



## Adams County Association of Township Officials

Stephanie A. Egger, President (Hamilton Twp)

Keith Whittaker, Treasurer (Conewago Twp.)

Coleen N. Reamer, Vice Pres. (Hamiltonban Twp.)

Marcia Weaver, Secretary (Reading Twp.)

January 16, 2015

Hello All and Best Wishes for a Great New Year!

***THANK YOU, to all who attended our 2014 Annual Convention! It was a great evening of camaraderie and great food.*** The 2015 Adams County Annual Convention will be held November 11<sup>th</sup> with the location to be announced.

### **PSATS News**

The Association has agreed once again to supply a gift basket of Adams County items as a door prize at the April 19 – 22, 2015 PSATS 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference and Trade Show. So once again we are asking that this year's basket be filled with items from each of our County's Townships. Last year's recipient sent us a heartfelt note of appreciation for all the wonderful items and travel information they received about Adams County. We would really like this year's basket to *be just as great!*

So, please choose (one) business in *your township* and its product for inclusion in the basket notify one of the Association officers. The product or gift certificate from the business must be received at one of the officers' home township offices or even brought to a COG meeting no later than **Thursday March 26, 2015**. You have plenty of time to make this year's basket a GREAT sampling of Adams County! There is no better way to show someone from another County just what we have to offer.

### **Trainings**

The Executive Committee is looking for topics of interest for trainings in 2015. Notify Stephanie or another officer if you have a particular interest in a topic or a speaker for a future training. Please evaluate what your staff may need or find of use and let us know!

### **PA-FirstNet State-Wide Broadband Initiative for First Responders**

If you attended the Adams County Council of Governments' December meeting, you saw a presentation by Col. Kenneth L. Morckel (a retired Ohio State Police officer) working for Pennsylvania on this subject. If not, you need to be aware that there is a national effort to build a broadband infrastructure in each state that will support a broadband system for first responders. *"FirstNet will be a single nationwide interoperable network dedicated to public safety, and PA-FirstNet is the Pennsylvania portion of that network. It will revolutionize the Public Safety communications, and dramatically improve our First Responder's ability to serve our citizens. FirstNet and PA-FirstNet are in their infancy, and construction and implementation of the network likely will not take place for some time. Currently States are preparing for FirstNet by outreaching to local stakeholders about the program, as well as collecting data and requirements."*

Coleen Reamer (Hamiltonban Township) is the contact person for PA-FirstNet through the COG and will also be keeping ACATO up-to date on this initiative as she receives more information. There will be survey

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information forwarded to us at some point in the future giving each municipality the ability to make certain that their area's needs in cellular services is relayed back to PA-FirstNet. So stay tuned! To view the power point presentation from the COG meeting follow this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c1yfbprgj4d8aho/AADgmnUOX3CrRzBgo4Ny5mGxa?dl=0>

### **Items for the Future! AWARDS....get in on the Action!**

PSATS has some great awards programs that each of us can take advantage of and can serve to especially promote our Township Government with our citizens! Check them out at psats.org and get things rolling in your township.....take a look!

- Don't forget that PSATS has a Youth Award Program for youth groups: To recognize youth groups that make valuable and lasting contributions to improve life in Pennsylvania's townships of the second class. The awards program encourages greater youth involvement in township government. **Deadline August 1, 2015.**
- Road and Bridge Safety Improvement Award: To recognize townships that have undertaken road or bridge improvement projects to increase public safety. **Deadline March 6, 2015.**

#### **.....AWARDS continued.....**

- President's Leadership Award: To recognize a township supervisor and a secretary or manager each year who have initiated significant programs or projects that have benefited their township and whose service to the township exhibits the highest standards of dedication, creativity, and leadership. **Deadline January 30, 2015**
- Citizen Communication Contest - PSATS member townships that publish print or electronically prepare newsletters, annual reports, and other publications; have a website or use social media; or develop content for cable TV. Publications must have been produced between September 1, 2014, and August 30, 2015. The deadline for entries will be **August 31, 2015**. Check it out the application in June 2015.

### **DATES to Remember and put on that brand new 2015 Calendar!**

- 📅 Wednesday, May 27, 2015 = Mid-Year ACATO Conference
- 📅 Wednesday, July 29, 2015 = Fourth Annual Secretarial Roundtable(always the fifth Wednesday of July)
- 📅 Wednesday, November 11, 2015 = Annual ACATO Convention

We are still working on filling all of our Committee positions and will give you a full list of contacts with our next newsletter!

Thank you very much for your participation and support,

*Stephanie and the Executive Committee*

**The next Executive Board meeting is at the Hamilton Township Office building at 1:30 PM on February 11, 2015! You are always welcome to attend!**

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