

June, 2007

The NewsPAGR

Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations

**Post Office Box 116 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108
(717) 540-4391 Fax (717) 657-9708 www.pagr.org**



**2007/2008
Legislative Directories
Are HERE!**

**PAGR ordered extra copies.
If you would like to order some,
contact Christine at the PAGR office.
They will be sold on a first come basis.**

Cost is \$7.50 each for PAGR members.

Directories are available right now.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Andy Hill



I took a trip this weekend. That's not rare lately; between state and National meetings I spent most of late April and early May "on the road". But this trip was different, this one was personal, and solo. No wife, no kids, no meeting to be prepared for, just me and four hours of open road. I was going to see my younger brother in Geneva, NY. He and his wife moved from South Philly a year ago to open a tavern in the college town at the north end of Seneca Lake. They finally opened two weeks ago, but I was at my association's national meeting and fly-in in Washington, D.C. and missed the opening weekend.

So after my son's T-ball practice I hopped in the car for the four hour journey. I popped an audio book in the CD player (*My Life* by Bill Clinton) and hit the road. Route 15 is a beautiful ride. For much of the trip the road follows the Susquehanna. Once you get north of Williamsport you feel that you are in the middle of nowhere. Your next brief view of civilization in Corning, NY.

Listening to Clinton talk about the 1992 campaign brought back a flood of memories. The campaigns that I worked on that year were my first paying jobs in politics and quite frankly got me where I am today.

"The campaigns that I worked on that year were my first paying jobs in politics and quite frankly got me where I am today."

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



HAS 330

MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR

2007...

AN ALL TIME HIGH!

The mission statement of the Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations, Inc. (PAGR) is to promote the purpose and effectiveness of the lobbying profession consistent with the public interest. Further, association members encourage high standards of personal and professional conduct among all lobbyists. ☼

(continued on page 3)

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*by Andy Hill*

(continued from cover)

I have often said that Pennsylvania's natural beauty is unrivaled. But I'll tell you Seneca Lake is amazing. You catch the first glimpse as you leave Watkins Glenn. You see the most amazing blue through the buildings and boats at the south end of the lake. Its a deep blue, that words can't do justice. The lake isn't very wide; I would guess a mile or two tops, but it is 38 miles long. All along the trip up Route 14 the lake comes in and out of view from behind vineyards and vacation homes.

I arrived at the Red Dove Tavern, took my seat at the bar and had the first of (too) many draft beers. I spent the night talking to my brother's customers and friends. I listened to one guy explain how all of their tax money goes to New York City and that if they could just get rid of the city Upstate New York would flourish and the city would wither without the financial support of Upstate. The argument sounded vaguely familiar. I didn't point out that almost half the people in the state live in the city. Tonight I'm just a guy in a bar.

My brother and I sat and talked with two professors from the college it turns out that they were both from Pennsylvania. He from Pittsburgh, she from Pottsville. Then she told me that her father used to lobby for Penn State.

We finally got to bed around 4 AM.

My brother and his wife went back to the restaurant at about 10 AM to open for brunch. I stayed in bed. I got over to the Red Dove about a half hour before they opened for brunch. I had some breakfast and since they were getting busy I decided to head home.

The drive home was mostly rainy, and it was quite a contrast from the sunny ride up. I got home and waited for my wife and kids to return from their trip to my sister-in-laws.

After my wife and I recapped our weekends and she went to bed I sat down to right my **PAGR President's Message**.

Now its back to reality. As I write this we are just a few hours from the start of the "fake budget" debate. By the time you read this who knows what will be happening. But when its all over I would encourage you to hope in your car, alone, and drive. And if your drive takes you north to The Red Dove tell them Andy sent you. ☺

NEW MEMBERS

Judy Archibald
Waste Management

Rosemary Chiavetta
Chiavetta Consulting

Melissa Grimm
Aqua America

Paul Hindmarsh
Triad Strategies

Paul Supowitz
University of Pittsburgh

Russel Swanger
Harsco Corporation

Stephen Swarney
Associated Builders and
Contractors

Debra Tingley
County Commissioners Assn
Of PA

Damian Wachter
Columbia Gas of PA

Jay Wiederhold
PA Beer Wholesalers Assn

Tracy Wingenroth
McFarren Group

Beth Winters
PA School Boards Association

Thomas Wrigley
Independence Blue Cross

Jack Zimmer
Associated Builders and
Contractors

Meeting Notice

Monday, June 4, 2007
11:30 am—12:30 pm
Firehouse Restaurant
Third floor
606 N. 2nd Street • Harrisburg

OUR GUEST WILL BE:

Rep. Bill DeWeese

Majority Floor Leader

ALL MEMBERS WILL BE CHARGED \$10.
ALL GUESTS OF MEMBERS WILL BE CHARGED \$20.

*PLEASE **RSVP BY June 1** TO*
717-540-4391 OR INFO@PAGR.ORG.
THANK YOU.

2007 Board of Directors

Officers

President.....Andrew Hilt
Vice President.....Peter Calcara
Secretary.....Deb Kisela
Treasurer.....Gregg Taylor

Board of Directors

Association.....Brinda Carroll Penyak
Corporate.....Kris Snader
Lawyer.....Tony Crisci
Independent.....Ted Mowatt
At Large.....Judy Eschberger
At Large.....Mark Richards

Immediate Past President

Brian Barno

Executive Director

Christine Corrigan