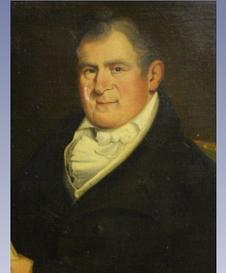




Hiester Herald

GOVERNOR JOSEPH HIESTER CHAPTER
 Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the American Revolution
 Chartered - May 11, 1937 Instituted - June 17, 1937



Volume XIX, Number 1

Chapter Website: www.berkssar.com

Spring 2017

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President's Message

Fellow Compatriots,

Spring is finally here, except for the snow storm on March 14th the winter of 2016 – 2017 wasn't all that bad. I hope everyone who attended our meeting on March 9th had a good time and enjoyed our speaker Bruce Mowday and his program of "Washington at Brandywine".

Plans are well underway for our 80th anniversary celebration on June 8th it will be a special event for our Chapter. Who would have imagined that we would have over 150 members. We are now the second largest chapter in the state. The success of our Chapter is a tribute to all our members who without their support and dedication this would not have been possible.

Eric Troutman informed me that he has several applications at National waiting for approval and other prospective applications waiting to be submitted, Great Job Eric. It was nice to see Charles Seibert (Cook) at the meeting and hear that he will be continuing as Color Guard Captain. I want to thank Sean Teaford for stepping in as Vice President and Newsletter Editor.

I hope to see you at the June 8th meeting to celebrate our 80th anniversary.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Hillegas, President, Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter SAR



Note From The Editor: Tell Us About Your Patriot Ancestor

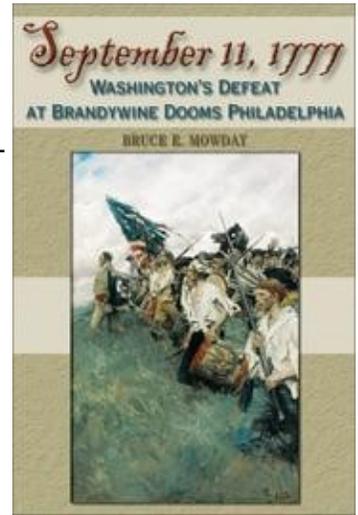
National has made a concerted effort recently to collect and index Patriot Biographies and, moving forward, I hope to see many of those biographies in the pages of the Hiester Herald. These can be as brief or as detailed as you wish (the latter being preferred) with the goal being to share our common yet diverse ancestry with one another. Who knows, you may find some additional connections or even some leads in your own research.

Of course, this is only one way that you can contribute to this newsletter. I hope to receive a variety of stories and articles from compatriots throughout this chapter because I want you all to make this your own. So, whether you have an article already written or simply an idea, feel free to contact me and I will be happy to assist in any way.

Sean M. Teaford, Vice President and Newsletter Editor

March Quarterly Meeting Highlights

Our Chapter’s March Quarterly meeting was held on March 9, 2017, at the Inn At Reading in Wyomissing, PA. Our guest speaker for the evening was author Bruce E. Mowday who made an excellent presentation on “The Battle of Brandywine”. Mr. Mowday brought his decades of award winning writing and reporting to the subject matter and provided an interesting perspective on the battle. In addition to his research and writing, Mr. Mowday serves as a board member of the Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau as well as the Valley Forge Park Alliance.



Following the meal, President Robert M. Hillegas led the business meeting and presented certificates to compatriots unable to receive them at a previous meeting. During the meeting it was also announced that the Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter will be celebrating its 80th Anniversary at the next Quarterly meeting in June to be held at the Berkshire Country Club in Reading, PA.



President Robert M. Hillegas presented the Certificate of Patriotism to Thomas Leidy for his Vietnam War service.



President Leon E. Adam presented the Lyndia Darragh Medal and Certificate to Lenora Adam for her service to the Chapter and support to the Chapter President.



President Leon E. Adam presented the Certificate of Appreciation to David G. Loose Jr.



