



Hiester Herald

GOVERNOR JOSEPH HIESTER CHAPTER

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CHARTERED: MAY 11, 1937 INSTITUTED: JUNE 17, 1937

Volume XV, Number 3

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

August 2013

David G. Loose Jr., Secretary
610-780-9943

Barry Kauffman, President
610-926-2664

Floyd N. Turner II, Editor
610-929-5840

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

President's Message

By the time you receive this edition of the Hiester Herald, the summer of 2013 will just about be history. Your chapter's Color Guard and Eagle Scout committee have been busy with their responsibilities although the heat waves did seem to coincide precisely with Color Guard activities and parades. If any of you are considering joining in either activity, we could use more help and certainly would appreciate your participation. It would be outstanding if we could attend all of the Eagle Scout Courts of Honor we are requested to attend or have enough Color Guard members available to participate in more than one event on a given holiday. Please give it some thought. The attendance at the June meeting at Yellow House Hotel was very good and those who were unable to attend missed an interesting talk on colonial ghost stories by Charles Adams III. All things considered it was a hot and fast moving summer for the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter.

As we move into the Fall, I would urge all compatriots to plan to attend our September meeting at the Heidelberg Country Club. Our speaker will be Major Matthew Arbogast, United States Army, who will speak about his unique relationship with the Wreaths Across America program since its inception. Matt is a native of Berks County with 15 years of active duty including two tours in Iraq. He is currently stationed in Virginia.

Floyd Turner has been instrumental in the successful growth of this wonderful annual event at Ft. Indiantown Gap and our chapter has given financial support to the program for a number of years. I think you will find this meeting most interesting.



New Members Inducted into Chapter

Several new members attended their first SAR meeting on June 13th at the Yellow House Hotel. Below left are Compatriots Clark Frederick, James Lawrence and Richard Horst as they are about to be sworn-in. Below right, the new compatriots pose with President Barry Kauffman, Genealogist/Registrar Eric Troutman and Membership Chairman Miles Dechant.





Military Service Survey



In September 2012, President General of NSSAR, George L. Leishman, announced the creation of the Veterans Recognition Committee.

The committee is in charge of the World War II Veterans Corps, and has now implemented the establishment of the Korean Service Veterans Corps.

In November 2012, the United States Senate approved a bipartisan resolution (602), formally recognizing the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War, and announced the 2013-2014 as the "Year of the Korean War Veteran"

The NSSAR Veterans Recognition Committee has approved a "Certificate of Patriotism", signed by the President General, for Korean War Service Veterans. Which means any Korean War Veteran who served in Korea during the war, or in Korea after the war, and was awarded any of the following medals:

Korean Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Korean Defense Service Medal; United Nations Service Medal; Republic of Korea War Service Medal

If any Chapter member is a Korean War Service Veteran, and qualifies for this "Certificate of Patriotism", please contact me.

We would like to recognize you for your service to our country!

Also, I would like to know ALL VETERAN'S in our chapter. If you served in the military please let me know.

Charles Seibert
Veterans Affairs Chairman
610-385-7370 or cvseibert@gmail.com

Eagle Scout Recognition Program

Since 1980, the SAR and the BSA have had a close relationship as a result of the establishment of the Eagle Scout Recognition Program.

The competition is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their 19th birthday during the year of application. (The application year is the calendar year, 01 January to 31 December.) The year that the Eagle rank was awarded is not restricted.

College/higher education plans do not have to be completed in order to receive the cash award. Three cash awards are given: For the National First Place Winner - \$8,000; Runner-up - \$4,000; 2nd Runner-up - \$2,000. You may apply more than one year if you meet the age requirements but no more than \$8,000 total may be granted to any one Eagle Scout. Prizes and recognitions are also awarded at the Chapter and State level. The State offers three cash awards, \$500, \$250, and \$100 and our local gives one cash award of \$200 (thanks to one of our members who contributes \$100/year to enable us to give the \$200 award).

Entrants need complete only one application - the one for the Chapter competition. The application of the Chapter winner is forwarded to be used in the State and National competitions as appropriate.

