



The Hiester Herald

Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution

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

May 2009

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A Message from the President

Compatriots,

This year is moving along very quickly. We're approaching the "Patriotic Season" and that means parades, wreath layings and other opportunities for us to show our patriotism, support for our veterans and honor our flag and country.

The Color Guard will be busy! They'll be marching in the Wyomissing Hills Memorial Day Parade on May 23rd, presenting the Colors during a ceremony at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery and marching in the Oley Memorial Day Parade on May 24th. On Monday, May 25th, there will be a wreath laying ceremony in Veterans Grove, City Park and the Bernville Memorial Day Parade.

We have Allegiance Sunday on June 7th, our quarterly meeting on June 11, lunch with the DAR on June 13th and, last but not least, the Wyomissing July 4th Parade.

I encourage everyone to try and attend these events. Show your support for the SAR. Cheer on the Color Guard. Come out and march in the parades!!

Parades aren't the only way to help. There are many ways you can be of assistance to the chapter. Please consider assisting the Chapter in any way you can. We need help! Many positions/committees require very little of your time. It only takes a couple hours to attend an Eagle Scout Court of Honor. You can get some exercise by carrying the banner in a parade. Help us get new members. Help us reach out to veterans. Help us utilize 21st century communications technology to reach out to our members and the community. Tell us how you can help.

Floyd N. Turner II
President



A special note....Chapter Genealogist and Past President, Eric Troutman will be hosting a picnic at his house after our Allegiance Sunday service and grave dedication ceremony. More information is on page 8.

A New District Deputy

At the PASSAR Annual Meeting on May 2nd, Compatriot Eric Troutman was elected to serve as District Deputy for the 1st District which includes us, the Philadelphia Continental Chapter and the Washington Crossing Chapter. He will serve the last 2 years of Joe Thomas' term. Compatriot Thomas is battling an illness that makes it impossible for him to continue. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Joe and his family. We fervently hope to see him again very soon.

While we miss and pray for Joe, we know that Compatriot Troutman will serve PASSAR very well.

Annual Presidents Day Luncheon

This year the Annual Presidents Day Luncheon was hosted by the Historical Society of Berks County on February 21st. The featured speaker was Lynn Otto who spoke about the Frontier Forts of the Blue Mountains. Mr. Otto is a re-enactor and author and has extensively researched the string of French and Indian War fortifications that were built along the Pennsylvania frontier to protect settlers from attacks by Native Americans.

Next year the luncheon will be hosted by the Berks County Chapter, DAR.



The pictures below and to the left show some of the compatriots that attended the luncheon.

Left:
Martin Goetz, Nevin Miller and Bruce Dietrich

Below:
Ronald Fisk and Martin Peicker

Bottom:
Evalyn and Henry Troutman

All members are encouraged to report news and submit articles for the newsletter.

Deadlines for submissions:
Feb. 1 for February issue
May 1 for May issue
Aug. 1 for August issue
Nov. 1 for November issue

Send submissions **and address changes** to:
Floyd N. Turner II, 958 Whitner Road
Reading, PA 19605 or e-mail: floydt2@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/>



Highlights from March Meeting

On March 12th, the Chapter held its quarterly meeting at the Inn at Moselem Springs. The speaker for the evening was Brigadier General John Gronski, Assistant Adjutant General of Joint Force Headquarters, PA National Guard at Fort Indiantown Gap. In 2006, Brig. Gen. Gronski returned from a tour of duty in Iraq. He spoke about his time in Iraq and the quality of the men and women serving our country.



Brig. Gen. Gronski (r) is presented a Good Citizenship Certificate by President Turner.



Compatriot Bruce Reppert (l) was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the Chapter as our Veterans Chairman and a dedicated member of the Color Guard.



President Turner swears in new members Stefan Troutman and Dr. David Brock.



The Chapter's first Junior Member, Stefan Troutman receives his rosette.

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Visit

www.sarfoundation.org/donate.htm

Four Generations of Compatriots



At our meeting in March, a fourth generation of the Troutman family was welcomed into the chapter. Young compatriot Stevie Troutman is the Chapter’s first junior member. He’s also a member of the Conrad Weiser Society, Children of the American Revolution.

