



# 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/>

February 2012

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## A Message from the President



President Hillegas being sworn into office by PASSAR 3rd Vice President Eric Troutman

Dear Compatriots,

Happy New Year, so far I am enjoying the winter weather, but I know it will change. After last year, I hope this is a mild and quiet year as far as the weather is concerned. This year we will be able to practice one of those rights our forefathers fought and won for us, that is the right to vote and choose our representatives and President. That also means that we will be overrun with all those political ads and commercials. I can do without that.

Coming up in February is the Presidents Day luncheon, and on Thursday, March 15, we will have our quarterly meeting at the Yellowhouse Hotel, please make plans to attend.

2012 will be the Chapter's 75<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary and we are expecting a special celebration. More details about date,

time and place will be in next news letter. It would be nice if we can break the 100 member mark this year, so please contact those who you think would be interested in becoming a member.

Sincerely,  
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.

## Compatriot Serving in Germany

2nd Lt. Zachary Railing is assigned as a Platoon Leader in Ammunition that is part of the Ordinance Branch of the Army. He currently puts in a long day, getting up at 4am to lead his platoon in PT. The other two lieutenants he works with have not received their cars from the US yet, so he has been driving them to and from work, so he does not get home until around 8pm. This month he is working on taking physical inventory.

Zach is now living in an apartment on the third floor in the town of Weiden, Germany. He has a nice apartment with two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, bathroom with laundry room and an outside storage room where he keeps his bike. His apartment is only a fifteen minute walk to catch the train to Nuremburg. Nuremburg has the largest Christmas market in Germany. People come from all over Europe to shop and enjoy the huge Christmas market and displays. Zach absolutely loves the German countryside, old buildings and castles. Whenever he can, he goes sightseeing on the weekends.

One of Zach's fellow officers is friends with a German family from when his father was stationed in Germany. Zach was invited to their home on Christmas Eve for the traditional German meal of pork roast, potato salad, peas and carrots, potato balls (shredded potatoes that you split open and pour gravy on). It is their tradition to celebrate on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day the German family took him to see a castle that is hidden and not well known except by the local people. The castle was built in 1200 and has been owned by the same family for over 800 years.

*Fred and Sabrina Railing*

To correspond with Compatriot Railing, please use the following address:

2nd Lt. Zachary Railing  
 CMR 415 Box 4225  
 APO AE 09114-0043

## Honoring Conrad Weiser

The Patriotic Order Sons of America invited the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter and their family members/guests to attend a special remembrance ceremony to mark the 250th anniversary of the passing of Conrad Weiser, the Pennsylvania Peacemaker. The event was held by his gravesite at the Conrad Weiser Homestead at 3:00 PM on November 19th. Our Color Guard presented the colors and even had their picture in the Reading Eagle.

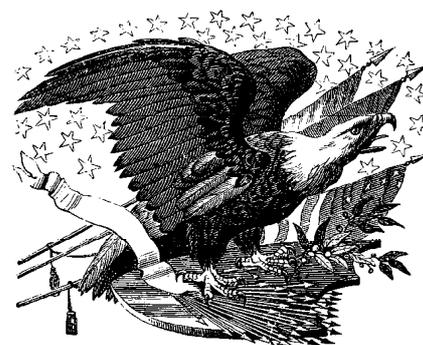
(right) New SAR compatriots Stephen & Brinton Corson attended the ceremony and posed with PASSAR 3rd VP and Chapter Registrar/ Genealogist Eric Troutman.



## 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](http://www.nscar.org)**

State Society  
**[www.passar.org](http://www.passar.org)**

## DAR Christmas Breakfast

The Berks County Chapter, DAR held their annual Christmas Breakfast on December 17th at the Berkshire Country Club. The breakfast buffet was wonderful and festive holiday entertainment was provided by the Ringing Hills Sweet Adeline Chorus.

Compatriots Eric Troutman, Miles Dechant and Floyd Turner attended the merry gathering.



