



*Butler County
Chapter
Newsletter*

March 2016

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

Facebook: PASRbutler (closed group)

Celebrating our 52nd year!

President's Message

We've been very lucky this winter, here in Butler County! Even Punxsutawney Phil agrees that spring will be coming early!

At the executive meeting in February, we discussed the urgency to contact your Pennsylvania state senator and representative concerning the current state budget problems. Hopefully, the state has agreed on a new budget by now, and that it supported responsible pension reform plan that would bring fiscal stability to the PSERS retirement system. PASR's goal is to **maintain** the present **defined benefit plan** of our retirement system and address the critical need of long-term retirees receiving a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

If we are still without a PA state budget, please contact your state senator and representative and urge them to maintain the defined benefit plan of our school retirement system, (PSERS), and to **oppose** any legislation that would place present or future employees in a **defined**

contribution 401(k) type retirement system. Also, request that any legislation being considered which would alter the school pension system, include a state required actuary analysis by the Public Employee Retirement Commission (PERC) and its impact to PSERS and the state's taxpayers.

Butler Chapter PASR is in need of a Legislative Chairman who recommends individuals for appointment to the PASR Legislative Contact Teams, provides input and suggestions to the State Legislative Committee through the region chairperson, and generally works to ensure that chapter members who are not members of the state association receive information about what PASR is advocating on our behalf.

We also need a chair for L/PEC (Legislative/Political Ed. Committee) This person encourages member contributions to the L/PEC Fund to help finance training and communications for the PASR Legislative Contact System; promotes volunteerism in political campaigns for

parties/ candidates of the members' choice; and provides information about the legislative and political processes to members. The committee also plans and conducts annual "Meet Your Legislator Events" giving all members an opportunity to meet and interact socially with their legislators. Both of these committees are essential to our local organization, so please consider chairing one of them.

A new date, **May 4, 2016** has been scheduled for the **PASR Butler County Retirement Fair**. It will be held at Christ Community Methodist Church, (where we hold our luncheons) from 3:00 - 6:30 PM. If you know of any friends or family members currently teaching, acting as an administrator, or working as support staff in the Butler County area schools or neighboring counties, please let them know about our fair. Representatives from PASR, PSERS, PISI, and other agencies will be there to discuss retirement opportunities. Also, if you currently have a great financial advisor or company that you would recommend, please contact me (Peg Harding 724-502-4065) so that I can include them as a vendor at the fair. If you are interested, we could use your help.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, four of our Butler chapter members attended the PASR Convention last October in Pittsburgh. We were so impressed with the tours that were offered to the delegates, that we

asked our RECREO chair, Margaret Hoffman, to set up a day tour for our chapter. The flyer which will be on the luncheon table and on the Chapter website, titled **Northside** Pittsburgh gives a wonderful overview of the trip Margaret has planned for us. I highly recommend that we take advantage of seeing PNC Park, the National Aviary, and the Andy Warhol Museum. Since this is a PASR Butler County sponsored tour, our chapter will benefit from the proceeds. Please consider going with us on **Tuesday, July, 12, 2016**.

Our Educational Support chair, Diana Bowman, is in contact with BCCC, and they will be choosing a student to receive our PASR Butler County Chapter \$500 scholarship. More information concerning this award will be included in the fall newsletter.

In the next newsletter, there will be a flyer for our PASR Butler Chapter winter trip, "Christmas City, USA" . From November 30 - December 3, 2016, you will visit the towns of Lititz and Ephrata in Lancaster County, and "Winter Wonderland" at the American Music Theatre.

The PASR State trip for 2016 will be May 15-21, 2016 to Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. If you are interested, please go to www.pasr.org

The PASR State trip for 2017 will be held April 23 - May 5, 2017 for a Danube River Cruise and in the fall

2017, the state trip will be going to Mackinac Island, Michigan. For further details go to www.pasr.org.