As you can see the total award for the winner in any given year is a sizable amount. The policy of Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter is to attend each Eagle Scout Court of Honor and to present a letter of congratulations, a certificate and information on the recognition program. Unfortunately, even after the telephone call to offer congratulations, many of the Eagle Scouts fail to notify the chapter of their upcoming court of honor. We still manage to honor about one hundred scouts per year.

One would think that the competition would be greatest at the local level where all Eagle Scouts may participate. We should have a hundred boys compete in our program, unfortunately the most scouts we have had participate is six. Is this because the rest do not care, they are too busy to take the time necessary or is the monetary reward too small? We would like to increase the award and perhaps honor three scouts as do the state and national organizations but unless we have some compatriots who would be willing to contribute financially to the Eagle Scout fund on an on-going basis we must remain status quo.

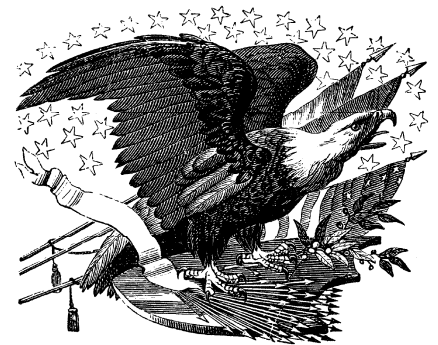
If any of the compatriots would like to assist us in this endeavor please contact the Eagle Scout Chairman. Also if you know a scout who has received his Eagle Award, have him contact us so we might attend his ceremony and please encourage him to enter the Eagle Scout Recognition program.

Thank you from the Eagle Scout Recognition Committee,
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**

Outstanding Cadets



Above: Cadet Josh Stasick, Pottstown High School, is presented with his certificate and medal by JROTC Chairman Bruce Dietrich.

The chapter honored 5 JROTC cadets from local high schools. Each recipient is selected for having a high degree of merit with respect to leadership qualities, military bearing and general excellence. This years winners were:

Donald Legarht	Pine Grove Area H.S.
Matthew J. Amidon	Wilson H. S.
Josh Stasick	Pottstown H.S.
Juan Paula	Reading H.S.
Sean Pevis	Owen J. Roberts H.S.

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/>

Registrar Report

We welcome the following New Members:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
James D. Lawrence	Johann George Rentschler
Jason D. Lawrence	Johann George Rentschler
Matthew A. Walker	Heinrich Allshouse

The following supplementals have been approved:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Willard N. Brensinger, Jr.	Johannes Christian Sager

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

Wayne L. Anthony
 Evan W. Anthony

**The following Supplemental applications have
been submitted to National Headquarters:**

Charles H. Seibert (3)

**Current membership stands at:
116 members and 3 dual members**

**I am presently working with 20 prospective
members.**

*Eric H. Troutman
Genealogist/Registrar*

As to war, I am and always was a great enemy, at the same time a warrior the greater part of my life and were I young again, should still be a warrior while ever this country should be invaded and I lived.

- Daniel Morgan

Grave Dedication with Fort Halifax Chapter

The Fort Halifax Chapter conducted a special Grave Dedication ceremony on May 11, 2013 at the Zions Stone Valley Church in Dalmatia, PA. 11 patriots of the Revolutionary War are buried there. Fort Halifax Chapter helped to clean up the cemetery and dipped into their own pockets to purchase new granite markers for 7 of the patriots.

Several of our Color Guard members hitched up the wagons and headed toward the frontier to assist during the ceremony and partake in the patriotic camaraderie.



(L to R) Mark Balliet, Robert Maurer, Russell Wagner, Bill Brensinger, Charles Seibert, Nevin Miller, David Loose Jr., Judge William H. Wiest, Eric Troutman, Lloyd Lehman and Dr. David Russell.

June Quarterly Meeting



Author and radio personality, Charles J. Adams III (above left) was the guest speaker at our quarterly meeting at the Yellow House Hotel. We were regaled with stories of colonial ghosts and the haunted history of parts of Berks County.

We were also honored to have our chapter Eagle Scout Scholarship winner, Brant Joseph Portner of Troop 430 from St. Ignatius Loyola, and his family with us for the evening. Below, his mother pins on his Eagle Scout Scholarship Medal.



