gift cards, and school supplies for the students. After each of our quarterly luncheons, these donations are distributed to the students via teachers and other staff.

Minette Thompson won \$50 from the raffle.

Respectfully submitted by Joanne Van Deusen, substitute secretary

Past President's Report

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for being so kind and helpful during my years as your PASR Butler County Chapter President. I really wasn't sure what I was "getting into", but Mary K Davis, your past president, answered all my silly questions no matter what time I would call her! She was so gracious in giving me advice and many times a "shoulder to lean on"!

The executive board of this organization has been a tremendous help in keeping me on track! Many of them were part of Mary K's board and new members have volunteered to help, too! When you look over the General Membership agenda outline that we give you at the luncheons, please thank those persons listed, because without them, we'd be in "big trouble".

We have lost many members from our executive board and our general membership in recent years and they will be deeply missed. I can remember meeting Helen Ferguson many years ago, when I first joined PASR, and she made "helmet hats" for our military men and women who were stationed in cold desert climates! Recently, we lost Susan Campbell and she was the only By-Laws Chairperson I had even known. There have been others, too, who have made the Butler Chapter of PASR a group of volunteers to be proud of!

Thank you, again, for making life as your president such a wonderful remembrance during my "golden years" of retirement!
Peg Harding

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Even though we didn't have our December 2018 luncheon, a number of members came to the Christ Community Methodist Church on December 12, 2018 from 10 AM - 11 AM to drop off manufacturers' coupons, pop can tabs, Bingo prizes, and Center Ave. School supplies!



As a side note, since we didn't get to have our December luncheon, Sharon Kline, Sonie Laughead, Priscilla Beblo, Mary K Davis, and I (Peg Harding), later, went to the Monroe Hotel after we

had collected the service items from the church that morning!

The children's items were taken to Center Avenue Community School by Ruth Scott, shown below.



Three large USPO boxes of manufacturers' coupons were sent to Navy commissaries in Gaeta and Naples, Italy, and to the Army commissary in Kaiserslautern, Germany! I'm sure the families of these military men and women appreciated them.

The Bingo prizes were delivered to Butler Life by Peg Harding.



The PASR 2018 Butler County Chapter Volunteer of the year award will be presented to one of our deserving members at the March 27th. meeting. Please come to the luncheon and congratulate this person and all the other generous volunteers in our organization.

Remember, collection items are needed all the time for those in need! These include: manufacturers' coupons, pop can tabs, Pringle cans, clothing and school supplies, and Bingo prizes, ink cartridges, etc.



Region Director's Report

As region director, I attended the state Board of Directors meeting on January 29 and 30. Mark McKillop, our Executive Director, reported on activities in the state office. All of our investment monies have been transferred from Wells Fargo to Conte Wealth. The Conte Wealth representatives reported that our monies are holding their own even with the drop in the market at the end of 2018. The auditors reported that all financial accounts are in order.

There was discussion about whether PASR should release any statement concerning the arming of school personnel. We are all concerned about school safety, but should PASR issue any statement about this issue? Please let me (Mary K) know your opinion.

Regions 3 and 8 are the hosts regions for the **October 6 – 8, 2019, House of Delegates** (Convention) to be held at Valley Forge Casino and Resort. Our

region needs to

- provide volunteers to work at the registration table Sunday and Monday.
- Each chapter is asked to provide a basket for this raffle with a value of at least \$50. Any individual may also provide a basket as well.
- We also need volunteers to help in the Raffle Basket room which provides money to Social Service Memorial Honor Fund (SSMHF).
- Volunteers will be reimbursed for mileage, lodging, and meals (with receipts up to \$30) per day volunteered. We will try to keep volunteer shifts to 3 – 4 hours. The more volunteers, the shorter the shifts.
- Let me know if you have any ideas or requests for possible Enrichment Workshops.

Most importantly, PASR is working with others to develop a proposal for a COLA. At this point in time, work is being done on figuring the cost to the retirement system. All those involved are aware of the need for a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) and how long it has been since the retirement system has been permitted to issue a COLA. Please let your legislators know how important this issue is to all school retirees, especially those who retired before Act 9 was passed. (Act 9 increased the multiplier.)

