



The Hiester Herald

Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution

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Instituted - June 17, 1937



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

May 2012

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

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**News
Flash!**

Membership now over 100!

National recently approved 3 Junior members, Bruce, Thomas and Cael Vaughan, which put our current membership at 101.

A Message from the President

Dear Compatriots and Friends,

A special event is planned for June 14th. It will be the 75th. anniversary of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter of the Sons of American Revolution. I am personally inviting all members to make plans to join us at the Inn at Reading for this event. A special request for all past Presidents to be in attendance as we would like to take group pictures for our historical achieves. Memorial Day will soon be here which marks the unofficial start of our Color Guard activities. A special thanks to Willard Brensinger for accepting the position of Captain of the Color Guards, and a warm welcome to our newest Color Guard members, David Loose and David Loose Jr., and are already scheduled to participate in eleven events.

Our chapter is growing thanks in large part to the efforts of Eric Troutman. Great job Eric, I hope to reach and exceed 100 by the end of the year; that would mark another milestone for our chapter.

If you know of anyone interested in becoming a member or who may have dropped out and wants to rejoin, please contact Eric, myself or any officer of our organization and we will be glad to assist.

Hope to see everyone on June 14th.

Your Humble Servant,
Robert Hillegas, President

Digital Newsletter Saves Chapter Money

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 to the membership.

If you are 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 my Hiester Herald to my e-mail address!!!"

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.

Flag Retirement Ceremony



On February 19th, the Berks County Veterans Affairs Office and the Conrad Weiser Society, Children of the American Revolution teamed up to host a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Berks County Fire Training Center on Morgantown Road.

Kathryn Turner, Chaplain of the Conrad Weiser Society, served as Master of Ceremonies and the young cadets of the Wilson JROTC served as the official Color Guard.

Members of the Chapter also played very prominent roles. Guardsmen Bill Brensinger and President Hillegas served as ceremonial guards, Sgt. Nevin Miller was in charge of placing the ceremonial flag into the fire and Stephen Lugovich assisted by cutting each stripe from the ceremonial flag as the audience was reminded of our history and heritage.

Also attending and aiding in the retirement of many flags were John Brosius and Trevor Vaughan along with his 2 sons, Bruce and Thomas, who are prospective members.

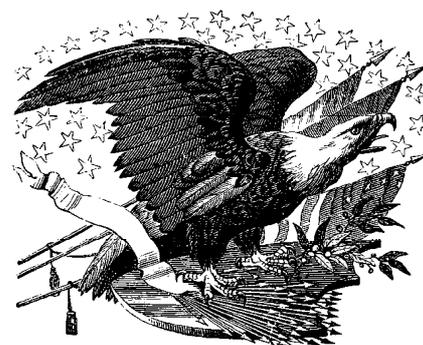
Thousands of flags that had been collected by the Veterans Affairs Office in their Flag Drop-box were retired that afternoon. Estimates place the total number retired at between 3,000 and 5,000.

Members of the audience were encouraged to participate. Each person was allowed to take a flag and retire it to the fire with the stipulation that they name a veteran and announce that they are retiring that flag in their honor.

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**

Color Guard News



Compatriot Bill Brensinger, Jr. has officially assumed the duties as our Chapter's Color Guard Commander. He is relatively new to the SAR and the Color Guard but has already proven himself to be a dedicated compatriot and guardsman. We look forward to the continued success of the public relations arm of our Chapter now that he is at the reins.

In addition, the Color Guard is proud to announce two new members to its ranks. David Loose and his son, David Loose, Jr. have ordered their uniforms and should be outfitted in time to join the rest of the guardsmen in the annual Memorial Day weekend events.

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

<http://home.comcast.net/~cws.pacar/site/>

Genealogist/Registrar Report

New Members and Supplementals

We welcome the following new members to our chapter:

Member

Kyle S. Leath
Philip H. Leath
Larry A. Magdy
Patrick A. Magdy
Joseph F. Mamola
Thomas A. Stewart, MD
Bruce X. Vaughan
Cael S. Vaughan
Thomas J. Vaughan

Ancestor

Daniel Melson
Daniel Melson
Peter Heilman
Peter Heilman
Jeremiah Barrus
William Stewart
Elisha Phelps
Elisha Phelps
Elisha Phelps

Transfer In:

Dean J. Stellwagon

Anthony Morris

Dual Member: Stephen W. Tanner of Texas

The following supplemental applications have been approved:

Member

Willard N. Brensinger, Jr.

Eric H. Troutman

Ancestor

Jacob Oswald

Nicholas Seager

Anna Maria (Geiger) Schoener

Jost Hoffmann,

Jacob Morgen

Sebastian Morian

David Muller

At this time I am working with 12 prospective members. We presently have 101 members plus 3 dual members. 81 members live in our coverage area, 7 live in other parts of PA, 12 live out of state and one lives in Germany.