Flag Day with DAR

Several chapter members including Miles Dechant and President Barry Kauffman (pictured below) attended the annual Flag Day event hosted by the Berks County Chapter, DAR. This year, the event was a brunch that was held at the Stokesay Castle (which was the home of the first President of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter, George B. Hiester).

During this meeting the Berks County Chapter swore-in their new officers including Wendy Kershner as the new Chapter Regent (pictured right being administered the oath of office by outgoing Regent, Betty Dechant).

The guest speaker was Brig. General Jerry Beck who gave a very interesting talk about the history and mission of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Also in attendance was Mr. Dale Derr, Director of the Berks County Office of Veterans Affairs



Memorial Day Weekend Events



(L to R) William Wagner, Charles Seibert, David Loose Jr, Ray Longacre, Nevin Miller, Color Guard Captain, Bill Brensinger, Robert Hillegas



(L to R) Bruce Vaughan representing the Conrad Weiser Society, CAR; Hallie Vaughan; Betty Dechant, Regent Berks County Chapter, DAR; Miles Dechant; President Barry Kauffman



(L to R) Color Guard Captain Bill Brensinger; David Loose Jr.; Charles Seibert; Robert Hillegas; Ray Longacre



(L to R) Nevin Miller; Color Guard Captain Bill Brensinger; Robert Hillegas



(L to R) Color Guard Captain Bill Brensinger; David Loose Jr.; Charles Seibert; Robert Hillegas; Ray Longacre

The Color Guard is always busy during the patriotic season and this year was no exception! The Memorial Day weekend started off with the Wyomissing Hills parade on Saturday, a brief rest on Sunday, then, on Monday, Memorial Day ceremonies in City Park and Charles Evans Cemetery followed by the annual Bernville parade.

President Barry Kauffman attended the ceremony in City Park and placed a wreath to honor the men and women who sacrificed their lives during while serving our country.

The top three pictures to the left are from the Wyomissing Hills parade. The pictures above right are from the Memorial Day ceremony in City Park and the two pictures at the bottom of this page are from the Bernville parade.



(L to R) Color Guard Captain Bill Brensinger; Robert Hillegas; Eric Troutman; Ray Longacre



(L to R) Ray Longacre; Robert Hillegas; Eric Troutman; Color Guard Captain Bill Brensinger; Charles Seibert

SAR License Plate

You can have your own SAR license plate issued by the PA Department of Transportation. To obtain your SAR plate, please follow these instructions:

You must fill out Section A of Form MV-904SP for each vehicle (passenger car, motor home, or truck only) you wish to register. The fee is twenty dollars (\$20) per vehicle. Remember that in addition to filling out all of section A, you also need to provide your signature in section D. Your check for the plate itself should be made payable to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Your registration renewal date will not change with the new plate.

PASSAR was billed by the State for design and sample costs of original plate production, and is billed at the time of order for manufacturing costs of the plate you personally receive. To help defray those expenses, you need to enclose a SECOND check made payable to PASSAR for fifteen dollars (\$15) for EACH plate you order.

Remember: **TWO CHECKS!!** One for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (\$20 per vehicle) and one for PASSAR (\$15 per plate). Blank application forms MV-904SP may be requested from, and completed applications should be sent to:

Tom Showler, 602 Milnor Street, Philadelphia PA 19114-3110

For questions, phone him at 215-632-4229, or e-mail him at: oberlin65@verizon.net

When Compatriot Showler receives your application and checks, he will verify your PASSAR membership, then sign his name in Section C and forward your application(s) to PENNDOT. Please allow four to six weeks for the delivery of the new plate to your home address. Plate numbers are now assigned by PENNDOT; PASSAR has no control over the five-digit number(s) you receive. Just a reminder that by signing your name on Section D, you agree to return your plate to PENNDOT if you subsequently drop your PASSAR membership.



Allegiance Sunday & Grave Dedication Ceremony



Our annual Allegiance Sunday church service was held on June 23rd at the Christ DeLong UCC Church in Bowers. Rev. Roger Ulrich welcomed us to the church and conducted a fine service.

