

ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER

P A S R 

Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees

“To serve others in need and help one another enjoy retirement.”

February, 2020

Vol. 2

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Today mid-winter doesn't seem quite as formidable as it often does. The sky is pale blue and sunshine is actually coming in through the window. Today it would seem easy to drive around Erie taking people to appointments and picking up medicine for them. Many of our members do things like that even when our “normal” winter weather strikes. At our January meeting we were inspired by the list of volunteer activities Karen O'Neal from the VA Medical Center told us were vital to the success of their operation. From sending in items that the veterans need for their personal care and well-being to jobs within the walls of the medical center, any of us could find a spot to fit in. I hope her presentation reminded us all that there are many ways to pursue our desire to be helpful and productive. We really do have a lot to offer!

Along that same line, I would like to invite anyone who is involved with a volunteer project in Erie or an outlying area to bring it to the attention of this organization's members. One way to do this would be to submit a short description of the project and the type of help needed to our newsletter editor, Marty Reddinger. Another way would be to ask if you can address the members at a business meeting, giving us a brief explanation of the volunteer work you are doing and how a person can become involved.

You may remember that last month I mentioned we needed someone to greet members each month and help them get settled. I'm here to tell you that you are amazingly clever and incredibly cooperative. First the board suggested that it might work to spread this responsibility around so that more people could be involved. Then the idea was presented to the members

at January's meeting; and before the meeting was over, we had greeters for most of the upcoming year. I am so grateful for you all!

Where would you like to go and what would you like to do? I sincerely want an answer to that question. Soon a short survey will appear on your email that asks you to identify the type of excursions you would enjoy and the most appealing time frame for each one. The more responses we get, the better planning we will be able to do. The survey will be available at February's meeting as well, so you can read the survey and think it over before you respond if you wish. Feel free to add comments that would help planners in making the best choices.

In closing, I'd like to remind everyone that we celebrate Valentine's Day this month. Do you know someone who is alone or who needs a ride to go places? Maybe this year that person could be your valentine. Send a card or take him/her to lunch. It will make you both smile!

Connie Walker

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JANUARY 9, 2020

President Connie Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially our guest Karen O'Neal from the Erie VA Medical Center. She thanked Janet Krack for the music. Connie informed us that today's charity is the VA medical center. She introduced Joe Mineo, who gave the invocation.

Following lunch Jeannie Lamb, new Vice President and Program Chair, introduced Karen O'Neal. Karen is the Chief of Volunteering Services. She gave a talk on the different areas where volunteers are needed. Karen's responsibilities include Recruiting volunteers, Gifts and donations, and special events.

Connie explained that our Social Services Memorial Honor Fund exists to provide comfort and encouragement to our members. She encouraged members to notify us of any member confined to their home, experiencing a long hospital stay, or in a nursing home. We can then provide cards and visits to these members. Another important role of this committee is to record and honor members who have passed away. Pat Tracy and Judith Newlin presented a Necrology Program.

OLD BUSINESS

President Connie Walker called the meeting to order at 1:17. She read a thank you note from Ainsley Brosig for our donation to the Children's Museum. She reminded everyone to pick up their name tag if they haven't already done so. Please wear at each meeting because it makes it easier to get to know each other. She also explained that we needed someone to meet and greet members as they come in and assist in finding them a seat. Instead of having just one person having this responsibility she asked that members sign up for a single month. She then passed a sheet around for members to sign up.

NEW BUSINESS

Connie said we are interested in knowing what types of RECREO activities members are interested in attending. In order to assess these interests a short survey will be given to members at next month's meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Educational Support: Betsy Trocki explained the requirement for the Helen Page Scholarship. The form is in this month's newsletter. She explained that relatives of members are given first consideration.

L/PEC: Judith Newlin spoke on the various bills that have been presented. House Bill 1960 did not include a COLA. Thanks to the many phone calls that were made on behalf of the COLA, the bill did not pass. There is a bill, SB951, in the Senate that does include a COLA. The bill by Frank Ryan, HB 13< which was to tax pensions, died before it was presented. Our state L/PEC representatives still need funds in order to lobby for a COLA.

COMMITTEE SERVICE: Diane Grzelak reminded everyone to keep track of their volunteer hours. The fiscal year for PASR has been changed to be from July 1st to June 30th. This means that the Volunteer of the Year Award for this year will cover a span of a year and a half. The Community Service drawing was won by Don Ickes in the amount of \$95.

Member Karen Hollinsworth asked if members would sign letters against Human Trafficking.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57.

Respectfully submitted: Pat Timko

Teacher Grant Recipients for 2020

Catherine Moyer: Health and Physical Education Teacher at North East High School - \$300.

Catherine will use her grant money for pedometers that will help her students set physical activity goals at school and at home.

