

<http://www.orgsites.com/pa/butlerchappasr/>

**Celebrating our 51st year!**

### ***President's Message***

I hope your summer is going well and you are enjoying traveling, reading, relaxing, volunteering, and anything else you are able to find the time in doing.

We have invited the four Butler County Commissioner candidates to our September luncheon. They will only be introduced, but they will have time to visit with you before and after the luncheon. The Democratic candidates are Jerry Johnston and Kevin Boozel. The Republican candidates are Kim Geyer and Leslie Osche.

At our Executive Council meeting on August 5, 2015, we reviewed the 2015-2016 State goals for PASR and found that we are doing a terrific job in attaining them. We are expanding and improving services to others, by nominating Polly Shaw for the NRTA "With Our Youth" program, (see the Community Service article), and increasing educational support grants (see the Lauretta Woodson article), as well as increasing the SSMHF services to confined retirees (see the SSMHF report). In addition, we are trying to alleviate hunger in our area by collecting **nonperishable goods** for our local food banks. We are, also, trying to help

the homeless through our "plastic bag" project of **collecting and cutting plastic grocery bags** to be used for making sleeping mats in conjunction with the First United Methodist Church in Butler. In the next newsletter, I'll continue reviewing the state goals we are expanding and improving.

Many of our members traveled to the Mountain Playhouse in Jennerstown, PA to view "Nana's Naughty Knickers" sponsored by our RECREO committee which is chaired by Margaret Hoffman and Joanne Nolsheim. It was a beautiful day and a terrific summer theater play! Margaret was unable to attend, but her daughter, Sharon Reed was an excellent tour director. (See pictures in this newsletter)

We are asking for **school supplies** for Slippery Rock Elementary School. Last year, you donated supplies for an elementary school in Butler, and so the executive council has chosen "in need" students from the Slippery Rock community to benefit from your generous giving. Please bring tablets, pens, pencils, backpacks, crayons, kleenex, erasers, and anything else you think these students may need for their classroom and home situations.

The John J. Dillon PASR Service Award has been developed in an effort to recognize individuals that give tremendous service to this association and its members. The persons inducted each year will be announced at the PASR Convention this October in Pittsburgh. Past recipients have been Marcia Semple and Norma Neely. The Executive Council nominated persons from our chapter who are both local and state members of PASR. The final selection was determined by your president, past president, and president elect after the executive meeting in August. We will be presenting this award at our December luncheon.

Our Butler Chapter of PASR is allowed two delegates to the convention in Pittsburgh from October 5-7, 2015. They are the president, myself, and Polly Shaw, your Public Relations Chair. In addition, we are privileged to have Mary K Davis attending as a Membership presenter at the seminar sessions and Veronica Rozic, as our Region VIII Director for Butler, Beaver, Clarion, and Mercer counties. We will be summarizing the convention reports in the next newsletter.

Peg Harding  
President, Butler County Chapter

### 2015-Dates to Remember

Board Meetings	Host	Chapter Meetings
August 5	Karns City	Sept 23
October 28	Mars	Dec. 16
February 3	Moniteau	March 30
April 6	Seneca Valley	May 25

**Retirement Fair April 12, 2016**

### Butler Chapter Officers

President ..... Peg Harding  
harding.margaret@gmail.com  
President-Elect..... Veronica Ro  
.....vverrozic@aol.com  
Recording Secretary ..... Fran Geisel  
Corresponding Sec’y..... **open**  
Immediate Past Pres .....Mary K Davis  
Region President.....Veronica Rozic  
Treasurer.....James Huemme  
Asst. Treasurer ..... Joanne Nolsheim  
Chapter website  
orgsites.com/pa/butlerchappasr/  
State website .....www.pasr.org