President Leon E. Adam awarded the Certificate of Appreciation and Service to Veterans to Charles H. Seibert .



President Leon E. Adam presented the Chapter Meritorious Service Medal to Bruce L. Dietrich for his support of the JROTC Program and service as District Deputy #3.



President Leon E. Adam awarded the Meritorious Service Medal to Barry L. Kauffman for his support of the Eagle

George Washington's Birthday Luncheon



On Saturday, February 18th, 2017, the Chapter hosted its Third Annual George Washington Birthday Luncheon event at the Berkshire Country Club in Reading, PA. Following President Robert Hillegas introduced some of the special guests in attendance he introduced the guest speaker for the meeting which was Dr. Sarah K. Nytroe who gave an interesting and in depth lecture on the subject of "George Washington and Foreign Affairs: Navigating the Treacherous Waters



of International Trials in the New Republic" which delved deeply into the Washington Presidency and the challenges that he faced as the leader of a newly independent United States. Dr. Nytroe (left) is an Associate Professor of History at Desales University and has researched and written extensively on the early years of the American government.

December Quarterly Meeting Highlights

Our Chapter's Annual Dinner meeting was held on December 1, 2016, at the Berkshire Country Club in Reading, PA. Entertainment for the evening was provided by The Celtic Martins who regaled compatriots and guests with a selection of Celtic Music and step dancing.

Following the meal, President Leon E. Adam led the business meeting starting with the installation of 2017 Executive Officers. Compatriot James Yocum was presented with the 70 Year Service Award by District Deputy Bruce Dietrich. President Adam presented the Lydia Darraugh Medal to Lenora D. Adam as well as Chapter Meritorious Service Medals to Bruce L. Dietrich and Barry Kauffman. David G. Loose, Jr., Charles H. Seibert, David T. Schultz, and Floyd N. Turner II were presented with Certificates of Appreciation. All those honored were cited for their support to President Adam during his term and to the chapter. Lastly, President Leon Adam was presented with the Past President's Pin and Certificate of Appreciation by President-Elect Robert M. Hillegas.

Governor Joseph Hiester Chapter 80th Anniversary Dinner



Robert M. Hillegas, President
Requests the pleasure of your company at dinner to
Celebrate the Chapter's 80th Anniversary
Thursday, the eighth of June
at 6:00 PM
at the Berkshire Country Club
1637 Bernville Road Road, Reading, PA

Program: "The Life and Times of Revolutionary War Fifer Sammie DeWees"

Presentation by: Michelle N. Lynch
with an introduction by George M. Meiser IX, County Historian

Dress: Semi-Formal

R.S.V.P. form below

80th Anniversary Dinner - June 08, 2017

Please reply by May 28, 2017

Name & Chapter / Org.: _____

Address: _____

Phone & Email: _____

Name(s) of Guest(s): _____

Dinner Menu: *Mixed Green House Salad Sweet & Sour Poppy Seed Dressing Assorted Rolls & Butter Chef's Choice Starch and Vegetable Anniversary Cake Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaf and Assorted Hot Tea. Please contact David G. Loose Jr. with any special dietary requests.*

• Grilled 6oz. Filet Mignon / Port Wine Sauce # _____ X \$50 = \$ _____

• Maryland Lump Crab Cake / Lemon / Tarter # _____ X \$44 = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter

