



Warren/Forest Chapter  
February 2016

*New*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Warren/Forest PASR Members,

I hope that you had a joyous holiday season with family and friends! It is hard to believe that it is 2016 already! The New Year is always a time for reflecting on the past, keeping the positive, and moving forward with plans for the future! The Warren/Forest Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees (W/F PASR) is also reflecting on the past year and planning for the new one.

We intend to continue to offer fun and educational activities for our members and guests, as well as our service and scholarship programs, chapter meetings/luncheons and other programs. Member input is always welcome. We invite you to join us at any and all activities.

Presently, we provide two \$450 scholarships and three grants to local educators. We would like to increase the amount and/or number of scholarships given. Some fundraisers are in the planning stage. May we count on your support and participation?

We often need to provide information to our members sooner than the delivery of our quarterly newsletter. Examples of time sensitive items could be legislative changes to our pension system or social security, announcements for activities, and reminders for meetings, luncheons, and activities. Please, if you would, send me an email at [jmp50@atlanticbb.net](mailto:jmp50@atlanticbb.net) so that we may have an accurate/updated email address! Please also include your phone number! We do understand that not everyone has email!

The mailing of our newsletters is a huge expense. Being fiscally responsible and desiring no increase in dues, we would like to experiment sending the May newsletter electronically to a small group of members. All others would receive a printed copy as always. If you would like to volunteer to receive the newsletter electronically, please contact me as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to working with you!  
Janet

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Robert Jackson Center Tour  
April 2016  
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Region 9 Spring Meeting  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016  
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State RECREO Trip  
Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard,  
and Nantucket  
May 15-21, 2016  
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Southern Tier Brewery  
Lunch and Tour  
June 2016  
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U.S. Army Field Band  
At Chautauqua  
June 2016  
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Jammers Baseball Game  
July 2016  
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I'm Not Going Back to School  
Picnic, August 2016  
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Coffee at Tim Horton's  
September 2016  
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Elk Viewing in Benetzett  
September 2016  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dinner at Westline  
October 2016  
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Trans Siberian Orchestra  
Erie, PA – November 2016  
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State RECREO Trip  
Danube River Cruise  
April 23-May 5, 2017  
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State RECREO Trip  
Mackinac Island, Michigan  
Fall 2017

## Membership Renewal Periods Clarified

The inconsistency of PASR membership renewal periods is a cause of confusion for many members. I cannot explain why, but State membership and Local membership do not cover the same time frames.

### Local Membership

Everyone’s local membership extends from July 1 to June 30. All local membership dues (\$15) are due on July 1.

### State Membership

Each member’s State membership term is determined by the date of their original affiliation. If you paid your very first State dues on September 15, then your State dues (\$60) are payable on September 15 of each subsequent year. That date is indicated on the first line of the mailing label of your local newsletter. The exception to the rule for State membership is of course, Life membership. In that case your State dues have been paid. Life Membership is also indicated on the mailing label of your local newsletter.

Please call Jack Werner (968-5625) if you have questions regarding your membership. Thank you.

You may use the Membership Application form below to renew your membership, or you may pass it along to someone who wishes to join.

State and Warren/Forest Chapter PASR  
**Membership Application**  
February 2016

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Year Retired \_\_\_\_\_ District & Position \_\_\_\_\_

Warren/Forest Chapter Membership (yearly) . . . . . \$15.00

State Association Membership (yearly) . . . . . \$60.00

Lifetime State Membership (payable over two years - \$350 per year) . . . . . \$700.00

Total Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:**

New Member

Renewal

State & Local

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\_\_\_\_\_

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Make Checks Payable To: **Warren/Forest Chapter PASR**

Send To: Jack Werner, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 661

## Community Service

### Salvation Army

Our members have been very busy over the last few months serving others. On November 9<sup>th</sup> nine members manned the Salvation Army Kettle in Bi-Lo for their annual campaign.

Later in November, we were again asked to help set up the store for the Salvation Army. Those in attendance were even invited to stay for lunch if they were still there, but the workers were able to complete their work in short order and finished up in a little over an hour.