### Committee Chairs

Legislative and L/PEC ..... **OPEN**  
Retirement Planning ..... Pam Patterson  
RECREO.....M. Hoffman, J. Nolsheim  
Social Services/Memorial Honor Fund  
.....Marcia Semple  
By-Laws .....Sue Campbell  
Educational Support .... Diana Bowman  
Community Service ..... Peg Harding  
Member Benefits & Services ..... **OPEN**  
Membership .....Mary K. Davis  
Nomination ..... **OPEN**  
Reservations ..... Donna Vogel  
Resolutions ..... **OPEN**  
Public Relations ..... Polly Shaw  
..... Send newsletter info to  
..... pollyshaw@zoominternet.net

### School District PASR Area Chairs

Butler Area ..... Sharon Kline  
BC3.....Ruth Scott, Pattie Bajuszik  
Karns City ..... Mary Lou Waltman,  
..... Margie Walker  
Mars..... Priscilla Beblo  
Moniteau ..... Carol Ball  
Seneca Valley ..... Sue Campbell,  
..... Ruth Kirk  
Slippery Rock ..... Ellen McIntyre  
South Butler..... Virginia Shirey

**Remember current location:  
Christ Community Methodist  
Church at 205 North Duffy  
Road, in Butler Township behind  
Target. See you **September 23,  
2015 at Noon.****

Butler County Council PASR  
Luncheon Meeting  
May 27, 2015

Christ Community Methodist Church

Call to Order. Peg welcomed us.

Minutes of the March 2015 meeting  
were approved.

Treasurer- \$3,090.71 profit from trip.  
\$90 contributions for excess food.

Community Service-Plastic bags to  
make mats. Fold in 4ths, cut off handles  
and bottoms. Still collecting Pringle  
cans, pop can lids, water bottle lids,  
coupons with expiration date 6 months  
divided into food and non food, ink  
cartridges, helmet hats (pattern on  
website), bingo prizes, September-  
school materials.

Leg/LPAC- County Commissioner  
candidates- Republican-Oshe, Geyer-  
Democratic –Johnson, Boozel.

Retirement Planning- Veronica, Mary  
K., and Peg attended Armstrong's fair.  
Approximately 64 people attended.  
Vendors were available. Possibility of  
one next spring.

RECREO- Planned trips include  
Jennerstown in July and Holland in April  
2016.

By-Laws approved and will be added to  
website.

Membership- Mary K. thanked those  
who helped with the new members  
mailings. New members, Jane Neigh,  
Shirley Lawrence, and Carolyn  
Schreffler.

Social Services/Memorial/Honor Fund-  
Marilyn Rider passed. Serving 7 shut-  
ins. Helen Ferguson- hip replaced now  
at 2415 Concordia. Lorraine Kesterson-  
home now.

Public Relations- Polly requests pictures  
and volunteer hours. She is setting up  
a Face Book page.

District Chairpersons are requested to  
submit lists of retirees.

Nifty Ninety members present were  
Clara Thompson (99), Marion Bell (96),  
and Margaret Hoffman (90).

NRTA- With our Youth award- nominate  
members who work with children

PASR Commendation- A commendation  
to Donna Reeder was accepted by her  
husband Joe and her mother Gloria.  
Woodson Award recipients are from  
Butler Sr. High and Summit Elementary  
Schools.

A program about the Institute for  
Learning in Retirement was presented  
by Judy Karnes, Tom Black, and Warren  
Smith. The institute was initiated at  
Slippery Rock University and has  
expanded to many interesting topics.  
Information on classes can be obtained  
by calling 724-738-1604 or by internet  
at [info@ilretirement.org](mailto:info@ilretirement.org).

The raffle was won by Joanne Nosheim.

Next luncheon will be September 23, 2015. The next executive meeting will be August 5, 2015 downstairs.

Membership. Mary K. supplies packets of information to be sent for the State membership drive. One new member was received.

Ed. Support. \$500 scholarship funded by raffle and trip monies.

Social Services/Memorial/Honor Fund. 8 members are being seen. Mary Aine Born 1911, Helen Cypher is 102. Get well cards sent to Donna Vogel, Helen Ferguson, Betty Butler.

Public Relations. Suggestions for card showers, pictures from trips, by-laws on website.