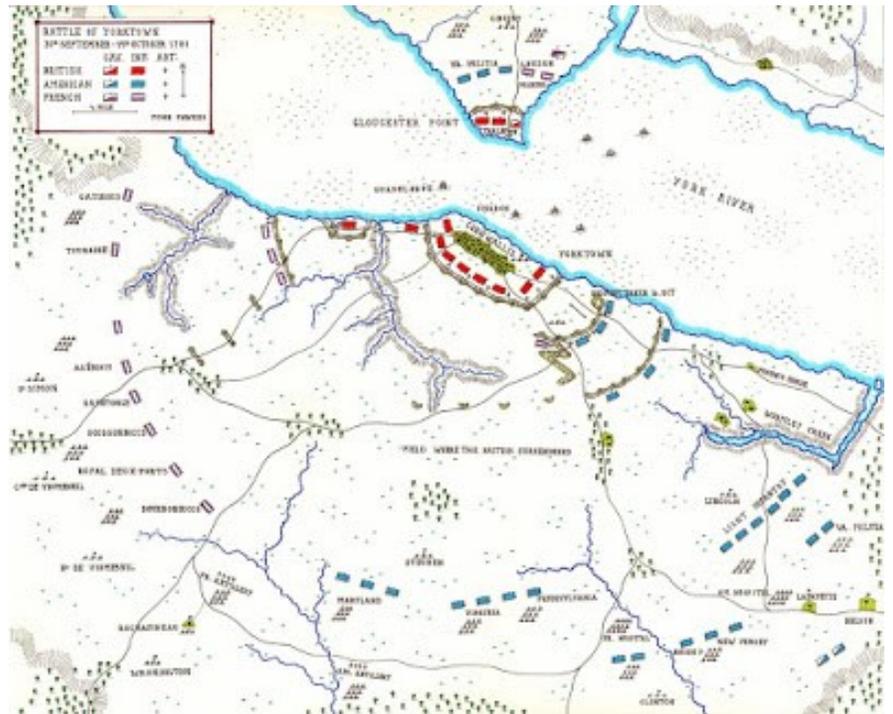
Mail To: David G. Loose Jr., 37 Sagebrook Drive, Reading, PA 19606

John Redcross: An Indian At Yorktown

When I first applied to The SAR my application began with a very concise statement which read, “I hereby apply for membership in this Society by the right of bloodline decent from John Redcross [my 5th great grandfather] who assisted in establishing American Independence while acting in the capacity of private in the Amherst County (Virginia) Militia in 1781 under Major Cabell, Colonels Gaines and Pope.” While this is certainly true, and has been verified as such, it only tells a portion of the story about my ancestor.

John Redcross was born in Amherst County, Virginia in 1740 as a member of the Monacan Indian Nation. While there is little known of about his early life we do know that he was one of many Monacan men who served during the Revolutionary War beginning his service in February 1779 as a member of Captain William Long’s Company of the 2nd Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel William Brent. He served in this infantry unit likely until the spring of 1780 when most of the regiment was discharged. However, there is the possibility that he remained in the regiment and was reassigned to the Amherst County Militia under Major Cabell as both the 2nd Virginia State Regiment and the Amherst County Militia participated in the Siege of Yorktown and were present at Cornwallis’ surrender.

It is noted in the book *Strangers in Their Midst: The Free Black Population of Amherst County Virginia* that “In 1781 he [Rawley Pinn], John Redcross, and Benjamin Evans were part of the 2nd Virginia Cavalry and left Amherst on June 21, 1781 under the command of Maj. William Cabell, Jr. Between Amherst and Yorktown, they joined the troops of the Marquis de Lafayette, and all participated in the siege at Yorktown.” It is fascinating to think about this unique band of brothers, bound together by heritage, by race, and patriotism, fighting for the freedom that their families would be deprived of for almost another two hundred years.



Continued on Page 6

John Redcross - Continued

While the link to his previous service is something that still comes with a few questions, and despite the lack of acknowledgement in the history books, what is certain is the role that he played at Yorktown as his name can be found written in the hand of Colonel Daniel Gaines in his list of “Militia ordered into service from Amherst County... March to join the army commanded by the Honorable Major General Marquis de Lafayette, June 21, 1781” as well as the list of soldiers from Amherst County who served at the Siege of Yorktown published in the Lynchburg News on Thursday, May 22, 1884.