### YMCA and Bike/Hike Trail

Believe it or not spring will be just around the corner by the time you are reading this, so if you can volunteer a few hours to help with the mowing of the YMCA or Bike / Hike trail this summer please let me know. This group could use some additional help with keeping these very visible service opportunities going. Give me a call at 968-5625 and I will pass your name

### Coupon Project

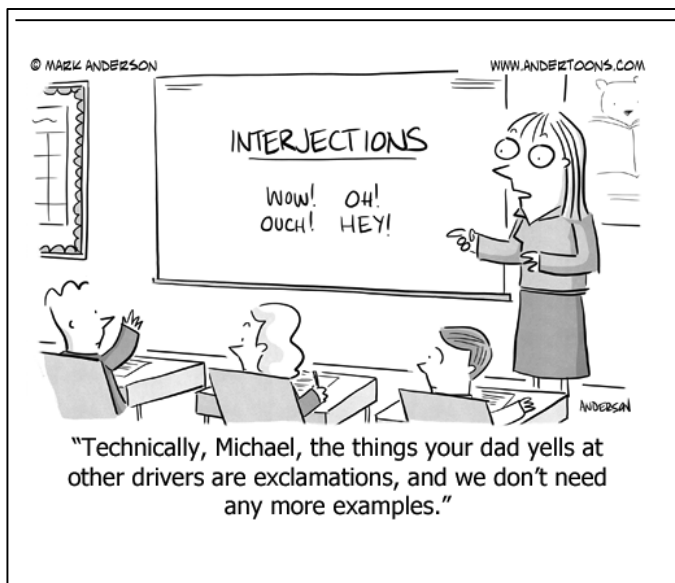
On December 18<sup>th</sup> I sent another box of coupons off to Japan. Thanks to those of you who keep clipping and sorting the coupons. Because of the cost of postage there may be some changes coming in the New Year. I will keep you informed. Until then, keep clipping.

### Backpack Program

An average of 10 people have been helping with the backpack food packing each month. It usually involves about two hours and is very rewarding. The day after Thanksgiving several volunteers also helped to sort the food that was donated through the business-to-business challenge.

### After-School Tutoring

The Salvation Army is hoping to start a new tutoring program soon and may be looking for volunteers who are willing to work with the at risk students they serve. I have been contacted about possible help with this program and will let you know if and when I hear any more about this possible service opportunity.



### Retirement Planning Committee In Need of Chairman

The Retirement Planning Committee organizes and promotes retirement planning seminars for individuals preparing to retire from the public schools in the chapter area and designates individuals to attend and distribute PASR information to individuals attending PSERS-sponsored retirement planning seminars in the chapter area. At present, we are in need of someone to chair this committee. If you would be interested in this committee, please contact President Janet Peterson, 757-9480.

## Christmas Luncheon Held at Career Center

Approximately 50 PASR members and guests attended the Christmas luncheon at the Warren County Career Center on Thursday, December 3, 2015. The WAEC fourth grade chorus, led by Mrs. Baker, entertained the group with a selection of familiar Christmas songs.

John Sechriest conducted the installation of the following new officers:

Janet Peterson – President  
 EvelynAnn Stufflebeam – President Elect  
 Diana Lillard – Vice President  
 Mary DeFabio – Secretary  
 Jack Werner – Treasurer

Jack Werner presented the John J. Dillon Award to Karolyn Stone for her years of service to PASR.

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## Karolyn Stone Dillon Award Winner for 2014-15

The Warren/Forest PASR Executive Committee is pleased to announce that the 2014-15 John J. Dillon Award has been presented to Karolyn Stone. In nominating Karolyn for the award the committee noted that “Karolyn has served the Warren/Forest Chapter as President, Community Service Chair and Member Benefits and Services Chair. She has also served as the Region IX Treasurer.” Additionally it was noted that “Karolyn has recently stepped down from the chairmanship of the MB&S Committee. Her leadership and input has been invaluable. She always had sage advice for a president who was still learning the procedures and routines of our organization.” Congratulations Karolyn. The Warren/Forest Chapter and Region IX have long benefitted from your efforts. We extend our best wishes and prayers that your retirement continues to be healthy and rewarding.

## Warren/Forest Chapter to Host Region 9 Spring Meeting

The Warren/Forest Chapter of PASR will be hosting the District 9 Spring Meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2016. District 9 includes Warren, Forest, Crawford, Erie, and Venango Counties. District meetings include the Board of Directors meeting and standing committee meetings as well as a district business meeting, luncheon and entertainment. Two of our local members are Region 9 officers. John Sechriest is the Region 9 Director, and Jack Werner is our Region 9 Director Elect. Both were installed as officers at the Region 9 Fall Meeting on October 14, 2015.

