

February 2019

The NewsPAGR

Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations

**Post Office Box 116 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108
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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Peter Trufahnestock, Columbia Gas



Greetings PAGR Members!

My term as President of the Board is off to an interesting start. The Chief Clerk of the House has chosen to close down the anteroom in the back of the house where lobbyists could watch the session on TV, check the LDP computer for amendments, print out copies of roll call votes and ask House staff to deliver business cards to House members. All of those "amenities" have been stripped away without any official notice as of this legislative session. Members of the Board met with the Chief Clerk to express our disappointment and to see if there is any room to negotiate. Unfortunately, the Chief Clerk was adamant that the anteroom would not be reopened and that we can no longer call members off the floor using business cards.

That said, the Board is negotiating a series of items designed to partially address the original amenities as best we can. We plan to ask 1) for a speaker to be put outside the House door similar to the Senate, 2) that the computer on the 4th floor be properly maintained so we have access to LDP with the ability to print amendments and vote sheets, 3) the TV is returned next to the computer, 4) we have an area of the gallery saved for lobbyists and 5) the guards understand that we are allowed to use our phones for work and to text members. The Chief Clerk did say that we may text members to ask them to visit off the floor.

I know many of you plan to come to our Freshmen Legislator Reception on Monday the 4th, so I am asking members to come early - 4:45 p.m. - where we can discuss, amend and/or vote on the above proposal. Please bring your ideas! If we need more time, we will take it, but I want to get back to the Chief Clerk as quickly as possible.

The most disappointing part of the meeting was when the Chief Clerk commented that he didn't realize that PAGR still existed. This latest issue, like dealing with the Department of State or lobbying legislation, is just one more reason why PAGR is so important. I call on all of you to speak to your peers about joining or re-joining PAGR .

Once more unto the breach, dear friends!



2019

Membership Meetings

***Monday February 4**

Monday April 1

Monday June 3

Monday October 7

Monday December 2

**Membership Meetings are held
from 11:30 am—12:30 pm at the
Firehouse Restaurant, Harrisburg
*except February 4**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

**2019 Dues invoices were sent.
Please consider joining a committee
and return \$175 payment by
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Orders will be delivered in late March/early April, 2019.

Meeting Notice



Monday February 4
4:45 pm — 7:00pm
Hilton Harrisburg
Metropolitan Room

Meet The Freshmen

Legislative Reception

All Freshmen Legislators were invited to come by and meet our members.

Come and join your colleagues as we welcome the new faces to Harrisburg.

ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR 2019 DUES ARE FREE! ALL GUESTS OF MEMBERS WILL BE CHARGED \$30. MUST RSVP BY Jan 31 TO 717-939-1900 OR INFO@PAGR.ORG. THANK YOU.

2019 Board

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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. ±