Officially discharged on April 25, 1783, John Redcross returned to Amherst County where he would continue raising his family until his death in 1800. And while there have been many instances when the family origins have been questioned, namely the registration as “mulatto” and as “free black” in the mid-19th century, the attempted revision of ancestral history by Walter Plecker in the early 20th century, and the ongoing surname associations with the Cherokee, the Redcross name is of Monacan, and therefore Sioux origin. In the aforementioned *Strangers in Their Midst: The Free Black Population of Amherst County Virginia*, the author writes the following while referencing Peter Houck’s book *Indian Island in Amherst County*,

“John Redcross (circa 1770-1861) is considered a second founder of the settlement. In 1783, his father (also John) was shown with 11 whites in his household, but Houck believes that the son and namesake “was probably the only pure-blooded Indian man in the original settlement” [page 66]... Redcross has been described as Cherokee, but the evidence does not support that, leading to speculation that he may have been Monacan or at least Siouan. John’s son Paul was said to have looked like his father, “... every inch an Indian... straight as an arrow, long haired, with high cheek bones and copper skin.”

This is a particularly interesting passage for my family as it follows three generations from which we are descendants.

While this lineage may have been lost to my family for decades, it is now a living part of who we are and has proven to be a valuable connection to our family’s history and participation in the Revolutionary War. This is a part of our family history that will never again be forgotten. And now, the next time we visit the Monacan Burial Ground on Bear Mountain, we can pay our respects not just to our ancestor but to man who fought for our freedom.

Sean M. Teaford, Vice President

Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Good Shepherd UCC in Muhlenberg Township

Our Chapter Color Guard participated in a Flag Retirement Ceremony held by Cub Scout Pack 155 at the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Muhlenberg Township. As with other ceremonies, the flag was retired one stripe at a time with each student reciting a piece of history to the crowd before collecting their stripe and retiring it to the fire. Each student did an excellent job reading their lines with enthusiasm and meaning.



Color Guard Members from left to right: David G. Loose Jr. (Treasurer), Evan C. Loose (Junior Member), Charles H. Seibert (Captain of the Color Guard) and Willard N. Brensinger Jr. (Past Color Guard Captain).



On Sunday, May 7th our Chapter's Color Guard was invited to participate in a flag-retirement ceremony organized by Cub Scout Pa 155 at the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Muhlenberg Township. Color Guard Captain Charles H. Seibert and David G. Loo Jr. participated in the event (pictured to the right). There was nearly 50 people in attendance, including Representative Mark Rozzi. The scout's committee chairwoman, Melissa Yeager said the scouts really embraced the meaning behind the retirement ceremony. As with other ceremonies, the flag was retired one stripe at a time with each student reciting a piece of history to the crowd before collecting their stripe and retiring it to the fire. Each student did an excellent job reading their lines with enthusiasm and meaning. Yeager's son, Calvin Yoder said his favorite part was hearing the speeches and the facts about the flag. After the last stripe was retired, Boy Scout Dylan Bieber played taps on the bugle.

Staying Informed

Every quarter the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the American Revolution releases the latest edition of The Pennsylvania Minuteman Newsletter.

The information contained in these pages is invaluable in keeping yourself up to date regarding all the various accomplishments and recognitions from throughout the Commonwealth, up coming events, recognition of new Compatriots, and honoring those who are no longer with us.

As John Jay stated, "I consider knowledge to be the soul of a republic." This not only applied to the great good but, in a more granular sense, to the privilege we hold in considering ourselves Compatriots. Each member should be informed and attentive to the activities of this chapter and those of PASSAR.

And this all starts with simply reading the quarterly newsletter. Of course, just as it is appreciated should you contribute to the Hiester Herald, your contributions are encouraged to The Pennsylvania Minuteman Newsletter.

The current issue can be found at http://passar.org/pa_minuteman.htm

The Pennsylvania Minuteman Newsletter
A Publication of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

VOLUME XLV SPRING 2017 NUMBER 1

Who? What? Where?

