

# PASR Times

Pennsylvania Association of  
School Retirees Newsletter



December 2020

Volume 77 Issue Number 2

ISSN-0194-8776

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# President's Message

## Judith L. Schaffer, PASR President



### WE'VE COME A LONG WAY TOGETHER

When I began my appointment as the Region 6 Social Service Memorial Honor Fund (SSMHF) Chair, I made many trips to our State headquarters in Mechanicsburg. As I drove into the parking lot off Century Drive, I often wondered how the actual building was developed. Thanks to the staff for providing me with the historical material for this article.

Our organization began in 1937 when a retired Philadelphia teacher named Cornelius J. Walter had a dream of starting an association for retired school employees. Nine educators attended the first meeting and developed the idea. Various organizational names were used but in 1984 our official name – PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL RETIREES (PASR) was confirmed. In 1940 Chapters were developed and in 1948 we had our first Constitution.

A committee was established to begin actual planning for our building. The lot cost was \$65,000.00 and was paid outright. A mortgage of \$240,000.00 was taken out for 15 years, but was totally paid for in only four years. In 1986, Mary Summerfield set up a building committee to raise the \$517,917.00 needed to make the plan a reality. Regional Directors and Chapters raised the money through bean soup sales, raffles, bake sales, telephone chains, letters, and personal calls. The office moved into the building in 1987, but was not officially opened until November 16, 1987.

Here are some interesting facts:

- The building was dedicated to Clarence Ollendike in May, 1988 in a pouring rain ceremony held in the parking lot.
- The board room was dedicated to Mary Summerfield by a \$20,000.00 gift from the Philadelphia Chapter.
- Clarence Walters installed the outdoor school building mailbox.
- Winifred Isaacs was the first woman president of PASR, and was elected in 1968.

- The flagpole was dedicated to David Simpson.
- Our office phone number (1-717-697-7077) is still the original number.
- The first Convention held in 1963 had 36 counties sending 68 delegates.
- The President serving the longest time in office (1951-1958) was Walter Douthett.

The year 2021 sees the following changes in our organization:

The *PASR Times* under various names began in 1952 to provide communication to our membership to support legislation issues. Under the editorship of Jaclyn Keys, it is now filled with information on all aspects of PASR and still produced four times a year.

The title of Convention has recently changed to the Meeting of the House of Delegates, but is still attended by official Chapter delegates. The upcoming current location will be the Eden Resort in Lancaster, PA held October 3–5, 2021.

PASR has developed a good working relationship with many retirement based organizations, including the Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA), to continue the 1940 mandate to support retirees. A cost of living adjustment (COLA) for retirees is still a top priority for the Legislative/Political Education Committee (L/PEC).

The Board of Directors' meetings have temporarily changed from face-to-face sessions held at headquarters to internet based Zoom meetings due to the challenging time of COVID-19. Committees are also training their members to use this new technology.

PASR is now self-administering dental and vision policies, facilitating group plans for PASR members with United Concordia Dental and Davis Vision. Staff member Kelly Dygert is assigned to answer member questions and process payments for these policies.

I am currently the 42<sup>nd</sup> President leading our 84 year old organization. What began with only nine members now has a membership over 20,000 with new applications being processed daily. PASR is alive and well and evolving to meet the changing times!

As Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Join with me in declaring — WE ARE PASR PROUD!

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# Executive Director's Report

*By Mark A. McKillop, Executive Director*

As we enter the final month of 2020, I think I can speak for everyone when I convey that it is my sincere hope that 2021 is a better year than 2020.

Both personally and professionally, we were compelled to deal with issues and situations that did not seem feasible or possible just last year. We continue to learn to adjust to what many call "the new normal" which includes increased electronic communication like Zoom meetings.

In some very substantial ways, we have improved both the quantity and quality of our communications with our membership and will continue that trend next year.

We continue to serve our membership while having enough flexibility to reinvent our present as well as our future. At the close of calendar year 2020, we again express our appreciation for your membership and for playing the very important role in making PASR a better association and organization.

Without your commitment and work, we would not be successful.

At the end of the calendar year 2020, I express my thanks to the Board of Directors for their commitment, work, and guidance throughout a very difficult year. Their support and understanding meant a great deal to me and the PASR staff.

Also, I extend my thanks to our elected and appointed leaders for their hard work and contributions. This year, the PASR staff has exhibited the flexibility necessary to keep PASR operating at pre-COVID-19 levels. I appreciate their devotion to making PASR better.

