



Journey

Butler County Chapter Newsletter
chapter website: www.pasrbutler.org

May 2020
state website: www.pasr.org

Here is a special message from our PASR State President, Judy Schaffer. "Who Knew #1" was sent to those for whom I have an email address. To be added to my contact list, please email me at pollyshaw@zoominternet.net

Pittsburgh's medical community about a vaccine is true. Clinical trials for this procedure are a real hope for the future.

State President's Message

WHO KNEW #2
Says the Pres

It's me again!

After promising myself to cut back on joining organizations, I joined another group. I now belong to the #Stay Home Team. Joining this group was a no brainer! The cost to me (no actual dues) was just my commitment to stay home and help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. A local health network actually sent me a sign to put in my window. I had been a member and did not know it since March 16- forty days to date. I bet you are also a member of this group!

Each of us is doing our part to combat this deadly virus by sheltering in place. Let's hope that the news coming out of

I haven't seen members of my family since the March 16 announcement urged "social distancing", even over Easter and Passover. Even the Easter Bunny did not visit me. Thank goodness for the telephone! "Social distancing" is a necessity, but it does not make us happy.

Food shopping is becoming not only a physical but a psychological chore. I have to prepare myself for germ combat, before I exit my car. Do I have my Clorox wipes to clean my shopping cart? Check! Do I have my mask or bandana on properly? Check! Do I have my disposable gloves on my hands? Check! I look like a robber ready to carry out a heist.

Keeping the six-foot distance from other customers requires diligence and good cart driving skills. No in-and-out shopping quickly now. I face check-out lines with clerks behind protective barriers that are staggered and must close down every thirty minutes to

Butler Chapter Officers

President .. 724-584-0371...Polly Shaw
pollyshaw@zoominternet.net
President-elect **OPEN**
Recording Secretary Fran Geisel
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

Committee Chairs

Legislative and L/PEC Peg Harding
Retirement Planning **OPEN**
RECRO 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 (temp)
Nomination **OPEN**
Reservations Donna Vogel
Resolutions **OPEN**
Public Relations Polly Shaw
Luncheon Donna Vogel

PASR School Entity Area Chairs

Butler Area Sharon Kline
BC3 Ruth Scott
Karns City Pat Hauman, Enid Wilson
Mars Priscilla Beblo
Moniteau Carol Ball
Seneca Valley Joanne Meredith
Slippery Rock Ellen McIntyre
South Butler Virginia Shirey,
..... Doris Herceg

(continued from page 1)

disinfect. Who knew it would come to this!

Keeping to some kind of a daily routine is important as a non-worker. I find myself sleeping later each day, since I have no meeting to attend. I now read the daily newspaper cover to cover and it is getting smaller each week, except for the obituaries. I am watching more television. *The Price Is Right* is now a ritual to watch and even scarier is that I am beginning to know the prices and games better than the contestants. I end the morning with a dose of the depressing noon news.

The afternoon begins with sitting outside, weather permitting for reading an actual book. Thank goodness that I stockpiled lots of books prior to the sheltering in place mandate. My friends and I exchange bags of books by leaving them on our porches, no direct contact. Now each book must be disinfected when received. I miss my public library!

Being your PASR President during a plague is a real challenge, but I have created a list of important things to do. My first task is to update the chapter president's handbook, working with Kathy O'Rourke, Leadership Chair. Every afternoon, before my nap, I try to prepare a new page for the handbook with a completion date of early June.

Committees are working behind the scenes to continue reaching their 2020 goals. SSMHF was the first committee to have a teleconference since the virus struck. Diana Fesenmyer did an excellent job guiding her group through

uncharted virus territory. Aren't we all temporarily confined?

Bill Neugebauer dealt with the challenge of preparing a budget over the phone with his Finance Committee and the headquarters staff. Excellent collaboration by this group using teleconferencing!

Mark McKillop and his staff are working from home dealing with the communication challenges and decisions to keep PASR functioning, yet still creating new ideas to move us forward. Another *PASR TIMES* has been sent to the membership.

Speaking of the mail, I have trained myself to recognize the sound of the mail delivery truck. Receiving mail is a high point of each day! Yes, I do disinfect the mailbox as instructed for safety. Send me a card – let me know that you are still out there!

As I close this message, take heed of the motto from the #Stay Home Team----

“It’s not about me!”

“It’s not about you!”

“It’s about all of us!”

PASR members – Stay safe and healthy!