It wont be long before 2018 is upon us and now is the time to let your voice be heard. The majority of our meetings will be held at The Inn at Reading but I am still in the process of coordinating speakers/ presenters. My question is rather simple... what would you like to hear about during our meetings? Or, for that matter, who would you like to present? There are a few ideas for topics, and the appropriate presenters, that I have contacted to speak on those subjects but it is by no means a full schedule.

There are a variety of topics and even more people out there willing to present on those subjects so rather than casting a wide net, I would like your input as to what you would like to learn about. If you have any ideas, topics, contacts that you are willing to share, or simply the name of a book that you found interesting please contact me at seanmt4d@yahoo.com or 484-686-5824. I will do my best to take all input from the members of this chapter to form a compelling schedule of meetings for 2018.

Sean M. Teaford, Vice President



Veteran's Committee Report - 2017:



CERTIFICATE OF PATRIOTISM FOR ALL MILITARY SERVICE VETERANS

You can fill out this form on line at www.berkssar.com. Just open up Veterans Report Tab then SAR Veterans Multi-Corps Survey Form, complete the form and submit it to me with a copy of your DD214.

Veterans Services Corps Totals as of May 2017:
 WWII—395 There was a total of 1,010 Compatriots in this Corps.
 Korea—173
 Vietnam—477
 SW Asia/Persian Gulf-96
 Special Operations-37
 Military Service-266

18 Compatriots have their Certificates of Patriotism in processing.

For all six Veterans Corps, 2077 Compatriots have been issued Certificates of Patriotism.

Tom D. Leidy received his NSSAR Certificate of Patriotism his Vietnam War Service.



I would like to see all our Chapter's Veterans receive this Certificate of Patriotism.

You earned it!!

As always, Veterans Making a Different are looking for clothing donations and per-

sonal items (tooth brushes & toothpaste, soap, etc.), for the Veterans and their families. You can bring them to the meeting or drop them off at one of the Stand-Downs or contact me (2nd & last Saturday of the month), at the Hope Rescue Mission and 1st & 3rd Saturday at Reading's City Park. Sponsor by the Veterans Coalition of Pennsylvania.

I attend the following Berks and Chester County Veterans Events.

- 14 January, Pub Night at the Pennsylvania South Eastern Veterans Center, Spring City, PA.
- 28 January, Veterans stand-down at Reading's City Park, Veterans Coalition of PA.
- 3 February, U.S. National guard Armory, Spring City, PA. Honoring WWII thru SW Asia Veterans of the 111th Infantry Reg. & 62nd Striker Battalion.
- 25 February, Veterans Out Reach, Hope Rescue Mission by Veterans Making a Difference
- 11 March, Veterans Out Reach, Hope Rescue Mission by Veterans Making a Difference
- 22 April, Veterans stand-down at Reading's City Park, Veterans Coalition of PA.
- 6 May, Pub Night at the Pennsylvania South Eastern Veterans Center, Spring City, PA.
- 7 May, Birdsboro Cemetery, removed and placed Flags on 673 Veterans graves, with the help of local youth organizations and the Birdsboro American Legion.

Charles H. Seibert
 Chairman, Veterans Affairs

Color Guard Report:

First off, I would like to take the time to thanks all our Color Guardsmen for their time and commitment over the past years. We attended 14 ceremonies during 2016. Here are the names of our active Color Guardsmen: Nevin Miller, Floyd Turner II, Eric Troutman, Ray Longacre, Robert Hillegas, Willard Brensinger Jr., David Loose Jr., Barry Kauffman, and Leon Adam. Also we like to welcome Skip Miller to the group.

Completed Ceremonies for this Quarter

- Flag Retirement Ceremony, sponsor by Cub & Boy Scout Troop 155 of Tuckerton. At Good Shepherd UCC Church. Sunday, May 7.