On a personal note, I want to express my thanks for all of the messages of condolence conveyed to me after the passing of my mother. In a very tangible way, I felt very comforted and proud to be a part of the PASR family. I give a great deal of credit to my mother for anything I have achieved in my life.

## PASR Times

**VOLUME 77 (ISSN-0194-8776)**

**NUMBER 2 | DECEMBER 2020**

### POSTMASTER

Send Address Changes to:

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**Treasurer** | Stephen M. Vak

**Assistant Treasurer** | John N. Werner

**Past President** | Gary A. Parker

**Executive Director** | Mark A. McKillop

**Editor/Writer** | Jaclyn M. Keys

**Fall Issue Correction:** Please note that the phone number provided in HEAT USA's advertisement in the September issue of the *PASR Times* was incorrect.

HEAT USA's correct phone number is 1-888-432-8872

*PASR Times*, the official publication of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, is published four times annually (March, June, Sept., and Dec.). Subscriptions are only by membership. Postage paid at Harrisburg, PA.



# Legislative Update

## The Impact of the Pennsylvania General Assembly Elections

By Mark A. McKillop, Executive Director

It would be an understatement to declare that 2020 was a very eventful election year. Even though there was a great deal of attention given to the race for President, remarkably little changed in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. At the time of the writing of this report, we are trying to confirm the results of all the elections at the State Level.

Here is what we do know:

1. The Republicans will remain in control of both the State Senate and the State House of Representatives.
2. Entering the election, the Republicans held a 28 to 21 to 1 advantage (Republicans, Democrats, Independents). Each caucus lost one member in the election resulting in no change.
3. Even though the results of the elections have not been certified at the time of this report, we are able to report that House Republicans elected four (4) new members in seats currently held by Democrats and the Democrats

elected one (1) new member for a net Republican gain of three (3) seats. A Republican advantage of 110 to 93 is now an advantage of 113 to 90.

4. Governor Tom Wolf's current term will end in January of 2023. Governor Wolf was not on the ballot this year.

Like with any election where representation changes, we will need to adjust to the new representation in preparing for interaction with the newest version of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Our legislative goal remains the same and we have work to do. First, it will be the task of the L/PEC in December and the Board of Directors in January to make decisions and take action to keep the focus on our ultimate legislative goal: the passage of a COLA.

I want to express my thanks to all of our members who contributed to the L/PEC and who contacted their state elected officials on behalf of PASR. Speaking with one voice on key issues is a strength of our organization.

## Member Benefits Zoom Presentation Coming Spring 2021

PASR's greatest strength is our membership, and member retention and recruitment remain important factors in keeping our Association strong.

In order to help reach potential members, PASR has begun contacting newly retired public school employees through email,

postcards, letters, and free Zoom presentations that introduce non-members to the many benefits of joining PASR.

The next Zoom presentation will be in the Spring of 2021. We ask that our members check our website in February for more details and invite any prospective members they may know to attend.

### L/PEC Internet Donations Direct:

<https://www.pasr.org/member-donate-lpec/>

Or, you can donate by signing into the PASR Members' Only section at <https://www.pasr.org>. Then, click the Donate tab, and select Legislative/Political Education Committee Fund. This will open a Contributions page where you can enter your payment information. Then click the red "Send my Donation" button to complete your donation.

### L/PEC Mail Donations:

PASR L/PEC, 878 Century Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Make Contribution Payable to L/PEC

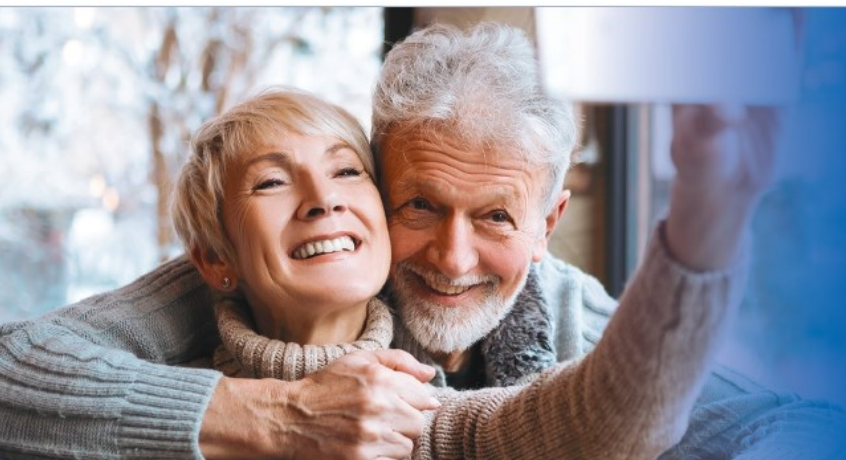
Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# Top 5 Reasons to Consider Dental Insurance through PASR



## **DID YOU KNOW**

that through a membership with PASR, you will have access to dental benefits?

