



The Hiester Herald

Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution

Chartered - May 11, 1937

Instituted - June 17, 1937



Volume XIV, Number 4

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

November 2012

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

Robert M. Hillegas, President
717-865-7478

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

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

A Message from the President



Dear Compatriots and Friends,

It hardly seems possible but my two year term as your President is almost at an end. There are so many people that have assisted and helped me during this time that if I listed them all, I'm sure I would miss someone, and that would bother me greatly, so I will thank all the members for your help, thoughts and support. As I reminisce on some of the events during this time, our Chapters 75th. Anniversary, the 225th. Anniversary of our Country's Constitution, several grave dedications and all those parades, these two years surely have been a joy.

Our December meeting will be held at the Berkshire Country Club, on Thursday, December 6th. We will be honored to have President General Stephen Leishman attend our annual banquet and installation of officers.

On November 6th we will have an opportunity to exercise one of the freedoms our forefathers risked all to enable us the right to elect our leaders. Let's all honor their sacrifice and get out and vote for the candidate of our choice.

In closing, in October I took the leap and decided it is time to retire from regular employment and join the ranks of those who always seem to have a smile on their faces. My wish to all is for a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year.

Your Humble Servant,
Robert Hillegas, President

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 By-laws, 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.

2013 Dues Notices



2013 Dues Notices have been mailed.

If you did not receive a Dues Notice, please contact Compatriot Robert W. Murray at 610-670-1433 or rwmurraysar@verizon.net to arrange for payment.

Dues must be paid by Dec. 31, 2012.

Members not submitting their dues on time will be required to complete a Reinstatement Form and pay the associated fee.

Quarterly Meeting Highlights



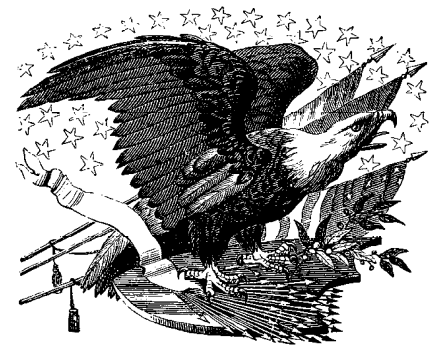
Compatriots gathered at the Heidelberg Country Club to share a meal and a few hours of patriotic camaraderie. Above, Compatriot Charles Seibert receives his rosette from Eric Troutman, his SAR sponsor, after being sworn-in by President Hillegas. Below, our speaker for the evening was Paul Troutman who presented a lively and interesting talk about obsolete gadgets used by our ancestors but virtually unknown to us. His presentation included show-and-tell and a fun round of what-the-heck-is-that!!



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**

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has put forth the following slate of officers for 2013:

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.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the meeting on December 6, 2012. Election and installation of officers will occur immediately following the election.

Eric H. Troutman
Chairman



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:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Clark D. Frederick	Jacob Levan
Randolph C. Frederick	Jacob Levan
James C. Frederick	Jacob Levan
Timothy G. Ghebeles	Joseph Walker
Nathan A. Hillegas	George Peter Hillegass
Samuel R. Hillegas	George Peter Hillegass
William D. Hillegas	George Peter Hillegass
Charles H. Seibert	Andreas Ziegler

We welcome the following transfers:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Eugene W. Ennis	Christian Hoffman
Edward R. Milford	John Slicer

The following supplementals have been approved:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Eric H. Troutman	John George Miller

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

David B. Goss, Robert W. McAteer, Thomas E. McAteer, Daniel B. McAteer & Parker A. Magdy

The following Supplemental applications have been submitted to National Headquarters:

Willard N. Brensinger, Jr., Robert M. Hillegas, (3)
Charles H. Seibert & (3) Eric H. Troutman

**Chapter Membership stands at:
113 members including 3 dual members**

As of October 27th, there have been 19 new members and 9 supplemental applications approved for the chapter this year. Our chapter has just become the 4th largest chapter in the state. If we can recruit a few more members we can easily become the 3rd largest chapter in the state.

Eric H. Troutman
Genealogist/Registrar

Constitution 225th Anniversary Celebration



NSSAR celebrated the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution with a gathering of compatriots from across the country on September 14 & 15 at the Double Tree Hotel in King of Prussia which was hosted by PASSAR and the Philadelphia Continental Chapter.

On Friday, September 14, the festivities began with an informal buffet dinner. The next morning the Guardsmen suited-up and boarded buses for downtown Philadelphia. The parade formed up opposite the Liberty Bell Pavilion and proceeded to Chestnut Street in front of Independence Hall where a brief SAR ceremony was held. From there, the march proceeded to the front of the Constitution Center for the speaker and program. About 100 uniformed Color Guard members marched in the parade followed by wives and family members in colonial dress.

The celebration continued on Saturday evening with a banquet for almost 200 which was highlighted by an inspirational talk given by President General Stephen Leishman

Pictures of the event surround this article. Below left is a photograph of the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Color Guard members that saddled-up and made the trek to Philadelphia. (l to r) Charles Seibert, Robert Hillegas, Eric Troutman, Willard Brensinger and David Loose Jr.