Slippery Rock has classes for seniors.

BC3 will host the May 27 luncheon-Nifty Nineties.

Executive Council meeting -April 8.

Program- The Underground Railroad in Butler County was presented by Reverend Jim Swanson, current pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church and Roy Magee, great-great grandson of a conductor.

Raffle was won by Polly Rodgers. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frances A. Geisel  
Recording Secretary



*Pictures from the July 22, 2015 RECREO trip to Mountain Playhouse at Jennerstown*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Thank you so much for submitting your volunteer service hour tally sheet to me. Since the new fiscal year is now January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015, the Volunteer of the Year for 2015 will not be announced until the early part of 2016. This year, I will be using the

hours you submitted by June 30, 2015, because I really didn't know about the change in the fiscal year situation. I hope that's okay with everyone. As of January 1, 2016, I'd like you to start counting your hours, again, until December 31, 2016.

We sent three coupons boxes to commissaries in Guam (Navy),

Stuttgart, Germany (Army), and Okinawa, Japan (Air Force). These were sent right after the May meeting and then two more coupon boxes were sent in July to Army commissaries in Vilseck, Germany and Okinawa, Japan. Thanks so much to Mary Angert for cutting out those coupons over the summer.

By June 10, 2015, I was asked as the Community Service Chairperson to submit a chapter project recommendation or individual member recommendation to NRTA: AARP's Educator Community. This is a national award and an Independent Selection Panel reviews the nominations.

For more than 60 years, NRTA: AARP's Educator Community has celebrated and promoted the extraordinary service of your state retired educators association and your members. There is so much inspiring community service happening across the country. It's amazing opportunity to nominate outstanding volunteers for the NRTA With Our Youth! Award. It is a volunteer service program in which individuals work with youth to provide meaningful educational and lifeskills support. Volunteers may work directly with youth or provide indirect support through scholarships and donation drives. The NRTA With Our Youth! Awards program was designed by retired educators and school personnel to recognize outstanding and inspirational volunteers on an individual, unit/chapter or statewide level. All community members, whether retired educators or not, qualify for these awards.

I am pleased to announce that Polly Shaw, our Public Relations Chairperson, has been selected to receive a Dedication Award with Honorable Mention from NRTA as the lead trainer for The Pillowcase Project in the 28 county Western PA Region of the American Red Cross. She conducted training for volunteers and some staff who present this program in schools, summer camps, youth clubs and after-school settings. She has been doing this for a little over a year and therefore trained lots of volunteers to go out and present the program to children. If you remember, Polly presented some information about The Pillowcase Project to our members at one of our luncheons last year. This is the submission paper we sent to the NRTA headquarters in June:

"The germ of the idea for The Pillowcase Project came from Hurricane Katrina when some Red Cross workers saw evacuated students from Loyola University entering the shelter with their possessions in pillowcases, having packed in such a hurry. Later when the New Orleans Red Cross chapter was working with ideas to improve disaster preparedness for children, the pillowcase idea was pulled for a basis, first as art therapy and that grew into disaster preparedness.

Folks from Disney learned about the program in 2011 and decided to sponsor it. Phase I was implemented in 2013 with some chapters; In 2014 it was expanded and that is when Western PA became part of the pilot and I attended my first training. On April 1, 2015, the program went national with Phase III so all Red Cross

regions must offer The Pillowcase Project. In March this year, I attended a two-day training in Los Angeles about Phase III, which is the basis of my current training 5 ½ hour workshops for adults. After training, volunteers have to pass an online test before being certified.

The Pillowcase Project is different from past programs because it has a new component of coping skills as well as disaster skills. The target audience is children grades 3, 4, 5. The standardized program is presented in 60 minutes although we do have a 40 minute version when time available is limited. The training is structured by three core principals: Learn, Practice, Share. Through The Pillowcase Project, students learn about the science of hazards, emergency preparedness, coping skills, and the importance of sharing their knowledge with friends and family. Each student receives *My Preparedness Workbook*, a special pillowcase that has traditional Disney characters and a ring of words suggesting emergency items, and a certificate of completion. Students are encouraged to prepare a personal emergency supplies kit which is easy to transport during an emergency. The program also talks about the importance of developing household emergency communications and fire evacuation plans.