PASR offers their members a choice between two comprehensive dental plans through United Concordia Dental. These plans focus on flexibility, savings, and service.

- 1 MEMBER ONLY RATES**  
Exclusive rates on the plan that best needs your dental needs through PASR. The price of a single service without insurance makes this plan easily pay for itself.
- 2 DEEP DISCOUNTS AND DISCOUNTS ON NON-COVERED SERVICES**  
Industry leading discounts on in-network dentists and specialists of close to 45%. This allows you to minimize your costs and worry less about exceeding your annual maximum.
- 3 100% COVERAGE FOR PREVENTIVE CARE**  
Your diagnostic and preventive care is fully covered in network, and research from United Concordia has found that members who receive preventive care two times per year had lower total medical costs.
- 4 STRONG NATIONAL NETWORK**  
Find your dentist from one of the largest (and still growing) local and national networks in the nation. United Concordia works to ensure there is always a network dentist close to your home.
- 5 EASY-TO-USE MEMBER TOOLS**  
You can access your information online at home or on-the-go with our mobile app. Through your **MyDentalBenefits** account you can view your benefits, claims information, find a dentist and create a directory with our Find a Dentist tool, and download your digital ID card.

## **COLLEGE TUITION BENEFIT®**

**NEW** rewards program through SAGE Scholars, Inc. to help families save money on college.

Each year you are covered by United Concordia, you earn Tuition Rewards® points towards discounts on college tuition for eligible students in the policyholder's family, including children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, godchildren, stepchildren, and adopted children.

**SIGN UP IN YOUR  
MyDentalBenefits  
ACCOUNT TODAY!**

To learn more about the PASR program or dental insurance options from United Concordia, call **(717) 697-7077**.



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# RECREO Trip Update: What to Expect When Traveling in 2021

Each December, PASR dedicates the Winter issue of the *PASR Times* to highlighting the upcoming RECREO trips that Chapters have organized across the state. Unfortunately in 2020, many of these trips had to be canceled or postponed due to the pandemic.

Though we are still in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, many of our Chapters are remaining hopeful that travel will resume sometime in 2021. The following pages (8–9) contain a list of trips and events that are currently scheduled for 2021.

It is important to keep in mind that, like 2020, these trips may need to be rescheduled or canceled based upon the current state recommendations and international travel guidelines, which are subject to change as the pandemic progresses. Because of this, we recommend that any member who plans to attend the events listed contact the RECREO Chair of the Chapter hosting the event prior to the event date to confirm that the event or trip is proceeding as scheduled. Contact information for each Chapter RECREO Chair is listed on pages 10–11 of this issue of the *PASR Times* for your reference.

We also recommend that anyone who is planning to travel in 2021, either with PASR or independently, join our free webinar on how travel has changed during the pandemic. The webinar will include important information about the safety protocols that have been put in place to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

This webinar is being presented by PASR's endorsed travel service provider, Boscov's Travel, on January 11, 2021 at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. Boscov's asks that members interested in attending either webinar RSVP by calling 1-800-782-5606. For more information, please view the advertisement at the bottom on this page.

At the State level of PASR, we also remain hopeful that international travel will resume in 2021 and have tentatively scheduled a trip to Iceland from September 15–21, 2021. An informational webinar for our "Iceland Explorer Tour" with Boscov's Travel will be held on January 18, 2021 at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. Please RSVP for the webinar by calling 1-800-782-5606 if you plan to attend so a meeting link and login details can be emailed to you.



## JOIN US!

### Traveling in Today's World

A Webinar presented by Boscov's Travel

**DATE** January 11, 2021

**TIME OPTIONS** 10AM or 6PM

Learn about how travel has changed throughout the pandemic, the new safety protocols across the industry, a showcase of some of the best destinations to visit, and the value of a trusted travel advisor.

