

Newsletter

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www.delcopasr.org

John R. Della Guardia, Editor
Delaware County, Pennsylvania

In This Issue

President's Message

Bosco's Friends
Helping Friends

Community Service

Membership

Appreciation

Educational Support

RECRO

Nominations

Necrology

Birthdays

Health Options
Open Enrollment

Voting

PASR – PSERS

Volunteerism

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Janice Hoffman Willis, President



It is my hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the generous outpouring of donations to support our Charitable Funds. The amount collected was over two thousand dollars. We are still taking donations. After a two months' hiatus, the Chapter was scheduled to meet face-to-face on September 1, 2021, at the Aston Library, thanks to Harry Hill. To everyone's disappointment, the meeting had to be canceled because of a formidable weather forecast for storms in the area. Nonetheless, our technical Guru, Anne Mosakowski, was able to have the meeting on Zoom.

During this Pandemic, we have accomplished a lot, and I am grateful to every one of you who has taken on a task(s) to keep this Chapter moving forward. However, the Chapter can certainly use additional support from more of its members. I am still presiding as your President, without a President-Elect, and the positions for Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Directory Chair are being temporarily filled by members who chair other committees. Inside of this newsletter, you will find a nomination form for you to nominate yourself or someone whom you feel may be interested in any of these positions. The individual will be contacted to confirm their acceptance for the nomination before their name is put on the ballot. You will also find a pre-addressed return envelope for your convenience in returning the nomination form.

My goals for the Chapter "Moving Forward" are:

To increase our membership from 649 to 1000 within a year. (Please encourage retired friends who worked in any capacity in public education to join us. Membership forms are online and in this newsletter)

- To increase membership engagement
- To increase funds for our most needy
- To provide Presentations and Speakers on topics related to the interest of our members
- To provide more opportunities for members to get together and socialize regularly.

As you can see, we have a lot of work to do as we move forward, and I am depending on you as a Member to fulfill our motto: "**To Serve, Not Be Served**".

Make the most of your retirement with PASR Member Benefits

pasr.org/membership/member-benefits/



25th Anniversary Friends Helping Friends ~ Bosco's Event October 20, 2021

Our Chapter again this year will be participating in Bosco's Friends Helping Friends event. This event helps shoppers save money on the Friends Helping Friends Day October 20 from 8 AM to 11 PM and also helps raise money for our Chapter to support our programs.

With a donation of \$5 to our PASR Chapter, the shopper receives a Friends Helping Friends Shopping Pass 25% discount for purchases made in-store only on Wednesday, October 20th, 2021 at all Bosco's locations (offer not valid online).

Remember to use your shopping pass to register to win a \$100 gift card.

You can obtain this money-saving shopping pass by contacting our Chapter President, Dr. Janis HoffmanWillis, by email at carval1@comcast.net.

NOTE: The proceeds from the sale of the Friends Helping Friends Shopping Pass go directly to the PASR Delaware County Chapter.

Thank you for supporting our Chapter and Happy Shopping!

Community Service Committee

Elizabeth Gladulich
Community Service
Co-Chair



We will continue to gather donations for warm items for Kozy Kidz of the Greater Philadelphia Area. Additional monetary donations will continue to be collected for the Bernardine Center, and any funds collected by our treasurer will be sent to these organizations as they are received. It is very important for members to log their volunteered hours. As individuals who are part of PASR Delco, all hours donated to other organizations -- your religious organization, school district, communities -- demonstrate that we are here to serve and not to be served. Thanks to you for your gifts of time, financial support, food and clothing donations. Pictured is Mary

Payne, co-Chair of Community Services, collecting food from Philabundance of Philadelphia to distribute to Senior Citizens throughout the City of Chester

