

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

March 2014

President's Message

Hello,

I hope that all of you have been able to stay healthy and warm through this winter. By the time we meet in March we should be seeing some green grass and buds on the trees. At our March meeting, Attorney Michael Pater will be making a presentation on Elder Law. This should be a very informative program and one that I'm sure you want to hear.

We will be meeting on March 26th at the Ministry Center of First Methodist Church located on North Street. Please see the reservation form to check on when reservations are due.

Mary K. Davis
 President, Butler County Chapter

***Remaining Chapter
 2013-2014 Meeting Dates***
 March 26, 2014
 Hosted by Moniteau
 May 28, 2014 Hosted by Seneca Valley

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates
 April 2, August 6, October 29

Butler Chapter Officers

President Mary K. Davis
 auntfrog@zbzoom.net

President-Elect Peg
 Harding
 harding.margaret@gmail.com
 Recording Secretary open
 Corresponding Sec'y Fran Geisel
 Past President Veronica Rozic
 vrozic@aol.com
 Treasurer James Huemme
 Asst. Treasurer Joanne Nolsheim
 nolsheim@zoominternet.net
 Secretary Frances Geisel
 State website www.pasr.org

Committee Chairs

Legislative and L/PEC Donna Druga
 Retirement Planning Pam
 Patterson and Shirley Haggert
 RECREO Margaret Hoffman
 and Joanne Nolsheim
 Social Services/Memorial Honor Fund
 Marcia Semple, 724-903-9044
 By-Laws Sue Campbell
 Educational Support Diana Bowman
 Community Service Peg Harding
 Membership Mary K. Davis
 Resolutions Ralph Amy
 Reservations Donna Vogel
 Newsletter Editor Polly Shaw

Seneca Valley Sue Campbell,

Pictures from the December Meeting



Loreen Fedokovitz and Donna Druga doing the Memorial service



Peg Harding presenting the Volunteer of the year award to Kathleen Gardina

School District PASR Area Chairs

- Butler Area Donna Reeder
- Karns City Mary Lou Waltman,
Margie Walker
- Mars Priscilla Beblo
- Moniteau Carol Ball

Ruth Kirk

Slippery Rock Ellen McIntyre
South Butler Doris Herceg
Luncheon Meeting

December 18, 2013

First Methodist Ministry Center

Call to Order. Mary K. welcomed us.

A memorial service was held for those who passed on and those in the military.

Mars Host led prayer and pledge.

Lunch was served.

September minutes approved.

Thank you notes from Emily Brittain and Broad Street Schools were acknowledged.

Announced Patricia Bowles winner of the Dillon Award for outstanding service.

Peg Harding presented a pin and certificate to Kathleen Gardina for Volunteer of the Year.

Contact from Betty Frye concerning Therapy Dogs was read.

Presenter Nancy Slezak brought Therapy Dogs with her to demonstrate their value. She also explained the training and philosophy of Therapy Dogs. Therapy Dog International is an

organization dedicated to the training and certification of Therapy Dogs.

Moniteau will host the March meeting.

Membership drive will begin in February 2014.

Kathleen Gardina won the 49/51.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances A. Geisel
Recording Secretary

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP

All members are part of the membership committee. Please invite your friends and former co-workers to join us. Our local dues are \$10, state dues are \$50. We would like to have members for all seven school districts, the vo-tech, and BC3 as members of our organization. Remember that any person that worked in the schools and is receiving a retirement from PSERS is welcome to join us. We are an organization of school retirees, not just educators.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Well, it's been a long and very, very cold January. Spring will be here sooner than you think, so do what many of you do best, "help others." Continue tallying your monthly service hours, so that in June, it won't be so hard calculate your yearly total. At the end of December 2013, two boxes of manufacturers'

coupons were sent to the Air Force commissary in Mildenhall, United Kingdom and the Army commissary in Wiesbaden, Germany. Thanks to all of you who have cut and sorted these beneficial items. We will still be collecting the coupons to help our troops, so please make sure to separate them into FOOD and NON FOOD categories and place them in separate baggies or envelopes. Bring them to our next luncheon and remember, the expiration date requirement should not be more than two months ago.

Thanks for much for the children's items you brought to our last luncheon.

Veronica Rozic and Peg Harding delivered the donated items to one of our elementary schools in the Butler School District.