**Call 800-782-5605 to RSVP and register for this exciting and informative presentation. We will email you the meeting link and log-in details once registered.**



800-782-5605, [boscovstravel.com](http://boscovstravel.com)

# 2021 RECREO Calendar

## March

March 23, 2021

Region 2 | Northampton

"Sherlock Holmes Returns" – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

## April

April 15, 2021

Region 4 | Lebanon County

Washington, DC – National Cathedral, Arlington National Cemetery, Museum of the Bible

April 21, 2021

Region 2 | Northampton

"Queen Esther" – Sight and Sound Theatre

## May

May TBD

Region 12 | Pittsburgh Chapter

Supporting Pittsburgh Public Schools – CAPA High School Spring Musical

May 1, 2021

Region 2 | Northampton

"Face to Face" a Tribute to Billy Joel & Elton John (Dueling Pianos) – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

May 13, 2021

Region 4 | Lebanon County

Lehigh Valley – Martin Guitar, Allen Organ, Taylor Backes Glass Tours

May 18 – 22, 2021

Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter

Vermont and New Hampshire

## June

June 10, 2021

Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter

"Queen Esther" – Sight and Sound Theatre

June 11 – 24, 2021

Region 4 | Adams

Scottish Isles

June 15, 2021

Region 2 | Northampton

"That'll be the Day" a Musical tribute to Buddy Holly – Mt. Airy Casino

June 17, 2021

Region 4 | Lebanon County

York – York History, Bluet Bros. Violins, Sunrise Soap Company, Haines Shoe House

## July

July TBD

Region 12 | Pittsburgh Chapter

"A Day of Service" – Assisting at the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

July 8 – 14, 2021

Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter

Collette Tour: Canadian Rockies, Glacier National Park with the Calgary Stampede

July 15, 2021

Region 4 | Lebanon County

Mystery Trip – Join our fun day!

## August

August 6 – 14, 2021

Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter

Collette Tour: Highlights of Norway





**August 17, 2021**

**Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter**

“Girl Power” (60’s Girl Groups) – Mt. Airy Casino

**August 22 – September 2, 2021**

**Region 4 | Cumberland County Chapter (CCCPASR)**

Maine, St. John’s, New Brunswick, Fundy National Park, Hopewell Rocks, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton Island, Cabot Trail, Peggy’s Cove, Acadia National Park, and more!

## September

**September 21, 2021**

**Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter**

“Divas 3” – Mt. Airy Casino

## October

**October 5, 2021**

**Region 4 | Cumberland County Chapter (CCCPASR)**

“Annapolis Cravings: By Land & By Sea” – Progressive Meal, Dining Through History & Traditions

**October 16 – 20, 2021**

**Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter**

Premier Tour: The Magnolia Trail and the Heart of Texas

**October 17 – 30, 2021**

**Region 4 | Adams**

Discover Portugal

**October 19, 2021**

**Region 4 | Lebanon County**

Jim Thorpe – Ride the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Train, Tour the Old Jail and the Episcopal Church

## November

**November 9 – 18, 2021**

**Region 4 | Cumberland County Chapter (CCCPASR)**

Collette Tour: “Sunny Portugal” including Estoril Coast, Alentejo, and Algarve

**November 11 – 12, 2021**

**Region 2 | Northampton**

Overnight trip to Dover, Delaware for the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Tour

**November 29 – December 3, 2021**

**Region 4 | Lebanon County**

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Kentucky – Phipps, Winter Festival of Lights, Christmas at Creation, the Ark, and much more!

**November 30 – December 2, 2021**

**Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter**

Greenbrier at Christmas, West Virginia

## December

**December 6 – 10, 2021**

**Region 4 | Cumberland County Chapter (CCCPASR)**

“Holiday Lights” – Biltmore, Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge

**December 7, 2021**

**Region 2 | Northampton**

“Winter Wonderland” Christmas Show – American Music Theatre

**Region 12 | Pittsburgh Chapter**

Holiday Luncheon and Afternoon at the Rivers Casino

**December 15, 2021**

**Region 2 | Lehigh Chapter**

“Winter Wonderland” Christmas Show – American Music Theatre

**December 17, 2021**

**Region 4 | Cumberland County Chapter (CCCPASR)**

Holidays with the Philly Pops – Includes Love Park Christmas Market, Luncheon, and “Christmas Spectacular” concert

# 2021 Chapter RECRO Committee Chair Directory

## Region 1

<b>Bucks Chair:</b>	Linda Majewski	majrl@msn.com	(215) 968-9629
<b>Chester Chair:</b>	David Seegers	dmseegers45@gmail.com	(610) 384-7137 or (610) 952-0756
<b>Delaware Chair:</b>	Caroline Fedena	c_fedena@yahoo.com	(610) 459-1993