Membership Notes

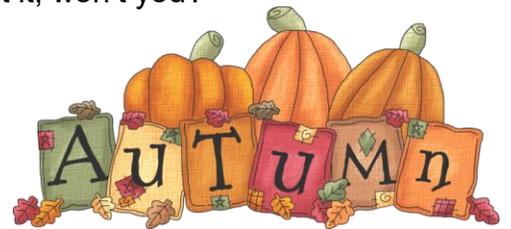
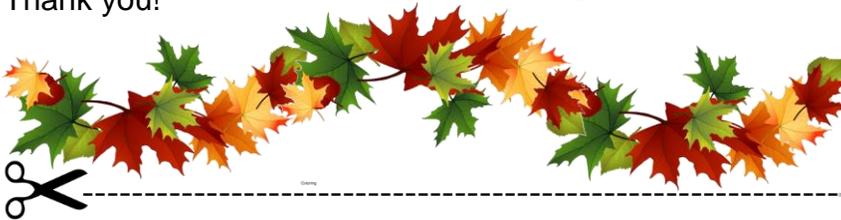
Sue Stevens
Membership Chair



Happy fall greetings to all our members. Our annual membership renewal drive has concluded, but if you forgot, we will still happily accept your renewal. This past year has been a tough one for all of us and, unfortunately, we have lost quite a few of our older members over the recent months. Our chapter could certainly use some new spirits who will bring new viewpoints and ideas to share with us. We are a congenial group of like-minded souls who enjoy each other's company and are happy to now be meeting in person after a year of being house-bound and meeting via teleconference or Zoom. Maybe you are too?

If you are more recently retired and, especially, if you have friends who are only recently retired or are now planning their retirements, I hope you will encourage them to join PASR, both state and local. We are the only retirement organization dedicated strictly to school retirees no matter in what capacity they served. We participate in social activities, day trips, and luncheons as well as supporting several charitable organizations. For those of you who may be members but not fully active in the chapter, here's your chance to get your feet wet. We need a few good people to serve in several official capacities. At this point, some of us are wearing several "hats" in the organization and would appreciate the chance to take a breather. Surely you have some time on your hands that you could use by being helpful. Keep your brain young and active! Please check out our website, delcopasr.org, for current information on our doings and think about it, won't you?

Thank you!



DELAWARE COUNTY PASR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Phone (Home) _____

Address _____ Phone (Cell) _____

City/State/Zip _____ Email _____

Year Retired _____ District Retired from _____

Position Before Retirement _____ Birth Date (Optional) _____

DUES: Annual \$15.00 _____ Life \$250.00 _____ Associate* \$10.00 _____

*Associate memberships: anyone interested in the work of PASR; active school employees age 50 or more; former teachers who are not annuitants of a school employee retirement system; former school employee retired from a non-public school; spouses of active members. Associate members shall not be eligible to vote or hold office.

RECRUITED BY (if applicable): _____

NOTE: To become a member of the **State PASR**, please also include those dues as follows:

STATE PASR DUES: Annual \$60.00 _____ Life \$700.00 _____

Please make all checks payable to: **Delaware County PASR**

Please mail checks and applications to: **Sue Stevens, 2955 Summit Circle, Aston, PA 19014-1624**



In Appreciation of Your Generosity

We would like to thank the 28 members who have already contributed to our many service programs. We have received \$2,165.00 so far. The areas listed below indicate some of the designations for the notated funds:

Kozy Kids – \$145.00 **L/PEC** -- \$110.00
Social Services -- \$755.00 **Scholarships/Grants** -- \$350.00
Bernardine Center -- \$125.00
Memorial/Legacy Donations -- \$275.00 (In memory of Hank Field, Bernice Miller, Michael Davis, Donald Masse, Dominic Pascale, Gertrude Grabonski.)



Thank You



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Mary Anne Caporaletti
Educational Support
Committee Chair



The 2020-21 school year certainly tested the flexibility of our committee's activities. Covid closings forced us to forego our three scholarships, but we were able to give our Woodson recognition awards to two teachers from Southeast Delco and to provide a Grant Award to a teacher from Interboro.