Ages of our membership: Jrs. = 9; 19-39 = 11; 40-59 = 23; 60-79 = 38 and 80 & above = 20.

Eric H. Troutman

Genealogist/Registrar

March Meeting Highlights



President Hillegas was honored to recognize several compatriots for their military service. (above left) Howard Longacre is presented with a certificate from NSSAR honoring him for his service during World War II. (above and left) Compatriots David Loose and David Loose Jr. were presented with Military Service medals.

(below) 4 new members were sworn-in and presented with their Membership Rosette: Larry Magdy, Patrick Magdy, Dr. Thomas Stewart and Jay Sudler.

CAAH Raffle Winners

- \$250 - Les Rohrbach
- \$150 - Earl Brown
- \$100 - Earl Brown

The chapter was successful in raising the funds to meet our \$500 pledge to support the Center for Advancing America's heritage. Thank you to all who supported this worthy effort.



PASSAR Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the PA Society was held on May 5th in Allentown. The Chapter had a large contingent in attendance to oversee the affairs of the State Society. During the meeting, Eric Troutman was elected to serve as State 2nd Vice President and Registrar and Miles Dechant was elected to the Executive Committee. (Above) Front row: Barry Kauffman, Bill Brensinger, Miles Dechant. Back row: Floyd Turner, Eric Troutman, Bob Hillegas, Martin Goetz & Nevin Miller. (Above Right) President Hillegas, 3rd from left, holds the streamer given to the Chapter for participation in the Activities Contest. (Right) Eric Troutman, second from left, is sworn-in as PASSR 2nd Vice President and Registrar.



Raffle of Lenox Pitcher



Compatriot Martin Peicker has generously donated a classic Lenox pitcher to be raffled off at our 75th Anniversary celebration on June 14th. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to support the mission of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter. Details of the pitcher are below:

The Patriots Pitcher, an original sculpture by Laszlo Ispanky, for Lenox China, 1975. Height 9", Diameter of bottom 5½", Spout to handle 11".

"The Patriots Pitcher depicts, in detailed bas-relief, vignettes of America's history from 1620 to 1776, tracing the events of this turbulent period, from the voyage of the Mayflower to the tumultuous times that led to our independence. By depicting these events in chronological order around the pitcher, the sculptor has dramatically captured their historical significance. While the basic pitcher shape is faithful to the classic design of the Paul Revere original, it will also serve as an impressive vase. Working from the original sculpture, each Patriots Pitcher has been individually handcrafted in the fine Lenox China by skilled artisans."

Eagle Scout Committee Report



Compatriot Tom Brown presents Eagle Scout Alex Mislevy with his certificate from the SAR at his Court of Honor on January 29, 2012. Alex gathered items to assemble 25 care packages for our service personnel overseas. A copy of a thank you letter sent to Alex is on the right.



Compatriot Bill Brensinger congratulates Eagle Scout, Dakota Nester, at his Court of Honor which was held on Jan. 22, 2012 at the Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Muhlenberg Twp.



UNITED STATES FORCES – IRAQ (USF-I)
CAMP VICTORY
APO, AE 09342



August 4, 2011

Mr. Alex Mislevy,

My soldiers and I received a care package from you and on behalf of myself and my team; I wanted to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Opening the package felt like Christmas and we cannot thank you enough for thinking of us. It is individuals like you that keep our spirits alive and well. My soldiers become so entrenched and mission focused and care packages like this helps them boost inner strengths that assist in our success with the missions at hand.

My name is Michael C. Marcolla. I enlisted in the Navy during my senior year of High School, in 1994. I grew up in Shillington and I graduated Governor Mifflin High School. In 2000, I graduated Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. degree in Operations & Information Systems Management. I am a mobilized Navy Reserve Lieutenant Commander (select), serving an 18 month tour in Iraq. I deployed on April 7, 2010 and am currently embedded with the Army's 18th Airborne Corps. They are a hard charging group and I am proud to serve along side of them.

As a proud Eagle Scout, I have firsthand experiences of the difficult steps you have endured in climbing the intricate ropes towards eventually earning the proud rank and title of Eagle Scout. What you do with those self-taught experiences gained from this ordeal will be up to YOU. Bearing the title of "Eagle Scout" has provided me life-long success and has provided me with qualities and morals that most individuals in society will never possess. I personally would like to take this time to challenge you to harness those traits and utilize them every day in your life.

As a token of my appreciation, enclosed is an American Flag that I personally flew over Baghdad, Iraq in your honor. I have additionally enclosed the United States Forces – Iraq (USF-I) coin of excellence as well as the Iraqi Boy Scouts coin of excellence. Thanks again for your spirited efforts and support. You are our hero!