## Region 2

<b>Berks Chair:</b>	Pamela Taylor	ptaylor@aaardgberks.com	(610) 374-5600
<b>Carbon Chair:</b>	Sandra Kokinda	slkok@ptd.net	(570) 386-5970 or (484) 553-2004
<b>Lehigh Chair:</b>	Joanne Richards	jertrips@icloud.com	(610) 398-0981
<b>Northampton Co-Chair:</b>	April Kucsan	aprilworose@gmail.com	(610) 759-5879
<b>Northampton Co-Chair:</b>	June Blair	jlb1040@outlook.com	(484) 894-8438 or (484) 894-8438

## Region 3

<b>Columbia/Montour Chair:</b>	Linda Eroh		(570) 379-3031
<b>Lackawanna Chair:</b>	George Duhigg	george.duhigg@gmail.com	(570) 586-1924
<b>Luzerne/Wyoming Chair:</b>	Wayne Seely	seely@pa.metrocast.net	(570) 384-4407
<b>Susquehanna Chair:</b>	Robert McNamara	bobmcnamara@echoes.net	(570) 396-5160 or (607) 237-1847

## Region 4

<b>Adams Chair:</b>	Kathy Harrigan	kharrigan66@gmail.com	(717) 818-3024
<b>Cumberland Co-Chair:</b>	Eric Wible		(717) 938-3516
<b>Cumberland Co-Chair:</b>	Susan Wible	sjw1007@gmail.com	(717) 938-3516
<b>Dauphin Chair:</b>	Ethel Dundore	edundore@verizon.net	(717) 533-3150
<b>Franklin Chair:</b>	David Barr	dbarr9165@comcast.net	(717) 263-9190
<b>Fulton Chair:</b>	Lunda Strait	lstrait@centurylink.net	(717) 485-4481
<b>Juniata Chair:</b>	Bonnie Cvejkus	Bcvejkus@hotmail.com	(717) 444-0137
<b>Lancaster Chair:</b>	Carol Tangert	cettours@comcast.net	(717) 984-2108 or (717) 626-0633
<b>Lebanon Chair:</b>	D. Lorraine Royer	ronlorroy@verizon.net	(717) 867-1021
<b>Perry Chair:</b>	James Troutman	jtroutman1964@gmail.com	(717) 589-3995
<b>York Chair:</b>	Joy Shoffner	ycpasrjoy@gmail.com	(717) 244-0428

## Region 5

<b>Blair Co-Chair:</b>	Elizabeth Happeny	eliz2happ@yahoo.com	(814) 946-4487
<b>Blair Co-Chair:</b>	Nancy DeNicola	nld307@atlanticbb.net	(814) 946-4086
<b>Centre Chair:</b>	Norma Zaccagni		(814) 355-2119
<b>Clearfield Chair:</b>	Rebecca Anderson	maryrebanders@gmail.com	(814) 236-3090
<b>Huntingdon Chair:</b>	B. Eugene Cornelius	CoachGC@atlanticbb.net	(814) 448-2693
<b>Mifflin Chair:</b>	Cynthia Freed	shodan6@yahoo.com	(717) 248-5037
<b>Snyder Co-Chair:</b>	Patricia Benfer	patben@ptd.net	(570) 658-2914
<b>Snyder Co-Chair:</b>	Janet Latchford	Janetlatch@gmail.com	(570) 837-3283
<b>Union Chair:</b>	Dolores Komlos	dakkom@yahoo.com	(570) 523-6990



## Region 6

<b>Alle-Kiski Co-Chair:</b>	Jan Anke Huggins	blueskiesandsun709@gmail.com	(724) 226-1444
<b>Alle-Kiski Co-Chair:</b>	June Cicola	jcicola105@comcast.net	(724) 335-1755 or (724) 681-6771
<b>Armstrong Chair:</b>	Robert Leard	leardfam@comcast.net	(724) 548-4920
<b>Bedford Co-Chair:</b>	Anne Lewis	hunka@embarqmail.com	(814) 652-2783 or (814) 977-3775
<b>Bedford Co-Chair:</b>	Stanley Howes	deepwoodbdf@comcast.net	(814) 623-1661
<b>Cambria Chair:</b>	Mary Ellen Klamar	metibbott@yahoo.com	(814) 948-8066 or (814) 659-6565

## Region 7

<b>Greene Co-Chair:</b>	Rosemary Andrew	randrew18@windstream.net	(724) 966-8653 or (724) 428-4396
<b>Greene Co-Chair:</b>	Nancy Fox	dandnfox@gmail.com	(724) 627-6878
<b>Washington Chair:</b>	Vera Hancher	kvh5@comcast.net	(724) 941-5436
<b>Westmoreland Chair:</b>	Cheryl Walter	cheryl@norwinexpress.com	(724) 433-0087 or (724) 433-0087

