

# THE BUCKS MONT BUZZ

## Bucks-MONT Chapter PASR

### SUMMER 2023 Newsletter

[www.pasr.org](http://www.pasr.org)

[www.buckspasr.org](http://www.buckspasr.org)

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## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



PASR is your legislative watchdog and the advocate for school retirees. It has been tireless in its advocacy for the 37,000 members who have not received a COLA since 2001. Unfortunately, *unlike many other systems, any adjustment to PSERS needs legislative approval.* PASR is, therefore, asking you to help to convince lawmakers of the need for a COLA. *If you receive an email from PASR asking you to contact your state legislators, please consider acting on that request promptly.* Your representative's or your senator's support may be crucial and your communication with your elected representatives will have an impact on PASR's efforts to secure a COLA for PSER's annuitants.

If you are not currently a member of the PASR state association please consider joining now. State membership opens the door to additional benefits like insurance, product and service discounts, PASR legislative updates and travel opportunities. Some of the more popular benefits are dental, vision and hearing services. Click on Join PASR on the PASR website home page and become a state member today. State dues (\$60.00) are paid each year based upon the month you join.

The House of Delegates Meeting will be held on October 15-17 at the Doubletree Hotel by Hilton in Cranberry Township (near Pittsburgh), PA. The meeting theme is "Stronger together . . . it starts with us." PASR Bylaws changes will be voted on and some exciting plans are being made for seminars and other events. *We invite you to join those who will be going from the Bucks Mont Chapter.* It is a great opportunity to network with other members from across Pennsylvania and beyond. If you'd like to attend, contact Arlene Williams, Evelyn Reese or John Worthington.

The opportunity to travel with PASR friends and colleagues is one of the benefits of PASR membership. Coming up is one of those opportunities - the *Trains Across New England Tour*. Traveling Wednesday, October 4 – Sunday, October 8, 2023 this trip includes two train rides, guided tours in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, a cruise on Lake Winnepesaukee and more! Go to the home page ([pasr@pasr.org](mailto:pasr@pasr.org)) and click on Trips with PASR for more information. You may also want to register for one of the several Webinar presentations about the trip.

By the time you read this newsletter, we will have witnessed the presentation of four student scholarships and one PASR Grant at the Spring Luncheon Meeting held at the William Penn Inn in Gwynedd. We will also have enjoyed a RECREO trip to The Village Teahouse in West Point, Pa. Read about both of these events – and more - in the following pages. Have a happy and a healthy summer!

**Arlene, Evie, and John**

**Arlene Williams**

**Evelyn Reese**

**John Worthington**

## SPRING LUNCHEON

Our joint Bucks-Mont Luncheon was held on May 4 with Montgomery County Co-President, Evelyn Reese presiding. Highlights of the program were the presentation of the Montgomery County Teacher Grant and 4 student scholarships awarded from both counties.



In 2023 Montgomery County received \$750 from Region 1 Educational Support Committee. The recipient of the award was Dr. Deborah Broderick, Director, of the Teacher Academy at Central Montco Technical High School. Dr. Broderick developed a program for students interested in pursuing a career in education. The students receive classroom instruction in English composition, tailored for teachers and Foundations of Education. They also have classroom experience in both elementary and secondary education and a third unit of their own choosing. They are able to receive college credit for the classroom instructions.

Montgomery County awarded scholarships to Raina Conaway who is pursuing a career in Library Science at Kutztown University and Laura Kirsch who will be attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania for Early and Special Education. Both girls are from the Hatboro-Horsham School District. Raina worked with kids ages 4 – 14 teaching them how to code and Laura was part of Helping Little Hands program



Bucks County awarded Niamh Keegan from Council Rock a scholarship to Pennsylvania State University for Special Education. Her personal experience of benefitting from an IEP led her to pursue a career in special education. She was part of the Buddy Club that assists special needs kids. As part of this she planned activities for 30 students. Hailey Salvatore from Central Bucks South received a scholarship to attend Gwynedd Mercy College also in the field on special and early childhood education. As a kid she taught her “American Girl” Dolls and has been tutoring autistic students during her high school.