Maria Smith: Family and Consumer Science Teacher at Strong Vincent Middle School - \$300.

Maria's students will be making pillows and small blankets that will be donated to either Shriners Hospital for Children or local shelters. The grant money will help her purchase fabric, thread, needles, stuffing, and patterns.

Both grant recipients will be at our February 13th meeting.

Congratulations!

RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR

A retirement planning workshop has been scheduled for March 12. This seminar is open to ANY Erie County School District employee planning to retire in the next five years. Participants will hear from members of our local chapter PASR, a representative from PSERS with information on retirement options, and members of The Legend Group with information on financial planning for retirement. A complimentary buffet will be provided. Informational flyers will be distributed to all Erie County School Districts in early February.

If you know of anyone who may be interested, call or email Dave and Cathy Stemmler for information.

814-734-1288

cdstemmler@gmail.com

PASR LUNCH INFORMATION FOR 2019-20

To make a lunch reservation:

Sign up at a PASR luncheon for the following month's lunch or

Call, text or email Pat Crist by the Friday prior to the lunch.

- Call (449-3509) and leave a message
- Text (449-3509)
- Email (pcrist331@yahoo.com)

Pat will respond to your message within 24 hours. If she doesn't, please resend your message.

If you need a vegetarian meal, please tell Pat when you leave your message.

To cancel a lunch reservation:

If you made a lunch reservation and are unable to attend, please contact Pat Crist by the Friday prior to the lunch meeting. If you do not cancel your reservation, you will be billed \$13.00 for the lunch that was ordered for you. See contact information above.

The entire lunch menu is presented in this newsletter.

The cost of this lunch is \$13 per month.

PASR LUNCH MENU FOR 2019 - 2020

February 13, 2020

Hot: Baked Fish, Roasted Red Skins, Seasoned Corn, Applesauce
Cake

Cold: Grilled Chicken Salad, Wedding Soup, Applesauce, Cake

March 12, 2020

Hot: Mediterranean Chicken, Roasted Red Skins, California
Medley, Fruit Cocktail, Pie

Cold: Trio Salad, (Fruit Cocktail, Tuna & Chicken Salad), Chicken
Noodle Soup Pie

April 9, 2020

Hot: Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Peas & Carrots, Pie

Cold: Chef Salad, Chicken & Rice Soup, Chocolate Pie***not
Turkey***

May 14, 2020

Hot: Lasagne, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Cake

Cold: Turkey & Cheese Pretzel, Beef Barley Soup, Cake

June 11, 2020

Hot: Chicken & Biscuits, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Tossed Salad,
Strawberry Shortcake

Cold: Seafood Salad Croissant, Tomato Basil Soup, Tossed Salad,
Strawberry Shortcake.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

The speaker for the February 13 luncheon will be Heather May Caspar, Executive Director of the SSJ (Sisters of St. Joseph) Neighborhood Network. Come hear what interesting work they are doing!

Jeanne Lamb, our Vice President/Program Director, is interested in hearing about any types of programs that you are interested in having. Please contact her at:

jeanne.m.lamb56@gmail.com

This is her correct email address.



MEMORAL SERVICE FOR OUR MEMBERS

A Memorial Service for our members who passed away during 2019 was held during our January meeting. Our SSMHF Chairperson, Phyllis Rzodkiewicz, asked Pat Tracy and Judith Newlin to participate. Judith read a beautiful remembrance and Pat Tracy read the names. Thank you for that remembrance of our friends and loved ones. Below is a list of the names and the date of their passing.

01/29/19	Getz W. Getz
03/29/19	Esther H. Agnew
04/06/19	Harold E. Horton
04/07/19	Rose Mary (Hess) Koziorowski
05/05/19	Elaine Marie Schwab
08/10/19	Bonnie Lee George (Stone)
10/08/19	Gloria Anne Fornelli Sinnott
11/18/19	Janet Telega
11/21/19	Nancy E. Dailey Sweeny
12/12/19	Evelyn Jane Davis Hamilton

PASR Grant for Retirees

Erie County Chapter Educational Enrichment Grant

In an effort to provide ongoing educational support to members of the Erie County Chapter of PASR, the Educational Support Committee is providing grants-in-aid to members who wish to take programs for further education/ or personal enrichment. Applications of requests for grants up to \$100 per program must be submitted by May 1, 2020.. The number of grants awarded will be determined according to available funding, following review of the committee.

Have you considered taking a seminar at the Jefferson Society, an adult education class offered by your local school district, or maybe music lessons? These types of programs would all be eligible for the Educational Support Grant.

All requests for funding must include this application. Please submit your application to: Elizabeth Trocki 643 E. 32 St. Erie, Pa. 16504. If you have questions, call me at 814-440-8249 or email etrocki@neo.rr.com.