Please come to our March luncheon and enjoy the meal, visiting with friends, and the table decorations set up by our Moniteau representative, Carol Ball, and her helpers.

Peg Harding
President, Butler County Chapter

2015-Dates to Remember		
Board Meetings	Host	Chapter Meetings
February 3	Moniteau	March 30
April 6	Seneca Valley	May 25
<i>Retirement Fair May 4, 2016</i>		

Butler Chapter Officers

President.....Peg Harding
harding.margaret@gmail.com
President-ElectVeronica Rozic
vverrozic@aol.com
Recording SecretaryFran Geisel
Corresponding Sec’y **open**
Immediate Past Pres.....Mary K Davis
Region PresidentVeronica Rozic
TreasurerJames Huemme
Asst. Treasurer ... Joanne Nolsheim
Chapter website
pasrbutler.wix.com/butler
State website www.pasr.org
Facebook group: PASR Butler

Committee Chairs

Legislative and L/PEC **OPEN**
Retirement Planning ... Pam Patterson
RECROM. Hoffman, J. Nolsheim
Social Services/Memorial Honor Fund

.....Marcia Semple
By-LawsSue Campbell
Educational Support ...Diana Bowman
Community ServicePeg Harding
Member Benefits & Services **OPEN**
MembershipMary K. Davis
Nomination **OPEN**
ReservationsDonna Vogel
Resolutions **OPEN**
Public Relations Polly Shaw
.....Send newsletter, website info to
pollyshaw@zoominternet.net

**School Entity PASR Area
Chairs**

Butler Area Sharon Kline
BC3Ruth Scott, Pattie Bajuszik
Karns City Mary Lou Waltman,
.....Margie Walker
MarsPriscilla Beblo
Moniteau Carol Ball
Seneca Valley .. Sue Campbell,
Ruth Kirk
Slippery RockEllen McIntyre
South ButlerVirginia Shirey

**Current Location: Christ
Community Methodist
Church at 205 North Duffy
Road, in Butler Township
behind Target. See you
March 30, 2016 at Noon.**

PASR Butler County Chapter
General Membership; Luncheon
December 16, 2015

Christ Community Methodist Church

Peg welcomed us.

Memorial service was conducted by Marsha Semple for those members who passed on this past year.



Priscilla Beblo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lunch was served.

Sarah Bartley, PASR scholarship awardee was presented and expressed her thanks. She is taking

Early Childhood and Special Education classes.

Call to order by Peg.

September 2015 minutes were approved.

President and Treasurer reports are in the newsletter. Jim reminds us that "Mayday is payday."

Community Service - Slippery Rock Elementary is recipient of collected winter items. Continue collecting plastic bags, plastic lids, can tabs, Boxtop for Education, coupons (3 boxes sent and 3 more ready).

Leg/LPEC oppose PA Senate bill 1082, contact House rep.

RECREO - 2016 PASR sponsored trips Holland-Belgium River Cruise April 16-26; Pittsburgh North Side July or August; and "Christmas City USA" November 30-December 3.

Membership - new member Rosemary Kesey.

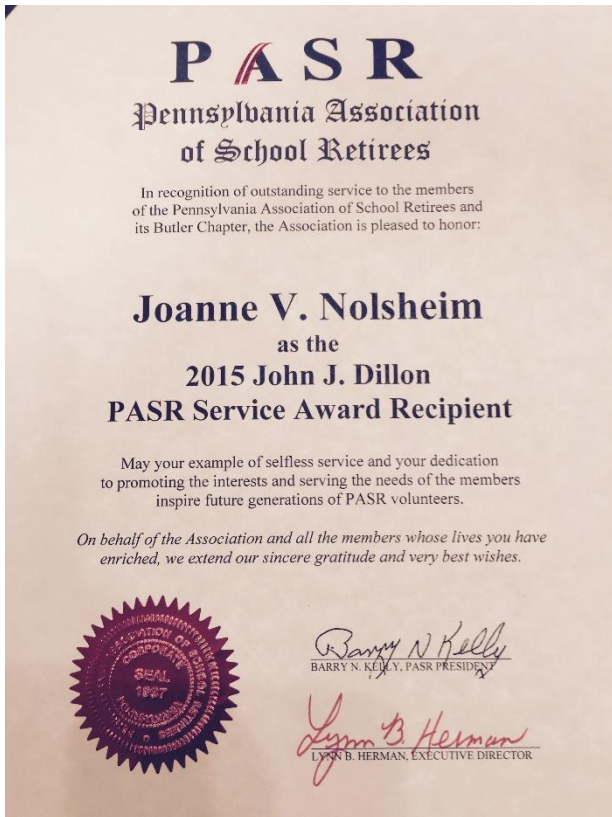
Social/Memorial/Honor Fund- continue to submit names of people who may need help.

