



The Hiester Herald

Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution

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

August 2012

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

A Message from the President

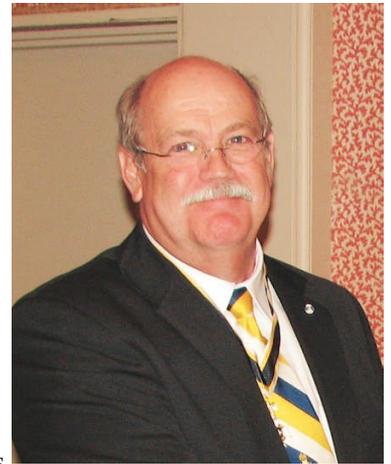
Dear Compatriots and Friends,

This surely has been a summer for the record books and to tell our grandkids. Nice to see the rains are finally beginning to bring relief for the farmers. We had a great summer as far as the Chapter is concerned; many parades, Allegiance Sunday, grave dedications and Eagle Scout Courts of Honor.

It looks as if we will hit 110 members before too long and also pick-up some new members to the Color Guard! A reminder about the 225th anniversary of the Constitution, on Saturday, September 15th. There will be Color Guard units from all over the United States, and many of our Color Guards will be participating. This should be a memorial event, hope you can attend.

Eric Troutman has been extremely busy as our Registrar and also as PASSAR Registrar, 2nd Vice President and Deputy District 1.

Our September meeting should be enjoyable and lots of fun for all, Paul Troutman (yes one of Eric's cousins) will present a program on old and unusual objects used around the home in times past. You are invited to attempt to identify and match items he will bring. You are also asked to bring those household items that you have no idea as to what it is or what it was used for. He will do his best to identify items, he is not an appraiser, so this will not be an "Antiques Roadshow".



Your Humble Servant,
Robert Hillegas, President



Compatriots Honored at 2012 Congress

At the recent Congress held in Phoenix, Arizona several chapter compatriots were honored with awards. Pictured to the left is Miles K. Dechant receiving the Meritorious Service Award from President General Larry Magerkuth. The certificate reads: "In recognition of notable services as advisor on the building project on behalf of the National Society sons of the American Revolution."

Eric H. Troutman earned an oak leaf cluster for his Liberty Medal and Miles K. Dechant earned 2 oak leaf clusters for his. The Liberty Medal is awarded to a compatriot who is the top-line signer for 10 new members. Each oak leaf cluster represents an additional 10.

Also, the Hiester Herald, along with your humble Newsletter Editor, was recognized as the best multi-page newsletter by receiving the Carl F. Bessent Award.

Photo provided by Miles Dechant

Allegiance Sunday



Each year we celebrate Allegiance Sunday and endeavor to attend a different church in order to honor the patriots buried there. Our hope is to, eventually, recognize all the patriots buried in our territory....then start again. This year the Chapter celebrated Allegiance Sunday on June 24th at the New Goshenhoppen UCC Church, 1070 Church Road, East Greenville. Following the church service the Color Guard conducted a special remembrance ceremony to honor the Revolutionary War patriots buried in the churchyard. A video of the ceremony can be found on You Tube. Go to www.youtube.com and search for SAR Allegiance Sunday.

The Color Guard made a number of new friends that day which included a couple prospective members. Ceremonies such as this, our presentations at Eagle Scout Courts of Honor and JROTC ceremonies as well as parades and public appearances increase the number of people who are aware of our organization and help us recruit new members.

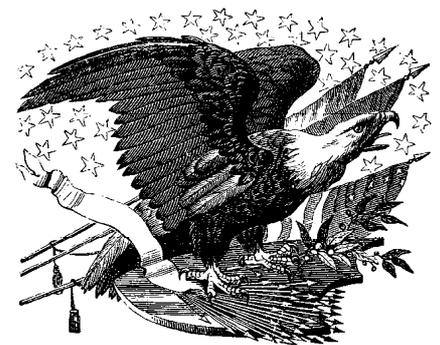
Photos provided by Larry Roeder



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**

JROTC Awards

Each year the Chapter recognizes an outstanding JROTC cadet from each of the area programs. The recipients must display patriotism, leadership, military bearing, scholarship and general excellence. In June, Chairman Bruce Dietrich attended a ceremony at each school and presented the following cadets with their medal and certificate:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Austin Brown | Pine Grove Area H.S. |
| Nicholas A Ernesto Jr. | Wilson H.S. |
| Zach Kelly | Pottstown H.S. |
| Matthew Castro | Reading H.S. |
| Nicholas Dimino | Owen J. Roberts H.S. |

Congratulations to these outstanding young people.

