



Inside PARSE

December 2018

Message from the President

Dear PARSE member,

Once again the holiday season is upon us. That means it is time for our festive party. This year the party will take place on Friday, December 28, 2018 at 12:30 pm. The site will again be the Waterfall Room of Swan Caterers, 2015 Water Street in South Philadelphia.

Our previous holiday parties have been unabashed successes with a vast array of foods, desserts, and a cash bar. Come one; come all, but respond early because seating is limited to the first 250 reservations.

Besides the food, the festivities will include music and dancing for just \$30.00 for members and \$35.00 for non PARSE members. Your chapter is absorbing part of the cost. This is a benefit of membership.

Our Fall Luncheon was another successful endeavor with a speaker from PISI. The meeting featured the election of officers and board members. All incumbent officers and members were reelected. The acting board members were also elected as well as two additional new members.

By mid November, our chapter's membership was 1,511, up about 3 percent from last year. This was near our all time high of 1,519 in 2016.

"There is strength in numbers."

Our chapter sponsored two social events that were unqualified successes ---- a wine tasting & smorgasbord trip in the spring and a casino & shopping venture to Maryland in the summer. At this point, we are planning a casino & shopping trip to Atlantic City during 2019.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Let's enjoy our Holiday Party, and the coming New Year!

Sincerely,

Leon Cerullo
PARSE Philadelphia-Bucks Chapter President

Executive Board:

President	Leon Cerullo
Vice President	Luticia Gary
Secretary	Evelyn Y. Trent
Treasurer	Edward Finfer

Members

Ernestine Blackston-Brandon	Sonia Mendez
Fred Bostwick	John Molinari
Mike Gart	Patricia Ann Philson
Gloria Hamilton	Michael Powell
Connie Johnson	Carol Roberts
Sandi MacLaren	David Rosner
Raymond Martinez	Barbara Taylor
Faye Matter	Everett Varan

President Emeritus

Leo J. Burke, Jr.

Member Emeritus

Myrna Brown

2019 Membership Dues!!!

\$20.00

NOW DUE

Please complete the enclosed membership application and include a check for your **2019 dues** of

\$20.00 per person, made out to:

"PARSE PHILA-BUCKS CHAPTER"

Mail to our chapter treasurer

Edward Finfer

189 Harmony Court

Bensalem, PA, 19020

(215) 244-1330

Please also include your December 28, 2018

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON reservation at

\$30.00 per member, \$35.00 per guest



(over)

2019 Social Security Increase

Social Security benefits will increase 2.8 percent in 2019, the largest cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in seven years. The average Social Security retirement benefit will increase by \$39 a month or roughly \$468 a year.

The monthly premium costs for **Medicare Part B** will also increase in 2019 and could affect actual individual benefits because the premium is deducted from Social Security payments. Medicare monthly premiums are going up \$1.50 in 2019. The standard monthly premium will be \$135.50 in 2019, up from \$134.00 in 2018.

Part B Medicare covers physician and diagnostic services, outpatient hospital services, certain home health services and durable medical equipment. Some say that those 65 and older could see their Social Security COLA swallowed up by health costs, including the Medicare monthly premium increase.

The **“hold harmless rule”** protects you from having your previous year’s Social Security benefit level reduced by an increase in the Part B premium so long as: you are entitled to Social Security benefits for November and December of the current year.

Social Security is financed by a tax on workers’ wages. Next year, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax will increase from \$128,400 to \$132,900.

Stay tune to “What’s Happening” in PARSE.

Visit our



www.parsephilabucks.org

Directions to:

Swan Caterers’ Waterfall Room, 2015 Water Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148, 215-389-2045
There is plenty of parking available under I-95, in addition to street parking.

SEPTA: Broad Street Subway or C Bus to Snyder Ave., Route 79 Bus East to Front St., cross street to Water St. and walk one half block north.

From I-95 North: Take exit 20 for Columbus Blvd toward Washington Ave, keep right at the fork, follow signs for Snyder Ave/Oregon Ave, turn right onto S Columbus Blvd, turn right onto E Snyder Ave, take the third right onto S Water St.

From I 95 South: Take exit 20 on the left for Columbus Blvd toward Washington Ave, turn right onto S Columbus Blvd, turn right onto E Snyder Ave, take the third right onto S Water St.

From I 76 East: Head towards Central Phila, take exit 344 on the left for I-676 E, merge onto I-676 S, continue onto Vine St Expy, keep right at the fork, follow signs for I-95 S/Chester/Phila Intra’tl Airport and merge onto I-95 S, then follow I-95 South directions above.

From I 76 West: Head towards I-95 N, keep left at fork, follow sign for I-95 N/Trenton and merge onto I-95 N, then follow I-95 North directions above.