

Central Penn Chapter
Pennsylvania Association of
Retired State Employees

621 Mallard Road
Camp Hill, PA 17011

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AUGUST 2026

President's Report

DID YOU KNOW?

Can you name the 27th letter of the alphabet?????

Well, of course not; there are only 26 letters in the alphabet. However, there was once a time when the alphabet boasted an additional character, namely the ampersand, commonly denoted as ‘&,’ and it was considered a part of the alphabet until the middle of the nineteenth century. Today, it primarily appears in company names such as H&R Block or Ben & Jerry’s. When the ampersand was part of the alphabet, it followed ‘Z’. When reciting the alphabet, children would say, “X, Y, Z, and per se and,” which meant that “and” was the way to pronounce “&.” This phrase was eventually shortened to “ampersand.”

As of July, the membership for Central Penn Chapter was 10,128.

We received a letter from a PARSE member who volunteers for the AARP Tax-Aide Program. They are seeking volunteers to help with tax preparation and assistant through Dauphin County. You do not need to be an AARP member or a retiree to participate, although the locations are open on weekdays during business hours. You need to be familiar with tax forms (such as preparing your own). Training will be provided November through January.

Sign up at:
www.aarp.org/volunteer/program/tax-aide, or call 717-219-3945 and leave a message.
Please respond by October 31, 2026.

This year we have 3 Director positions up for election for the 2027-28 term. Anyone interested in running for one of these positions please submit your name, address and phone number to Mary Beckey, Chair of the Nominating Committee, no later than August 28, 2026.

A reminder that Kristen Hand, PARSE State President, will be joining us for this month luncheon. She will be taking questions and asking for any suggestions or any concerns that any member may have.....this is your opportunity to ask questions.

Please remember to send in your luncheon reservation as soon as possible so that we can give the Penn Harris a correct count. You must have a reservation---there are no walk-in.

Remember----No tickets will be sold after 11:50am so that the ladies can finish their tasks and have lunch on time.

Reservation Table & Doors open at 11am
Lunch at 12pm

Karen Taylor
President,
Central Penn Chapter



Any chapter correspondence is to be sent to:
Central Penn Chapter PARSE

2312 New York Avenue, Camp Hill, PA 17011 | hbh11cc@gmail.com | (717) 343-1235

www.PARSECentralPenn.com

Officers & Directors 2026
www.parsecentralpenn.com

President:
Karen Taylor.....717-343-1235

Executive VP:
John Collins.....717-456-0609

VP:
Mary Beckey.....717-580-4534

Record Sec:
Patty Malarz.....717-566-9754

Treasurer:
Jan Moran.....717-763-5515

Asst. Treasurer:
Tom Hoffman.....717-652-3435

Directors:
James Miket717-561-1871
Jean Chilson.....717-329-0835
Anita Kresge.....717-512-0902
Darlene Cline.....717-737-3878
Barb Bloom..... 717-580-7131
Jim Williams.....717-503-8931

Programs:
Jim Williams.....717-503-8931
James Miket.....717-561-1871
Anita Kresge.....717-512-0902

Travel:
Jan Moran.....717-763-5515
Karen Taylor.....717-343-1235
Mary Beckey.....717-580-4534
Anita Kresge.....717-512-0902

Membership:
John Collins.....717-456-0609
Shirley Hoffman.....717-652-3435

Calls will only be accepted by officers and directors between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

For inquires on Membership,
Dues, and Insurance notifications:

PARSE (State Office)
5000 Ritter Road, Suite 105
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717-731-9522
www.parseofpa.org

President
Kristen Hand 717-731-9522 ext.101
khand@parseofpa.org

Regional Vice President
Joan Matterness 717-392-4906

In Memoriam

Please send Jean the names of members whose deaths have come to your attention. If possible, please include an obituary or other formal notice of death. You must also notify the State PARSE Office and AMBA to:
Jean Kresge
223-240-1412
jeankresge@verizon.net

David J. Tregea

For Inquiries on Benefits AMBA
MA Filler
800-382-1352 | ma.filler@getamba.com



PARSE Travel

TRIP FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE AT: www.parsecentralpenn.com or call Jan or Karen to send one to you at the numbers listed on the back page of this Newsletter. Mail all reservation forms to: PARSE c/o Jan Moran at 621 Mallard Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011 Non-members welcome!

PARSE Travel - Budget Friendly: A full refund is provided 30 days prior to the trip unless otherwise stated. If you purchase travel insurance, you will get your money refunded.

TRIPS FOR 2026 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION)

The information on the trips have been updated on the WEB site (www.parsecentralpenn.com) as the Newsletter will only show the trip, date and price. You need to go to the WEB Site to see the full information on the trip, print the flyer, and make your reservation with the form at the bottom of the flyer. You must click on the trip to print the flyer. If you cannot print the flyer, contact Karen at 717-343-1235 for a copy of the flyer you want. Keep checking the WEB site as the flyers will appear there sooner than in the Newsletter.

West Shore pickup for Travel is...Penn Harris---Camp Hill Bypass.
East Shore pickup for Travel is...At Home Store-- Jonestown Road, Harrisburg.