## Region 8

<b>Beaver Chair:</b>	Jerie Peabody	thepeas@comcast.net	(724) 495-7857
<b>Butler Co-Chair:</b>	Margaret Hoffman	mhoff80037@zoominternet.net	(724) 282-4454
<b>Butler Co-Chair:</b>	Joanne Nolsheim	nolsheim@zoominternet.net	(724) 287-8148
<b>Clarion Chair:</b>	Barbara Speer	bspeer@verizon.net	(814) 229-7700
<b>Mercer Chair:</b>	Sandra Shuttleworth	shuttleworthsandra1@gmail.com	(724) 346-5690

## Region 9

<b>Crawford Chair:</b>	Barbara Stockton	bjsbarb@zoominternet.com	(814) 425-2025 or (814) 573-1597
<b>Erie Chair:</b>	Patricia Zalas	patzalas@gmail.com	(814) 833-9532
<b>Venango Chair:</b>	Diana Fesenmyer	dfes1@comcast.net	(814) 676-6442 or (814) 673-6442
<b>Warren/Forest Chair:</b>	Janet Peterson	jmp50@atlanticbb.net	(814) 779-9021 or (814) 757-9480

## Region 10

<b>Clinton Chair:</b>	Joanne Heimer	jheimer@comcast.net	(570) 753-3699
<b>McKean Chair:</b>	Raymond Brzezinski	rbrzez@hotmail.com	(814) 837-8476

## Region 11

<b>Philadelphia Chair:</b>	Diane Roberts-Childs	childs.diane8@gmail.com	(215) 884-5743
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## Region 12 Chair

<b>Pittsburgh Chair:</b>	Debra Rucki	dsrucki@verizon.net	(412) 937-0138
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## Region 13 Chair

<b>Carolinas Chair:</b>	George Vlasic	geonanvlasic@atmc.net	(910) 287-5618
<b>Delmarva Co-Chair:</b>	LaVerne Griffiths	vgriiff@mchsi.com	(302) 541-5497
<b>Delmarva Co-Chair:</b>	Margaret Maiale		(302) 537-4255

# 2020 Leadership Development a Success

The 2020 Leadership Development Conferences, conducted virtually using Zoom, were a success. Participants reported very few technical problems with using Zoom and found the meetings to be both informative and engaging.

The presentations, which covered a wide range of topics including Incoming Presidents' Training, a presentation from the Pennsylvania (PA) Department of Senior Protection on the 10 most prevalent scams reported by seniors throughout PA, PASR By-Laws Review/Changes, information for first time PASR leaders, information on membership retention and member recruitment, and a seminar on the skills needed to be an effective leader in PASR were recorded and have been made available for all members to view in the Members' Only Section of [pasr.org](http://pasr.org) by clicking the Leadership Development 2020 link in the General Resources menu.

These recordings are a valuable resource to members who plan to take on a leadership role in PASR in the future, for those who have been considering taking on a leadership role, and for those who are simply curious about learning more about what is expected for leaders throughout PASR.

All of the materials referenced in the Zoom recordings are also available on the Leadership Development 2020 page for those who are interested in reviewing them.

The most highly-attended session was the Department of Senior Protection's presentation, which helps seniors stay informed about the scams that are affecting seniors in the Commonwealth. We encourage all of our members to view this informative video. Please note that [this video may not be shared outside of PASR](#).

## **A few important take-aways from the Department of Senior Protection are as follows:**

Pennsylvania seniors are entitled to free legal advice and information through the PA Senior Law Center, which can be reached online at <https://seniorlawcenter.org/projects/pennsylvania-seniorlaw-helpline/> or by calling 1-877-727-7529.

Check fraud remains a problem in the Commonwealth, but there are simple steps seniors can take to help prevent becoming a victim. One important measure is to use anti fraud pens, which contain inks made with color pigments that embed themselves into the paper, making it very difficult for fraudsters to "wash checks" or remove the ink and re-write the check amounts. A second tip is to limit the personal information you have pre-printed on your

checks. Instead of using your full legal name, use only your last name and first initial. This makes it difficult for fraudsters to forge signatures because they will have to guess the potential victim's first name. Do not have your phone number printed on your checks. If a phone number is required, physically write it on applicable checks.