Judith Schaffer
PASR President

PASR Butler County Dates

Thurs. Aug 6 Exec meeting

Wed. Sept. 23 Gen. Membership

hosting: Moniteau

Thurs. Oct. 22 Exec Meeting

Wed. Dec. 9 General Membership

hosting: Seneca Valley

PASR Butler

General Membership Minutes

Our March meeting was cancelled due to the shelter-in-place requirements. The most recent General Membership minutes from December 11, 2019 were printed in the March 2020 *Journey*.

It is important that you know that our PASR Butler Chapter continues to function. Since your Exec. Board could not meet face-to-face on April 9, we took a step forward and met online via zoom.us, an experience that was new for most of us. Note that these notes are somewhat abbreviated and not official until accepted at the August Exec. Board meeting, but be reassured that we continue to carry on the business of PASR Butler Chapter.

PASR Butler County Chapter

Executive Board Minutes

April 9, 2020

Zoom Teleconference Attendance: Polly Shaw, Jim Huemme, Mary K Davis, Ruth Scott, Peg Harding, Sharon Kline, Joanne Meredith, Donna Vogel, Patricia Hauman. President Polly Shaw called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM. Minutes for February 6, 2020: Approved after some spelling corrections.

President (Polly Shaw) report: Due to a strong direction of State PASR - the general membership meetings for March 2020 and May 2020 have been canceled. PASR State President, Judy Schaffer, and Executive Director, Mark McKillop, sent emails concerning PASR's statement in response to the Coronavirus situation. The statements

will be published in the *Journey* newsletter. We are hoping our members will not lose interest in PASR because of the canceled general membership meetings and continue to pay their dues to the organization. There is a change in general membership luncheon host schools - Moniteau will host the September meeting and Seneca Valley will host the December meeting.

Treasurer (Jim Huemme) Report: See printed statement on page 7. The BC3 \$500 scholarship has not been sent, yet. May is the time for PASR dues - with no general membership meeting, this becomes a problem. The postmaster expense - \$309.17 included \$240.00 for the yearly permit to the USPO. Total funds as of March 31, 2020 (\$11,487.55)

May Days are Pay Days If not a life member, please remit dues to Jim Huemme, 119 Shanor Heights, Butler, PA 16001. Questions? phone 724-287-0454 or khuemme@zoominternet.net

Region VIII Director (Mary K Davis) Report: PASR state office is working on a skeleton crew with one person in the office at a time, and they are running on a 12-hour delay in responding to inquiries. On April 22, 2020, there will be a teleconference with the Board of Directors to approve the upcoming budget since this is a non-delegate conference year. SSMHF is hurting financially and they are looking for ways to help this committee. Each chapter is asked to donate \$50.00 to assist our members. (Our executive council moved (Mary K Davis) and seconded (Ruth Scott) to send \$50.00 to SSMHF from

the Butler County Chapter. Motion passed. There has been a gain in state membership because of letters sent to 2016-2017-2018 retirees. Ruth Scott suggested that a SSMHF box be placed at every general membership meeting for individual contributions. This idea will be sent to PASR state for other chapters to use.

Community Service (Peg Harding) Report: **We decided to recognize the entire Butler Chapter for volunteer service**, rather than single out one member. We are all rising to the current challenge in our individual ways as best we can in addition to our usual volunteer work.



Start keeping track of volunteer hours beginning July 1 for the next volunteer award cycle. (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021)

See the Community Service report on page 5 for the list of what to collect and NOT to collect for right now.

Educational Support Report: Hopefully, the weaving program scheduled for the March meeting will be rescheduled for the September meeting. A future program on "Saving on travel expenses" was suggested.

SSMHF (Ruth Scott) Report: Recent deaths of PASR members: Robert C. Shoemaker 1-29-2020 Evelyn Stevenson 2-9-2020 Patricia Wagoner 3-28-2020. Currently, there is only one local PASR member being serviced. Cards of cheer - Zoann Weckerly and Floyd Wagner

Public Relations (Polly Shaw) Report: The "Journey" will be 8 pages long instead of 12 pages. Minute Man Press

will still print the newsletter. Sharon Kline will send mailing labels to Polly, and she and her family will label and assemble the newsletters, and deliver them to Jim Huemme for mailing.

Reservations (Donna Vogel) Report: The members attending the Zoom teleconference (9) agreed to donate their March luncheon checks to SSMHF. Donna will contact all other members who sent checks for the lunch and ask them to: donate their check to SSMHF, shred the check, or return the check via US mail. It was suggested that the September lunch menu be the same as the March menu - Baked chicken, Alternative Chef salad, chef's choice of dessert.

