

CCCPASR

Cumberland County Chapter
Pennsylvania Association of
School Retirees

Volume 52 Issue 2
October 2025

President's Message



Members of
CCCPASR,

The Executive Committee and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at our Fall Luncheon Meeting on October 21. We are especially looking forward to having our new retirees join us. I

am pleased to announce that we will have a January Social on January 20, 2026 in Carlisle. I will have more details at the meeting.

Our membership year ended on June 30, 2025. You can use the membership application in our newsletter to renew your membership through the mail or you can renew at the Fall Luncheon by visiting Joann Handshaw, Membership Chairperson. Your current membership year is noted in the upper right corner on the address label of this newsletter. Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30.

The CCCPASR Recreo Committee has seats available on the Myrtle Beach New Year's Eve Extravaganza Trip in December. Be sure to read the Recreo section of the newsletter for details on all of our trips for 2026. They will begin accepting reservations at the Fall Luncheon.

Please check the CCCPASR website:

<https://thepasr.wixsite.com/cumberlandcountypasr>. On the website you will find detailed information about all of the Recreo trips including reservation forms. The Recreo trips for 2026 will be posted after the October Luncheon. If you misplace your newsletter, there are copies of past newsletters along with Membership Forms, Meeting Minutes, Awards, Officers and Committee Chairs on the website.

CCCPASR is a volunteer organization. We have several committees currently without a chairperson. We really need people to step up and fill these vacancies, especially Membership. This is a great opportunity to get involved in "Your" organization.

I want to thank the Executive Committee and all of the volunteers for their time and efforts to make this organization its best. We look forward to seeing all of our members at the Fall Luncheon.

Sincerely,

Rick Singiser

Rick Singiser, CCCPASR President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Luncheon/Meeting:

Tuesday, October 21, 2025,
Susquehanna Club, New Cumberland

CCCPASR Executive Committee Meeting:

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 @
PASR Headquarters

Winter Newsletter Folding:

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Winter Social Luncheon:

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

CCCPASR Executive Committee Meeting:

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, @ PASR
Headquarters

Spring Newsletter Folding:

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Spring Luncheon:

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 - Luncheon Meeting

Cost for Members \$20 - Cost for Guests \$25

Location: Susquehanna Club, Army Depot, 100 Ross Ave., New Cumberland – for directions see page 3.

AGENDA

- 9:00 - 9:30 am Registration - Coffee/Tea
- 9:30 Business Meeting
- 11:00 Program - Mechanicsburg Goes to War: The Part That Schools Played During WWII
- 12:00 Luncheon

DIRECTIONS TO LUNCHEON: SEE PAGE 3

LUNCH BUFFET MENU

- Tossed Salad
- Top Round of Beef
- Stuffed Shells Mariana
- Vegetables Du Jour
- Whipped Potatoes
- Rolls with Butter
- Coffee/Tea/Water
- Cup Cakes

Please make check payable to CCCPASR and mail so it is **POSTMARKED** by the **DEADLINE** of Saturday, October 11, 2025. **MANY THANKS!** Please realize, reservations postmarked after that date **CANNOT** be honored. Mail the form with your payment to Gilda Early, 2 Lula Lane, Enola, PA, 17025.

Travel Talk with CCCPASR!

Recreo Travel for 2025-2026

Dear Fellow Travelers, Members & Friends,

We are looking forward to more great travel opportunities in 2026. We feel we have another exciting year planned for CCCPASR. Our feature trip will take us to Atlanta for a week.

Still Time to Join in 2025 Fun! - WE NEED YOU!

Myrtle Beach New Year's Eve Extravaganza

December 30, 2025 – January 2, 2026 **Cost – \$835 pp double/ \$999 pp single**

We need 14 more people for this trip or we will need to cancel!

Celebrate the New Year with your friends and family at Myrtle Beach at the Beach Cove Resort. Included on this trip: dinner at Original Benjamin's Calabash Seafood; the Carolina Opry Holiday Show; brunch at Pine Lakes Country Club; matinee performance at the Alabama Theater; New Year's Eve Dinner and Celebration at the hotel including party favors, appetizers, and a champagne toast; an Eco Boat Tour of Murrells Inlet; a visit to Brookgreen Gardens' Night of a Thousand Candles and dinner at Bubba's Fish Shack. **Deposit: \$200 pp**