Do not open your door if you don't recognize the individual on the other side. If the individual is representing a company, government organization, or utility, look for a vehicle that identifies them as such. Always ask for two forms of ID, as official looking IDs can be forgeries. Ask not only to see a work ID, but also a driver's license so you can ensure the names match.

Likewise, do not answer your phone if you don't recognize the caller. Also do not answer your phone if the caller ID is from a business or government entity that you recognize. Caller ID numbers can be "spoofed" to make potential victims believe they are answering a legitimate call, tricking them into revealing sensitive information like social security or credit card numbers. Rather than risk falling victim to an official looking spoofed number, simply screen all calls by having them go to voicemail. If the call is legitimate, the caller will leave information that can be verified. Always look up the official number of the company or organization from an independent source before returning the call. One of the most common phone scams is fraudsters pretending to be from the IRS to collect back taxes. It is important to note that the IRS will not call to demand payment over the phone, and must provide you with the opportunity to question or appeal any amount they claim you owe.

Other scams covered during the presentation to be aware of include health care scams, medical alert system scams, sweepstakes scams, grandparents scams, romance scams, investment scams, and charity solicitation scams.

To learn more about how to protect yourself from fraud or to report suspicious activity to the Senior Protection Unit, please visit <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/protect-yourself/seniors/>, call the toll-free helpline at 1-866-623-2137, or email [seniors@attorneygeneral.gov](mailto:seniors@attorneygeneral.gov). The Department of Senior Protection has also provided an informative brochure that includes safety tips for seniors which can be viewed online at [https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/senior\\_safety.pdf](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/senior_safety.pdf)



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# PASR Merchandise is Now Online!

While the holidays are just around the corner, PASR merchandise makes a great gift year-round. By adding an online shop to our website, PASR has made it more convenient than ever for our members to order and receive merchandise that had previously only been available by request from headquarters and at Meetings of the House of Delegates and other PASR events.

Currently, a limited variety of merchandise and clothing are available, with plans to expand the selection in the future. To access the online store, visit [pasr.org/shop](https://pasr.org/shop).

Visit the shop today to purchase PASR logo t-shirts, men's and women's polos, fleece jackets, sweatshirts, zippered sweatshirts, umbrellas, travel tumblers, and tea gift sets that include two mugs, coasters, and spoons.



## New Exclusive Member Discounts Available for 2021

At PASR, we are always looking for new ways to save our members money on the services and benefits they want or need. In the last issue of the *PASR Times*, we introduced you to new member exclusive discounts with Penn National and Westfield (offered through our partner, Trispagonas Insurance) that can save members money on auto, home, life, condo, tenant, long-term care, RV, boat, motorcycle, travel, and even pet insurance.

This issue, we are pleased to inform our members of a new discount for Jack Williams Tire & Auto Service Centers. PASR members receive \$10 off oil changes, 50% off PA State Safety Inspections, 5% off all regularly priced tires, \$20 off alignments, 5% off repairs, and more by presenting their PASR membership card at any Jack Williams Tire & Auto Service Center.

To print your PASR membership card, simply visit [pasr.org](http://pasr.org) and log into the Members' Only Section by entering your username (either your PASR member number or the email address we have on record) and password in the upper right-hand corner of the page and pressing the red Log In button. If you do not know your PASR member number, please look above your printed name and address on the back of this newsletter. If you have not used our Members' Only Section before, your password will be your first initial and last name, all lowercase, with no spaces. For example, if your name is John Smith, your password would be `jsmith`.

Once you are logged in, your membership card will be on the main page under the welcome message. Click the blue Print your Card hyperlink below the image of your card to print.

# United Concordia COVID-19 Pandemic Rebate

*By Mark Krempa, Administrative Officer*

PASR is happy to announce that United Concordia has issued a small rebate to PASR due to the impact that Covid-19 had on the availability of dental services. PASR is happy to return every penny of this rebate to its members that hold dental insurance policies.

The rebate is available to those renewing or upgrading their policies for 2021 and will be deducted from member's dental premiums during their 2021 renewal; physical rebate checks will not be mailed. The amount being returned to each member that holds a policy is dependent on the type of policy they held in 2020.

Members who are currently signed up for monthly withdrawals (ACH) will have the rebate amount automatically discounted from their January 2021 payment.

Rebate amounts are as follows:

### Standard Plan:

Individual: \$17.42

Two-party: \$33.63

Family: \$51.96

### Premium Plan:

Individual: \$25.00

Two-party: \$47.00

Family: \$74.50



# Executive Committee Nominations Now Open

PASR has begun the process of electing the next PASR Executive Committee. Every two years, new leaders are elected during the Meeting of the House of Delegates (formerly called the Convention) to fill these vital roles in our Association.

