



Venango Spring 2020 Newsletter



President's Message

PASR Venango is getting ready to end the winter hibernation and welcome members to a very unusual start to the PASR Venango 2020-2021 year. Corona Virus (COVID-19) has us staying at home with no restaurants open for our Spring meeting until after June at the earliest. Schools across Pennsylvania are closed. Our newsletter cannot be printed due to the closure of the Oil City School District Administration Office to guests. Venango County has six reported COVID-19 cases (at this time), but all is being done to prevent the virus' spread. PASR Venango members are at the age where we are vulnerable to this virus, so please stay safe, wear a mask if you go out, and do keep the six-foot bubble rule. Do not go out if you are feeling ill. I am glad that all but about 50 of our members do have email and can receive electronic newsletters.

On Page 2 of this newsletter is a tentative calendar. Hang it on your refrigerator. Remember it is subject to change. All May meetings have been cancelled. We have great speakers lined up who have already rescheduled and will reschedule again if the COVID 19 restraints remain in place later than May.

Our speaker for our Spring meeting on May 14, 2020 was Todd Hart from UPMC Northwest. He was to speak on Stroke: Early Signs of Stroke and Early Signs of a Heart Attack

May is National Stroke Awareness Month. We needed to reschedule him to October since we are under stay at home rules until at least May 8, 2020.

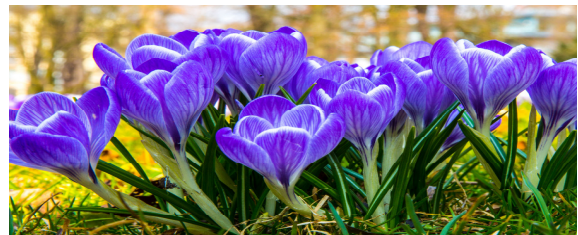
On Page 3 of this newsletter is a poster about our June 18th meeting program. Medicare Fraud is a very real thing. Encourage your family and friends to attend this meeting unless we get cancelled.

We do have a picnic scheduled on August 13 at Morrison Park.

We have added a Holiday/ Christmas Party Luncheon on December 3 at 11:30 AM to 2 PM at Hoss's Restaurant. Hoping the weather cooperates, and understanding that many snowbirds will be in Florida by that date, we will welcome all members and guests to this caroling fun-filled event. No formal meeting, just a lunch, some entertainment, and some socializing. There might be a Yule game if time permits. The only requirement is you must dress festively in red/green/white or wear a Holiday Sweater.

I am looking forward to a great year with healthy members! President Diana Fesenmyer

*AFTER THE STORM, THE FLOWERS
WILL GROW!*



All May Events are cancelled due to COVID-19

CALENDAR	2020-2021 Venango PASR tentative calendar		
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION AND TIME	Entertainment/Speaker
17-Feb-20	National Random Acts of Kindness Day		
May	Loretta Woodson Awarded	6:30 PM Valley Grove School Board	
May	SSMHF Month of Giving	Confined Members and Ill	SSMHF Committee
May	MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN	Pay \$10/year dues to remain active	Membership Committee/Treasurer
May	Members canvas neighbors to help	USPS Stamp Out Hunger Collection	
	Call/Text to remind Members about Meeting		
6-May	Region 9 meeting	11 AM to 2 PM	Chovy's Meadville
14-May	PASR Venango Spring Meeting	Hoss's at 11:30 AM if open	Early Warning signs of Stroke & Heart Atta
	Call/Text remind Members about Meeting		
18-Jun	PASR Venango Summer Meeting	Hoss's at 11:30 AM	Honor New 90 year old members! Social Security/ Medicare Fraud
30-Jun	Executive Board meeting	10:00 AM Log Cabin	
July 1,2020	New Retirees Brunch: meet and greet	Log Cabin 9 to 10 AM	
July 2,2020	Coffee hour :McDonalds :Oil City	9 AM -10 AM	
July 3,2020	Coffee hour :McDonalds :Franklin	9AM-10 AM	
	Newsletter mailed	Oil City District Office- 9:00 AM	
July	Venango RECREO trip	SEAWOLVES game and Casino, Erie	
	Call/Text remind Members about Meeting Telephone		
13-Aug	PASR Venango Picnic	Morrison Park -Pavilion by pond 4:30 to 6:00 PM	Chicken provided-bring a tureen New Retirees Welcomed
August	Back to School Supplies Project	Community Services/ Local Radio	
SEPT	Venango Recreo Trip -Lancaster	see newsletter for more info	
10-Sep	Executive Board meeting	Log Cabin 10:00 AM	
	Newsletter items due		
	Newsletter mailed/emailed	Oil City District Office 9:00 AM	
	Call/Text remind Members about Meeting		
15-Oct	PASR Venango Fall Meeting	Hoss's at 11:30 AM	
Nov	Educational Grants Awarded	board meeting of Valley Grove	
1-Dec	SSMHF Month of Remembering	Shut-ins and Confined members	
3-Dec-20	PASR-Venango Christmas Party	Hoss's at 11:30 AM	Celebrate the Holidays: Gift exchange