Kathy, Richard, Vickie
– Belfast, Northern Ireland

PRESENTING OUR 2026 TRIPS

Death Becomes Her on Broadway

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 **Cost - \$210 pp**

Madeline Aston, a beautiful stage star, and Helen Sharp, a long-suffering author who lives in her shadow, have always been the best of frenemies until Maddie steals Helen's fiancé away. As Helen plots revenge and Madeline clings to her rapidly fading star, their world is turned upside down by Viola Van Horn, a mysterious woman with a secret to die for. After one sip of Viola's magical potion, Madeline and Helen begin a new era of life (and death) with their youth and beauty restored...and a grudge to last eternity. Based on the 1992 film, this is a hilarious new musical comedy about friendship, love, and burying the hatchet...again and again. **Deposit: \$100 pp**

FEATURE TRIP Atlanta Adventure

Sunday, May 10, 2026 - Sunday, May 17, 2026 **Cost - \$1999 pp double/ \$2459 pp single**

We will travel to Atlanta with stops on the way in Mount Airy, NC (Mayberry from the Andy Griffith Show) and Charlotte, NC (Billy Graham Library and Charlotte Motor Speedway). Once in Atlanta the itinerary includes the Georgia Aquarium Behind the Scenes Tour, World of Coke, lunch at the famous Varsity Restaurant, a highlights tour of the city, Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. Other area stops will include: Trilith Studios; the town of Senoia, a famous filming location; President Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, Plains GA; and President Franklin Roosevelt's Little White House, Warm Springs, GA. During our time in Atlanta, we will be staying at one hotel – so you only need to unpack once! After leaving Atlanta, we will make a stop at Sweetwater Valley Farm in Philadelphia, TN for a tour and included lunch. After a night in Abington, VA we will stop at the National D-Day Memorial before heading back home. **Deposit: \$200 pp**

Arlington Cemetery & The People's House

Wednesday, September 2, 2026 **Cost - \$199 pp**

Enjoy a narrated tour in a private tram when we arrive at Arlington Cemetery. Stops include The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, JFK's Gravesite, and the Arlington House. Relax for lunch at Nick's Riverside Grill along the Potomac River. Following lunch we will tour The People's House: A White House Experience. **Deposit: \$50 pp**

??Mystery Trip??

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 **Cost - \$155 pp**

We will spend a day on a mystery trip of adventure as we view the Fall Foliage. Lunch included. **Deposit: \$50 pp**

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 **Cost - \$210 pp**

Back by popular demand! Start the holiday season off with orchestra seats to this iconic show starring the Rockettes. Enjoy lunch before the matinee show at Carmine's Italian Restaurant Upper West Side. We will be bussed to the theater. Invite loved ones to come along for a wonderful family/friends Christmas memory! **Deposit: \$100 pp**

Christmas in Bethlehem**Thursday, December 10, 2026****Cost - Cost: \$199 pp**

We will travel to Bethlehem, PA to experience the Christkindlmarkt, the Historic Trees of Bethlehem Tour and the Central Moravian Putz Tour. After the included dinner at Fiamma Italian Grille we will take a Bethlehem at Night bus tour before heading home. Sure to put you in the Christmas Spirit!! **Deposit: \$50 pp**

For us to continue to have successful trips we need a minimum of 30 travelers per trip.

Please email us at: CCCRECREO@yahoo.com or see our page on the CCCPASR website <https://thepasr.wixsite.com/cumberlandcountypasr/recreo-trips> for more information about any of our 2026 trips. A deposit will confirm your reservation for a trip. We will not be accepting any deposits until our October luncheon.

Trips are non-refundable without insurance unless a replacement can be found

If you would like more information on any of the trips please contact us!

Richard and Vickie Frederick | 717-414-6583
Kathy Singiser | 717-249-8097



Ross Castle, Killarney, Ireland – May 2025

REMEMBER...TRIPS FILL QUICKLY, SO REGISTER EARLY

►►► Directions to Luncheon:

Exit 41A off Interstate 83. Go east on Lowther Street, turn right onto South 3rd (becomes Bridge Street). Go through New Cumberland. Cross the bridge over the Yellow Breeches. Take the first left onto Miramar Street. Turn right onto Ross Avenue. Susquehanna Club will be on your left.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FOR 2024



Joanne Benedict presents Community Service Award to Susan Kissinger.

The Cumberland County Chapter of PASR honored Susan Kissinger with our Community Service Award for 2024. Susan retired from the West Shore School District in 2015, after many years of primarily teaching fourth grade.

She currently volunteers with the Shippensburg “Friends of the Library.” In this capacity she works with fundraising and literacy programs.