Mary K Davis, Region 8 Director

Member and Guest Consent and Release

There is a new PASR requirement that we obtain your signature on a form titled "Member and Guest Consent and

Release” This forms gives your permission to use your likeness in any photograph or video that identifies you, in our Butler Chapter PR as well as anything that we submit to the state Signing this form once is good for all time.



Blank forms will be available at the March meeting. Please make a point to be sure that you sign a form for our records. Each form will then be scanned to submit to the state PASR office in Mechanicsburg.

Helpful Links

Try this web address for a page with quick links to about **40** beneficial gov't and senior advocate websites:
<https://www.pasr.org/about/links/>

Partial list:

- Administration on Aging (AOA)
- Health Options Program (HOP)
- Medicare
- National Council on Teacher Retirement
- National Education Association
- PA Department of Aging
- PA General Assembly
- PA Unclaimed Property
- Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS)
- US House of Representatives
- US Senate

(from the WISR website)
 WISR's Dave Malarkey was honored by a local group last week for giving voice to the community.



Malarkey was presented with a framed certificate by local author Polly Shaw, naming him as recipient of this year's **Outstanding Media Recognition Award**, presented by the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees.

According to the group's nomination, Malarkey's accomplishments over the past 30 years behind the microphone are not surpassed by his dedication to the community.

"Dave has been active in a variety of local arts and theatre groups, including the Musical Theatre Guild, Butler Little Theatre and the Associated Artists," Shaw said. "Known for his keen appreciation for all things Irish, Dave is a friend to many local organizations and residents."

Malarkey expressed his thanks and appreciation for the honor, promising to proudly display the certificate.



pictured: Dave Malarkey and Polly Shaw on Friday, Sept. 28 following a radio interview on "It's Your Turn" at WISR.

PASR BUTLER COUNTY 2019 CALENDAR

General Membership Luncheon (Host Butler)	Wed, March 27
Region 8 Meeting in Grove City	Wed, April 10
Butler Chapter Executive Meeting	Thurs, April 11
General Membership Luncheon (Host BC3)	Wed, May 29 *
Butler Chapter Executive Meeting	Thurs, August 1
Region 8 Meeting in Grove City	Wed, September 11
General Membership Luncheon (Host KC)	Wed, September 25
PASR House of Delegates, Valley Forge	Oct. 6-8
Butler Chapter Executive Meeting	Thurs, October 24
General Membership Meeting (Host Mars)	Wed, December 11

*** PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MAY GENERAL MEMEBERSHIP MEETING**

Previously announced: May 22

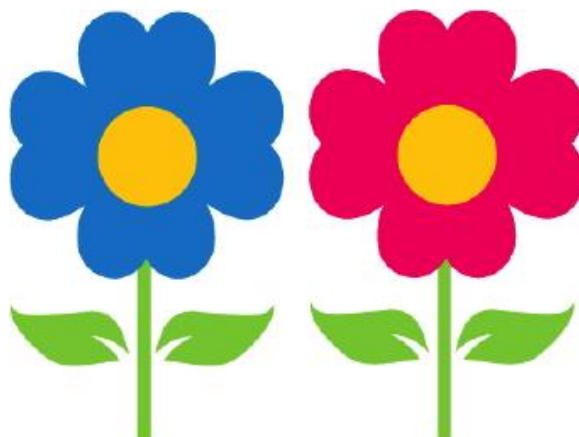
New Date: May 29

The Municipal Primary Election is May 21. Our meeting venue serves as a polling place and will not be ready for us the next day. We were asked to change.

Cards of Cheer!

Just say hello and brighten a day!

Lorraine Kesterson
Room 1935
134 Marwood Drive
Cabot, PA 16023



Evelyn Stevenson
110 Mayfield Avenue
Butler, PA 16001

Member Focus

Lorraine Kesterson loves books. so when she arrived at Concordia Haven II eight years ago, she was drawn to its library. She initiated a Book Club and spent many volunteer hours organizing the library. She came across a quote she now lives by – “Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”

She had the quote in mind when she noticed an ad in the Haven resident newsletter that called for volunteers to make daily calls with Concordia Tele-CareGivers. Having some health issues, she said to herself, “Now that’s something I can do from my apartment.”