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.



2012-2013 National C.A.R. Project



This year's C.A.R. National Project is to raise funds for the Sword Surrender Site at Saratoga National Historical Park. The site of General Burgoyne's surrender will include a bas-relief sculpture, a memorial, walk-ways, and interpretive signage based on John Trumbull's famous painting, *The Surrender of General Burgoyne*.

Greg Thorne
National President, C.A.R.



For information regarding the project or to make donations, please contact Compatriot Floyd Turner at 610-406-3933 or fnt2@comcast.net



First Battle of Saratoga (Freeman's Farm) - Sept. 19, 1777

General Horatio Gates, along with General Benedict Arnold, engaged British General John Burgoyne on September 19, 1777 a few miles south of Saratoga, NY. At the end of a vicious day of fighting, the British were in charge of the field but their success came with a huge cost. Rather than engaging the Americans to follow up on the success, Burgoyne consolidated his forces and rested his army waiting for reinforcements from New York City. The delay allowed American reinforcements to pour in and set up the second, and decisive, Battle of Saratoga at Bemis Heights on October 7th.

Second Battle of Saratoga (Bemis Heights) - Oct. 7, 1777

After the Battle of Freeman's Farm, Gen. Burgoyne consolidated his position and planned to follow-up with an attack on September 21st. In a pivotal and ironic twist of fate, he received a letter from General Henry Clinton indicating that reinforcements could be sent his way in about 10 days. Burgoyne knew that even under the best of circumstances, a force could not reach him before early-October. Because of his poor situation and his expectation of receiving reinforcements and supplies, he decided not to press his planned attack.

The Americans used this valuable time to gather reinforcements and supplies, including much needed ammunition. Generals Horatio Gates and Benedict Arnold also used the time to skirmish and argue among themselves. This culminated in General Gates relieving Arnold of his command. Arnold, however, remained in camp.

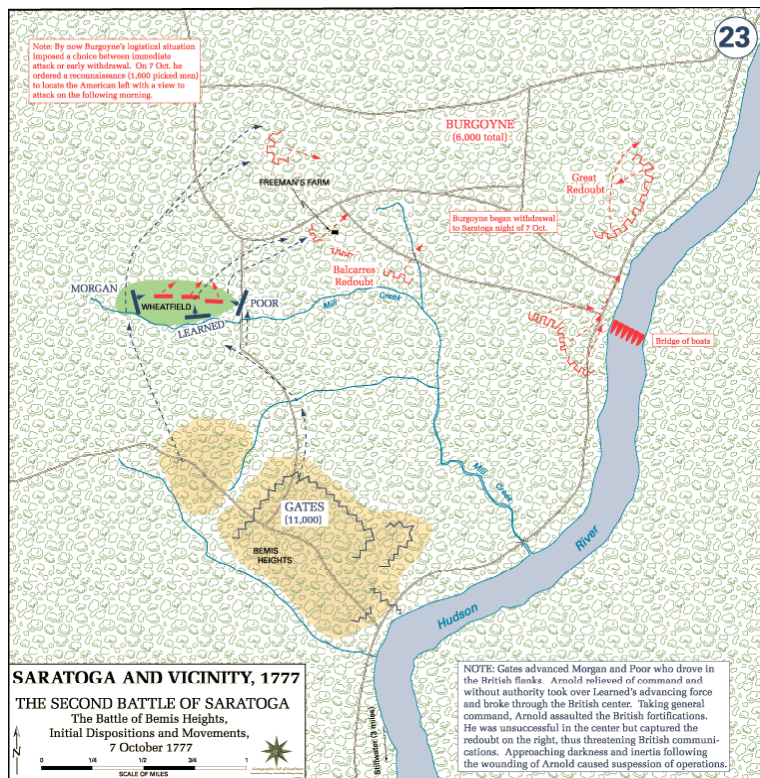
The British began the action on October 7 by attempting to test the strength of the American left flank. Burgoyne sent a small force, which included 10 cannon, into Mr. Barber's wheat field. Opposing them were the men under the command of Generals Poor and Learned and Col. Daniel Morgan. In all, the Americans had about 8,000 men in the field to the British 5,000.

The British fired on General Poor's troops, on the right of the American line at about 2:30 PM. The Americans initially held their fire until the British advanced to close range and then devastated their ranks. The left flank had Col. Morgan's men also sweeping aside the British who began a disorganized retreat. At this point, the Americans were joined by an unexpected participant. General Arnold.

Arnold joined the American chase, and then led Poor's men in an attack on the Balcarres redoubt. This redoubt had been set up well, and the redoubt was held, in action so fierce that Burgoyne afterwards wrote, "A more determined perseverance than they showed ... is not in any officer's experience". With the action at the Balcarres redoubt checked, and seeing that Learned was preparing to attack the Breymann redoubt, Arnold moved toward that action, recklessly riding between the lines and remarkably emerging unhurt. He led (or joined) the charge of Learned's men between the two redoubts, which exposed the rear of Breymann's position. Morgan's men had circled around from the far side and in furious battle, the redoubt was taken and Breymann was killed. Arnold's horse was hit in one of the final volleys, and Arnold's leg was broken by both shot and the falling horse. The capture of Breymann's redoubt left the British in a very exposed position and they withdrew and consolidated their forces at the Great Redoubt.