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**

- Earl L. Brown Jr.
- Cedric C. Jimerson
- Paul J. Teiken, MD
- Jason M. Teiken

**Ancestor**

- Bernhardt Heller
- Daniel Toll Clute
- Archibald Johnson
- Archibald Johnson

The following supplemental applications have been approved:

**Member**

- Raymond Longacre
- “
- “
- Gerald Peppel
- “
- Eric Troutman
- “

**Ancestor**

- Peter Heilman
- Johannes Yoder
- Johan Conrad George
- Peter Heilman
- Johann Conrad George
- Martin Battorff
- Andreas Schoener

The following applications are at National Headquarters:

**New Members:** Kyle S. Leath, Philip H. Leath, Larry A. Magdy, Patrick A. Magdy, Joseph F. Mamola, Thomas A. Stewart MD

**Supplementals:** Willard N. Brensinger Jr (2) & Eric H. Troutman (2)

At this time, I'm working with 23 prospective members. Our current membership stands at 93 with 2 dual members.

*Eric H. Troutman  
 Genealogist/Registrar*

**All members are reminded to promote SAR membership and encourage family members and friends to become compatriots also.**

## Annual Meeting Highlights



The Chapter's Annual Meeting was held at the Berkshire Country Club on December 1st. President Hillegas called the meeting to order and introduced our joyous and mirthful entertainment, The Purcell Trio. The group, a father and 2 sons, played spirited holiday favorites as well as classic songs from the colonial era.

Eagle Scout Chairman Robert Murray updated the membership on our efforts to recognize and honor the Eagle Scouts of the Hawk Mountain Council. DAR//C.A.R. Liaison and Acting Color Guard Captain Floyd Turner reported on the recent activities of the Berks County Chapter, DAR and the Conrad Weiser Society, C.A.R. as well as patriotic events involving the Color Guard.

Nominating Committee Chairman, Eric Troutman announced the committee's slate of officers for 2012 but due to extenuating circumstances David Loose was no longer able to accept his nomination as Chapter Secretary. Floyd Turner moved that the slate be changed to nominate David Loose Jr. for Secretary (instead of Chaplain) and Nevin C. Miller be nominated as Chaplain. The motion carried and the new slate of officers was elected and installed.

As is our tradition, President Hillegas took the opportunity to present several Compatriots with awards for their efforts to support and aid the Chapter and the SAR. (Top Left) Henry Troutman is presented with the Liberty Medal (awarded by NSSAR) for being the first-line signer for 10 new members. (Top Right) Henry Troutman and Nevin C. Miller are presented with certificates from NSSAR honoring their military service during World War II. Treasurer Robert Murray (above left) and Genealogist/Registrar Eric Troutman (above right) are presented with Meritorious Service Awards.

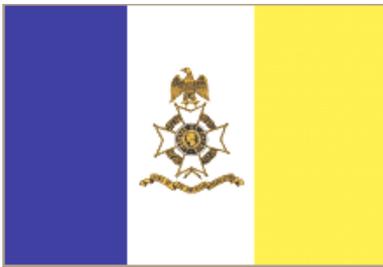
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## Raffle to Help Raise CAAH Donation

# HELP US REACH OUR GOAL

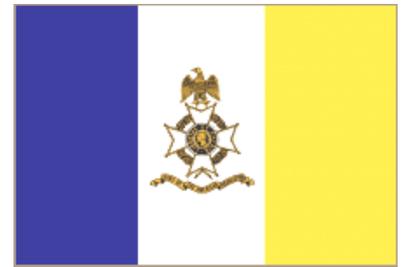
To raise our \$500 pledge amount, the chapter is asking for your support.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or (5) for \$20.00



Prizes are:

- 1st Prize—\$250
- 2nd Prize—\$150
- 3rd Prize—\$100



5 tickets are included with this newsletter for your convenience. Additional tickets will be available at our Quarterly Meeting on March 15th.

Tickets can also be obtained by contacting Compatriot Floyd Turner at 610-406-3933 or [fnt2@comcast.net](mailto:fnt2@comcast.net).

Additional donations to help us reach our goal are always welcome and appreciated.

Keep the portion of the ticket that says  
“Keep This Coupon”  
& send in the other portion

**with your name & phone number on each ticket**  
to Chapter Treasurer Robert W. Murray in the envelope provided.

Winners will be drawn at our Quarterly meeting on March 15, 2012.

