



The Hiester Herald

Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

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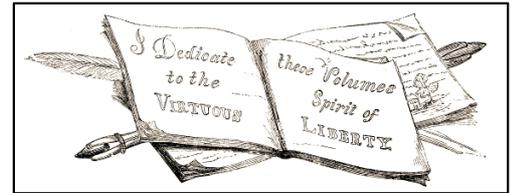
Winner of the 2012 Carl F. Bessent Award for the Best Multi-page Newsletter

A Message from the President



As the newly elected President of the Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the chapter for the honor of serving in this capacity.

Be assured that I take the responsibility very seriously. I may be a little lax in the formality and protocol of the organization and for that you have my apology in advance. However, I promise to make honoring the memory of the founding generation we all represent the focus of my term of office. The farmer who walked away from his plow, the artisan who put down the tools of his trade, the businessman who sacrificed his assets and those who gave their lives in order for us to be a part of the greatest nation ever established command our respect and profound gratitude. They are the reason we exist, and with your help we will keep these patriots foremost in our thoughts and deeds. I look forward to the opportunity.



Barry Kauffman, President

Chapter Supports C.A.R Project

The chapter has donated \$500 to the Historical Society of Berks County in support of the State Project of the Pennsylvania Society, Children of the American Revolution. The project funds the return, restoration and display of the last remaining Boss Steam Car.

The car was designed and built in Reading by James Eck at his Boss Knitting Machine Works in 1905 and donated to the Historical Society after his death. Which, ironically, occurred after being struck by an automobile.

In the picture below, Kathryn Turner, President of the PA Society C.A.R., sits in the Boss Steam Car with Sime Bertolet (l), and Josh Blay (r), of the HSBC standing by.



Passing of Henry L. Troutman



Henry L. Troutman passed away in his Bernville home on 22 Dec 2012. Compatriot Troutman was 91 and a veteran of WWII having risen to the rank of Sergeant in the 80th Infantry Division of Gen. George Patton's 3rd Army during the dash across northern France and into Germany. The 80th Infantry was known as the "work horse" of Patton's army and saw extensive combat from 5 August 1944 when they landed on Utah beach until 8 May 1945 when they were ordered to cease-fire. During his service, he earned the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during combat.

Compatriot Troutman joined the SAR in 2004 and proudly served the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter as Chaplain in 2006 & 2007.

Our heart-felt condolences go out to his wife, Evelyn, and all the members of the Troutman family.

Committee Reports

DAR/C.A.R. Relations

2012 was another very successful and productive year working with our friends in the Berks County Chapter, DAR and the Conrad Weiser Society, C.A.R.

Our 3 organizations came together for a variety of events and occasions including: the annual President's Day Luncheon and Memorial Day and Veteran's Day wreath-laying ceremonies in City Park.

The Berks DAR invited us to join them at their Flag Day Luncheon, a grave dedication ceremony, their 120th anniversary and the recent Christmas Breakfast. Their annual Famous Ladies Tea Scholarship Fund-raiser continues to grow in popularity and members of our chapter and C.A.R. have attended and aided in this effort.

The Conrad Weiser Society C.A.R. invited us to participate in a Flag Disposal Ceremony they conducted with the Berks County Veterans Affairs Office. The society was honored as the "Most Outstanding Society" in PA for the 4 time in the last 5 years and earned a National Gold Merit Award for the 3rd year in a row. In addition, for the first time in the Society's 118 year history, one of their members has been elected President of the state society. 2 other members serve as state officers and 2 more serve as state chairmen.

Members of the DAR and C.A.R attended our 75th anniversary (where a member of the C.A.R. was sworn-in as a member of the SAR) and members of each marched in several parades with our Color Guard.

Our relationship with the DAR and CAR continues to improve and the benefits and opportunities that arise from a close and congenial relationship are evident in our increased public exposure and membership.

Floyd Turner II, Chairman

Color Guard

Thank you to ALL members of the Governor Joseph Hiester color guard for making 2012 a very successful year. We participated in sixteen events, and the turn out was wonderful. Seeing everyone in uniform gives a good sense of Patriotism.