Pictured are (back row from right to left): Henry Troutman, Past Chapter Chaplain; Eric Troutman Sr., Chapter Genealogist and Past Chapter President; Eric Troutman Jr. and (in front) Stevie Troutman.

Chapter Compatriot Serving in Afghanistan

Compatriot Master Sergeant David Shultz has been serving in Afghanistan with the Afghanistan District of the Army Corps of Engineers. His unit handles construction on US bases, builds bases for the Afghan National Army and Police and builds quality roads. David is in charge of the Sharana Resident Office in Paktika Province. He oversees construction/quality assurance and manages the contracts for two Border Police posts and an Afghan Army garrison. Most of the unit is staffed by civilians. David says “the main reason for having military personnel at all is because the civilians are not allowed to carry guns.”

David’s tour of duty will end late in May. With any luck he may be home in time for our meeting on June 11th. But, we can certainly forgive him if he has higher priorities than attending the meeting.



Compatriot Shultz (far left) is pictured with the Afghan Base Commander, Sergeant Major and two others.

Passing of a Compatriot

The Chapter mourns the passing of Compatriot Olan B. Lowrey. He passed away at his home in Limekiln on the afternoon of April 22nd. He was born in Plainview, TX in 1930 and attended Southwest Texas University after graduation from high school. He later earned his Masters Degree from the University of Iowa. Compatriot Lowrey served in the Army during the Korean War. After his discharge he went on to Baylor University School of Law. He worked for several law firms and after a career as a trial attorney he became a professor at the Beasley School of Law at Temple University authoring several books on land use and real estate law.

Our condolences go out to his wife Millicent and the Lowrey family.

Liberty Tree is Planted in City Park



Thanks to the work of the Shade Tree Commission and City Arborist, David Ruyak, the City of Reading was the recipient of a Liberty Tree Memorial grant consisting of a 14 ft., disease-resistant American Liberty Elm and a commemorative bronze plaque which will be displayed in City Hall.

Reading has been named a Liberty Tree Memorial town and joins over 300 other towns across the country that have been granted this designation.

The tree was dedicated on April 24th in a ceremony in City Park. The Liberty Tree is a green and growing tribute to the birth of freedom in America.

The Original Liberty Tree

The original Liberty Tree was an elm tree near Boston Common. In the years leading up to the Revolution, the Liberty Tree was a rallying point for gatherings of patriots, most notably the Sons of Liberty, resisting the

LIBERTY TREE

Thomas Paine, 1775

In a chariot of light from the regions of day,
The Goddess of Liberty came;
Ten thousand celestials directed the way,
And hither conducted the dame.

A fair budding branch from the gardens above,
Where millions with millions agree,
She brought in her hand as a pledge of her love,
And the plant she named Liberty Tree.

The celestial exotic struck deep in the ground,
Like a native it flourished and bore;
The fame of its fruit drew the nations around,
To seek out this peaceable shore.

Unmindful of names or distinctions they came,
For freemen like brothers agree;
With one spirit endued, they one friendship pursued,
And their temple was Liberty Tree.

Beneath this fair tree, like the patriarchs of old,
Their bread in contentment they ate
Unvexed with the troubles of silver and gold,
The cares of the grand and the great.

With timber and tar they Old England supplied,
And supported her power on the sea;
Her battles they fought, without getting a groat,
For the honor of Liberty Tree.

But hear, O ye swains, 'tis a tale most profane,
How all the tyrannical powers,
Kings, Commons and Lords, are uniting amain,
To cut down this guardian of ours;

From the east to the west blow the trumpet to arms,
Through the land let the sound of it flee,
Let the far and the near, all unite with a cheer,
In defence of our Liberty Tree.

growing tyranny of Great Britain. During the Siege of Boston, a group of loyalists cut the tree down and used to wood for their fires. This served to enrage the patriots and may have been the inspiration for various Liberty Tree flags that were used during the Revolution. For many years the "Liberty Stump" remained a reference point for local citizens. Today a bronze plaque marks it's location.

Eagle Scout Committee Report

David Leinbach from Troop 510, the winner of our Scholarship award for 2008, will be honored at our Quarterly meeting, June 11 at which time he will receive a \$200 cash award and medal.