As of this printing, the planning committee is still searching for an appropriate venue and entertainment. Specific details will be sent out in an email blast after plans have been finalized. Chapter officers and executive board members are encouraged to attend, and chapter members are welcome to attend the luncheon and business meeting. Please contact Janet Peterson, [jmp50@atlanticbb.net](mailto:jmp50@atlanticbb.net) or 757-9480, if interested in attending.

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## Do We Have Your Email Address?

Several events mentioned in this newsletter are still in the planning stages. To have your email address added to our contact list send an email to our president, Janet Peterson at [jmp50@atlanticbb.net](mailto:jmp50@atlanticbb.net). You will be included in future email blasts to receive information about legislation, meetings, and/or social events.

## SSMHF Update

Since the last newsletter it has been a busy time for everyone. However, for some of our members and friends, loved ones are no longer with us. The following is a list of those who have passed away from September 2015 to the end of the year:

Gladys Birt  
 Betty Zimmerman  
 Elizabeth Litzinger  
 James Mosher, Sr.  
 Phyllis Emlet  
 Edith Davidson  
 Rickia Freeburg  
 Alton Cady  
 Dennis Patterson  
 Joe Passaro  
 Luelia Mallery.

There are still some of the members who are in nursing homes. Please remember them with cards or visits.

Thank you to those of you who help with contributions to the SSMHF (Social Service Memorial Honor Fund). Your donations are appreciated.

If you know of any PASR members who need any help from PASR, please contact any board member. The information will be passed on.

Have a safe New Year in 2016 and keep in touch.

-Yvonne Lee, SSMHF Chairman

## FUN Committee Plans Activities

The Fun Committee, made up of John Sechriest, Jack Werner, Delores Berry, Rosemarie Green, Debbie Olson, and Janet Peterson, has been busy planning fun and interesting activities for chapter members and guests. The schedule has not been finalized, but the intent is to provide activities for each month. Committee members have taken on the responsibility for the planning and organizing of specific activities. Please contact those individuals for additional information closer to the date of the activity. Email blasts will also contain additional information and specific dates. All members and guests are welcome to participate. Please share any additional ideas for activities with committee members!

### April

**Robert Jackson Center Tour**, Jamestown, Janet, 757-9480

### June

**Southern Tier Brewery Lunch and Tour**, Lakewood NY, Jack, 968-5625

**U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers Choir**, Chautauqua, Janet, 757-9480

### July

**Jamestown Jammers Baseball Game**, Jamestown, Rosemarie, 726-0452

### August

**Not Going Back to School Picnic**, North Warren, Jack, 968-5625

### September

**Morning Coffee**, Tim Horton's, Warren, Delores, 726-2914

**Elk Viewing**-Benezett, PA Janet 757-9480

### October

**Dinner**, Westline, Janet 757-9480

### November

**Trans Siberian Orchestra Concert**, Erie, Debbie, 726-7332



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## Educational Support Committee

The Educational Support Committee (EDSUP) encourages contributions to state and local scholarship programs, promotes individual volunteerism in the public schools, and organizes chapter activities in support of the public schools. Most chapters operate local scholarship programs, providing grants to high school students planning to attend college. Our local EDSUP Chairperson, Pat Cronmiller, is sure to welcome help with this committee.

Our local PASR Chapter has awarded three \$150 school district employee grants this year. Patrick Cronmiller, EDSUP Chairman, presented grants to Laura Bierbower of Youngsville Elementary/Middle School, Tiffany Mandeville of Warren Area High School, and Megan Leach of Sheffield Area Middle/High School.

Our chapter will also be awarding two \$450 scholarships this spring as well as the Loretta Woodson Awards. These recipients will be announced in a future newsletter.

And remember, donations earmarked for the scholarships and staff grants are most appreciated. Be sure to note that the donation is for scholarships and/or staff grants. Donations may be sent to:

Jack Werner, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 661  
Sheffield, PA 16347

## Contact Your Legislators

The pension fight is not over. At the national level social security and Medicare are under attack. You may be asked to contact your legislators. Or you may wish to contact them concerning other issues. Here is their contact information!