The positions currently available for nomination are President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. We are currently seeking interested candidates for each of these elected positions. In accordance with the PASR Bylaws, the current President-Elect, William Neugebauer (Bill) will automatically assume the position of President on January 1, 2022.

Candidacy for the available volunteer positions is open to any member of the State Association who is not an Associate Member. Elected officers will serve a two-year term, with only the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer permitted to run for reelection. These elections are very important, as the elected officers will determine the future direction of PASR.

The PASR Nominating Committee will review applications received for each volunteer position and select a single individual for each office to recommend and be voted upon by the PASR Delegates during PASR's Meeting of the House of Delegates which is currently scheduled to be held at the Eden Resort & Suites from October 3–5, 2021. Additional nominations for these offices can be made from the floor.

Anyone wanting to be considered for a State Officer position may secure an application form from their Region Director (who will be receiving copies of the application in January), from the Nominating Committee Chair, Gary Parker, or from the staff at PASR State headquarters by emailing [pasr@pasr.org](mailto:pasr@pasr.org).

Interested candidates should mail their completed application, along with a resume, to Gary Parker at 878 Century Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

## 2020 PASR Board of Directors

PRESIDENT | Judith L. Schaffer, (724) 339-7161, [judlees@hotmail.com](mailto:judlees@hotmail.com)  
PRESIDENT-ELECT | William D. Neugebauer, (814) 942-3488, [wneug@atlanticbb.net](mailto:wneug@atlanticbb.net)  
VICE PRESIDENT | Russell J. Diesinger, (610) 207-7384, [diesingerr1951@gmail.com](mailto:diesingerr1951@gmail.com)  
TREASURER | Stephen M. Vak, (724) 337-0320, [drsvak@gmail.com](mailto:drsvak@gmail.com)  
ASSISTANT TREASURER | John N. Werner, (814) 968-5625, [werners661@gmail.com](mailto:werners661@gmail.com)  
PAST PRESIDENT | Gary A. Parker, (570) 278-9342, [rekrp996@gmail.com](mailto:rekrp996@gmail.com)  
REGION 1 DIRECTOR | Judith L. Guise, (215) 536-5196, [jmisguided70@gmail.com](mailto:jmisguided70@gmail.com)  
REGION 1 REPRESENTATIVE | David R. Noyes, (610) 857-2464, [noyes\\_david@yahoo.com](mailto:noyes_david@yahoo.com)  
REGION 2 DIRECTOR | Cheryl Hinkel, (610) 759-8334, [auntie517@ptd.net](mailto:auntie517@ptd.net)  
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REGION 4 REPRESENTATIVE | Barry N. Kelly, (717) 225-3429, [kellykelbn@gmail.com](mailto:kellykelbn@gmail.com)  
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REGION 6 DIRECTOR | Stanley A. Howes, (814) 623-1661, [deepwoodbdf@comcast.net](mailto:deepwoodbdf@comcast.net)  
REGION 7 DIRECTOR | Betty Ellen Clutter, (724) 222-2533, [beclutter1@comcast.net](mailto:beclutter1@comcast.net)  
REGION 8 DIRECTOR | Mary K. Davis, (724) 486-3197, [auntfrog@bzoom.net](mailto:auntfrog@bzoom.net)  
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REGION 10 DIRECTOR | Nannette L. Rusczyk, (570) 916-7643, [nrusczyk@gmail.com](mailto:nrusczyk@gmail.com)  
REGION 11 DIRECTOR | Sherry O. Morris, (609) 351-5828, [smorrisppsrea@gmail.com](mailto:smorrisppsrea@gmail.com)  
REGION 12 DIRECTOR | Ellen Estomin, (412) 849-8123, [erestomin@gmail.com](mailto:erestomin@gmail.com)  
REGION 13 DIRECTOR | Nancy A. Vlasic, (910) 287-5618, [geonanvlasic@atmc.net](mailto:geonanvlasic@atmc.net)

## State & Board Committee Chairs

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## Save the Date!

**The 2021 Meeting of the House of Delegates  
will be held October 3–5, 2021 at the Eden  
Resort & Suites in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.**



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# PASR

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General contact information for PASR Headquarters can be found on the bottom of page 3 of each edition of the PASR Times and on our website, [pasr.org](http://www.pasr.org)

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