As usual, continue to make worry dolls, "Hearts for children", helmet hats, and tote bags as well as pop can tabs and ink cartridges. We are suspending our collection of plastic bottle caps and canceled stamps for the time being. If you have already been saving them, please bring them to our next luncheon, though. We will continue to collect the Pringle cans until notified otherwise. Nonperishable items will again be appreciated and then donated to our local food bank.

Thanks for your help in all of these endeavors.

SPECIAL NOTE

At the March 26 meeting, see Joanne Nolsheim for 49/51 charity raffle tickets. Price 3 for \$1. Proceeds are used to send the military coupons that we donate. It

costs \$35-\$40 to mail each time Extra will go toward social-memorial.

WWW.PASR.ORG

Visit the state website to find discounts and benefits to all members. Login using the left-side menu. If you don't know your login info, you can contact them. Then use it to access *members only* info. You can use links to find out your legislator and senator. Review the current issues. Use your voice! The website makes it easy.

Check the tabs at the top, too: *Local Associations, Service to Others, Economic Benefits, Retirement Planning, and Fun!* I clicked on "Fun" and finally found out what Recro actually means: "PASR created the RECREO program in 1964. The word "recreo" means recess in Spanish."

See page 4, this issue, for more!



**Membership Enrollment Form
Butler County Chapter**

Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Address: _____

Telephone (home): _____ (cell): _____

e-mail: _____

School District: _____

Spouse or Partner's Name: _____

Dues total: _____

_____ Local \$10.00

_____ State \$50.00

_____ Local Life \$150.00

_____ State Life \$600

State Life can be paid in two years at \$300 a year. Please make checks payable to *Butler County PASR*

Mail to: Jim Huemme, 119 Shanor Heights, Butler, PA 16001

**Economic Benefits,
Partial List**

Using the strength of its large membership, PASR has negotiated attractive group rates on a number of

products and services. PASR endorses services and products as a value added benefit to its members and does not receive financial compensation for our endorsement of any product or service.

* Some **amusement parks** offer discounted pricing.

* Combine Auto, Home, and Liability **Insurance** with

Nationwide Insurance to save \$.

* Manage your **money** efficiently with a Wells Fargo membership package using tools such as My Savings Plan and My Spending Report with Budget Watch.

* Save on **Dell computers** and equipment.

* Save on **Apple** desktop and laptop **computers**.

* United Concordia **dental insurance** is one of the most popular programs provided by PASR.

*Medical Alarm Concepts is a **personal emergency system**.

Look for more in the May issue!

Wisconsin Dells & House on the Rock

June 16 - 20, 2014

Tour sponsored by Butler County School Retirees (PASR)

Day 1 - MONDAY, June 16, Hoffman Estates, IL: Enjoy a leisurely travel day to the Comfort Inn, Hoffman Estates, IL. There will be rest stops and lunch before having dinner at Hoffman Estates. (L, D)

Day 2 - TUESDAY, June 17, Wisconsin Dells: This morning we stop at The Angel Museum in Beloit, WI, that features more than 12,000 angels including the Berg Angel Collection as well as nearly 500 black angels donated by Oprah Winfrey. We then travel to Wisconsin Dells for lunch at Paul Bunyan's 'Northwoods Cook Shanty'. Don't be too concerned about the title, so named because the main dining room looks like a frontier log cabin with wood beams across the ceiling. The food is plentiful and delicious. Following lunch we will take the 2 Hour Boat Tour of the Upper Dells. This includes sights of sandstone cliffs, rock formations and stops at Witches Gulch and Stand Rock. After the boat ride, we will travel a short distance to Baraboo to check in at the Clarion Inn & Convention Center for a two-night stay. Dinner tonight will be at the Wisconsin Opry followed by lots fun and country music by local and national performers. (B, L, D)