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT GRANT APPLICATION

ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER - PASR

Applications are due by May 1, 2020. Grant amounts requested will be awarded according to funds available in June.

_____	_____
Applicant Name	Date

_____	_____	_____
Address -City - State - Zip		

Phone	Email
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Course Fee:_____

Self Enrichment Description:

Explain why you are interested in taking this class:

DECEMBER OBITUARIES 2019

12/02/19	Larry Dale Jones
12/02/19	Bernie Carl Zimmer
12/04/19	Larvetta F. Mokwa
12/08/19	Agnes Ruza Priscaro
12/10/19	Michael D. Konetsky
12/11/19	Gladys Marie Rueckwald Schweingruber
12/12/19	** Evelyn Jane Davis Hamilton
12/17/19	Howard R. Van Allsburg
12/17/19	Dr. Doris Ann Larsen Snell
12/23/19	Georgia Sue DeMarco
12/23/19	Margaret E. Wike
12/25/19	Jean M. Anderson
12/25/19	Roy L. Colvin
12/26/19	Carl John Quinn
12/29/19	Donald Albert McCalmon
12/31/19	Mary Elizabeth Baker

ERIE COUNTY PASR BUDGET REPORT
December 31, 2019

		2019 BUDGET	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CURRENT MONTH	CURRENT BALANCE
Revenues:					
Local Dues		\$ 5,000.00	\$ (280.00)	\$ 36.00	\$ (316.00)
Interest		\$ 5.00	\$ 3.93	\$ 0.06	\$3.87
Social Service		\$ 750.00	(\$5.00)		\$ (5.00)
Miscellaneous		\$750.00	\$ 750.00		\$ (5.00)
Helen Page Scholarship		\$750.00	\$ 112.00		\$ 112.00
Retirement Planning		\$200.00	\$ (345.00)		\$ (345.00)
Convention/Leadership Dev		\$275.00	\$ 275.00		\$ 275.00
Enrichment Grant		\$200.00			-----
Savings Transfer		\$ 4,095.00	\$4,095.00		\$ 4,095.00
	Totals	\$ 12,025.00	\$ 4605.93	\$ 36.06	\$ 4,569.87

EXPENSES-GENERAL

Printing/Newsletter		\$2,000.00	\$ 607.66		(\$607.66)
Postage		\$2,000.00	\$ 800.42		\$800.42
Supplies		\$1500.00	\$1,280.34		\$ 1,280.34
Contingency		\$100.00			
	Totals:	\$5,600.00	\$ 1,473.10	--	\$1,473.10

EXPENSES—COMMITTEES

President's Discretion		\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$100.00
Convention Delegates		\$ 1,000.00	\$ (54.00)	\$ 448.79	\$ (502.79)
Membership		\$ 250.00	\$ 192.79		\$ 192.79
New Retirees, Guest Lunches		\$ 500.00	\$ 33.34		\$ 33.34
Helen Page Scholarship		\$1,500.00			
SSMHF		\$750.00	\$ 188.09		\$ 188.09
Programs		\$600.00	\$ 39.40		\$39.40
Community Services		\$275.00	\$275.00		\$275.00
Enrichment Grants		\$900.00			
Region Meet Reimbursement		\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00		\$350.00
Retirement Planning		\$200.00	\$ 117.43		\$177.43
	Totals:	\$ 1,302.05	\$ 448.79		\$ 853.26

James Getz, Treasurer

ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER PASR

December 31, 2019

Beginning Balance

\$ 8,340.29

DATE		AMOUNT	
12/09/19	State Dues	\$ 120.00	\$120.00
12/09/19	Local Dues	\$ 30.00	\$ 156.00
12/12/19	Christmas Party	\$ 300.00	\$ 456.00
12/24/19	Interest	\$ 0.06	\$ 456.06

Total

\$456.06

EXPENSES

DATE	CK. #	PAYEE	AMOUNT
12/09/19	3279	VISA—Christmas Party	\$142.86
12/10/19	3280	Zem Zem Shrine Club—Christmas Party	\$1,596.81
12/12/19	3281	PASR—Membership	\$ 120.00
12/19/19	3282	Diane Grzelak-St. Conference	\$ 448.79

Total

\$2,308.46

Checkbook Balance

\$6,487.89

Investment

C.D. # 2		\$ 5,085.37
C.D. # 1		\$ 2,750.51

Total Investments

\$ 7,835.88

Total Assets

\$14,323.77

James Getz, Treasurer

December 31, 2019

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2019



Christmas Party – December 4, 2020

Connie Walker, President PASR Erie Chapter Enjoying the



ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER

PASR

Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees



Mary Ellen Lieb
3841 Parkside Ave.
Erie, PA 16506



*"To serve others in need and help
one another enjoy retirement."*