Thank you for a JOB WELL DONE to our members -Ray Longacre, Floyd Turner, Eric Troutman, Nevin Miller, David Loose, David Loose Jr., Robert Hillegas, Charles Seibert, Timothy Ghebeles.

Willard (Bill) Brensinger, Jr. Captain, Color Guard

Eagle Scout

For the calendar year of 2012 the committee was invited to attend sixty-one Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. We were unable to commit to nineteen other ceremonies but the appropriate information was sent to each Eagle Scout. We try to contact all Eagle Scouts when we are aware they have passed their Board of Review but unfortunately many of the Eagle Scouts forget to contact the SAR when their Courts of Honor are firmly established. We have thus far scheduled seven Courts of Honor for 2013.

We had six scouts submit applications for the 2012 Scout Recognition Award. Upon review of the submissions the committee chose as the winner, Brant Portner from Troop 430, St Ignatius Loyola, West Lawn. He will be honored at our June Quarterly Meeting, Our congratulations to Brant.

On the right is a photo of the Court of Honor for Troop 533 held on November 18, 2012. The Scouts are, left to right, Austin D. Robinson, Michael J. Heffner, Dylan R. Downey, Adam M. Halterman, Thomas G. Zimmers, and Anthony P. Bauer.

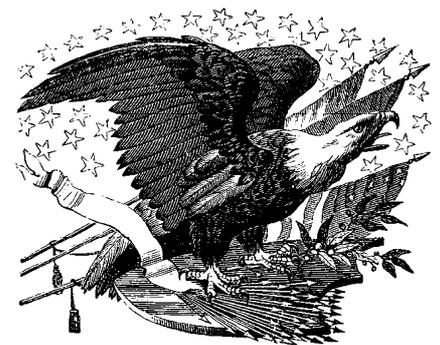
*Robert W. Murray,
Chairman*



LIFE MEMBERSHIP

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE NATIONAL, STATE AND CHAPTER LEVELS!!!

**CONTACT
CHAPTER TREASURER,
ROBERT W. MURRAY
AT 610-670-1433 OR
RWMURRAYSAR@VERIZON.NET
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**



**Be sure to visit
the National
and State
websites
to learn more
about the SAR!**

**National Society
www.nscar.org**

**State Society
www.passar.org**

Flag Certificate Presentation

Recently, for his Eagle Scout project, a local Boy Scout installed a lighted, landscaped flag pole at the Ontelaunee Grange in Leesport. President Robert Hillegas made arrangements for the Chapter's Color Guard to attend a meeting of the Grange to present them with a Flag Certificate and also give a brief program about the SAR and its mission.

In the picture below are members (L to R): Nevin Miller, President Robert Hillegas, Floyd Turner, Captain Bill Brensinger and Charles Seibert.



Genealogist/Registrar Report

New Members and Supplementals

We welcome the following new members:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Parker A. Magdy	Peter Heilman
Daniel B. McAteer	John Adam Bolender
Robert W. McAteer	John Adam Bolender
Thomas E. McAteer	John Adam Bolender

The following supplementals have been approved:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Robert M. Hillegas	Casper Messner
Larry A. Magdy	Mathias King
Eric H. Troutman	Peter Haass, Heinrich Haeffner & Johann George Heffner

The following New Member applications have been submitted to National Headquarters:

David B. Goss

The following Supplemental applications have been submitted to National Headquarters:

- (2) Willard N. Brensinger, Jr.
- (3) Charles H. Seibert

2012 membership:

117 members and 3 dual members

For the year 2012, there were
23 new members and
14 supplemental applications
approved for the chapter.

*Eric H. Troutman
Genealogist/Registrar*

All members are encouraged to report news and submit articles and pictures for the newsletter.