Public relations - Thank you from Slippery Rock Elementary. Polly had available a computer to illustrate the local and state website.

Carol Ball, chairperson for Moniteau needs help with the March luncheon meeting.

Region VIII - Lawrence County has no local chapter. Consideration to

allow Lawrence County State members to join Butler County local.



PASR John Dillon Award for outstanding service was awarded to Joanne Nosheim.



Retirement Fair- Need to change date from April 12, 2016.

State Convention-Region VIII director Veronica Rozic was not compensated for attending. It is recommended that each local within the region reimburse Veronica 1/3 the cost. The Butler local chapter has voted to contribute their share. (Steve made the motion, Polly second).

Program was Christmas Sing-a-long with chimes.





Raffle was won by Peg Harding.

Executive Board meeting- February 3, 2016

Luncheon Meeting- March 30, 2016- Moniteau School District is host.

Respectfully Submitted,
Frances Geisel
Recording Secretary

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The PASR Butler County Volunteer of the year for 2015 will be awarded to one of our members at the March luncheon. Because of the change in the fiscal year for PASR, the award was determined from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. I used the tally

sheets from last year to determine the outstanding awardee. The recipient will be awarded a citation and volunteer pin.

The tally sheet for 2016 is included in this newsletter, so keep it handy throughout

this year. At the December 2016 luncheon, you can return it to me.

We are continuing to help our troops in as many ways as possible. Keep

clipping those manufacture coupons and bring them to the March 30th. meeting. Remember, the expiration date requirement should not go back more than 2 months ago. Please make sure you separate the coupons into FOOD and NON FOOD items and place them in separate baggies or envelopes. Boxes were sent to Air Force bases in Guam and Ramstein, Germany after the December 2015 luncheon, and another two boxes were sent to Army bases in Vilseck and Grafenwoehr, Germany on January 29, 2016. Thank you, especially Mary Angert, for faithfully cutting those coupons for the military.

Our chapter is still making **helmet hats for the military**,(see website for directions), **and collecting pop can tabs, used ink cartridges, plastic bottle caps, Pringle cans, plastic bags, and "Bingo" prizes.** All of these items have been greatly appreciated by those in need. These items can be turned in at the luncheon.

For those of you who signed up to help make "walker bags", funding for the project has just been awarded, so you will soon be notified concerning the material and sewing directions.

The state PSAR still wants all chapters to continue working with our K-12 youth, so, our collection of mittens, scarves, socks, coloring books, crayons, colored pencils, etc. were delivered to Slippery Rock Elementary School right after our luncheon in December.



The state PASR also wants to help the hungry in our communities, so non-**perishable food items and paper products** will be greatly appreciated, too. Our last collection of items was delivered in December to the local food bank.

The LIFE Butler County Day Center was very appreciative of the Bingo prizes we delivered to them after our luncheon. We'll continue to collect small prizes such as pocket and full size calendars, notecards, greeting cards, jewelry, and other items that the men and women would like to win while playing Bingo.

Also, please let me know if you and some other PASR volunteers are working on special projects for our youth and/or community members. If you need other PASR volunteers, I'm sure we can find them for you!