The new by-laws for the Bucks-Montco Chapter were presented for member’s perusal. They will be formally accepted at the Fall Luncheon when our chapters were be officially joined.



## RECREO

Join us for FOREVER MOTOWN at the Bristol Riverside Theatre, 120 Radcliffe Street, Bristol, PA on Thursday, July 13 at 2 pm. Cost is \$40 per person. Complete your reservation using the coupon . Tickets will be mailed to you. Deadline for payment is July 5.

See the greatest Motown groups of all times. This show celebrates the best from Barry Gordy’s Detroit hit making factory. A fabulous cast, backed by a band of incredible musicians performs the beloved songs from the greatest groups, artists, and song writers of all times: The Temptations, The Supremes, Smokey Robinson,

Mary Wells, Marvin Gaye, Tammi Terrell, and Stevie Wonder. You'll hear nearly 30 nonstop hits in all. This show is from an outside group, not the Bristol Riverside Band and Performers.

## **MEMBERSHIP MERGER UPDATE**

Membership renewals have been sent to annual members of both Bucks and Montgomery chapters. In October we will officially become the Bucks-Mont Chapter. The letter outlined where you are to send your renewal. The check should be made payable to BCC/PASR and sent to Ray Majewski, PASR Bucks/Mont Chapter, P.O. Box 465, Penns Park, PA 18943. Life Memberships of both chapters will be transferred automatically to the new chapter.

The new chapter by-laws were distributed at the Spring Luncheon. If you wish a copy, please contact Arlene Williams. Her email is included with the Presidents' Message.

## **MEMBER BENEFITS** **Meg Kramer**

Enterprise and National car-rental suppliers are offering a 5% discount. You need to enroll in their Emerald Club to receive this. Additional information is on the PASR website.

Blue Mountain Blooms, an independently owned flower shop that delivers throughout the US is offering a \$3 discount. They provide personal service, unlike a large floral service, with beautiful arrangements perfectly suited for any occasion. \$49.99 is a minimum order. Also see the PASR website.

The June issue of the PASR Times will include a listing and description of all of our member benefits. You need to be a state member of PASR to receive these benefits.

## **NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

The Executive Board met on June 1 at the Bucks County Intermediate Unit. To celebrate the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of PASR, \$850 is to be divided equally between the Bucks County and Montgomery Free Libraries. \$500 from the Clothes for Kids Fund to Family Services to help their program that provides school supplies for needy children. Alice Kirby was selected as the Community Service Volunteer of the Year from Bucks County. Dr. Loraine Lee will become the L/PEC representative from the combined chapter.

The House of Delegates will be meeting October 15 – 17 in Cranberry, PA. Delegates from our chapters are Arlene Williams, Lynn Majewski, Judy Guise, Evelyn Reese, Sharon Blumenthal, and John Worthington. Any member can attend the meetings. More information will be coming from PASR about program and hotel arrangements. Since we are still 2 separate chapters we will be creating 2 baskets for the SSMHF silent auction at the House of Delegates Meeting. Baskets will include items made in Bucks or Montgomery county.

## **PROGRAM FOR FALL LUNCHEON**

We are planning to have a Legislative Forum at our Fall Luncheon. Senator Frank Farry and Representative Steven Magleari are being invited to speak about legislative issues pertaining to senior citizens and hopefully information about the COLA. A question and answer session will follow their presentations. Mark your calendar for October 12. Both of these legislators have been very supportive of PASR concerns.

**PASR BUCKS/MONT CHAPTER  
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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

<b>AUGUST 17</b>	<b>BUCKS-MONT CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, Bucks Intermediate Unit, Doylestown</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 21</b>	<b>REGION 1 FALL LUNCHEON, Manufacture CC, Oreland, PA</b>
<b>OCTOBER 12</b>	<b>BUCKS MONT CHAPTER FALL LUNCHEON SPRING MILL MANOR, IVYLAND</b>
<b>OCTOBER 15 -17</b>	<b>PASR HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING Doubletree Hotel, Cranberry, PA</b>