September 9, 2026.....	Arlington & DC Memorials...\$169...Reservations due 8/5
September 24, 2026.....	Forever George & Tammy...\$125...Reservations due 8/21
October 7, 2026.....	Salute America...\$249...Reservations due 9/4
October 11/15, 2026.....	I Love Lucy & Autumn Leaves..Double \$949--Single \$1,249...Reservations due 8/7
November 5, 2026.....	Revolutionary History.....\$174.....Reservations due 10/2
December 9, 2026.....	Holly Jolly Holiday.....\$133.....Reservations due 11/6

When submitting a reservation for a PARSE trip, you need to use the reservation form at the bottom of the flyer. Using this form makes it easier to keep track of who is going on the trip, where they want to be picked up, your telephone number, and it also helps us keep track of any special needs or requests. When just sending a note with your payment it does not always give us all the information we need. If we do not receive all the information on your reservation form, we will cbe returning the entire package (form and checks) for you to update. A new reservation form will be included. If you don't have access to the internet or printer, call Karen at 717-343-1235 and she will send you a flyer.

PLEASE NOTE: Since the seating on the bus is based on when you submit your money/deposit, and you are traveling with other people, everyone needs to submit their reservation form at the same time in order to be seated together. Please make a note on your reservation forms the names of those who you are traveling with. Seats are assigned two to three weeks before the trip and then the seat assignment and itinerary are mailed out. Checks are not cashed immediately upon receipt and if you don't hear about your check within a timely manner, contact Jan Moran or Karen Taylor.

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, August 4, 2026
Hostess: Anita Kresge
717-580-4534
Gilligan's Bar & Grill
987 Eisenhower Blvd.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17111

Board of Directors Meetings 2026

08/04/2026	11/03/2026
09/01/2026	12/01/2026
10/06/2026	

2026 Membership Luncheon Meeting/Program

MONDAY, AUGUST 17TH
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20TH
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

Monthly Chapter Meeting

Reservation for Lunch at Chapter Meeting ~ The Penn Harris Hotel
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED- NO WALK-INS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Monday, August 17, 2026

Doors and Registration Table Open at 11:00 AM
Lunch at 12:00 Noon

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____
Names of others on your check payment:
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

MENU – Cheese-Stuffed Manicotti, Seasonal Vegetable Medley and Cherry Pie

(On reservation form choose one (1) meat for each diner)

Plain Chicken _____ (Alternate Meat Choice), Vegetarian _____, Gluten Free _____
Number of reservations: \$15.00 ____ Members and ____ \$25.00 for Guests with a Member Total enclosed \$ _____

Program: Kristen Hand, President, PARSE State Office

Deadlines: Reservations - Received by NOON August 10, 2026

Cancellations: By NOON August 10, 2026

**You must make out separate checks for your luncheon to
PARSE and the donation to Central PA Food Bank.**

Central PA Food Bank Donation \$ _____

Payment is requested by personal check only. **Please make checks payable to PARSE**

Mail to: PARSE c/o Tom Hoffman, 7855 Skyline Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112 Phone: (717) 652-3435
Lunch tickets are not issued, but there must be a reservation verifiable at the desk.

Welcome New Members

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

DANA BLACKSTON
RUTH BOYER
DONALD FEGER
JOHN FERRARIO
ANTHONY GRAFTON
LISA HANZEL
RENEE HOFFMAN
SUE KING
JAMES MARKLEY
WESLEY MOORE
KAREN PODNIESINSKI
JENNIFER RENARD
KIM RUDY
FRANK SCHUBERT
THOMAS SHULER
JANET SHUTT
BARBARA SIROLI
DENISE SISK
BRAD SMITH
WENDY SWAGER
CANDACE VERRECCHIO
DONALD WIEST

CHAPTER MEMBERS:

MARILYN BAKER - PHEAA
MARIAN BLACKSTON - DOT
DAVID BOYER - AUD GEN
SUSAN CARBAUGH - SHIP
SHERRY COOPER - PSU
DENNIS DOMBROWSKI - OA
VICKIE DUNN - CWLTH
CHEE EMMONS - CWLTH
DARLENE FEGER - EXEC OFF
ROXANN FERRARIO - DHS
PATRICIA FITZGERALD - TREAS
KIMBERLY FURMAN - CWLTH
DONNA GARLINGER - CWLTH
GARY GILL - L&I
VIVIAN GRAFTON- TREAS
ROBERT HANZEL -L&I
PAUL HENSE - CORRECTION
BRADLEY HOFFMAN - EXEC OFF
GRACE HOLLAND - CORRECTION
TAMMY JACOBS - REV
KASARAGOD JANARDHANA - DPW
JAQUELINE JOHNSON - LCB
CYNTHIA KELLER - INS
ROBERT KLINGER - REV
LISA LOPEZ- L&I

JENNIFER MARINACCI - PHEAA
JUDITH MARKLEY - HERSHEY MED
VETA MITCHELL - HEALTH
ROBIN NESTLER - PHEAA
GARY PACKARD- GAME
GREGORY PODNIESINSKI- CWLTH
THOMAS RENARD - PHEAA
DEBRA RHOADS - HOUSE REP
ALAN RICE - CWLTH
MARI RUDY - PUC
JODY RUSSELL - CORRECTION
STEPHANIE SCHUBERT - DHS
SHELLEY SCOTT - DOT
LISA SHANTZ - PSU
HARVEY SHUTT- EDUC
PAUL SISK - L&I
TAMMY SMITH - DHS
RODNEY SWAGER - JUNIATA SD
JEFFREY VERRECCHIO- HERSHEY MED
ROBIN WALKER- DPW
CHERL WATTS - EDUC
BARBARA WEIMER- LCB
DERRICK ZIMMERMAN- CORRECTION