Afterward, the Color Guard conducted a special ceremony in the churchyard to honor the Revolutionary War patriots buried there. President Barry Kauffman welcomed the congregation at the start of the ceremony and we were honored to have State Senator Judy Schwank attend and make a few remarks. Compatriot Charles Seibert helped to organize the ceremony and placed a wreath at the grave of his patriot ancestor, Andreas Ziegler.

We move this annual event around the county each year so we can meet new people and honor more of our patriot ancestors. Please make plans to attend future ceremonies with us!



Flag Certificate Presentation



(L to R) Charles Seibert, Eric Troutman, Timothy McGowan, Robert Hillegas, Ray Longacre, Elizabeth Simmons, Bill Brensinger, President Barry Kauffman



President Kauffman and the Color Guard met with Elizabeth Simmons, Director, and Timothy McGowan of Kuhn-Stitzel Funeral Homes on Monday, June 17th to present them with a Flag Certificate for patriotically, and correctly, flying our Nation's flag.

The meeting took place on a beautiful day in front of the Walter Christ Funeral Home on Kutztown Road in Laureldale.



Honoring Maj. Gen. David McM. Gregg



The chapter's Color Guard was invited to participate in a ceremony conducted by American Legion Post 12 to honor Civil War hero and Pennsylvania native Maj. Gen. David McM. Gregg and the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. The post conducted the ceremony in front of the statue of Maj. Gen. Gregg, at 625 Centre Ave, Reading, PA. Post Commander, Peter Szpak, conducted the ceremony and a variety of groups and individuals participated including: Reading High School JROTC, Ralph Lerch (bugler), Dave Fox (speaker-General Gregg historian), Reading Mayor Spencer, Rich Pawling (bugler), and Greg Stull (speaker-Civil War re-enactor).

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

Aug. 10 & 11 - Revolutionary War Encampment, Daniel Boone Homestead, Birdsboro

Aug. 14—Executive Committee meeting, 7:00 PM, 775 Grange Rd, Leesport

Sep. 12—Quarterly meeting, 6:00 PM, Heidelberg Country Club, One Clubhouse Dr, Bernville

Nov. 1 & 2 - PA Society Quarterly Meeting, hosted by the Washington Crossing Chapter

Nov. 13—Executive Committee meeting, 7:00 PM, 775 Grange Rd, Leesport

Nov. 11—Veteran’s Day Ceremony in City Park, Reading at 11:00 AM

Dec. 5—Annual Meeting, 6:00 PM, Berkshire Country Club (*Note: corrected date*)

Dec. 14 - Wreaths Across America ceremony, 12:00 noon, Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville

Quarterly Meeting

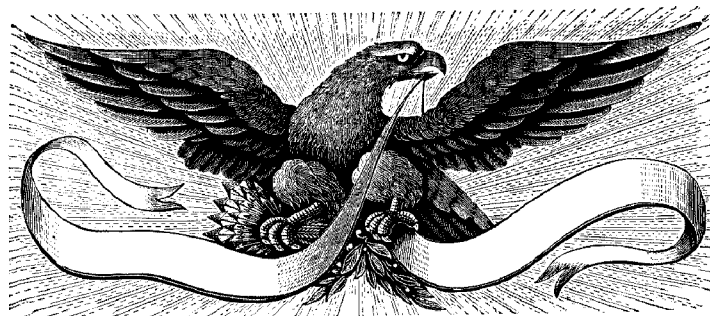
Our next quarterly meeting will be held on September 12th at the Heidelberg Country Club in Bernville. Please plan to join us for cocktails at 6:00 PM followed by dinner at 6:30.

The guest speaker for the evening will be Major Matthew Arbogast who will speak to us about Wreaths Across America and his connection to it’s founding.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a registration form for this meeting. Please plan to join us for an evening of patriotic camaraderie and RSVP by September 1st.

Annual Meeting Date

The Upcoming Events section of the May issue of the newsletter had the wrong date for our Annual Meeting in December. The correct date is December 5th. Please mark you calendars appropriately.



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/**

Help Us Reduce Expenses

The newsletter is one of the biggest expenses for our chapter 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. Electronic delivery allows the recipient to conveniently save the file and 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.