Fourteen Eagle Scouts participated in the 2008 State Scholarship Competition and the 1st place winner was Hobart K. Kistler, Centre Co Chapter. 2nd place was awarded to Garrett E. Schneider, Tiadaghton Chapter and third place went to Daniel H. Brynien, Philadelphia Continental Chapter.

Thirty-six young men competed for the 2008 National Scholarship Competition. At this level the 1st place winner was Gerrit S. Bakker of Alma, Michigan. 2nd place was awarded to Shawn A. Goldsmith of Oceanside, New York and third place went to Samuel A. Cain, II of Gastonia, North Carolina.

To date our committee has attended 26 Courts of Honor and we have 5 additional Courts scheduled so far through June. Unfortunately, we continue to have to decline Courts of Honor, 14 this time, due to too few personnel and scheduling conflicts of those ever-dedicated committee members. It is so unfortunate that we have been unable to attend such a large number of Courts of Honor so early in the year. We obviously need more help. Please consider giving a little of your time to honor these outstanding young men.

I wish to thank my committee for their continued dedication and cooperation.

- Robert W. Murray, Eagle Scout Chairman



Conrad Weiser Society Honored at PA C.A.R. State Conference

Our local Conrad Weiser Society of Children of the American Revolution was honored at the recent State Conference held near Gettysburg as the state's "Most Outstanding Society" for the second year in a row. In addition, 2 members were elected as State Officers. Kathryn Turner was elected State Recording Secretary and Gwen Kolyer was elected State Curator.



Back Row (l-r):
Pam Kolyer, Jane Turner and Anita Bond

Front Row (l-r):
Jennifer Rohrbach, Gwen Kolyer, Christine Kolyer and Kathryn Turner

Genealogist Report

New Members and Supplementals

The Chapter welcomes the following new members:

<u>Compatriot</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
David C. Brock	Jeremiah Gallahue
Paul B. Brock	Jeremiah Gallahue

There are currently 9 applications for membership being processed by NSSAR. They are for: Edward W. Coleman, Barry L. Kauffman, David G. Loose Jr., Steven L. Miller, Fred E. Railing, Zachary L. Railing, Laverne E. Ramberger, Richard W. Reiber and Edward N. Watson.

Revolutionary War Monument Update



Artist's Concept

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2009

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Authorizing the placement of a Revolutionary War Memorial designed and funded by the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Conrad Weiser Society of the Children of the American Revolution and Berks County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in the Veterans Grove area of City Park, at the location approved by the Reading Planning Commission at their March 10, 2009 meeting.

Adopted by Council March 23, 2009

Vaughn D. Spencer
Vaughn D. Spencer
President of Council

Attest:

Linda A. Kelleher
Linda A. Kelleher
City Clerk

SUCCESS!!

After many meetings with the members of City Council, Planning Commission, Historical and Architectural Review Board and Penn's Common Neighborhood Group, the monument has been approved!!

On March 23rd Reading City Council adopted Resolution 29-2009 shown above. The Planning Commission opted to place the monument between the Women Veterans and Submarine Veterans monuments. This means that our monument will be to the right of the Women Veterans monument not on the left as was depicted in the artist's concept above.

Once approval was secured, the monument was ordered from P. F. Eisenbrown. The foundation will be installed sometime this summer and the monument should be erected in September.

We have started planning a dedication ceremony for the monument to be held on Saturday, October 10th. At this time it looks like we will dedicate the monument in the morning and follow up with a luncheon. More details will be in the next newsletter. But, for now, **MARK THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Events

May 14—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 958 Whitner Road, Muhlenberg Twp.

Jun. 7—Allegiance Sunday service, Evangelical Lutheran Friedens Church, Bernville, PA, 9:30 AM
And Picnic at Eric Troutman’s House

Jun. 11—Quarterly Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Wyomissing Family Restaurant, Wyomissing

Jun. 13—DAR Flag Day Luncheon, 12:00 noon at the Highlands of Wyomissing

Jun. 14—Rededication of “Support Our Constitution Flag”, **Date tentative-no word on this yet**

Aug. 13—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 958 Whitner Road, Muhlenberg Twp.

Sep. 10—Quarterly Meeting, Location: TBD

Oct. 10—Dedication Ceremony of the Revolutionary War Monument in City Park, Reading

Nov. 12—Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM at 958 Whitner Road, Muhlenberg Twp.