Deadlines for submissions:
Jan. 20 for February issue
Apr. 20 for May issue
July 20 for August issue
Oct. 20 for November issue

Send submissions **and address changes** to:
Floyd N. Turner II, 958 Whitner Rd.
Reading, PA 19605-1051
610-406-3933
fnt2@comcast.net

CHECK OUT THESE WEB SITES:

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter, SAR

<http://home.comcast.net/~gjh.passar/site/>

Berks County Chapter, DAR

<http://www.rootweb.ancestry.com/~paberdar/bdar.htm>

Conrad Weiser Society, CAR

<https://sites.google.com/site/conradweisersociety/>

Annual Meeting Highlights



The Chapter was honored to have President General Stephen Leishman attend our Annual Meeting which was held on December 6th at the Berkshire Country Club. As in past years, Compatriot William Koch was our gracious host for the evening. The President General gave an inspiring speech on the SAR and its bright future.

On page 4, Top Left: President General Leishman, President Robert Hillegas and former Librarian General Miles Dechant. Top Right: New member Timothy Ghebeles had the honor of being sworn-in by President General Leishman. Bottom Left: President Hillegas welcomes Eugene Ennis who recently transferred into the chapter. Bottom Right: President Hillegas presented David Loose Jr and Bill Brensinger with Certificates of Appreciation for their service to the chapter.

On page 5, Top Left: Charles Seibert is presented with a certificate honoring his military service. Top Right: Compatriot Robert Murray is presented with a gift for hosting the Executive Committee meetings for the past 2 years. Middle Left: Miles Dechant presents President General Leishman with a copper etching that had been done by his father. Middle Right and Bottom Left: President General Leishman swears-in the new chapter officers including new President Barry Kauffman. Bottom Right: President Kauffman presents outgoing-President Hillegas with a Past President pin and certificate.





2013 Chapter Officers

President Barry L. Kauffman
 Vice Pres. Leon E. Adam
 Secretary David G. Loose Jr.
 Treasurer Robert W. Murray
 Registrar Eric H. Troutman

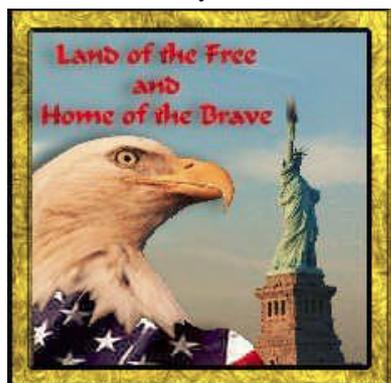
Genealogist Eric H. Troutman
 Chaplain Dr. David C. Brock
 Surgeon Dr. Thomas A. Stewart
 Chancellor Scott E. Lash, Esq.

Veteran's Day Events



The Color Guard was front-and-center at the annual Veteran's Day Ceremony hosted by the Combined Veterans Council of Berks County in the Veterans Grove area of City Park, Reading on November 11th. Members Charles Seibert, Captain Bill Brensinger, Robert Hillegas, David Loose Jr. and Raymond Longacre (pictured top left) presented the Colors and Nevin Miller (pictured middle left) placed the Chapter's wreath to honor our Nation's veterans. After the ceremony, the Guardsmen gathered at the Revolutionary War monument in City Park (top right).

Following the ceremony in Veterans Grove, the Color Guard moved to Centre Park for a special ceremony held at the statue of General David Mc Gregg (pictured middle right). The ceremony was arranged by the Feeney Funeral Home to dedicate a flag pole that was recently installed in front of the statue



Help Us Reduce Expenses

One of the biggest expenses for our chapter, if not the biggest, is the newsletter and the cost of printing and postage continue to rise. As computers and e-mail become more and more prevalent in our lives, members are increasingly able to receive information electronically and save/print only that information they desire in hard copy. Digital communication is an excellent way to lower our costs without sacrificing the quality of our newsletter or reducing the information we try to convey.

If you're willing to receive your Hiester Herald via e-mail, please notify the Editor by sending an e-mail to:

fnt2@comcast.net

and say "Yes, please send me the Hiester Herald via e-mail!!!"

Please note that each issue of the newsletter, and our Bylaws, are available on the Chapter's website and can be downloaded and printed from there.

Visit <http://home.comcast.net/~gjh.passar/site/> or enter "Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter" into any search engine, i.e. Google, Yahoo, etc.

Wreaths Across America



Report News and Events!

