



**Cumberland County Chapter of the PA Association of School Retirees**  
**Susquehanna Club, NCAD**  
**October 8, 2024**

President Harold Statler called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Harold Statler introduced our guests, the PSAR office employees: Kristen Holjes, Executive Director; Mark Krempa, Assistant Director; Samantha Nguyen, Communications Coordinator; Kelly Dygert, Member Benefits & Service Associate; Nancy Mays, Administrative Assistant; Deanna Risser, Administrative Assistant; and, Kelly Weber, Administrative Assistant.

Kristen Holjes thanked CCCPASR for their hospitality and provided information about upcoming PASR events.

**Secretary's Report/Sharon Statler:** A motion to accept the Minutes of the April 16, 2024 with no corrections was made by Craig Kunkle and seconded by Sharon Fissel. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report/ Sandy Thomas:** Balance in checking account stands at \$4,427.85. Certificates and Savings - \$21,079.64. **Total Balance of \$25,507.49.**

**Committee Reports**

**Membership/M. Joann Handshaw:** M. Joann Handshaw reported 1 new member and 2 deaths since our last meeting. Memberships stand as follows: Life 203; Annual 231; Associate 9; Honorary 2; Complimentary 54; Total 499/PASR 587.

We need newer retirees who have relationships with the main office to help us obtain names and addresses of new retirees of their school district.

**Community Service/Joanne Benedict:** The Outstanding Volunteer of 2024 will be presented to Susan Kissinger at our April Meeting.

**Newsletter/Mary Kate McGowan:** Absent/No Report

**Social Services Memorial Honor Fund/Barbara Lee:**

\*The greatest job of our committee is to service our confined and temporarily confined members. We want to ensure them that their colleagues care about them. From July 1-2023 to June 30, 2024, 63 different local members received some type of service from our Cumberland County Chapter. We sent 227 greeting cards, 10 floral arrangements, and 22 PASR Memorial Honor Fund donations.

\*Since our April luncheon, we have made a contribution to our state Memorial Honor Fund in memory of Jean Jacoby (Carlisle), Maxine Bixler (West Shore), Susan Minick (Shippensburg), Alice Gardner (East Penn), William Freed (Camp Hill), Earl Follett (West Shore), and Myra Barefoot (Carlisle).

\*Currently we have 35 members receiving holiday and birthday greeting cards. The latest mailings since April were for May through October birthdays.

\*We continue to send floral arrangements and/or greeting cards offering our sympathy, get well wishes, or moral support. Recent recipients since our last luncheon are: Ron and Suzanne Shuey (Ship and CV), Sue Wible (WS), Robert Mull (WS), and Ron Conard (WS). A sympathy card was sent to Ron Eckerd (CV).

\*We received thank-yous for our services from: The family of Marion Wetherall (CV) and Ron Conard (West Shore).

**Educational Support/Vacant**

**Public Relations/Jim Fissel:** No report

**Social/Gilda Early:**

- \*Thank you to Cathy Kunkle who make my transition to Chairperson on the Social Committee so easy.
- \*Gilda reported that \$405.00 was donated to the scholarship fund.
- \*There were 92 luncheon reservations today.

**Scholarships/Sharon and Jim Fissel:**

- \*In the beginning of 2024 our Executive Board approved to raise the amount of each scholarship we award each spring to \$1500. Students who apply for the scholarship must be studying education in college.
- \*The 2025 Application Forms will be in the December Newsletter and will be sent to all of the schools in January.
- \*We received a thank you note from our 2024 scholarship recipient Ella Kilko, Boiling Springs. Ella is attending Moravian University.

**Legislative/Fred Seltzer:** PASR members including myself attended a press conference at the Capital on October 2, 2024. Among those speaking at the press conference in support of a Cola was our Executive Director, Kristen Holjes. She was joined by others, along with 40 Pennsylvania State Representatives and 7 state Senators who either spoke or chose to stand in solidarity with us!

Following the press conference many members of PASR spent a few hours visiting the offices of their elected officials to urge them to support a COLA.

**L/PEC/Vacant**

**Recreo/Travel/Richard & Vickie Frederick/Rick and Kathy Singiser:**

- The 2025 adventures have been planned:
  - a. Our main trip is with Collette, The "Shades of Ireland & Northern Ireland" is planned for **May 8 thru May 20, 2025** with. If you sign up before November 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a discount.
  - b. **April 10<sup>th</sup>** we are traveling to Broadway to see "The Great Gasby." Lunch will be at Carmine's Italian Restaurant.
  - c. **June 11** we are planning a one-day trip to the Naval Academy in Annapolis which will include a guided tour of the US Naval Academy, an afternoon tea at the Naval Academy Club, and a 40-minute cruise in the Annapolis Bay.
  - d. **October 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>** we are planning a trip called "River of Steel." Three nights in downtown Pittsburgh and one night in Johnstown.
  - e. **November 12<sup>th</sup>** we are traveling to Broadway to see "Hell's Kitchen." Lunch will be at Bubba Gump Shrimp Company.
  - f. **December 30<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>** we are going to Myrtle Beach to see some shows and celebrate New Year's Eve.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM, approved by Elaine Shughart and seconded by Barry Gainor.

Following the business meeting, the 50/50 drawing was held.

**Program/Elaine Shugart and Marlene Hess:** John Maietta will present "The Great Treasure Hunt in History." Late in World War II 350 soldiers and civilians scoured the battlefields in Europe to find and protect millions of paintings and other cultural objects that the Nazis had looted from the museums, churches, and the private home of wealthy Jews.

**Luncheon**

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Statler, Secretary, CCCPASR