We are proud of their accomplishments and dedication to our nation.

CAAH Donation

As reported in the last issue, the chapter reached its goal of raising \$500 to be donated to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

The donation makes us as one of only 20 chapters to reach that level during the past 12 months. For our efforts, beyond the inestimable value of preserving our heritage, the chapter will receive a streamer to be proudly displayed on our flag as a symbol of our support.

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/>

Genealogist/Registrar Report

New Members and Supplementals

We welcome the following new members to our chapter:

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Ancestor</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Alton B. Clemente | Johannes Grunewald |
| John E. Buchanan | Godfrey Bender/Painter |

The following supplemental applications have been approved:

| <u>Member</u> | <u>Ancestor</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| David G. Loose Jr | Jacob Loos |

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

Timothy G. Ghebeles, Nathan A. Hillegas, Samuel R. Hillegas, William D. Hillegas & Charles H. Seibert

The following Supplemental applications have been submitted to National Headquarters:

Robert M. Hillegas (1) & Eric H. Troutman (4)

**Chapter Membership stands at:
 103 members**
 (with 27 prospective members)

As of August 2nd there have been 11 new member and 8 supplemental applications approved for the chapter this year. Our chapter is the 5th largest chapter in the state. I believe it is possible for us to reach 4th or even 3rd if we really get out there and start recruiting some more members. Let's get out there and work towards getting a few more good people in the chapter.

*Eric H. Troutman
 Genealogist/Registrar*

June Meeting Highlights



Members, spouses and friends gathered at the Inn at Reading on June 14th to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our fine Chapter. Honored guests included: Roberta McMullen, Vice Regent of PSSDAR; Betty Dechant, Regent of the Berks County Chapter, DAR; Kathryn Turner, State President of PA C.A.R.; and Jennifer Rohrbach, President of the Conrad Weiser Society, C.A.R..

Our special guest was PASSAR President William J. McKim, Esq. (above left) who spoke about the mission of the SAR and fostering good relationships with the C.A.R. and DAR..

Richard Long, Past President of the Chapter was presented with a War Service Medal (left) by President Hillegas.

One of our newest, and youngest, compatriots, Bruce Vaughan, was sworn-in by State President McKim (below) and presented with his rosette by his father, Tristram Vaughan, standing behind Bruce.



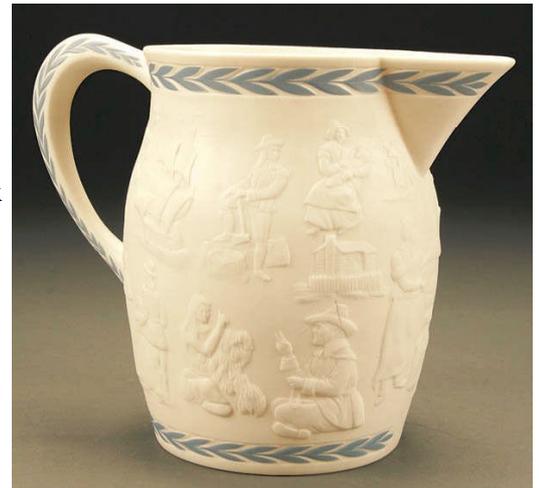
June Meeting Highlights (cont.)



Past and current Presidents of the Chapter came together for a picture to mark the occasion (Page 4, top right: l to r) Floyd Turner, Robert Hillegas, Martin Peicker, Nevin Miller, State President McKim, Richard Long, Miles Dechant and Eric Troutman.