Compatriots, this is your newsletter! You're encouraged to submit news, articles, information and photographs that may be of interest to the members of the chapter. Articles relating to the history of Berks County and surrounding areas in the 18th century may be particularly interesting.

Also, don't forget to visit the State and National websites for more information regarding the SAR!

**www.sar.org
&
www.sar.org/passar/**

For the seventh consecutive year, members of the Color Guard participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery on December 15th. Compatriot Floyd Turner once again served as the Master of Ceremonies (pictured top right). He was joined by Charles Seibert, Captain Bill Brensinger, Nevin Miller and Robert Hillegas (pictured top left).

The Color Guard served as the ceremonial guards for the speakers and the ceremonial wreaths that were placed by active-duty members of the military, Gold Star Mothers and Blue Star Mothers.

The speaker for the ceremony was Brigadier General Susan Richardson, Commanding Officer of the Defense Logistics Agency.

After the ceremony, all the attendees went out into the cemetery to help place nearly 5,600 wreaths that were generously sponsored to honor our veterans.



UPCOMING EVENTS

“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”
-Benjamin Franklin

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

- Feb. 13**—Executive Committee meeting at 803 Evergreen Dr., Wyomissing at 7:00 PM
- Feb. 16**—President’s Day Brunch (hosted by the Berks County Chapter DAR) at the Speckled Hen, Reading at 10:00 AM
- Mar. 14**—Quarterly meeting at the Stouch Tavern, Womelsdorf at 6:00 PM
- May ??**—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- June ??**—Quarterly meeting, TBD
- Aug. ??**—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- Sep. ??**—Quarterly meeting, TBD
- Nov. ??**—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- Nov. 11**—Veteran’s Day Ceremony in City Park, Reading at 11:00 AM
- Dec. ??**—Annual Meeting, TBD
- Dec. 14**—Wreaths Across America ceremony at Indian-town Gap National Cemetery at 12:00 noon

PASSAR Meetings

- Feb. 1 & 2**—Hosted by Harris Ferry Chapter
- May 3 & 4**—Hosted by Pittsburgh Chapter

Joint President’s Day Gathering

The joint SAR/DAR/C.A.R./HSBC President’s Day event will be a brunch held on February 16th at the Speckled Hen, 3rd and Cherry St, Reading. The brunch will begin at 10:00 AM. Our speaker will be Greg Kreitz, a re-enactor with the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment, who will speak about the regiment’s impact on the Revolution.

During the Revolution, Doctor James Thacher, a young doctor from Barnstable, provided this description of the riflemen:
“They are remarkably stout and hardy men; many of them exceeding six feet in height. They are dressed in white frocks or rifle shirts and round hats. There men are remarkable for the accuracy of their aim; striking a mark with great certainty at two hundred yards distance. At a review, a company of them, while in a quick advance, fired their balls into objects of seven inches diameter at the distance of 250 yards . . . their shot have frequently proved fatal to British officers and soldiers who expose themselves to view at more than double the distance of common musket shot.”

Come and join us for this patriotic tradition and learn more about the Pennsylvania Riflemen of General Washington’s army.

Honoring Conrad Weiser



The Patriotic Order Sons of America invited the Color Guard to participate in their annual ceremony honoring Conrad Weiser. The event was held on November 3rd at the Conrad Weiser Homestead. This is the second year that the Gov. Joseph Hiester assisted the POSofA by presenting the Colors.

Pictured above at the grave of the Pennsylvania Peacemaker are (l to r) Captain Bill Brensinger, Charles Seibert, Robert Hillegas, Nevin Miller and Raymond Longacre. To the right is Compatriot Tim Ghebeles who is also a member of Bugles Across America. Tim sounded Taps at the conclusion of the ceremony.



Quarterly Meeting

The next quarterly membership meeting will be held on March 14th at the historic Stouch Tavern in Womelsdorf. We’ll gather at 6:00 PM for cocktails and the meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

We’ll enjoy our traditional buffet and learn more about the Historical Society of Berks County from our guest speaker, HSBC Curator, Joshua Blay.

Please make plans to attend and join in the patriotic camaraderie.