### STATE ISSUES:

Representative Kathy Rapp  
House District 65  
[KLRAPP@PAHOUSEGOP.COM](mailto:KLRAPP@PAHOUSEGOP.COM)  
House P.O. Box 202020  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020  
814-723-5203, 717-787-1367

Senator Scott Hutchinson  
Senate District 21  
Senate Box 203021  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
814-728-2100, 717-787-9684

Representative Donna Oberlander  
House District 63  
152 Main Capitol Building  
PO Box 202063  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2063  
717-772-9908, 814-226-9000

Senator Joe Scarnatti  
Senate District 25  
Senate Box 203025  
292 Main Capitol  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
717-787-7084

### NATIONAL ISSUES

Representative Glenn Thompson  
PA District 5  
124 Cannon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-5121, 814- 827-3985

Representative Mike Kelly  
PA 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
1519 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-5406, 814-454-8190

## PASR State RECREO Trips Planned

The PASR State RECREO Committee has planned three trips over the next year. For more details about each of the three State RECREO trips go to [www.pasr.org](http://www.pasr.org). On the right side of the PASR home page, find the yellow “PASR Events” box and click on “Travel with PASR”.

**Cape Cod, Martha’s Vineyard, and Nantucket 2016** – Stretching almost 70 miles into the Atlantic Ocean from the eastern coast of Massachusetts, Cape Cod is one of New England’s premiere vacation spots. See it all from the shoulder of the Cape out to Provincetown, plus Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket, with a local guide to give a real insider’s view. Your Cape Cod tour will include:

- Round trip transportation via private, climate-controlled motor coach equipped with reclining seats and restroom
- Four night’s accommodations on Cape Cod including baggage handling for one bag per person
- One day on Nantucket including round trip ferry and island tour with local guide
- Guided tour to Provincetown along Scenic Route 6A
- Visit to Cape Cod National Seashore, Salt Pond Visitors Center
- Whale Watch Excursion out of Provincetown or Dune Tour
- One day on Martha’s Vineyard including round trip ferry and island tour with local guide
- Admission to Mystic Seaport, Mystic, CT
- At least four breakfasts and four dinners

**Danube River Cruise 2017** – From the splendor of Prague to the Gypsy violins of Budapest, you’ll treasure every moment of this memorable Danube River cruise. Enjoy three nights in Prague with guided sightseeing, as well as time to explore this marvelous city on your own. Discover the Hradcany Castle grounds; wander through Prague’s Jewish Quarter; shop for hand-cut crystal; savor authentic Czech dumplings; stand in Wenceslaus Square, where protestors demonstrated against Communism; or visit one of the many churches. Then drive to Nuremberg and set sail for medieval Regensburg, Passau, Vienna, and Budapest, with guided sightseeing in each city. Sail through the fascinating Main Danube Canal and witness the scenic beauty, as you cruise past quaint towns. Attend a beer, tasting; tour Melk’s splendid Benedictine Abbey; and experience the music, art, culture, and historical sights in romantic Vienna – a truly memorable vacation.

**Mackinac Island, Michigan 2017** – Come visit Mackinac Island, Michigan and enjoy a gentler way of life. For more than a century, the Grand Hotel has represented the ultimate retreat vacationing on the grandest scale. A bona fide U.S. landmark, this majestic hotel with its famous 660-foot front porch is a monument to a bygone era. Everywhere you turn, you will find yourself in a world caught somewhere in time. A place where sheer elegant style and genteel manners remain a way of life. Awaken to the sound of horse hooves on silent streets, tour the island by carriage, and watch the world go by as you relax, unwind and enjoy a slower pace.

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**WARREN/FOREST CHAPTER PASR  
OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

President.....Janet Peterson  
President-Elect .....EvelynAnn Stufflebeam  
Vice-President.....Diana Lillard  
Past President.....Jack Werner  
Secretary .....Mary DeFabio  
Treasurer .....Jack Werner  
MB&S.....Norma Dey  
RECREO.....Thomas Curtin  
By-Laws.....EvelynAnn Stufflebeam  
Legislative.....Rosemarie Green  
Membership .....Delores Berry  
Retirement.....  
Public Relations .....John Sechriest  
Community Service .....Gloria Werner  
L/PEC.....Rosemarie Green  
EDSUP.....Pat Cronmiller  
SSMHF .....Yvonne Lee  
Resolutions.....Sharie VanGilder  
Newsletter .....Rosemary Angove

**Contact PASR**

Pennsylvania Association of  
School Retirees

**Address:** 878 Century Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

**Phone:** 717-697-7077

**Fax:** 717-697-8742

**Web Address:** [www.pasr.org](http://www.pasr.org)

**E-mail:** [pasr@pasr.org](mailto:pasr@pasr.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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**Contact PSERS**

Public School Employees'  
Retirement System

**Address:** 5 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
P.O. Box 125  
Harrisburg, PA 17108

**Phone:** 888-773-7748

**WARREN/FOREST CHAPTER PASR**

Janet Peterson, President  
2 Valley View Dr.  
Russell, PA 16345