We also managed to solicit statements from our two 2019-2020 scholarship winners as well as comments from active teachers on the challenges of teaching under Covid and meeting students' needs in a virtual classroom. (You were able to access both in our Spring Newsletter.) We are hoping to keep these kinds of connections going into the future. Certainly, as "supportive" retirees, we are eager to know how we can best help our active colleagues.

This year, we again plan to give two Laretta Woodson scholarships (at \$3000. each) and the Frank Monaghan Scholarship for \$1000 to graduating seniors committed to working in educational settings. We will also be soliciting names for Woodson Recognition Awards from Interboro School District and Grant applications from Ridley. Winners of the Woodson and Monaghan Scholarships and the grant awards will be published in the next issue of our PASR Newsletter.

PASR RECREO DAY TRIPS FALL, 2021

Family & friends are always welcome

Plan to join us for great trips.

Caroline Fedena
RECREO Chair.



“MAMA MIA” AT DUTCH APPLE DINNER

THEATRE, LANCASTER, PA. Wednesday, October 27, 11:30
lunch, 1:00 show. \$60 covers the cost of a delicious buffet dinner and a
wonderful fun show. We will car share. **DEADLINE: October 13.**

BARNES MUSEUM, PHILADELPHIA PA. Thursday, November 18, 11:00. \$23
(senior rate). A world-renowned museum of mainly Impressionistic artists. We

will carpool. Food is available on-site. **DEADLINE: November 4.**

PHILLY POPS CHRISTMAS SHOW, KIMMEL CENTER, PHILADELPHIA,
PA. Friday, December 10, 3:00 pm. \$73, 4th-row orchestra (This is
FANTASTIC PRICING for orchestra seating). One of our group’s
favorites! Philadelphia Orchestra, Philly Pops Festival Chorus,
Philadelphia Boys’ Choir, and award-winning African Episcopal Church of
St. Thomas Gospel Choir is an extravaganza with 300 performers on stage.
DEADLINE: November 23.

**A PHILLY POPS
CHRISTMAS**
*spectacular sounds
of the season!*



FALL 2021 RECREO REGISTRATION FORM

RECREO - Registration Form (Please note **DEADLINES** as listed for each trip.)
For more information, contact Caroline Fedena: c_fedena@yahoo.com or 484-574-0784

Please make checks payable to: DELAWARE COUNTY PASR

Mail To: CAROLINE FEDENA, 184 SUNSET VIEW DRIVE, GLEN MILLS, PA 19342

I am interested in the following trip(s) (Please indicate how many tickets you are purchasing.)

___ Mama Mia - \$60, Trip date Oct. 27 **Deadline** for reservations Oct. 13

___ Barnes Museum - \$23, Trip date Nov. 18 **Deadline** for reservations Nov. 4

___ Philly Pops - \$73, Trip date Dec. 10, **Deadline** for reservations Nov. 23

NAME(S) _____ HOME PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CELL _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ I can drive others in carpool

(If you have a problem driving at night, we may be able to drive you home depending on where you live)



SPRING TRIPS PLANNED SO FAR; MORE TO COME

“RIVERDANCE”, THE GRAND, WILMINGTON, DE. Saturday, April 23. \$63.

“BRIGHTON BEACH MEMORIES” by Neil Simon, Delaware Theatre Riverfront,
Wednesday, May 11, \$65.

“CLUE”, CANDLELIGHT THEATER, ARDEN, DE. May/June (Date to be Determined). \$66.

Nominations

Greetings Members,

The Executive Board invites nominations for the positions listed below. Due to the need to fill these positions immediately, we are asking you to submit your nominations before October 20, 2021. Please return your nomination form to Dr. Janice HoffmanWillis (carval1@comcast.net) or mail it to her at 1437 Fresno Road, Wilmington, DE. in the pre-addressed envelope provided in this newsletter. You may submit your name or the names of members whom you feel may be interested in serving in a position. The individual(s) will be contacted before their names are included on the ballot. Also listed are Committees that need members. Please consider serving on one or two of them.