You do not need to be present to win. However, if you're not there we can't get a picture of you for newsletter!!!!

## Eagle Scout Committee Report



During the 2011 calendar year our committee attended fifty-nine Courts of Honor and sent an additional twenty-two certificates to scouts who achieved the rank of Eagle. We are scheduled to attend seven ceremonies during the month of January.

We had five Eagle Scouts submit scholarship applications. Our Recognition and Scholarship award winner for 2011 is Nicholas Kircher Blanchet from Troop # 413. Eagle Scout Blanchet will be recognized at our dinner meeting in June. His application has been sent to the Pennsylvania State Sons of the American Revolution for their consideration in the state competition.

Thanks to the entire committee for their dedication and support during 2011.

*Robert W. Murray, Chairman*

“I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosoms until there shall no longer be a doubt that all men are created free and equal.” -*Abraham Lincoln*



## President's Day, February 20

### Fly Your Flag!!



## Annual Meeting Highlights (continued)



In addition to the other awards presented at the Annual Meeting, (above left) Floyd Turner and Kathryn Turner were presented with the Bronze SAR/C.A.R. Medal of Appreciation. Floyd for his support and leadership of the Conrad Weiser Society, C.A.R. and Kathryn for assistance rendered to the Color Guard at parades and Allegiance Sunday services over the past 5 years. (above right) Jane Turner of the Berks County Chapter, DAR was presented with the SAR Medal of Appreciation for her support of the chapter over the past 5 years and her services as photographer for the Color Guard.

## Veteran's Day in City Park



During the annual Veteran's Day Ceremony in City Park, President Hillegas placed a wreath on behalf of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter. PASSAR 3rd Vice President and Chapter Registrar, Eric Troutman joined the massing of the Colors which included representatives from the Butterwick Detachment of the Marine Corps League and the Wilson and Reading High School JROTC squads.

The turnout for this years event was the best in many years. Wreaths were placed by numerous veterans organizations as well as the Berks County Chapter, DAR and the Conrad Weiser Society, C.A.R..

(Left) President Hillegas salutes after placing the Chapter's wreath.

## Wreaths Across America



For the 6th year in a row, Past Chapter President Floyd Turner acted as Master of Ceremonies for the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony that was held at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery on December 10th. Guardsmen Nevin Miller, Eric Troutman, Robert Hillegas and Bill Brensinger were also on hand to honor our veterans and remind the audience that men and women have been serving and sacrificing for our country for over 235 years.

An estimated 1,500 people attended the ceremony and helped place almost 3,800 wreaths on graves. Compatriots David Loose Jr and Vice President Barry Kauffman with his grandchildren Joanna and Asher Fair, pictured below with Guardsman Eric Troutman, were among the multitude that braved the cold and helped transform the cemetery with green wreaths and red bows.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

### Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

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

**Feb. 18**—Annual President’s Day Luncheon, 11:30 AM, at the Historical Society of Berks County

**Mar. 15**—Quarterly Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Yellowhouse Hotel in Douglassville

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

**June 14**—Quarterly Meeting, Location TBD

**June 24**—Allegiance Sunday Service, at the New Goshenhoppen UCC in East Greenville

**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

**Feb. 3 & 4, 2012**—Quarterly Meeting

Hosted by: Continental Congress Chapter

**May 4 & 5, 2012**—Annual Meeting

Hosted by: Valley Forge Chapter

## President’s Day Luncheon



The Annual President’s Day Luncheon will be held on February 18, 2012 at the Historical Society of Berks County. The speaker will be James Lewars (pictured left) Director of the Landis Valley Museum who will speak on early German and English architecture in Berks County. Compatriots and their guests are encouraged to attend.

## 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	VACANT

### 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

## March Quarterly Meeting

The Chapter’s Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Yellowhouse Hotel in Douglassville on March 15th. Please make plans to join your fellow compatriots for an evening of patriotic camaraderie, good food and one or two libations.

Take advantage of this opportunity to get together with old friends and make some new ones!