Day 3 - WEDNESDAY, June 18, House on the Rock, Spring Green, WI: This unusual house built by Alex Jordon is perched atop a rock pinnacle. The original 14room Main House incorporates natural stone walls and a waterfalls. A highlight is the cantilevered Infinity Room which extends 218 feet out over the valley and 156 feet above the forest floor, offering scenic views through floor to ceiling windows. In addition to the Main House, there are many themed rooms filled with eclectic

collections, such as the world's largest carousel, doll houses, circuses, Street of YesterYears, and the blue music rooms, just to mention a few. There are several food stands throughout the house for easy lunch-rest stops. After spending several hours at the house, we return to Wisconsin Dells for a 1-hour ride on the Ducks, the open-air amphibious vehicles built during World War II. You will have some free-time to walk around town before we go for dinner at Perkins Restaurant and then attend the 8:30 PM Tommy Bartlett Spectacular Water Show. This will be a 90-minute performance on water, stage and high in the sky. There will likely be some daredevil entertainers, with comedy and stage acts. Closing with the Entrancing Water Finale, a spectacular mix of color and patriotic music. Return to Clarion Inn at Baraboo, WI. (B, D)

Day 4 - THURSDAY, June 19, "Driving Miss Daisy": Matinee dinner show at Fireside Dinner Theatre, Ft. Atkinson, WI. After a leisurely breakfast at the hotel we begin the journey home, stopping for the 11:30 AM lunch and the much loved show. We return to the Comfort Inn, Hoffman Estates tonight. Dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 5 - FRIDAY, June 20, Shipshewanna, IN: Lunch at the Blue Gate Amish Restaurant and have time to walk along the streets and shop in this MennoniteAmish village.

COST: \$ 750.00 per person /dbl; \$ 950.00 sgl; \$ 650.00 per person/triple; \$600.00 per person/quad. \$100.00 per person deposit with reservation. **Balance due May 1, 2014.**

Monday, June 16 - DEPART: 7:00 AM Moraine Pointe Plaza, Butler (call for other departure locations and times)

Friday, June 20 - RETURN: 9:00 PM (approximate time) Moraine Pointe Plaza

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Butler County PASR

MAIL CHECKS TO: Margaret Hoffman, 140 Whippoorwill Rd., Butler, PA 16001

FOR INFORMATION CALL: Margaret Hoffman, 724-282-4454 (Tour Organizer & Tour Co-Chair,) OR Joanne Nolsheim, 724-287-8148 (Butler Co. PASR Tour Chr.)

CUT HERE

WISCONSIN DELL , Etc., June 16-20, 2014

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

TRAVELING WITH _____

SPECIAL REQUESTS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Alert! Save Our Pension! Inform your legislator and senator:

Please oppose any proposal to change the current defined pension system to a 401k plan. This will threaten our retirement security. This includes any hybrid proposals which includes both the 401k and our current system.

Address our COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) needs. It is a known fact since 2001 our buying power has decreased 25%. The buying power of our members who have been retired 20 or more years has decreased over 50%. We must ask our legislators for help with a COLA!

Increase our membership by helping with the mailing of application invitations provided by our State Organization.

At this time, PASR is encouraging members to contact your legislators and demand that public hearings be held on any and all proposals seeking to change the retirement benefits provided for Pennsylvania's state and public school employees. PASR is also preparing to provide testimony and suggest amendments to the various proposals that emerge. PASR members should remain in high alert for attempts to "railroad" plans through the General Assembly with little or no public debate and to contact their legislators whenever called upon to do so via e-mails from our office in Mechanicsburg. (from PASR website)

Important Information for Butler Chapter Members from the PASR Legislative Committee Meeting, held February 12, 2014

Use the websites listed below to monitor the tempo of policy development and political action in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Practice using the site by surfing to become acquainted with features for times when it becomes necessary to collectively advise and guide the folks sent to govern Pa in Harrisburg. Develop

your computer effectiveness for promoting strategies developed by the PASR Board of Directors and Executive Director, Richard Rowland.

<http://www.capitolwire/cwFreeDome/htm>

Under The Dome™ by Capitolwire.com is a free daily email publication detailing the key events, news, hearings, decisions and major announcements in Harrisburg and around the Commonwealth. *Capitolwire.com* by GovNetPA, Inc. is Pennsylvania's leading fee-based provider of news and information concerning state government, legislation, politics and public policy issues.