EACH YEAR TAXPAYERS LOSE OVER \$60 BILLION
TO MEDICARE FRAUD AND ABUSE AND ERRORS

OUTRAGED? SO ARE WE!



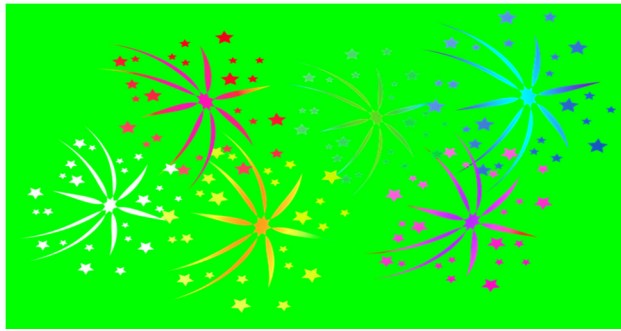
AND WE'RE DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

JOIN THE FIGHT. TAKE A STAND.

*The PA Senior Medicare Patrol (PA-SMP) is hosting a presentation on Medicare Fraud Prevention **for members of PASR-Venango at Hoss's Restaurant on Thursday, June 18, 2020 @12:15p.m.** Join us to find out how to protect yourself, your loved ones, and Medicare, from fraud and abuse. Questions? Call 1-800-*

*356-3606 or
www.carie.org*





A Warm Welcome to two new members of the “Ninety and Older Club” in 2020:

LENORE DALMASO and JULIA ECKEL

Special wishes to all members of the Ninety and Older Club! Listed after the School District is the Very Special Elf who provides cards to each Ninety-year and older members. Cards are sent at least four times a year; gifts are sent in May and December. PASR-Venango is so proud of these lifetime members.

OIL CITY -DOTTIE VALIMONT

EDITH BELL
RAY GOODWILL
KENNETH MAURER

FRANKLIN- SANDRA HOMER

JOAN SCHMIDT
OLIVE MILLER
IDA CARDAMONE
JEAN BALLARD
JAMES ALBRIGHT
PATRICIA MELAT
LENORE DALMASO
JULIA ECKEL

CRANBERRY-DIANA FESENMYER

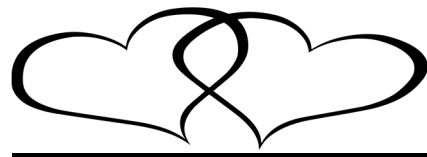
with help by **DIANE JACKSON**

FLORENCE HEYISON
ELEANOR HYRINYA

ROCKY GROVE- GLORIA STEVENS

JOSEPHINE McCOY

If you hear about a member who is hospitalized, had surgery, or has moved to a nursing facility, please call President Fesenmyer at 676-6442 and leave a message with the information. I promise to call you back in a day or two unless I am traveling.