Upcoming Ceremonies for the Quarter

- The Annual Memorial Day Service at Veterans Grove, City Park, Reading, PA. (Monday, 29 May at 9:00AM), arrive by 8:30AM.
- Followed by the Bernville Memorial Day Parade, at Bernville. Monday, May 29 starting at 2:00PM arrive by 1:30PM, meet at the elementary school in Bernville.
- Allegiance Sunday, Tulpehocken Trinity United Church of Christ, 961 Tulpenhocken Road, Millardsville, PA. Sunday, June 4th. Start time TBD.
- Flag Retirement Ceremony, hosted by Classic Harley Davidson for a fundraising event for Wreaths Across America. This ceremony will be on Flag Day, Wednesday, June 14th, start at 6:30PM, please arrive by 6:00PM. 983 James Road, Leesport, PA. 19533.
- On Tuesday, July 4th, there will be a July 4th parade at Wyomissing, PA. The start time is 10:00AM; please arrive by 9:15AM.
- On Saturday July 8th, late morning. The descendants of Berks County Sheriff Henry Vanderslice will gathered at the Berks history Center on Center Ave. to recreate his reading of the Declaration of Independence to the citizens of Reading on July 8, 1776.

As always, we are looking for new faces to join us. You don't need to attend all the events; a couple here and a couple there would really help us. All we need is a couple of hours of your time during these events to help keeping our Color Guard ACTIVE!!!

Charles H. Seibert, Color Guard Captain
 627 Green Meadow Drive, Douglassville, PA. 1951
 Email: cvseibert@gmail.com Phone 610-385-7370



Genealogist / Registrar Report:

The Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter
 Sons of the of the American
 Revolution
 Genealogist/Registrar Report
 Hiester Herald
 May 8, 2017



Transfer In:
 None

Ancestors

New Members Approved:
 Jeffrey K. Beil
 Nikolai C. Belair
 John R. Brensinger
 Bernard R. Kern
 Benjamin F. Ray (dual)

Abraham Knerr, Jr.
 Joseph Holmes
 Casper Brensinger
 Conrad Hertz
 Joseph Talbot

Supplementals Approved:
 Eric H. Troutman

Regina (Karsnitz) Batorff

Applications at National Headquarters:

New Member Applications

Stephen F. & Stephen T. Askey, John R. Brensinger, Gary L. & Jonathan D. Coles, Coty L. Stumb, Warren L. Stumb, Jr., Phillip C. Wagner, James M. Mack, Sr., James M. Mack, Jr., John E. Mack, Alexander R. Beshel, Robert J. Walrath, Seth J. Walrath, Isaac J. Walrath, Levi J. Walrath, and Gabriel Z. Sujkowski.

Supplemental Applications

David C. Brock (3), John E. Lauman, Patrick A. Magdy, Charles H. Seibert, Eric H. Troutman, R. Glenn Weyer (3), and William N. Brensinger.



Membership Report:

As the warmth of spring continues to build toward the heat of summer, the trees and flowers basking in the rain and sun, and life returns to what once seemed so barren, we marvel at all that this land and life has to offer. It is a time for deepening roots, growth, and the unfolding of once hidden foliage. .

It is a season when I am inspired by the Lord’s work and a time of year that causes me to ponder about our shared heritage and the roots that many still have yet to discover. It is a miraculous time of year that has me returning to a question that I have previously posed... will we, can we, keep alive the miracle of the American Revolution.

We need to lend our voices to our American history by sharing not only the heritage that we have with one another but also anyone who is willing to listen. Regardless of age, experience, or personal lineage, everyone should know about our revolutionary past and embrace the ideals for which our ancestors fought and otherwise lent their support. After all, these are the patriots that shaped the foundation of this country. A country which we all share.

We are the guardians of this history and the teachers of a personal history that gives heart to the facts found in textbooks. Consider how our heritage will be lost without support from organizations such as ours. Let us seize upon every opportunity to educate and inspire others to learn more about our history and their own heritage.