Lorraine has now been calling three people per day, five days a week for the last 7 ½ years. No longer is the 88-year-old “working” in the library, but her volunteerism continues with the Tele-Care-Givers program. Each morning at 9:00, 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. she calls three women to make sure they are up and feeling well.

“One day I called my client in Pittsburgh and there was no answer,” she said. Quickly I notified the program coordinator and was relieved to find that neighbors had already reported that an ambulance had taken her to the hospital.”

Living in Butler County for most of her life, the grandma of three said, “I enjoy the conversations because I feel I am helping them and have the time to do it.”

Lorraine and all of the volunteers at Concordia Tele-Care-Givers vote every day to serve their communities, especially those who need it the most. What may seem like simple calls truly make a difference in the lives of their clients by helping to create peace of mind, safety, and security for them – like virtual guardian angels, just a phone call away.



The Concordia Tele-Care-Givers program was established in 2001. It is a free service that utilizes volunteers who make daily phone calls to homebound individuals to ensure that they are able to answer the phone. The program is operated solely by volunteers who make a brief 2-3 minute calls from 8:00-10:00 Monday-Friday.

When a client is signed-up, he or she provides one to three different contact people who can be called if the client cannot be reached. If a volunteer can't reach a client after a few attempts, the volunteer calls the program supervisor's office who take over from there. There's no responsibility on the volunteer other than to make the calls.

(from Faith in Caring, Concordia Lutheryn Ministries, Dec. 2018, pages 5-6.

BUTLER CO. PASR
James Huemme, Treasurer
January 2019

RECEIPTS:	
SSMHF	\$75.00
Ed. Support Grant	187.50
	\$262.50

EXPENSES:	
PASR Dues	120.00
Conference Expense	150.00
Military Mail (2)	87.00
Minuteman Press	206.70
Postmaster	81.17
Hall Rent	25.00
	\$ 669.87

Balance September 30, 2018		\$3,054.43
Receipts	+	262.50
Total		3,316.93
Expenses	-	669.87
TOTAL - December 31, 2018		\$2,647.06
Savings	+	9,194.11
Available Funds		11,841.17

Profits from RECREO trips that **we** sponsor are a main source of income for our club. Please consider destinations that would be of interest to you.

Do you prefer day trips or overnight? Please consider carefully and be ready to share an idea!! These trip profits finance our club, so we need to improve our offerings to attract participants. Think about no driving, no parking search, a great day with fellow travelers and a no-worry trip. Where do you want to go???? See JoAnne Nolsheim or Margaret Hoffman with ideas!!!!



PASR Luncheon Meeting
12:00 Noon, Wednesday, March 27, 2019
 Christ Community United Methodist Church
 205 N Duffy Rd
 Butler, PA 16001

Bear right around building to rear entrance: Fellowship Hall glass doors

Regular

Alternate

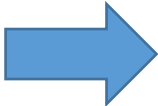
Parmesan crusted chicken breast
 Mashed Potatoes
 Steamed vegetables
 Tossed Salad
 Cookie
 Decaf coffee, raspberry iced tea
 Water

Chef salad

 Cookie
 Decaf coffee, raspberry iced tea
 Water

\$12.00

alternate meal \$12.00



Program: **Attorney Michael Pater, presenting information on elder law.**
 He visited us five years ago and was very well received. Our individual
 circumstances change, and we have new members, so this seemed to be a
 great time to welcome him again as our speaker.

.....

Reservation Form Deadline **March 15, 2019**
12:00 Noon at Christ Community Methodist Church

Member Name: _____

Guest Reservation: (name) _____

Number of reservations:

chicken @\$12.00 _____ chef salad @ \$12.00 _____

Total due: _____ (indicate if **free**) **all Nifty Nineties now free!!!**

A retiree attending for the first time receives a complimentary meal.

You may include the guest's payment in your envelope or send it
 separately. Make checks payable to *BUTLER COUNTY PASR* Reservations
 should be mailed to:

Donna Vogel
148 Spithaler School Road
Evans City, PA 16033

PASR, Butler Chapter

*Mary K. Davis
114 Freeport Road
Butler, PA 16001*

Pre sort STD
Postage Pd.
Per #510
Butler, PA 16001

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

P A S R
Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees

March 2019



Kindly bring a gently used or new book to donate to the Center Avene Community School library. All age ranges and reading levels are acceptable.