WITH SYMPATHY

PASR Venango is sad to report the loss of two members since our last meeting in October 2019: **Robert (Bob) English, and Howard Lehman.**

Please notify 676-6442 if you are aware of any other deceased member A.S.A.P.



**John J. Dillon 2019
Outstanding PASR Volunteer
Award for Venango County**

PATRICIA RALPH

Patricia Ralph is the only child of Bigler and Ann Spangler. Patricia attended Oil City School District for all her schooling until 12th grade. Her Fifth-Grade teacher was her inspiration and Patricia wanted to be just like her. Patricia met her future husband, Charles Edward Ralph, in 10th grade and knew they were meant for each other. Upon graduating from Oil City High School in 1961, Patricia attended Clarion College for her Bachelor in Education degree. Her field of concentration was Music. She continued courses at Clarion, Penn State, and Gannon receiving an Art concentration along the way.

Patricia went on to marry the love of her life, Charles Edward Ralph. He also had a teaching degree and a Psychology degree. They were the proud parents of James Ralph.

James went to Gannon University and received a Master's Degree in Education. He is currently a Third-Grade teacher, following in his mother's footsteps.

Patricia spent her entire teaching career in Oil City School District. From 1965 to 1967, she taught AM Kindergarten, Music, and Library for grades 1,2,3 at Oakland Elementary School. From 1967 to 1978, she taught AM and PM Kindergarten at Oakland and Rouseville Elementary Schools. She also taught Head Start during the Summers. She finished her teaching career at Hasson

Heights Elementary teaching two sessions of Kindergarten until she retired in 2005.

After retirement, Patricia volunteered in Grades Kindergarten, 1,2, and 3 for Bible School. She also volunteers as a Church organist when needed. Patricia served on the Cooperstown Library Board of Directors. Often, you might have seen her at the front desk there. According to Patricia, she simply loves to be around people.

PASR Venango is lucky to have Patricia. She is never afraid to volunteer, attend a meeting, or lend a helping hand. Patricia serves as the chair of our Community Service Committee. Since joining PASR Venango, Patricia has developed our community service report sheet, developed yearly community projects, and tallied the community hours for all our members. She has manned the registration desk at Region 9 meetings hosted by PASR Venango. She has a heart of gold and truly is a gift for all who meet her. PASR-Venango grows with every smile and activity she plans. Track your volunteer hours

*Call a friend,
share toilet paper supplies,
but be safe always!*

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Voting in the time of COVID-19

Plan Ahead: You may want to secure a mail-in ballot for the June 2, 2020 PA. Primary if you do not want to be exposed to the COVID-19 virus.

The deadline to apply for the mail-in ballot is Tuesday, May 28, 2020.

The easiest way is online, but you need a driver's license to order the ballot. Visit: <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/OnlineAbsenteeApplication/#/OnlineAbsenteeBegin>

Without a driver's license

1. you need to download a paper mail-in ballot application form at:

https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Documents/PADOS_mailInapplication.pdf

and mail it in to your County Board of Elections

2. For an absentee application, download the absentee paper application form found at:

https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Documents/Absentee_Ballot_Application.pdf

To find your County Board of Elections office address, please use the following link:

<https://www.votespa.com/Resources/>

In Venango County

Ms. Sabrina Backer
Chief Clerk/Director of Elections
Venango County Courthouse Annex
1174 Elk St., P.O. Box 831
Franklin, PA 16323
(814) 432-9508
sbacker@co.venango.pa.us





In the fall of each year Venango PASR gives away two Grants worth \$250 each to teachers in our local public schools.

In the spring, we give away two \$50 Lauretta Woodson Award to an educator and a paraprofessional in another school district for their excellent service.

We need to raise approximately \$500 to meet these costs. The state reimburses us approximately \$187.