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us>

This one helps you read bills and find your legislators

PASR Treasurer's Report –October 1 – December 31, 2013

James Huemme, Treasurer

RECEIPTS:

Local dues	\$ 430.00
State dues	300.00
Luncheon	745.55
50/50	47.00
PASR+rewards	180.00
Trip (Wisconsin)	1,200.00
Postage	80.00
SSMHF	198.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,180.55

EXPENSES:

Office	\$ 212.18
Luncheon	809.86
Military mail	24.70
SSMHF	55.28
PASR	350.00
Conference expenses	615.87
Newsletter	392.90
Valley Forge trip	36.00
Library	100.00
Memorial books	60.00

Savings		500.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 3,156.79

Balance Sept. 2013	\$ 5,792.76
Receipts	+ 3,180.55
	<hr/>
	8,973.31
Expenses	- 3,156.79
	<hr/>
Balance Dec. 31, 2013	\$ 5,816.52
Savings	+ 6,924.74
	<hr/>
Total Funds	\$ 12,741.26

PASR Luncheon Meeting 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, March 26, 2014

First Church Ministry Center
 234 East North Street Butler,
 PA 16001

(handicapped entrance on east side of building; pass stairs to access the ramp)

RESERVATION DEADLINE: March 14, 2014

MENU

Stuffed Roast Beef Chef Salad Mashed Potatoes
 California Blend
 Coleslaw
 Cookie
 Coffee, Ice Tea, Hot Tea, Water

 Price: \$11.00

ALTERNATE

Cookie
 Coffee, Ice Tea, Hot Tea, Water

 Price: \$10.00

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 Reservation Form Deadline March 14, 2014
 PASR Luncheon, March 26, 2014
12:00 Noon at First Church Ministry Center

Member Name: _____

Guest Reservation: (name) _____

Number of reservations:

Roast Beef @\$11.00 _____ Chef Salad @ \$10.00 _____

Total due: _____

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
724-538-8413

PASR

Mary K. Davis

114 Freeport Road

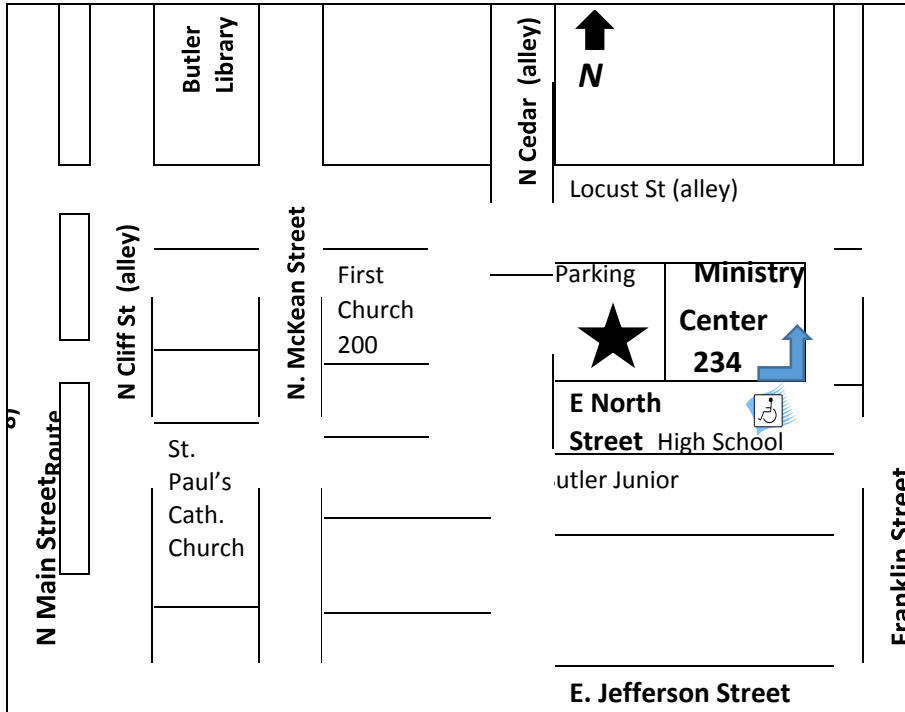
Butler, PA 16001

<p>Pre sort STD Postage Pd. Per #510 Butler, PA 16001</p>
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

Ministry



Center, 234 East North Street, near the corner with Franklin Street. Butler Junior High is across the street. There is a large parking lot between First Church (AKA First United Methodist Church) and the Ministry Center (previously known as the K of C or Knights of Columbus). **The ramp is on the side opposite the parking lot** for those who prefer not to use the stairs.