Also stopping by for a visit was State Senator Judy Schwank (left). She came to present a proclamation from the State Senate recognizing our 75th anniversary and our mission within the community.

Lastly, we raffled off a Patriots Pitcher made by Lennox that was generously donated by Martin Peicker. The winner was President Robert Hillegas. Thank you to everyone that participated in the raffle. The proceeds will help support the mission of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter.



Eagle Scout Committee Report



We have attended, or are scheduled to attend, thirty-six Eagle Courts of Honor and have sent certificates to nine Eagle Scouts whose ceremonies we were unable to attend.

Most of you are aware that at our June meeting we honored our Eagle Scout Scholarship winner for 2011, Nicholas K. Blanchet from Troop 413 in Wyomissing who is pictured left with his father, President Hillegas and Martin Peicker.

For your information, the **SAR-Boy Scouts of America Partnership for Good Citizenship Patch** is available at the SAR Store for presentation by any compatriot or chapter to any scout or adult leader demonstrating good citizenship.

Many thanks to our committee members for their dedication to our scouting program.

*Robert W. Murray,
Chairman*



In the two pictures to the left, Compatriot Bill Brensinger presents Eagle Scout certificates to Conor Bunn (far left) and Wade Warmkessel both from Troop 510 in Topton.

Photos provided by Bill Brensinger

Color Guard Activities



Once again, the Color Guard has had a busy “patriotic” season. The Memorial Day weekend kicked off the summer and the Guardsmen were taking it to the streets; marching in the Wyomissing Hills parade on Saturday, a wreath-laying ceremony in the Veterans Grove area of City Park in Reading that was hosted by the Combined Veterans Council of Berks County and another parade in Bernville on Monday.

On June 9th, the Guard suited up to head back to Bernville to lead the Bernville Community Fire Company Housing Parade. Fire trucks from around area participated in the parade and our banner led the show!

The Guardsmen cleaned themselves up to present the Colors at the 75th anniversary meeting, assisted in a DAR grave marking ceremony, conducted a grave dedication ceremony in conjunction with our Allegiance Sunday celebration and ended the season with the Wyomissing July 4th parade.

In the photographs: Above Left—The Color Guard poses before the start of the Wyomissing Hills Memorial Day Parade. Joining the Guard is Compatriot Stephen Stout (far left) who come out to assist with the parade banner. Above Right—Two of our Junior members, Stevie Troutman and Jay Sudler, carry the parade banner ahead of the Color Guard in the Bernville Community Fire Company parade. Below Right—Members of the Color Guard pose with Berks County Chapter, DAR Regent Betty Dechant at the Revolutionary War monument in City Park at the conclusion of the Memorial Day ceremony. Below Left—The Color Guard crew took a minute to pose before presenting the Colors at our 75th anniversary meeting.



Please Give Your Support

As many of you know, Kate Turner, daughter of our own Floyd Turner, has become the first CAR State President to come from the local Conrad Weiser Society. The project she has chosen for her term is raising funds for the return of a 1905 Boss Steam Car (below) to the Historical Society of Berks County (HSBC) on Centre Ave. in Reading and the renovation of their Transportation Room. Our chapter has decided to aid her in this worthwhile effort.



At the August 8th meeting of the Executive Committee it was decided to donate \$250.00 for the project and in addition, allow our members to participate individually with the hope that the chapter's donation will be matched by our members for a total of at least \$500.00. We urge everyone to help make Kate's mission a huge success.

Please make checks payable to Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter and specify that the donation is for the CAR Project (donations to the chapter are tax-deductible). The deadline for the project is by the end of December 2012.

Thank you for your participation and supporting the CAR and HSBC.

Barry Kauffman
Vice President

The HSBC and this project are very special to me. I thank the members of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter for all donations in support of my State Project and your friendship through the years.

Kate Turner
State President, PA C.A.R.