One final note. If you get this letter and you forgot to pay your 2017 dues please pay now. Call the Treasurer and he will guide you through the process.



*Nevin C. Miller,
Membership Chairman*



EAGLE SCOUT COMMITTEE REPORT

Our Committee responded to 42 requests for Eagle Scout Certificates in 2016 (bringing our total to 111), and attended 33 Courts of Honor. No winner was selected in the Gov. Joseph Hiester Chapter's 2016 Eagle Scout Essay Contest as no completed applications were received by the December 31st deadline.

We could use more help from the membership in order to be able to attend more of these important and inspiring events. (we only had 5 compatriots participate in presentations in 2016) Please contact me at 610 926 2664 or bkauff1043@aol.com to volunteer your services.

Thank you.

*Barry L. Kauffman, Chairman
Eagle Scout Committee*



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 8th - Executive Committee Meeting,**
6:30Ppmat the Genealogical Society
at the Goggleworks
- May 12th & 13th - Annual Spring BOM**
Ramada Conference Center in State College
- May 27th - Wyomissing Hills Memorial Day Parade**
Time TBD
- May 29th - Memorial Service**
Veteran's Grove, City Park, Reading PA
9:00am
- May 29th - Bernville Memorial Day Parade - 2:00pm**
- June 4th - Allegiance Sunday,**
10:00am at Tulpehocken Trinity UCC
Richland, PA
- June 8th - Quarterly Meeting**
6:00pm at Berkshire Country Club
Reading, PA
- July 4th - Wyomissing July 4th Day Parade - 10:00am**
- July 7-13th - 127th Annual SAR Congress**
Holiday Inn in Knoxville, TN
- August 5th - Summer BOM**
Avalon Hotel and Conference Center
Erie, PA
- August 14 - Executive Committee Meeting,**
6:00pm at the Wyomissing Public Library
(enter from Franklin Street).
- September 14 - Quarterly Meeting**
6:00pm at The Inn at Reading
- November 3rd & 4th - Fall BOM**
Location TBD
- November 13th - Executive Committee Meeting,**
6:00pm at the Wyomissing Public Library
(enter from Franklin Street).
- November 11th - Veterans Day Ceremony, 11:00AM,**
City Park, Reading, PA.
- December 7th - Quarterly Meeting,**
6:00pm at The Berkshire Country Club
Reading, PA
- December 17 - Wreaths Across America, 12:00PM,**
Indiantown Gap national Cemetery
- February 2nd & 3rd, 2018 - Winter BOM**
The Inn at Reading

2017 Officers and Committee Chairmen

Office - Name

President - Robert M. Hillegas
 Vice President - Sean M. Teaford
 Secretary - David T. Shultz
 Treasurer - David G. Loose Jr.
 Genealogist / Registrar - Eric H. Troutman
 Chaplain - Dr. David C. Brock
 Surgeon - Dr. Thomas A. Stewart
 Chancellor - Thomas D. Leidy, Esq.

Presidential Appointments - Name

Aide-to-the President - Vacant
 Newsletter Editor - Sean M. Teaford
 Color Guard Captain - Charles H. Seibert

Committee - Name

Eagle Scouts - Barry L. Kauffman
 Knight Essay - Vacant
 JROTC - Bruce L. Dietrich
 Graves - Eric H. Troutman
 Veteran Affairs - Charles H. Seibert
 Public Relations - Floyd N. Turner II
 CAR / DAR Relations - Floyd N. Turner II
 Membership - Nevin C. Miller
 Americanism - Robert M. Hillegas
 Flag - Robert M. Hillegas

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

Deadlines for Submissions:

Jan. 20 for Winter issue
 Apr. 20 for Spring issue
 July 20 for Summer issue
 Oct. 20 for Fall issue

Send submissions and address changes to:

Sean M. Teaford
 420 Swamp Road
 Morgantown, PA 19543
 484-686-5824
 seanmt4d@yahoo.com

Chapter Website: www.berkssar.com