Surrender!

Burgoyne lost about 1,000 men in the battles. His army seriously depleted in manpower and supplies attempted to withdraw but found themselves surrounded near the town of Saratoga by the ever-growing American ranks. On October 19, 1777, Burgoyne surrendered his army to General Gates. News of the surrender emboldened France to enter the war in support of the American cause, turning the fortunes of war in favor of the Liberty. Thus, Saratoga is "The Turning Point" in our War for Independence.



Eagle Scout Committee Report



Help Needed! Not only are Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays rapidly approaching but so is the deadline, December 1, for applications to be filed for our Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Program. To date we have no candidates. We do have six (6) Courts of Honor set up for November and I am certain there will be additional requests for November and December. So, please, if you personally know an Eagle Scout, the Scholarship money is waiting.

Robert W. Murray
Chairman



PASSAR License Plate

**Get your own PASSAR license plate
& be PASSAR-proud**

A number of years ago, the State of Pennsylvania authorized a PASSAR license plate. The plates cost \$35 (\$20 to the state and a one-time fee of \$15 to PASSAR). The program is managed by compatriot Tom Showler. If you're interested in obtaining a PASSAR plate, contact:

Tom Showler
9602 Milnor Street
Philadelphia PA 19114-3110
215-632-4229
oberlin65@verizon.net



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/**

Friendly Competition

Editorial

Not so very long ago, our chapter membership was just over 40 members and the Berks County Chapter, DAR had over 100. The thought of getting anywhere close to their level of membership seemed like a silly dream. But, here we are with 113 members and the Berks Daughters are at 123.

What's the secret to our success? Hard work in many different ways but some of the biggest are:

- (1) Public relations—letting people know we're here and what we do. The Color Guard is a big part of this but every compatriot is an ambassador for the SAR.
- (2) Asking people to join—few members just show up on our doorstep. Men are more likely to join if they're asked by a friend, or a friendly person, and if they perceive us as a group of men engaged in a worthwhile mission.
- (3) Helping prospective members—the application process can be overwhelming. We have far more success when we help prospective members rather than leaving them to do it all on their own.

Our chapter has been extremely lucky to have members and leaders who understood this and were willing to take an active roll in obtaining new members and getting our chapter recognized.

The competition? Let's see if we can raise (and maintain) our membership above that of the Berks County DAR! Compatriot Eric Troutman has been doing a phenomenal job of finding prospective members and getting them into the SAR. Can you find us 1 new member? Just one!....a family member!a friend!

This is a friendly challenge. The Berks Daughters have been very helpful and supportive of our efforts and we'll always do the same for them. After all, we're, literally, family! Of course, that won't stop us from doing a little gloating!

Floyd Turner
Editor

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

- 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. 1**—Berks County Chapter, DAR Christmas Breakfast, 9:00 AM at the Berkshire Country Club
- Dec. 6**—Annual Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Berkshire Country Club
- Dec. 15**—Wreaths Across America, Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, 12:00 noon

2013 Meetings (tentative)

- February—President’s Day, TBD
- February—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- March—Quarterly meeting, TBD
- May—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- June—Quarterly meeting, TBD
- August—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- September—Quarterly meeting, TBD
- November—Executive Committee meeting, TBD
- December—Annual Meeting, TBD

PASSAR Meetings

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

Veteran’s Day Ceremony

The chapter will be participating in the annual Veteran’s Day ceremony that will be held in the Veteran’s Grove area of City Park, Reading at 11:00 AM on Sunday, November 11th. All members are encouraged to attend and honor the men and women that have served our Nation.

DAR Christmas Breakfast

The Berks County Chapter, DAR has graciously invited our members to join them at their annual Christmas Breakfast which will be held on December 1st at the Berkshire Country Club. The buffet will begin at 9:00 AM. Entertainment will be provided by the Reading Pretzel City Chorus. A registration form has been included with this newsletter. Please RSVP by November 17th.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Chapter will be held on December 6th at the Berkshire Country Club. In addition to our normal business and patriotic camaraderie, the 2013 officers will be elected and sworn-in (see the report of the Nominating Committee on page 3).



We’re honored to be joined by NSSAR President General Stephen A. Leishman who will speak to us and administer the Oath of Office to our newly-elected officers.

The meeting registration form is included with this newsletter. Please RSVP by November 26th.

Wreaths Across America



For the 5th year in a row, the Conrad Weiser Society is honoring our veterans by seeking sponsors for wreaths that will be placed on graves at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery on December 15th. The evergreen wreaths can be sponsored for \$15. A sponsorship form has been included with the newsletter. For questions or more information, please contact Floyd Turner at 610-406-3933 or fnt2@comcast.net.



Joint President’s Day Gathering

This coming February, the Berks County Chapter, DAR will host our annual President’s Day gathering. They’re trying something a little different this time and hope the change in format will be well received. More information regarding the date, time other details will be provided as soon as possible.