Old Business: Election of new president - September 2020 meeting; Installation of new president - December 2020 meeting. We need volunteers to step forward. Please contact Polly.

Upcoming Announcements: Executive Meeting - August 6, 2020; Membership Meeting - September 23, 2020
Adjournment: 12:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Harding, Substitute Secretary

Community Service

Many of you may have lived through the Depression Era, but my generation hasn't seen the likes of this time in our lifetime. I'm sure though, our members and their families are trying to help others any way that we can. Since the May luncheon has been canceled, we will be accepting the following items at the September meeting:

- Cut plastic bags for the "mats for the homeless" (See *March Journey*)
- \$10.00 gift cards from Walmart or Target for the Center Ave. Community School.

Since school has been canceled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, we will collect all other items at a later meeting: Pringle cans for the Girl Scouts, pop can tabs, ink cartridges.

We will not be accepting any manufacturers' coupons for the military until further notice or Bingo prizes for Butler Life, because they may not be meeting for a while.

At such a sad time in our lives, we, the members of the Butler Chapter of PASR, are a sturdy group of retirees who will survive and keep others in our thoughts, prayers, and actions.

Region Director's Report

The March 19 Region 8 meeting was cancelled.

This clip from her March report bears repeating:

"The state SSMHF is in need of help. The Social Memorial Fund has more money going out than coming in. All chapters and members are being asked to make donations in honor or memory of members."

Butler Chapter has made a \$50 donation. You can make an individual online donation. www.pasr.org. Login as a member and look at the menu bar. Click on *Donate* and drag down to *SSMHF*. Or write a check and US Mail it to PASR, 878 Century Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, noted for SSMHF.



Regretfully, our PASR Sept. 30, 2020 trip to the Mountain Playhouse in Jennerstown has been cancelled.

Checks will be returned to those who already paid. Note that the profits from this trip are our major fundraising strategy. Please consider making a special donation to PASR Butler in lieu of the profit we would have made by you attending the play. Thanks to Margaret Hoffman for all she does to plan these wonderful trips!



Send a card of cheer:

Zoann Weckerly
136 Avon Drive
Butler, PA 16001

Floyd Wagner
560 Mercer Road
Butler, PA 16001

PASR "Recommendations"- Response to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Situation

In consideration for our membership and for the promotion of the general health of our state and country, PASR is issuing the following statement regarding continuing operations of PASR in relation to the Coronavirus or COVID-19.

1. It is strongly recommended that, for the months of May, June and July (2020) that all scheduled PASR meetings either be cancelled or postponed or be limited to teleconferences.
2. It is strongly recommended that, for the months of May, June and July (2020) that all scheduled PASR events (Pre-Retirement Fairs, fundraising activities, and sponsored trips etc.) either be cancelled or postponed.
3. All state related meetings will be limited to the teleconference format and any Board of Directors Meeting will be limited to the teleconference format or be postponed to a later date.
4. The travel of PASR elected leaders and staff will either be unavailable or extremely limited for the months of May, June and July (2020).
5. It is recommended that COMMUNICATION with your membership be increased during these troubled times. Counteract "social distancing" by exploring new technology options of contact. Newsletters, email messages and phone calls to keep in touch with your members will have a productive short-term and long-term impact on PASR while making sure we take care of our members.

6. It is important to note that PASR Chapters are governed by their own By-Laws and this statement is a recommendation and guideline.

7. If any governmental authority that covers, at least, the state of Pennsylvania issues a directive easing the policy of social "distancing," PASR will issue another statement in response to the new guidelines.

Judy Schaffer, President-PASR
 Mark McKillop, Executive Director-PASR
 April 29, 2020



BUTLER COUNTY PASR
 TREASURER'S REPORT - January 31 - March 31, 2020
 James Huemme, Treasurer

RECEIPTS:

Local Dues	\$	40.00
September Trip		1,620.00
		\$ 1,660.00

EXPENSES:

Postmaster	\$	309.17
Memorial Book		30.00
Minuteman Press		236.38
Office		29.66
Woodson Awards		200.00
Campbell Bus		975.00
		\$ 1,780.21

Beginning Balance		\$ 2,342.03
Receipts	+	1,660.00
		4,002.03
Expenses	-	1,780.21
Checking Balance		2,221.82
Savings		9,265.73
		\$ 11,487.55
TOTAL FUNDS		\$ 11,487.55

PASR, Butler Chapter

Mary K. Davis
505 Kenlee Dr
Renfrew, PA 16053

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

P A S R

Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees

May 2020