Susan spoke at our Spring Luncheon Meeting about her work with preschool story hour programs which also include art projects. Susan’s enthusiasm benefits these preschool children’s love for reading.

Thank you, Susan, for all of your continued efforts to support children.

►►► Check out the website for updates and information!

www.pasr.org

You can print a copy of your state membership via this website, so you have it to take advantage of the available discounts. Enter your username and password. This will take you to the “members only” section. As you scroll down, you will see your membership card. Click on the “print” under the card and follow the instructions. While you’re in the website, take some time to look at the other information available.

John Dillon Award

Rick Singiser presented the John Dillon Award to Jim Fissel. Jim has been active in CCCPASR/PASR throughout his retirement. He has served the chapter as President; Region 4 Representative; and Chairperson of the Scholarship, Public Relations and Pre-Retirement Committees. He has also been a mentor to many others in our chapter.



Social

Dear Friends, Please know the Susquehanna Club needs the total number of reservations at least one week prior to the date of the luncheon. We must pay for the number that we give them. However, they have been most gracious about preparing "doggie bag" for those not able to attend who have already paid. Should this happen to you, if you contact a member who is attending that lives nearby, they can bring you your meal. Also, should you find prior to the due date that you are no longer able to attend, and let me know early enough, I will gladly shred your check. (Let's all stay healthy and happy and not have to worry about any of this!)

LUNCHEON ENTERTAINMENT



World War II had a large impact on the citizens of the period. Because the country was struggling for its very existence, the people of the country were forced to face the struggle as one nation. All sections of the country were impacted. This includes the schools of Cumberland County.

The October program will focus on the efforts of one district, Mechanicsburg, and what they did to win the war.

Tuesday, October 21, 2025, Luncheon Reservation

Susquehanna Club, Army Depot, 100 Ross Ave., New Cumberland

Name (Member) _____

\$20.00

Guest _____

\$25.00

*I also wish to donate to the Scholarship Fund.

\$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed:

\$ _____

Phone Number: _____

This is my first PASR luncheon _____

Email address: (only if new member) _____

Please make check payable to CCCPASR and Postmark by DEADLINE of Saturday, October 11, 2025.

***Mail to:
Gilda Early, 2 Lula Lane, Enola, PA 17025

Please contact Barbara Lee at (717) 774-0998 if you know of any members who are hospitalized, in recovery, or confined to a home or nursing facility, so she can send cards and flowers for moral support. She would also appreciate notification of any member's obituary. Thanks for your help.

Barbara Lee, Social Service Chair

Social Service/Memorial Honor Fund

Our generous members donated \$287 to our committee at the April luncheon. We thank you and want you to know that your commitment to our mission and your willingness to contribute make an incredible impact on our ability to uplift those we serve.

The Cumberland County Chapter SSMHF annual audit report was submitted to the state PASR headquarters on July 22nd for the July 1st, 2024 to June 30th, 2025 fiscal year. In our chapter, 72 different members received some type of service from us. We sent 247 greeting cards, 11 flower arrangements, and 22 state Memorial Honor Fund donations in the names of our recently deceased members.

Since our last newsletter in March, we currently have 40 local members who received March thru September holiday and birthday greeting cards. We received thank you notes from Loline Judge (CH), Anna Smith (Big Sp), Dorothy Eppley (Car), and Marian Eichinger (Mech). We sent thank yous to Bonnie Stuart (CV) and Elaine Shughart (O) for donating greeting cards. Sympathy flowers were sent to the family of Darrell Clepper (Car) who served many years as our membership co-chairman. A floral arrangement was also delivered to Glenn Bushey (WS) who celebrated his 100th birthday on August 7th. Congratulations to Glenn on reaching this remarkable milestone! In addition, a contribution to the state PASR Memorial Honor Fund was made in memory of each of our recently deceased members noted in the Memorial section of this newsletter.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any information pertinent to our committee. (Barbara Lee (717)774-0998) Please stay safe and enjoy "Autumn, the year's last, loveliest smile." William Cullen Bryant

Barbara Lee
Social Service Chair

L/PEC

Your contribution to L/PEC enables PASR volunteers and members to effectively advocate for benefit improvements and fight to protect the benefits they are currently receiving. Please be sure to contribute to this worthwhile committee. Thank you.

Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees Legislative/Political Education Committee



CONTRIBUTION FORM

Member Number (if known) _____

Please donate to the L/PEC Fund since it is the only fund in Pennsylvania dedicated exclusively to advocate for the interests of retired PA school employees.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Contribution Amount:

\$5 _____ Other _____

Please make checks payable to L/PEC and mail to 878 Century Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-8406
Note: L/PEC contributions are not deductible for federal income taxes.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

August 2025 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Submitted by Fred Seltzer, Region 4 Legislative Chairperson

As I write this report, it is August 18, 2025, and no state budget for 2025-2026 has been passed. It was supposed to have been passed no later than June 30th, 48 days ago. This also means that no COLA has been passed. So, as I understand it, if a COLA isn't intertwined within the 2025-2026 state budget, that means a new COLA bill would, as is normal, have to go through a lengthy process that includes fiscal analysis by the State's Independent Fiscal Office before being voted up or down by the PA House of Representatives and forwarded to the PA Senate for a vote. Will/ Could this happen before the 2026 midterm elections???

Also, as of July 31, 2025, our Pre-Act 9 annuitants need \$179.57 to purchase what cost \$100 on July 1, 2002, the effective date of the last COLA.

In the event no COLA is forthcoming, any future COLA bills involving Pre-Act 9 annuitants should account for the additional loss of purchasing power of 10% that has occurred since June of 2023, the original effective date of the evolved current proposal. Otherwise, the new COLA proposal would actually offer less relief than its predecessor.

Many post-Act 9 annuitants who retired between July 1, 2002, and July 1, 2003, also need \$179.57 to purchase what cost \$100 the day they retired.

Actually, any Post Act 9 annuitant who retired between July 1, 2002, and June of 2007 are already needing between \$155.05 and \$176.57 to purchase what cost \$100 the day they retired.

Rest assured that PASR definitely supports and will continue to lobby for a COLA for both pre- and post-Act 9 PA public school retirees.

Submitted by Fred Seltzer, CCCPASR Legislative Chairperson

2025 John Judge Memorial Scholarship Recipients

The 2025 John Judge Memorial Scholarship recipients are exceptional students and committed individuals who actively contribute to their high schools and their communities. These three students will have a positive impact on the people they encounter in the future and throughout their careers, and CCCPASR is honored to help them further their education and to financially assist them in pursuing their established goals.

Madeline Bitz - Mechanicsburg Area Senior High School

Madeline is an honor roll student who participates in Student Council, Model UN, prom committee, cross country, track and field; is a Student Director for and participant in school musicals; and served as a 2nd grade intern. Maddie volunteers for church, youth group, track club, Thon, Operation Wildcat and various Mechanicsburg community events. Her Spanish teacher for three years states, "I am confident in my knowledge of Maddie as a highly creative, life-long learner who consistently demonstrates initiative, integrity, and passion in all facets of her high school career." Madeline will attend Bloomsburg University and will major in Elementary Education.



Scholarship Recipients:
Madison Fissel on left,
Madeline Bitz on right.

Madison Fissel -

Mechanicsburg Area Senior High School

Madison is an honor student who participates in National Honor Society and Thon and was a 1st grade intern. She was selected as Student of the Month by the Family and Consumer Science Department. Madi was captain of the varsity field hockey team and the varsity

lacrosse team. Madi represented Mechanicsburg High School as the 2025 Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year at the West Shore Chapter of the PA Sports Hall of Fame. She volunteers at church, KidMin Ministries, the Kindergarten Academy and Wee Wildcats and serves as a volunteer coach for Mechanicsburg elementary field hockey and lacrosse camps and Central Penn mini-sticks and U-14 field hockey. Her intern mentor states, "It's obvious that Madi is a natural educator - building relationships with students comes easy, her passion for teaching was evident to all that stepped in the classroom, and her professionalism was superior." Madison will attend Shippensburg University and major in Early Childhood and Elementary Education.

Maria Benavides - Camp Hill High School

Maria is an academic student who participates in Modern Music Masters Honor Society, RoaR Acapella Ensemble, and Junior Leadership and serves as Camp Hill Choir Council President, founder and Executive Producer of Camp Hill Film Club, and as an intern in kindergarten. She volunteers with her church youth group, church choir, CCMEA choir, and the Grace Millman Pollack Center stage crew. Maria also is a member of the esteemed Lebanon Valley College Honors Choir. Her intern mentor states, "Maria's kind heart, hard-working nature, engaging personality, consistency, and excellent communication skills make her an ideal candidate." Maria will attend Harrisburg Area Community College and will major in Elementary Education.