President-Elec:

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Secretary

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Treasurer

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Membership Directory Chair

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

COMMITTEES:

Community Services Committee

Name _____

Through the Community Service Committee, our members contribute to their communities as caring people with a strong sense of commitment. This Committee plans activities to meet the need for improving and extending

benefits for retirees and to encourage further services by retirees for the benefit of the community.

Educational Support Committee

Name _____

The Educational Support Committee supports public education which includes:

- (1) Developing and supporting programs that promote improvements in public education
- (2) Encouraging and supporting students seeking careers in public education and
- (3) Promoting the positive accomplishments of Pennsylvania public schools and the outstanding service provided by individuals employed in public schools. Each spring our Chapter holds an award luncheon to recognize Delaware County schools, public school employees, winners from the Delaware County Science Fair, and a student(s) seeking a career in public education. This is made possible from Laretta Woodson's grants.

Legislative /Political Education Committee

Name _____

The Legislative /Political Education Committee (L/PEC) advocates for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for school retirees. PASR promotes the continued preservation of the

defined pension benefit plan of PSERS. L/PEC promotes efforts to strengthen the Health the Options Program (HOP) administered by PSERS. L/PEC also promotes legislation to maintain or increase the current level of premium assistance that is provided to eligible retirees. L/PEC supports an increase in the number of retired members who serve on the PSERS Board of Trustees.

Members Benefits and Services Committee

Name _____

The Member Benefits and Services (**MB&S**) Committee promotes the well-being of retired school employees by helping them obtain the services and information they need to solve or avoid financial and personal problems and reviews and recommends the endorsement of member benefits and services that may be provided by commercial or other non-profit entities to PASR members statewide or regionally.

Membership Committee

Name _____

The Membership Committee initiates the planning and presentation of programs on various aspects of membership recruitment for public school employees who are close to retirement or already retired.



Necrology *Regretfully, we announce the deaths of these esteemed members*

Alma M Bailey
Helen C Berger

M Louise Bunner
James G Colson Jr
Allison W Knauss

Nicholas Ossman
Dorothy L Rose

Nominating Committee

Name _____

The Nominating Committee recommends a slate of nominees for the offices of president-elect, vice president, treasurer, assistant treasurer, and secretary at the state level to be voted upon by the general membership.

Public Relations Committee

Name _____

The Public Relations Committee provides information to the members at local levels concerning programs and activities of the Chapter and informs the public of these programs and activities via the news media.

RECRO Committee

Name _____

The RECRO Committee develops, coordinates, and promotes programs providing educational and/or recreational opportunities for Chapter Members.

Social Services Memorial Honor Fund Committee

Name _____

The Social Services Memorial Honor Fund (**SSMHF**) Committee promotes the growth and the proper utilization of the Chapter's Memorial Honor Fund; assists members who require moral support and financial aid, and gives services to unfortunate retirees who, due to illness or old age, are confined to their homes, hospitals or nursing homes.



You sparkle like a brilliant gem. The years have not diminished your special glow - they've only made you more luminous. Throughout your life, you've made it your

mission to be loving, kind, gentle, and true. Mission accomplished! Now, our mission is to shower you with our love and gratitude. Happy Birthday! We know the road at times may have seemed long, with many unexpected twists and turns, but we hope that the rest of your journey is a walk in the park on a beautiful, sunny day. These are our May through August 90+-year-olds.