DAR Grave Dedication



Photo provided by Miles Dechant

Carole Vercellino and her sister, Regent Diane Groome, of the Jose Maria Amador Chapter, NSDAR in California, contacted Regent Betty Dechant of the Berks County Chapter, NSDAR to organize a grave marking ceremony for their ancestor, Philip Klein, who is buried at the Altalaha Church in Rehrersburg. The ceremony was conducted on June 21 at 11:00 AM with our Color Guard presenting the Colors and compatriot Dr. Robert Kline (a 50+ year member of the SAR and also a descendant of Philip Klein) giving a biography of his patriot ancestor. The day was brutally hot but all endured the hardship which paled in comparison to the trials and tribulations endured by our ancestors. The event even made the newspaper in Pleasanton, California, hometown of the Jose Maria Amador Chapter.

Above is a picture of a few of the attendees: (l to r) PASSAR 2nd Vice President Eric Troutman, Dr. Robert Kline, Regent Diane Groome, Regent Betty Dechant and Carole Vercellino.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

- Aug. 8**—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 803 Evergreen Dr., Wyomissing
Sept. 13—Quarterly Meeting, Heidelberg Country Club, Bernville, 6:00 PM
Sept. 15—Constitution 225th Anniversary Celebration
Nov. 11—Veterans Day Ceremony, Veterans Grove, City Park, Reading, 11:00 AM
Nov. 14—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 803 Evergreen Dr., Wyomissing
Dec. 6—Annual Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Berkshire Country Club
Dec. 15—Wreaths Across America, Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, 12:00 noon

PASSAR Meetings

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

Constitution 225th Anniversary

PASSAR is celebrating the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution with a gathering of compatriots from across the country on September 14 & 15. The gathering will be at the Double Tree Hotel at 301 West DeKalb Pike, King of Prussia.

On Friday, September 14, there will be an informal buffet dinner starting at 6:30 PM where you can meet and chat with compatriots from all over.

On Saturday, September 15, the Guardsmen will head into Philadelphia for a parade which will form up opposite the Liberty Bell Pavilion and proceed to Chestnut Street in front of Independence Hall where there will be a brief SAR ceremony. From there, the parade march to the front of the Constitution Center for the speaker and program.

All uniformed Color Guard members, including those without a unit, are welcome to march in the parade. Members' ladies who are dressed in colonial garb are also welcome to march.

Any person affiliated with SAR who is registered at the hotel or signed up for the buffet and banquet may ride the buses that will be provided for transportation.

President General Steve Leishman will attend and speak at banquet on Saturday evening.

A registration form is included with this newsletter and is available on the PASSAR website: www.passar.org

2012 Officers/Chairmen

Officers

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| President | Robert M. Hillegas |
| Vice President | Barry Kauffman |
| Secretary | David Loose Jr. |
| Treasurer | Robert W. Murray |
| Registrar | Eric H. Troutman |
| Genealogist | Eric H. Troutman |
| Chaplain | Nevin C. Miller |
| Chancellor | Scott Lash Esq. |
| Surgeon | David Brock, MD |

Presidential Appointments

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Aide to the President | David Shultz |
| Newsletter Editor | Floyd N. Turner II |
| Color Guard Captain | Willard Brensinger |

Committee Chairmen

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Eagle Scout | Robert W. Murray |
| ROTC/JROTC | Bruce Dietrich |
| Graves | Eric Troutman |
| Veterans Affairs | Barry Kauffman |
| Public Relations | Floyd N. Turner II |
| DAR/C.A.R. Relations | Floyd N. Turner II |
| Membership | Miles K. Dechant |
| Americanism | Robert M. Hillegas |
| Flag | Robert M. Hillegas |
| Awards | Floyd N. Turner II |
| Knight Essay | VACANT |

September Quarterly Meeting

The Chapter will hold the next Quarterly Meeting on September 13th at the Heidelberg County Club in Bernville. Cocktails are available at 6:00 PM and dinner will be served at 6:30.

This promises to be an interesting meeting with our speaker, Paul Troutman, introducing us to and educating us on a variety of unusual objects. These objects could have been owned or used by our ancestors in their daily lives but have since become virtually unknown to modern society.

Join us, it should be fun!!