

A Good Time Had By All



Jon F. Lafaver receives the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal from Harris Ferry Chapter.

For those attending the Constitution Day luncheon on September 12th it was a most enjoyable and informative time. Jointly sponsored by Harrisburg Chapter, DAR, and Harris Ferry Chapter, SAR, and joined by Carlisle's Washingtonburg Chapter, SAR, all members and guests enjoyed a delicious buffet and appreciated what Jon F. Lafaver had to say concerning The Constitution and the Flag. Mr. Lafaver, a lawyer from New Cumberland, presented a stirring and uplifting talk on the Pledge to the Flag and the controversial phrase "under God".

A Few Good Men

Just like the military the Nominating Committee is looking for "a few good men" to serve on the Board of Directors of Harris Ferry Chapter. The Board meets four times a year (Feb., May, Aug., Nov.) to provide direction for HFC. We meet currently at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Highspire. Please consider supporting Harris Ferry Chapter in a proactive way. Call Ed Miller, chairman, at 717-944-7364. **BE ALL YOU CAN BE!**

Dues Due

It will soon be time for payment of your dues. Please remember to return your payment in a timely manner. We no longer have until mid January. All dues must be submitted to PASSAR by December 30th. Please remit to William S. Marshall III at the address given on your membership card.

Maybe Another Time

It seemed to be a good idea that never materialized. Ed Miller, chairman of the Family Picnic Committee, informed the Board that it had to be cancelled due to lack of response. Planed for October 3rd at the Middletown Boro Park, it was to be an opportunity for members not having the time to attend our usual luncheons to bring their families and meet other members of Harris Ferry Chapter. Apparently it was not convenient for many families. Ed is asking for input for other family interactions. To share your ideas please call him at 717-944-7364.

HFC Latest Essay Winner

David Neagley, currently a senior at Upper Dauphin High School, was the Knight Essay Contest winner for 2004. His essay entitled "The Uneducated Scribe: Thomas Paine" not only took first place on the chapter level but was judged best in the state by the PASSAR Committee. Ed Miller, HFC chairman, had the opportunity to acknowledge David's winning by presenting him checks and certificates from both levels.

David is a member of the National Honor Society and an officer in the FFA. He enjoys painting and music and is accompanist of the school ensemble. Upon graduation he plans to attend college and major in biology or biochemistry with a long-term goal to attend medical school.

Meet the President

You have the opportunity to meet the National President General Henry "Hank" McCarl at the PASSAR Annual Meeting in York at the Hotel Yorktown on May 6-7, 2005. Watch for reservation forms in your PA Minuteman. President General McCarl holds a dual membership in PASSAR. You have read about him now meet him in person. Show him that Central PA and Harris Ferry Chapter in particular are alive and doing well.

Significant Quotes

"The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."

MICHELANGELO

Annual Meeting

December 12, 2004 at the Mechanicsburg Officer's Club Harris Ferry Chapter will welcome PASSAR President J. Fenwick Shugrue. He will install Harris Ferry's officers for the year 2005. Use the reservation form sent to you. Hope to see you there in support of your Chapter and it's new officers.

New Members

Our Registrar John Peifer is always ready to review new applications. If you have a brother, son, uncle, or nephew that is not a member of the Sons of the American Revolution consider helping them join a society whose goals are patriotic, historical, and educational. You probably have completed most of the research so that makes it easy. Contact John at 717-774-3944 or Secretary Ed at 717-944-7364 for a worksheet to get started. The more the merrier.

POLITICAL HISTORY

Q. Why are federal elections held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November?

A. For much of its history, America was a predominantly agrarian society. Lawmakers took into account that November was the most convenient month for farmers and rural workers to travel to the polls. Since most residents of rural America had to travel a significant distance in order to vote, Monday was not reasonable. Many people would have needed to begin travel on Sunday. This would have conflicted with Sunday worship services. Lawmakers wanted to prevent Election Day from falling on Nov. 1, for two reasons: Nov. 1 is All Saints Day, a holy day of obligation for Roman Catholics. And, most merchants did their bookkeeping from the preceding month on the first day of the month.

Apparently Congress was worried the economic success or failure of the previous month might provide an undue influence on the vote!