

February, 2017

# The NewsPAGR

**Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations**

**Post Office Box 116 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108  
(717) 939-1900 Fax (717) 939-7900 www.pagr.org**

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Richards, S.R. Wojdak & Associates



### Happy New Year to all PAGR Members!

I am honored to be writing to you as the newly elected President of PAGR and I thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

I'd would also like to thank our immediate past President Christina Mihalik for her strong leadership of PAGR over the past two years and her dedication to all of those working in the government relations profession.

I think we can all agree that this legislative session promises to be one we will remember for a long time. Of course, budget negotiations will dominate the first half of the year (and likely quite a bit longer) and we will have the perennial discussions on pension reform, property tax elimination and school funding. However, we also expect some in the legislature to renew efforts to place excessive fines, fees and limitations on lobbying and government relations activities.

Rest assured that PAGR is actively fighting on your behalf. Over the last two years we saw our organization's stature on the Hill grow as we led efforts to block attempts to impose increased fines on the lobbying community. Because of both PAGR's efforts and a limited Senate calendar, this legislation died at the end of the last session. However, as we begin this new legislative session, we have already held meetings with the Senate staff to continue this fight and address PAGR issues in any new legislation..

In Association news, I am happy to announce that we will host our fourth annual Capitol Happy



### 2017 DATES

Th	Jan 12	Board Meeting
Mo	Feb 6	Membership Meeting
Th	Mar 2	Board Meeting
Mo	April 3	Membership Meeting
Th	May 4	Board Meeting
Mo	June 5	Membership Meeting
Th	June 15	Capital Happy Hour
Th	July 6	Board Meeting
Th	Sept 7	Board Meeting
	Fall	Lobbypalooza 2017
Mo	Oct 2	Membership Meeting
Th	Nov 2	Board Meeting
Mo	Dec 4	Membership Meeting

Membership meetings are held  
11:30 am—12:30 pm on the 3rd floor of the  
Firehouse Restaurant, Harrisburg.

**2017 NEW MEMBERS**

**Sherry Bonawitz**  
Sunoco

**Joshua Eisner**  
County Commissioners Assn PA

**Nancy Harder**  
K&L Gates LLP

**Kristen Houser**  
PCAR

**Christopher Hundley**  
SEIU Local 668

**Kathryn MacNett**  
Skarlatos and Zonarich

**Zachery Moore**  
Penn State University

**Ashley Murphy**  
PA Bar Association

**Brittany Rieker**  
Capital Blue Cross

**David Ruth**  
Northampton Community College

**Donald Smith**  
Crisci Associates

**Zane Swanger**

**David Thompson**  
PA Medical Society

*President's message continued from cover*

Hour with House and Senate staffers on June 15th. This has become a great event that allows us to connect socially with key staff people and our colleagues. More details will be forthcoming, so stay tuned.

I also encourage you to register for the next Membership Meeting which will be held 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM on February 6 at the Firehouse Restaurant. Since this is the day before the Governor's 2017 budget address, we look forward to hearing our speaker, House Majority spokesman, Steve Miskin, and what he has heard of the Governor's plans. There is no cost to PAGR members with registration and guests are \$30. We are always open to suggestions for interesting lunch speakers so let us know if you have ideas.

Finally, Lobbypalooza returns later in 2017. This is always a much anticipated event and we expect to have more information for you soon.

Again, I appreciate the confidence you have placed in me as President and I look forward to working with all of you to benefit our profession. ☺

**Help support PAGR — the organization that has been supporting you, your clients and our profession since 1991!**



**2017/2018  
Legislative Directories**

The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry's convenient, pocket-size quick reference is available to all PAGR members for just **\$9.00** a copy. (Non-members order for \$15.00 per copy)

**Please send in orders and payment by  
February 15, 2017 .**

Payment can be made by Visa, MasterCard or check. Contact Christine at [info@pagr.org](mailto:info@pagr.org).

# Meeting Notice

**Monday February 6**  
**11:30 am — 12:30 pm**  
**Firehouse Restaurant**  
**Third Floor**

**606 N. Second Street • Harrisburg**

**Steve Miskin**

*Spokesman, PA House Republican Caucus  
Press Secretary, House Majority Leader*



**ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR 2017 DUES ARE FREE! ALL GUESTS OF MEMBERS WILL BE CHARGED \$30.**

**PLEASE RSVP BY February 2 TO 717-939-1900 OR INFO@PAGR.ORG.**

# MISSION STATEMENT



*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.*

# 2017 Board

## Officers

President.....Mark Richards  
Vice President.....Katie Dotto, Esq  
Secretary.....Justin Fleming  
Treasurer.....Ted Mowatt

## Board of Directors

Association.....Mike Maguire  
Corporate.....Peter Trufahnestock  
Lawyer.....Judy Eschberger, Esq.  
Independent.....Mary Keenan  
At Large.....Jaynine Warner  
At Large.....Alex Halper

## Immediate Past President

Christina Mihalik

## Executive Director

Christine Corrigan

**Your 2017  dues have been sent.**

Encourage a co-worker to join too.

Please sign up for a committee and return with payment before February 6.

Thank you!