Specifically, I also go out and present the program to students in the West Central Region (counties of Butler, Beaver, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and Clarion) as well as some other Western PA Region schools. I have presented to many school classes, church after- school, VBS, and also in Turtle Creek to a summer program. In June I'll be at IKEA for a children's

program and in July I'll be at a Salvation Army program in Aliquippa. This program is always for grades 3, 4, 5. Sometimes I go into the classroom and we have several teams at the same time. I have also presented assembly style to up to 120 students at once, if that is what scheduling required. I use a different program for younger children called Disney and Friends, but it has a different booklet and no pillowcase. Still, the emphasis is disaster preparedness but I don't teach the science behind the weather event or the hazard. I've done that program various times, as well."

Congratulations, Polly, on winning this award and representing retired school employees in the Butler Chapter of PASR.

Remember, we are collecting school supplies for elementary students who can't afford some essential items for this school year, pop can tabs, manufacturers' coupons, Pringle cans, plastic lids, ink cartridges, Bingo prizes for Butler Life, plastic bags for the homeless mat project, and anything else you have a desire to collect for the needy.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

I have received the names of many of the people retiring from the school districts in our county. If you know of any new retirees, please send me their names and addresses or invite them to attend our September meeting. We welcome any person who has worked in the schools in any capacity. This broad spectrum of members is what makes our organization vital. The state board of directors voted to raise state dues. This step was taken to help

defray the financial shortfall due to declining enrollment. The state dues will now be **\$60** per year. You may still choose state life membership for **\$700.00**, payable in two increments of **\$350** each year. If you pay your state dues directly to the state office, please let our treasurer know so that we can keep our records up to date.

The day before our May meeting, Marilyn

Rider passes away. Marilyn (Mimi) taught in the Butler Area School District and was a long time member of PASR. I'm sure that if you knew Mimi you remember her with great fondness.

Please notify me if you know of the passing of any former school employees whether they were members of PASR or not. Call me at 724-285-3522 or e-mail me at [auntfrog@zbzoom.net](mailto:auntfrog@zbzoom.net)

### L/PAC

The four candidates for Butler County Commissioner have been invited to our September 23, 2015 luncheon. The Republican candidates are Kim Geyer and Leslie Osche, and the Democratic candidates are Jerry Johnston and Kevin Boozel.

We will be introducing them at the beginning of the meeting and you will have an opportunity to speak with them, personally, before or after the lunch and program. There is no time during the meeting part of the agenda for them to campaign on the issues of being a Butler County Commissioner.

We hope this opportunity will give you some interaction with the men and women of Butler County who are willing to help in the direction of guiding Butler County in the next four years.



Kevin Boozel, D



Kim Geyer, D.



Leslie Osche, R



Jerry Johnston, R

### Lauretta Woodson Awards

Dr. Lauretta Woodson was a member of PASR and upon her passing, she bequeathed a sum of money to PASR to be used for the support of public education.

The purpose of the Lauretta Woodson Recognition Program is to honor one

teacher and one support professional for doing an outstanding job within a district or school. This year the Butler Area School District was selected to nominate candidates for this award. Dr. Dale Lumley, the superintendent of schools for Butler County, submitted Patricia L. Saeler, a second grade elementary teacher at Summit Township Elementary

School, and Sara Kovacik, the secretary at Butler Area Senior High School to be honored with this award. Dr. Lumley and Peg Harding, the current president of the Butler Chapter of PASR, presented each recipient with a plaque, a pin, and a grant donation of \$200.00 to be used to support public education in their schools. Dr. Lumley recommended Patricia Saeler because of her excellence in teaching and her dedication to the community. Mrs. Saeler who is retiring this year was presented her award in front of her second grade students on May 28, 2015. Kindergarten through fourth grade from Summit Township and Clearfield Township elementary schools will be merging this fall. Mrs. Saeler felt that a new award should be used to honor one or two upper grade students who by the end of the 2015-2016 school year have shown a positive attitude and made an extra effort to foster friendship with the blending of the students from the two schools. With the submission of names from designated teachers, the parent group would be responsible for taking a portion of the \$200.00 PASR donation from the award and placing a book in the library in honor of the student/students. The students would also receive a certificate noting their exemplary behavior in fostering cooperation and friendship. it is her hope that this recognition will continue for many years to come.