Donald Anderson

Alice Barrett

Barbara Bingham

Joyce Brown

Juanita Budnick

Martha Buzzelli

Christina Canales

Robert Collier

Jennie Cramer

Emily Dannaker

Bernadine De Campli

June Debolt

Rosemary Dougherty

John Dougherty

Jane Downes

Anne Duffy

Mary Earnest

Florence L Eicholtz

Marie Evans

June Farber

Eleanore Flom

Doris French

Norma Goff

Mary Gormley

Paula Gussman

Mary Hall

Shirley Hardcastle

Virginia Hersey

Irving Jacobson

William Joyce

Stanley Kester

Harriet Krant

William Mackrides

Janet Mahoney

Paul Markiewicz

Eleta May-Buss

Thomas Mcnamara

Jean Milione

Foster Nowell

Barbara Olsen

Anne Park

David Paxson

Helen Price

John Rajmund

Constance Ryskamp

Pearl Saltzman

Joan Scott

Gertrude Shaw

John Trainer

Virginia Wakefield

Bettie Welch

James Werkiser

Jane Wilson

Ruth Winbourn

Louise Zekonis



This year, the Health Options Program is conducting an Open Enrollment from early October through November 15, 2021. Open Enrollment is a special enrollment period that allows all eligible PSERS members to elect coverage in the Program – without a qualifying event. Even if a member declined coverage in the past, he/she will have another opportunity to elect coverage this fall.

RECREO Excursion to Candlelight Theater

Delco PASR members traveled to Candlelight Theater in Arden, DE, one of the spectacular excursions arranged by Caroline Fedina, our RECREO chairperson. The group rocked to **Ain't Misbehavin'** on August 29.



Ain't Misbehavin' cast members



Ain't Misbehavin' cast members and Janice Hoffman Willis, PASR Delco President,

Working Together for Retired School Employees

The Difference Between PASR and PSERS and What They Do For Retirees

PASR: Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees

From 1937 and until the early 1980s, **PASR** was the only organization in Pennsylvania serving the needs and interests of retired public school employees. Unlike many of the other retiree groups, **PASR** is a totally independent, voluntary membership organization. It consists of, is governed by, and works exclusively to serve the needs and interests of all school retirees — regardless of the positions held or the organizations to which its members belonged prior to retirement. Its Officers, Board Members, and Chapter Presidents are all elected by the members. All serve for limited terms on a strictly volunteer basis. The cost of membership is \$60 per year. PASR's most popular benefits include dental insurance through United Concordia for \$418 per year and vision insurance through Davis Vision for \$64 per year.

PSERS: Public School Employees' Retirement System

Founded in 1917, **PSERS** serves over 600,000 public school employees throughout the state by administering **PSERS'** benefit plan, which includes the optional Health Options Program (HOP) health care coverage and retiree pension plans. For questions regarding the HOP medical insurance, call: 1-800-773-7725. For questions regarding taxes or your pension, call: 1-888-773-7748 or visit <http://www.psers.pa.gov/>

Remember to Vote

PA Municipal Election Nov. 2

Reasons Why Local Elections Matter

1 PUBLIC HEALTH

Local lawmakers decide what types of stores and facilities (grocery stores, laundromats, bus stops) can be built and where they are located, and the location of cultural and community sites (theaters, sports, parks, and recreation), and manage community programs and playgrounds.

2 PUBLIC SAFETY

Local lawmakers determine local budget and duties for city police, county sheriffs, city jails, and county detention centers.

Visit the New PA Voting Site - vote.pa.gov

Polls are open on election day from 7 AM - 8 PM

Last day to register to vote: October 18, 2021

Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot: October 26, 2021

Who's on the ballot? Visit

www.delcopa.gov/vote/CandidateList.html

Use vote411.org to get personalized voting information

3 EDUCATION

Local lawmakers hire and oversee local school superintendents and draw school district maps that determine where children go to school..

4 CIVIL RIGHTS

Local lawmakers set where voting sites are located and set local equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination policies.

5 HOUSING

Local lawmakers plan for and fund affordable housing programs and help ensure the safety and accessibility of local housing stock, manage evictions, and upkeep.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Local lawmakers decide rules for and oversight of drinking water, public buildings (dumps, water/sewer authority, Recycling center), roads and vehicles.