At every meeting, we have an educational support drawing. But due to COVID-19 we have no meetings to raise money. Additional fund are needed. If you can, please make a donation to the Educational Support Fund.

Educational Grant Schedule

Franklin S. D. (2020) Oil City S. D. (2021), Valley Grove S. D. (2022) and Cranberry S. D. (2023), on a yearly rotational basis to ensure all school districts are represented.

Payable to Venango Chapter PASR

Mail to:

John Kolojejchick, 1238 Shaffer Run Rd., Oil City PA 16301.

Social Services

Monies contributed to the Social Service Memorial Honor Fund (SSMHF) are used to provide financial assistance to members in need and render care to state and local members who become hospitalized, are confined to their homes, or reside in nursing facilities.

PASR MHF Donations

Thanks to everyone who donates to the Memorial Honor Fund.

If you cannot attend meetings, please consider making a donation to the Memorial Honor Fund on the state level.

I wish to donate \$ _____ by check made payable to the MEMORIAL HONOR FUND

in ___ honor or in ___ memory of

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State: ___ Zip _____

Phone _____

Date ___/___/___

County _____

Send Donations to:

PASR MHF
878 Century Drive
Mechanicsburg PA 17055-4375

P.A.S.R. Volunteer Service Survey

TO ALL PASR Members: — Thank you for being a volunteer in our community!

PASR Chapters are interested in documenting the service that volunteer retirees contribute to their local communities to show the community at large a positive picture of the activities of public school retirees.

Please take a moment to complete this form.

A summary of this information will be shared with AARP, NRTA, and PASR Headquarters.

Service Topic	Hours per year
Education (teaching the public or school helper)	_____
Youth (helping young people)	_____
Community Service	_____
Social Service (helping people)	_____
Environment (helping the planet)	_____
Political (both voting and party activities)	_____
Religious	_____
Total Hours	_____

I have served in special leadership roles as follows:

Chapter: VENANGO

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

___ Yes, I want my hours counted, but I DO NOT want to be considered for the Volunteer of the Year Award

Return this form to: Patricia Ralph, 4178 State Route 417, Cooperstown ,PA 16317

Please attach another page to this form to clarify or to provide a more detailed description of your involvement with activities that are NOT listed.

Community Service

The United States Postal Service does a once a year collection of nonperishable foods usually in May. Members must simply read the news for an exact date due to Corona Virus 19 and remind your neighbors to hang a bag of nonperishables on their mailbox!

In the fall of each year the Community Service Committee members meet to gather school supplies for the Crisis Center which helps families disrupted by domestic violence. Children are often forced to leave their homes suddenly and don't take much with them. The school supply kits that we provide allow the children to continue their education even under those difficult conditions. Each kit contains school and personal hygiene supplies

Annual Dues

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

Please consider paying your Venango Chapter PASR 2020-2021 dues of \$10.

Make your checks out to: Venango Chapter PASR.

Mail with your name, your current address, current phone and preferred email to:

John Kolojejchick, 1238 Shaffer Run Rd., Oil City, PA 16301

2019 Educational Grants

In October 2019, Kerri Sutch and Andrea Barrett were each awarded a \$250 Educational Grant for use in their classes at Cranberry Area High School.

PASR Venango President, Diana Fesenmyer, attended the Cranberry Area School Board meeting on October 17, 2019 to award the grant

Andrea Barrett used the money to purchase yoga mats to complete a classroom set. She will teach coping skills and yoga in her Physical education classes now that she has a complete set of 30 mats. She also planned after school activities using these mats.

Kerri Sutch used her grant to purchase laboratory supplies to enhance measurement skills in her science classroom.

Both recipients were very thankful Cranberry Area School Board was gracious enough to place us on their October agenda.

Pictured from left to right: Andrea Barrett, Physical Education Teacher; Kerri Sutch, High School Biology/ Ecology Teacher; and Ritt Smith, High School Principal



Lower photo: Andrea Barrett, Kerri Sutch and Diana Fesenmyer