Dec. 3—Annual Meeting, 6:00 PM at the Berkshire Country Club, Reading

PASSAR Events

May 1 & 2—Annual Meeting
 Hosted by: Philadelphia Continental Chapter

Aug. 7 & 8—Quarterly Meeting
 Hosted by: Somerset Cambria Chapter

Nov. 6 & 7—Quarterly Meeting
 Hosted by: Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter

Any Compatriot that wishes to attend a PASSAR meeting should contact the Chapter President at least a month before the event. He will ensure that you receive the registration form before the deadline for submittal.

Military Humor??

What do you call an officer that spends a lot of time in the latrine?

Answer: A Loo-tenant

Allegiance Sunday

Our Allegiance Sunday observance will be on June 7th at the Evangelical Lutheran Friedens Church at Main and Washington Streets in Bernville. The church service begins at 9:30 AM. Following the service we will gather in the Northkill Cemetery, a very short distance from the church, for a ceremony honoring the Revolutionary War patriots buried there and nearby.

After the ceremony, compatriots and their family members attending the service are invited to a picnic at the home of Chapter Genealogist, Eric Troutman. Compatriot Troutman’s home is at 252 East 5th Street in Bernville just a couple blocks from the church

Quarterly Meeting

The June membership meeting will be on June 11th at the Wyomissing Family Restaurant, 1245 Penn Ave., Wyomissing. We will gather at 6:00 PM and begin dining at 6:30.

The speaker for the evening will be Hallie Vaughan, Regent of the Berks County Chapter, DAR. The topic will be “Reading and Berks County during the Revolution”

The registration form was sent with this newsletter. Please register by the deadline on the form.

Flag Day Luncheon with DAR

The Berks County Chapter, DAR has invited the members, spouses and guests of the Chapter to join them at their Flag Day Luncheon on June 13th. The luncheon will be held at the Highlands of Wyomissing, 200 Cambridge Ave., Wyomissing at 12:00 noon.

Jane Kaltenborn, former State Chaplain of the PSSDAR, will be presenting “Fascinating Flag Facts” for our education and amusement.

All compatriots are encouraged to join in this patriotic gathering. The registration form was mailed with this newsletter



Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter Pennsylvania Society SAR



Quarterly Meeting

At the

Wyomissing Family Restaurant

1245 Penn Ave., Wyomissing, PA

On

June 11, 2009

We will gather at 6:00 PM

Dinner will begin at 6:30 PM

Members/Prospective members and their guests
Are invited to come together in patriotic fellowship and hear

Hallie Vaughan

Regent, Berks County Chapter, DAR

She will speak about

Reading and Berks County in the Revolution

Please RSVP by June 2, 2009

Dinner will be family style and includes:

Roast Turkey, Roast Beef, Baked Ham

Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Carrots, Salad, Beverages, Coffee and Dessert

Adults - \$24.00 each

Children 10 and under - \$16.00 each

Fill out the section below, cut off and mail with payment as indicated.

Quarterly Meeting – June 11, 2009

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Name(s) of Guest(s): _____

Total # Adults _____ Total # Children _____ Total \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter

Mail to: Nevin C. Miller, 295 Beagle Road, Leesport, PA 19533-9206



**Berks County Chapter
Pennsylvania Society, DAR**



Flag Day Luncheon

At the

Highlands of Wyomissing

2000 Cambridge Ave., Wyomissing, PA

On

June 13, 2009

at 12:00 Noon

Members/Prospective members and their guests
Are invited to come together in patriotic fellowship
with the ladies of the DAR

Jane Kaltenborn

former State Chaplain, PSSDAR

She will educate and entertain with
“**Fascinating Flag Facts**”

Please RSVP by June 6, 2009

Meal choices are as follows:

Cobb Salad

London Broil with Wild Mushrooms

Salmon with Dill Sauce

All meals include Cream of Broccoli Soup, Bread/Rolls, Beverage and Assorted Desserts

\$20.00 per Person

Fill out the section below, cut off and mail with payment as indicated.

Flag Day Luncheon – June 13, 2009

Name/Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Name/Title of Guest(s): _____

Cobb Salad _____ # London Broil _____ # Salmon _____ Total \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: Berks County Chapter, DAR

Mail to: Mrs. Miles K. Dechant, P.O. Box 4187, Reading, PA 19606-0587