Very Respectfully,

Michael C. Marcolla
LCDR(Sel), USN
United States Forces – Iraq, J6

Annual President's Day Luncheon



Compatriots joined with the Historical Society of Berks County and the Berks County Chapter, DAR to celebrate President's Day at our annual luncheon. This year the luncheon was hosted by the Historical Society and the speaker was James Lewars, Director of the Landis Valley Museum.

This event has been an annual occurrence for many years but attendance is dwindling. In an attempt to attract more members and guests, there has been some discussion of shifting this joint event to Flag Day or some other patriotic celebration held during a milder time of the year.

Children of the American Revolution

At the 68th Annual State Conference of the PA Society, Children of the American Revolution in Bedford, PA, the Conrad Weiser Society made another very strong showing. Not only did the members receive recognition for their efforts in many of the 2011-2012 programs but, for the fourth time in five years, the Society was named the **“Most Outstanding Society”** in PA.

Three Conrad Weiser members were elected to State office: Gwen Kolyer – State Librarian, Christine Kolyer – State Recording Secretary, and Kathryn Turner – State President. The election of Miss Turner as State President marks the first time that a member of the Conrad Weiser Society has risen to this position in its 117 year history. She was sworn into office on April 22nd at the conclusion of the C.A.R. National Convention.

Also representing the Society at the conference was President-Elect Jennifer Rohrbach, who served as a Color Bearer and officially invited the members of PA C.A.R. to attend the 69th State Conference which will be hosted by the Conrad Weiser Society in March 2013.

The State Conference included a trip to the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, PA. Members had an opportunity to view the site where American patriots lost their lives in the struggle with terrorists bent on crippling America.

Pictured are (L to R) Front Row: Compatriot Floyd Turner, Jennifer Rohrbach, Christine Kolyer. Middle Row: Gwen Kolyer, Kathryn Turner. Back Row: Pamela Kolyer, Jane Turner



Membership in the Children of the American Revolution is a great way for boys and girls to get involved and participate in a patriotic organization. For information regarding membership for your children and grandchildren, contact: Compatriot Floyd Turner at 610-406-3933 or fnt2@comcast.net


**Make plans to attend the
 75th Anniversary
 of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter
 June 14, 2012
 Inn at Reading
 6:00 PM**

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

May 9—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 803 Evergreen Dr., Wyomissing

June 14—Quarterly Meeting & 75th Anniversary, Inn at Reading, 6:00 PM

June 24—Allegiance Sunday Service, at the New Goshenhoppen UCC in East Greenville—10:30 AM

Aug. 8—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 803 Evergreen Dr., Wyomissing

Sept. 13—Quarterly Meeting, Location TBD

Nov. 14—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 803 Evergreen Dr., Wyomissing

Dec. 6—Annual Meeting

PASSAR Meetings

Aug. 3 & 4—Hosted by Gen. Anthony Wayne Chapter

Nov. 2 & 3—Hosted by Northeast Chapter

Feb. 1 & 2—Hosted by Harris Ferry Chapter

May 3 & 4—Hosted by Pittsburgh Chapter

DAR Grave Dedication

At the request of Carole Vercellino and her sister, both DAR members in California, the Berks County Chapter will host a grave marking ceremony on Thursday, June 21, at 11:00 AM at Altalaha Church in Rehrersburg. This ceremony will honor their Patriot Ancestor, Philip Klein, who is buried in the old cemetery there. If you are able to attend, please join us and support our visitors in their effort to honor their ancestor.

The caretaker has offered to open the church so we can use the restrooms and see the inside of the building. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held on Friday, June 22.

DIRECTIONS: From Route 422 at Womelsdorf, turn north onto Route 419; travel 6.1 miles (when 419 veers right at a fork in the road, keep straight onto Rehrersburg Rd.) Continue to Rehrersburg where the road name changes to Godfrey St. Travel .6 mile to the church at the corner of Godfrey St. and Rehrer St., at the west end of the town.

From Route 183 north of Bernville, turn left onto New Schaefferstown Rd. Follow New Schaefferstown Rd. until it intersects with Rehrersburg Rd. just east of town. Turn right onto Rehrersburg Rd. The road name changes to Godfrey St. The church is at the corner of Godfrey St. and Rehrer St. at the west end of town.

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 |

Allegiance Sunday

The Chapter will celebrate Allegiance Sunday on June 24th at the New Goshenhoppen UCC Church, 1070 Church Road, East Greenville. The church service will begin at 10:30 AM. Following the service, the Color Guard will conduct a special remembrance ceremony to honor the Revolutionary War soldiers buried in the cemetery.

All members and their guests are encouraged to attend this patriotic ceremony and help us honor some of the brave Americans who helped us achieve our independence from British tyranny.