6 ECONOMY & JOBS

Local lawmakers can provide tax benefits for businesses to create jobs, fund job and worker training programs, and set wages and benefits for city/county employees and contractors.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) also has detailed voter information. The LWV of Delaware County website is www.lwvdelcopa.org.



COMMUNITY SERVICE SURVEY

To ALL PASR MEMBERS – Thank you for being a volunteer in our community!

PASR Chapters are interested in documenting the hours of service that volunteer retirees contribute to their local communities. In doing this, our volunteers show the community at large a positive picture of the activities of public school retirees. Please take a moment to complete this form, filling in the appropriate number of hours PER YEAR that you volunteer. A summary of this information is shared with AARP, NRTA, and PASR Headquarters.

EDUCATIONAL

Historical Assn	_____
Library	_____
School Board	_____
Other	_____
Total	_____

SOCIAL SERVICES

Boards/Committees	_____
Cancer Society	_____
Drug/Alcohol	_____
Fire/Ambulance	_____
Fraternal Groups	_____
Hospital/Nursing Home	_____
Meals on Wheels	_____
Office of the Aging	_____
Red Cross	_____
Salvation Army	_____
Service Organization	_____
Soup Kitchen/Food Bank	_____
Visitation/Nurturing	_____
Other	_____
Total	_____

POLITICAL

Advocacy	_____
Elections	_____
Government	_____
Other	_____
Total	_____

RELIGIOUS

Adult Instruction	_____
Youth Instruction	_____
Organization	_____
Visitation	_____
Other	_____
Total	_____

SERVICES TO YOUTH

Alliance to Youth	_____
Classroom Volunteer	_____
Head Start	_____
Latch-Key Program	_____
Literacy	_____
Scholarships	_____
School Volunteer	_____
Sports	_____
Tutoring	_____
YMCA/YWCA	_____
Other	_____
Total	_____

I have served in special leadership roles as follows:

Name _____

Total Hrs. / Year / All Categories _____ Chapter _____

Phone Number _____ Date _____ E-Mail _____

YES, I want my hours counted, and, **YES**, consider me for the **Volunteer of the Year Award**.

YES, I want my hours counted, but **DO NOT** consider me for the **Volunteer of the Year Award**.

RETURN THIS FORM TO: Harry Hill, 67 Hidden Valley Road, Aston, PA 19014 by June 30, 2022

Please use a second sheet of paper to clarify or to provide a more detailed description of your involvement with any activities not listed.

Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees
PASR -- Delaware County Chapter
c/o John R. Della Guardia, Editor
11 King Court
Boothwyn, PA 19061-4253

Retirees Giving Back Through Volunteerism

How PASR Members Make a Lasting Impact in Our Communities

“To serve, not to be served,” is the motto for PASR’s Community Service Committee. Recognizing that individuals can significantly enhance the quality of their lives during retirement through volunteerism, PASR created the Community Service Committee in 1964. Through this committee, PASR has helped members identify volunteer opportunities and promote community service projects for more than four decades. In retirement, you can enjoy the best of both worlds by maintaining the freedom you earned to do what you want when you want, and by continuing to perform valuable services in your community through volunteerism. PASR has Community Service Committees in nearly every county in the state. Each year these committees conduct member volunteerism surveys, such as the one found on page 11 of this newsletter, and report the findings to the media and public officials to ensure that everyone knows that public school retirees are an asset! Too often they are portrayed as a burden to taxpayers. The value of volunteer services being contributed by school retirees far exceeds the amounts that taxpayers are contributing to fund retiree benefits, and we think it is important that the general public be made aware of this fact. Many PASR Chapters develop their own community service projects to meet the needs of their communities. Projects such as the Klothes for Kids, Mitten Tree, and Crawford Reads, and our own efforts for Kozy Kids and Bernardine Center are all perfect examples of this. Please complete the volunteerism survey on page 11 so that your volunteer efforts may be counted.