Dr.Lumley recommended Sara Kovacik for her dedication and commitment to her position a senior high school secretary and with the community. Mrs. Kovacik is also retiring this year and her

award was presented to her on May 28, 2015 in front of the senior high school principal and other staff members. She has decided to donate her grant award to be used to purchase books and materials to the high school library.

Congratulations to both of these excellent women and their dedication to public education in Butler County.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

We are currently in touch with the following members: Norval Dunn, Mary Hoehn, Lorraine Kesterson, Louise Kunkle, Mary Ann Martsof, Robert Niesslein, and Clare Thompson.

Please remember, that you, our members, are very important to this service. If you know of someone who needs to be contacted, let me know. If you want to experience "joy" in your lives, join the SSMHF Committee and see how fun it is to visit our confined members

I want to thank my committee members who are doing a great job of visiting and delivering our special gifts-----Peg Harding, Loreen Fedokovitz, and Donna Druga.

### **Member Benefits**

Davis Vision is available through PASR Member Benefits. Recently they began calling participating members about a mailing of cards. Participants now have an ID number, rather than the SS number.

These are proof of identification when you or enrolled dependents receive vision care benefits. Please call 1-800-999-5431 if you have questions or visit the website at [www.davisvision.com](http://www.davisvision.com)





PASR TREASURER'S REPORT  
 April 1 - June 30, 2015  
 James Huemme, Treasurer

RECEIPTS:

Jennerstown trip	\$2,100.00
Ashville trip	850.00
Woodsen Scholarship	187.50
Local dues	640.00
State dues	1,450.00
Luncheon	660.00
Postage	109.00
	\$5,996.50

EXPENSES:

Memorial book	\$ 30.00
BC3 Scholarship	500.00
Woodsen Scholarship	387.50
PASR	1,450.00
SSMHF	58.52
Office	506.43
Luncheon	795.40
Jennerstown trip	875.00
Nifty 90's	30.00
Minuteman Express	287.79
Postmaster	89.26
Military mail	89.50
Asheville trip	6,649.29
	\$11,748.69

Balance March 30, 2015	\$13,986.61
Receipts April-June	+ 5,996.50
	\$19,983.11
Expenses	- 11,748.69
	\$ 8,234.42
Savings	8,986.11
	\$17,220.53

**PASR Luncheon Meeting**  
**12:00 Noon, Wednesday, September 23, 2015**

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: September 11, 2015**  
**SEND TO Donna Vogel (724-538-8413)**

**MENU**

Pot Roast, gravy  
Mashed potatoes  
Steamed Vegetables  
Cole Slaw  
Rolls, butter  
cookies  
coffee, ice tea, water  
Price: \$11.50

**ALTERNATE**

Chef's Salad  
cookie  
coffee, ice tea, water  
Price: \$10.50

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Reservation Form Deadline **September 11, 2015**  
**12:00 Noon at Christ Community Methodist Church**

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

Guest Reservation: (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations:

Pot roast @\$11.50 \_\_\_\_\_ 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

**P A S R**  
Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees

*September 2015*

**Butler County PASR is now on social media.**

If you are registered on **Facebook**, go to your page, and then search Facebook for **PASR Butler**. Anyone can see our page but only members can post. Click on *Join Group* in the gold banner. Pictures that are PASR-related can be posted after you are a group member. Let's use this to keep in touch with PASR friends and to reach potential members. Please join!