CCCPASR thanks Marlene and Dale Hess, who served as Scholarship judges and selected the three recipients - not an easy task, considering the quality of candidate applications received from Cumberland County schools!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Susquehanna Valley FCU:	
Checking:	\$6,477.31
Certificate	<u>2,235.05</u>
	\$8,712.36
Belco Community Credit Union:	
Savings Balance:	\$2,932.33
11-month promo. certificate	<u>16,541.05</u>
	\$19,473.38
Total Assets:	<u>\$28,185.74</u>

as of August 5, 2025

Sandra M. Thomas, CCCPASR Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP

Life	184
Annual	138
Associate	8
Honorary	1
Complimentary	65
Total	396
State - PASR membership	733

Joann Handshaw
Membership Chairman

NEW MEMBERS

Carlisle
Cathy Sroka
East Pennsboro
Cheryl Burt
West Shore
Ruth Bordner

In Memory of Our Chapter Friends

<u>Big Spring</u> <u>Mary Gephart</u>	<u>Mechanicsburg</u> <u>William Kane</u> <u>Mollie Randolph</u>	<u>Other</u> <u>Joan Brehm</u> <u>Martha Davis</u> <u>Delores Jones</u> <u>Kathleen Schartner</u>
<u>Camp Hill</u> <u>Clyde Rohland, Jr</u>	<u>West Shore</u> <u>Adele Hanna</u>	
<u>Carlisle</u> <u>Darrell Clepper</u>	<u>Norma Kauffman</u> <u>Jane Rorer</u> <u>Ruth Robinson</u> <u>Fred Schneider</u>	



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues can be paid anytime. Local (CCCPASR) dues are \$20. State (PASR) dues are \$60 yearly or 3 years for \$150 and LIFE is \$700. These may be paid at a luncheon or by mail using the form in this newsletter. Two checks will be needed if you are joining both CCCPASR and PASR. (\$20, \$60) Call Joann with any questions at 717-477-2173.

Joann Handshaw
Membership Chairman

OFFICERS

Serving You in 2025-2026

PRESIDENT.....Rick Singiser717 385-2473..rsingiser13@gmail.com	ASST SECRETARY
PRES. ELECT	TREASURER.....Sandy Thomas717-737-9479sandyt3545@verizon.net
VICE PRES.....Fred Seltzer717-243-2368seltzer@pa.net	ASST TREASURER
SECRETARY.....Sharon Statler717-732-3344 stater@verizon.net	PAST PRES.....Harold Statler717 805-3359hstater@verizon.net Larry Stoner717-763-0572larrystoner@icloud.com
REMEMBER TO DIAL "717" BEFORE EACH NUMBER	

Committee Chairs

Community Service.....Joanne Benedict717-697-8921	Recreo/Travel.....Richard Frederick717-414-6583
Educational Support.....Sharon Fissel717-938-4903	Vickie Fredrick717-360-1390
L/PEC	Kathy Singiser717-249-8097
Legislative.....Fred Seltzer717-243-2368	Gilda Early717 979-8760
Membership.....Joann Handshaw717-477-2173	Social Services.....Barbara Lee717-774-0998
Program.....Elaine Shughart.....717-532-8701	Newsletter.....Mary Kate McGowan ...717-732-7949
Public Relations	Scholarship.....Jim & Sharon Fissel717-938-4903

CCCPASR
M. Joann Handshaw
110 Lurgan Avenue | Shippensburg, PA 17257

PLEASE
RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055
PERMIT #25

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Reminder: Each year we lose members due to their lack of membership renewal. Please use the membership application to renew through the mail or see Joann Handshaw at the registration table at the October Luncheon.

Please check your mailing label: if it reads 24-25 or F24-25, this will be your last newsletter.

COUNTY

CCCPASR Membership Application or Renewal

CHECK PAYABLE TO CCCPASR

Annual \$20 Associate \$20

Name _____

Phone (____)

Address _____

City/Zip _____

If you are a new member, please complete the following:

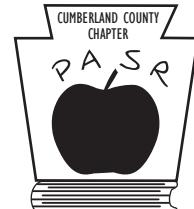
Year _____

District from which you retired _____

Total enclosed _____

Email address: _____

(initial) _____ Permission granted for CCCPASR to use my photo in any publication for the duration of my membership.



Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope and mail BOTH to M. Joann Handshaw, 110 Lurgan Avenue, Shippensburg, PA 17257

STATE

PASR Membership or Renewal

Check Payable to PASR

\$60.00/year ~ \$150 for three years ~ Life Member \$700

Name _____

Phone (____)

Address _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

County of Last Service _____

Email address: _____

P A S R
Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees