



Journey

Butler County Chapter Newsletter

Website: www.pasrbutler.org

September 2023

President's Message

It may be time to rethink our "usual plan." Since I joined PASR Butler, there have been many RECREO trips planned by Margaret Hoffman and later in conjunction with her granddaughter, Farrah McKinney. A certain number of tickets had to be sold to break even. Profit above that was generously given to the chapter. When covid hit, that successful fundraiser had to be suspended. Since resuming, there has been one trip, with two others cancelled, including the one scheduled for this June.

Among other expenses, we award scholarships and recognitions; we have facilities rental as well as some expenses in operating a chapter, such as the website, cards, newsletters, and postage. With unsuccessful fundraising, we need to think about how to proceed. Here are several options taken by others as well as our own brainstorming. What do you say??

- No fundraisers. Instead, slightly raise local dues. *Discussion:* We have life local members so unless

they voluntarily donate, only those paying local dues would be affected.

- Add a surcharge to meals. *Discussion:* We currently add about \$2 to the caterer price, so that we can cover facility rental, program cost, and nifty nineties meals. Possibly another dollar or so could be added but with only about 40 at meals, that's about \$160 raised a year.
- Plan a two-day trip to Lancaster County to Sights and Sounds. That destination has been successful before so try that destination again next year. *Discussion:* The cancelled June trip was planned using the results of a member survey about preferences. However when it came time to register, it fell short of the mark and had to be cancelled.
- Reduce overhead. Some chapters meet in facilities for free. We pay \$100 for each meeting (\$400 per year), including use of meeting room for Exec Board meetings, and sound equipment. (On my own, I supply the projector, computer, if needed, and microphone used during meetings.)

Butler Chapter Officers

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

Committee Chairs

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

PASR School Entity Area Chairs

Butler Area Sharon Kline
BC3 Ruth Scott
Karns City Enid Wilson
Knoch Virginia Shirey, Doris Herceg
Mars Minette Thompson
Moniteau Carol Ball
Seneca Valley Joanne Meredith
Slippery Rock Ellen McIntyre

**"to serve others in need
and help one another"
PASR Mission Statement**

(continued from page 1)

- *Discussion:* Our current meeting hall has no stairs, convenient restrooms, and close parking. When we previously met at Tanglewood in Lyndora, those were issues. (Note that our current facility does not have a custodian so my husband and I arrive around 10 to move tables and sometimes to sweep and clean off some tables.) Does anybody have alternative suggestions?
- Reduce other expenses. We have already reduced printing costs by increasing use of email files for *Journey*, and by reducing the size of the mailed newsletter. *Discussion:* In examining our membership list, we reduced the number by eliminating names of those not current on dues. Our printing expenses are reduced. However this meant that we lost our bulk mail rate and now pay first class rate.
- 50/50. This involves selling numbered tickets for a set price. A ticket is drawn with the winner getting half and our treasury receiving half. *Discussion:* We have done that for years with the money used for postage to send coupons to military bases overseas. Since covid, that has been discontinued so we do have some profit from that since we still sell the tickets. We could promote greater participation at meetings, and therefore more profit for the chapter in general fund.
- More freewill donations. I attended a presentation by Blair County Chapter in which they stated that they have no fundraisers. They have

two general membership meetings yearly and small gatherings at restaurants monthly where they just order off the menu, in a separate room. There is no formal program. They have twelve targeted groups and just ask members monthly to donate money/products. *Discussion:* Note that this chapter seems several times larger than ours, so they have no trouble getting \$300 for a donation, for example. They also seem to have a wider circle of active volunteers so that it isn't the same few gathering and delivering donations every month. We could have small committees who would oversee certain donations.

- Reduce meeting frequency. Some chapters only meet twice, in spring and fall while we meet four times a year. *Discussion:* One of the attractions of PASR is being able to be with friends. Would you be satisfied with only two meetings? Would you stay active? Would you attend informal "restaurant gatherings" in between meetings?

This list is certainly not "complete" and is just to generate some discussion. What do you think? What direction do you prefer? It's time for some feedback from YOU, please!

Think about the situations with other groups and clubs in which you are active. What are they doing that works? Can you share some strategies that you see there that we could consider?

**Here's what I need from you:
Write down some reflections.**

- Email them to me at pollyshaw3@gmail.com
- **OR** US mail them to me at P.O. Box 33, Portersville, PA 16051-0033
- **OR** bring your written paper to the meeting and put it in the box on the reception table!
- I'd really not recommend at this time that we have an open floor discussion as the most beneficial use of our time at the Sept meeting. Let's gather some info this way which will then go the Exec. Board for consideration. Then those results can be shared with the membership. **Please speak up and share the benefit of your experiences!**

Cards of Cheer:
Sondra Laughead
109 Avon Drive
Butler, PA 16001



2023 Butler Chapter Calendar

EXEC BD	GEN. MEMBER.
Aug 2	<u>Sept 27</u> , Mars
Oct 25	<u>Dec 6</u> , Moniteau

Butler County Chapter PASR
General Membership
Luncheon Meeting
May 31, 2023 at Alameda Park
Polly welcomed us. Grace by Knoch.
Picnic lunch was served.

Meeting was called to order at 12:58.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President's Report- Polly asks all attendees to review their information

on the membership list and add/correct any information. The State PASR newsletter is mailed 4 times per year and contains benefit information.

Legislators are working on a COLA (last COLA was 2021). Mercer and Clarion PASR chapters are having difficulty with finding officers. Mercer is OK for the next year, but Clarion may need to disband or merge with another county. We are healthy and are one of the few that met during COVID. The RECRO trip has been cancelled. We need to think of alternate fundraising. Our chapter will have 1 vote but three voters at the October House of delegates. Fran Geisel is Butler's delegate, Polly Shaw is the Region 8 director, and Mary K Davis is the acting State President-elect.

Minutes- The March 29, 2023 minutes were approved. Sonie Laughead motioned and Mary Chris Falbo seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report- Ruth Scott made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Minette Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

State Vice President- A COLA is being considered. This is the most interest shown in the legislature.

SS/MHF- Butler chapter has been asked to contribute \$50 to the SS/MHF Basket Raffle at the House of Delegates. The contribution was approved. Please send names for Cards of Cheer to Ruth Scott.

Community Service- Peg Harding asked for a \$15 contribution to Region 8. We continue to contribute to Robin's House, Butler Life and Center Avenue School (gift cards).

Membership- Mailing labels will be adjusted according to revised roll preferences.

Program- Master Gardener, Mary Alice Koeneke presented a program on Pollinators: Native Plants.

Lynn Richards won the raffle.

Adjourned- 2:00.

Respectfully Submitted,
Frances Geisel
Recording Secretary



When you are sorting out your fall clothes, remember Robin's Home Thrift Store and Donation Center, 221 South Main Street in Butler. It is next door to Miller's Shoes.

We enjoyed a recent program from Robin's Home, which supports female veterans and their children who find themselves homeless. Website: **robinshomethrift.us** Phone **724-256-9838**. You can drop off items in good condition for resale. If you have bigger items, we suggest that you call first to be sure.

PASR TREASURER'S REPORT
April 1 - June 30, 2023

RECEIPTS:

Luncheon	\$ 808.00
50/50	98.00
Campbell Bus return	340.00
Local dues	460.00
State dues	960.00
Lost check	90.00

\$ 2,756.00

EXPENSES:

Campbell Bus Co.	\$ 340.00
Website Exp.	367.32
Luncheon (March)	487.00
Minuteman Press	132.16
PASR dues	840.00
Alameda Park reservation/Exp	230.60
Delegate	15.00
Decorations	53.96
Speaker	50.00
BC3 Scholarship	500.00

\$ 3,016.04

PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$ 2,426.35
RECEIPTS	+ 2,756.00
	5,182.35
EXPENSES	- 3,016.04
CHECKBOOK BALANCE	2,166.31
SAVINGS	+ 7,904.61
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 10,070.92

PASR Butler September Program

Gary Rauschenberger, who is AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program Coordinator for Butler County, will tell us all about their free income tax preparation service. He has volunteered with them in a variety of roles for the past 19 years. He is a retired banker who has also served as the Treasurer for numerous local organizations including currently, the Butler County Community College Education Foundation. He graduated from Butler Area Senior High School, Penn State University, and the Stonier Graduate School of Banking.



BUTLER COUNTY CHAPTER

NAME _____ e-mail address _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ SCHOOL DISTRICT _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

DUES: _____ Local - \$10.00 _____ State - \$60.00

_____ Local Life - \$150.00 _____ State Life - \$700.00

(State Life can be paid in two years at \$350.00 per year)

Please make check payable to Butler County PASR and mail to: Jim Huemme
119 Shanor Heights Butler, PA 16001

As Region 8 Director, Polly Shaw has been issued two packets of **PASR FUND RAISER** tickets to sell. **The donation is \$20 per ticket.** Each ticket has a three-digit number and has 29 chances to win since 2024 is a leap year. All numbers are played straight as drawn. The daily winning number is determined by the 7:00 P.M. PA State Daily Number drawing. All cash winnings will be determined by the amount of prize money indicated on each date shown on the ticket. Prize amounts vary between \$300 - \$500 during the month. All information blanks on the stub must be filled out and returned to the seller at the time of purchase. The stub will be held by PASR. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support costs of the SSMH fund. Winners will receive their checks in the mail. Polly will have the tickets at both the September and November meetings. She has twenty tickets to sell and would really like to sell all by December – or before!!

The PASR House of Delegates will meet October 15-17, 2023 in Cranberry Township at the Doubletree by Hilton. Delegate Fran Geisel, Region 8 Director Polly Shaw, and Acting State President-elect Mary K Davis will be attending and can vote. Any PASR member may attend but may not vote. However all attending **must** register to attend. Do this on the website: pasr.org. Then in the upper right corner, login. On the new page, click on REGISTER in blue. Since it is so close, please consider attending as a commuter. Meet some new people and find out more about the state organization! Our very own Mary K Davis is on the ballot for state President!

Proposed Program- Hosted by Region 7

Sunday, October 15, 2023

3:00-6:30 p.m. PASR Registration

3:00-6:30 p.m. PASR Auction - One room is set aside with many donated items, each with a ticket bag. You buy a strip of tickets and drop a ticket in each bag

attached to an item that you hope to win. I always take return address labels for the tickets. Proceeds benefit PASR SSMHF.

4:30-6:00 p.m. Dinner Buffet available. Reservation on the registration site.

6:30 p.m. 1st Plenary Session: Presentation of Colors; Pledge of Allegiance; Welcome and Introductions; Keynote Speaker; President's Report; Appointment of Tellers; Adoption of Rules for the Meeting of the House of Delegates; Approval of Minutes; Nominating Committee Report; Announcements (Plenary means fully attended or constituted by all entitled to be present.)

8:00 Meet and Greet Social with wine and light snacks

Monday, October 16, 2023

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. PASR Registration

7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. PASR Auction (continued)

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sponsors/Exhibits/Vendors

8:00 a.m. Chapter Presidents' Meeting, admission by ticket only

9:15 a.m. -10:00 a.m. State Committee Meetings

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 2nd Plenary Session: Invocation; Pledge of Allegiance; Treasurer's Report; Executive Director's Report; By-Laws Committee Report; Recognition of Outgoing Leaders; Announcements

LUNCH on your own

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Boscov's 2024 RECREO trip presentations

1:35 p.m. -2:20 p.m. Bylaws Q & A

SEMINARS Full descriptions are on the registration website page.

First Session 2:30-3:30 p.m. (Choose one each session.)

Do You Really Know Who is Calling You or Sending You Those Emails?

Speaker: Mary Bach

Tech in Fayette County, PA Speaker: Dave Meredith

The Quecreek Mine Rescue Speaker: Joseph A. Scaffoni

Mat-based Yoga – Wellness is Better Together! Speaker: Erica Engel

The Story of the Keystone Shortway; I-80 Speaker: Polly Shaw

Second Session 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Finance Committee Speaker: John Werner, Finance Committee Chair and Mark Krempa, Administrative Officer

Chair-based Yoga – Wellness is Better Together! Speaker: Erica Engel

Distillers and Whiskey Rebellion Speaker: Jim Hough, owner of Liberty Pole Spirits

Line Dancing Speaker: Melaney Dufalla

PASR Banquet

6:30 p.m. Annual Banquet; Invocation; Introduction of Guests; Introduction of entertainment; Entertainment; Announcements

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Region caucuses for delegates

10:00 a.m. Final Plenary Session; Invocation; Pledge of Allegiance; Retiring of the Colors; Credentials and Registration Report; In Memoriam (a reading by region of names of all members who have passed away since the last HOD); Approval of Budget; Adoption of Proposed By-Laws Amendments (These changes are proposed to bring actual practice in line with the printed By-Laws.) Election of Officers; Installation of Officers; For the good of the order



NOTE: IF YOU CAN ATTEND ONLY ONE, MAKE IT THIS ONE FOR THE EXPECTED ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OUR OWN MARY K DAVIS AS STATE PASR PRESIDENT. You must register!

PASR Board Meeting, if needed, will follow the adjournment

12:00 Noon, Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Catered by Monroe Hotel Host: Mars

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall of Christ Community Methodist Church on Duffy Road, Butler, PA. At the road entrance, bear right and up the rise to the parking lot and rear entrance with glass doors.

Chicken Parmesan
Pasta with marinara sauce
Tossed salad
Italian dessert
Usual beverages

Alternative:
Chef Salad
Italian dessert
usual beverages

Reservation form due September 20, 2023

Member Name: _____

Guest Name: _____

Number of reservations: chicken at \$14 _____ Chef salad at \$14 _____

First time retirees and nifty nineties are free! Total due: _____

Make checks payable to Butler County PASR. Mail to:

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