MEMBERSHIP

I would like to welcome Jane Dollhopf as our newest member. Jane worked at BC3 prior to her retirement.

As the presentation at State Convention indicated, membership is a TEAM of opportunities.

Travel
Economics
Altruism
Meat and making friends.

Please continue to invite former colleagues to come as your guest and to join PASR. Locally we provide fellowship and opportunities to volunteer in many different activities. As state members, we can take advantages of many member benefits. If someone is interested in what benefits are provided, they can go to the PASR website. Non-members may view the benefits, but they must be state members to sign up for any of the benefits. Also, they may go to our local website and view prior newsletters in which benefits have been highlighted.

I would also like to ask you to notify me if you become aware of one of your former colleagues dying. Please send the name to auntfrog@zbzoom.net so that his/her name may be listed for recognition at our memorial service in December. (*Visit on website page, In Memoriam.*)

SOCIAL SERVICES

Christmas visits were made, bringing good cheers and chocolate!

For Valentines Day, cards will be sent with \$5.00 included. They like this because it gives them a little "pocket change" to use for any small thing that is needed.

Our March Program



Who we are

Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by the Penn State Cooperative Extension. Once they complete their training, Master Gardeners help the Extension better serve the home gardening public by answering questions, speaking to groups, working with 4-H horticultural projects, participating in civic beautification, maintaining demonstration gardens, teaching plant sciences and horticulture, maintaining a web site, and in many other ways. Master Gardeners are willing and able to educate individuals and groups in gardening topics such as plant selection, composting, soil improvement, pest control, vegetable and flower gardening, pruning, and more.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Penn State MG volunteer program is to support the Penn State Cooperative Extension by utilizing research-based information to educate the public on best practices in consumer horticulture and environmental stewardship.

The Penn State University Master Gardener program was established to assist Cooperative Extension in reaching the consumer horticulture audience.

In 1982, Penn State Extension adopted the Master Gardener program. Currently, there more than 3000 volunteers within 63 of Pennsylvania's counties.

PASR TREASURER'S REPORT
 October 1 - December 31, 2015
 James Huemme

RECEIPTS:

Local Dues	\$	140.00
State Dues		300.00
Luncheon		884.00
PASR		350.00
Woodsen Scholarship		187.50
Postage		189.00
		\$ 2,050.50

EXPENSES:

Postmaster	\$	320.37
Memorials		90.00
Minuteman Press		317.47
Return Dues		60.00
PASR Dues		240.00
Conference Expense		975.00
Military Mail		97.95
SSMHF		57.74
Luncheon		1,011.29
		\$ 3,169.82

Balance Sept. 30, 2015		8,373.02	
Receipts	+	2,050.50	
		10,423.52	
Expenses	-	3,169.82	
Balance December 31, 2015		7,253.70	
Savings	+	9,010.90	
TOTAL		16,264.60	

PASR Luncheon Meeting
12:00 Noon, Wednesday, March 30, 2016
Christ Community United Methodist Church
205 N Duffy Rd
Butler, PA 16001

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

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: March 16, 2016 SEND
TO Donna Vogel (724-538-8413)**

Program: Master Gardeners!

MENU	ALTERNATE
Baked ham	Chef's salad
Scalloped potatoes	dessert
Hot vegetable	beverage
Rolls, butter	
Dessert	\$10.50
Beverage	
\$12.00	

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Reservation Form Deadline **December 2, 2015**
12:00 Noon at Christ Community Methodist Church

Member Name: _____

Guest Reservation: (name) _____

Number of reservations:

ham @\$12.00 _____ Chef Salad @ \$10.50 _____

Total due: _____ (indicate if **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

Mary K. Davis

114 Freeport Road

Butler, PA 16001

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL



March 2016

May 4, 2016 has been scheduled for the **PASR
Butler County Retirement Fair.**

Invite someone who may retired in the next few years!

Plan to help to prepare or to directly help at the fair.