



# Eagle Grange #1

Route 15 & East Blind Road, Montgomery, PA 17752

July 2023



## “Going to the Dog” on July 11<sup>th</sup>



A very special guest at the next gathering of Eagle Grange will be **Police Service Dog (PSD) Niko** (left) - a four-year old Belgian Malinois, born in the Czech Republic and imported to the United States in 2020 when he became one of two canine members of the Williamsport Bureau of Police K9 Unit. Operating on donations, the K9 Unit serves and protects the citizens of the City of Williamsport and communities within Lycoming County. PSD Niko has assisted in recovering large quantities of illegal narcotics and in the safe apprehension of many criminals. Niko’s handler is Sgt. Brian McGee who has been employed with Williamsport Police since 2012 serving in the ranks of Officer, Corporal and now Sergeant. Sgt. McGee supervises the K9 Unit and is an Assistant Supervisor of the Night Watch shift.

**Niko and Sgt. McGee will be joining the members and friends of Eagle Grange #1 on Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> for the annual family picnic being held this year at the pavilion in Clinton Township Park, located on Route 54**

**just west of Montgomery.** A shared meal will begin at 6 p.m. with the Grange furnishing meat, beverage, table covering and place settings; attendees are invited to bring a favorite main dish, salad or dessert to share. Tom & Daisy Styer as hosts for the evening.

The picnic will be held “rain or shine”. If there should be a serious storm that evening, the picnic will be moved back to the safety of the Grange Hall, about 3 miles from the park. Please invite family and friends to join us for an evening of food, fellowship and education.

## Vonada Advanced to President

Philip Vonada was elected by unanimous ballot at the June Grange meeting to serve as president of Eagle for 2023-2024. Formerly our vice president, he agreed to step up upon the resignation of former president David Troutman. Phil is an Affiliate Member at Eagle, holding his primary membership in Centre County where he is an officer in both his local community and Pomona Granges. He is employed as the full-time Communications Director of the National Grange, working both remotely from his home in South Williamsport and the national headquarters in Washington, DC. Somehow he manages to find time to serve as the PA State Grange Junior Director and to participate in local theatre productions.

Karen Williamson was elected to fill the position of vice president of Eagle Grange.



# “Real Ham” Featured at June Take-Out Dinner

That “real” compliment was heard about the delicious meat served on June 17<sup>th</sup>, confirming the taste preference for whole bone-in hams rather than the “easier to prepare” boneless variety. About 115 meals were served, a good number for the usually smaller summer dinners. The profit was more than \$1,200.



Meals (above) included generous servings of ham, buttered noodles, candied sweet potatoes, green beans, applesauce, rolls, salad and dessert. The berry cobbler is cut (below) by Reba Crawford, Libby Green and Jackie Murray.



Doug Bonsall and Janet Reynolds (above) prepare tubs of salad while Tom Styer and Larry Robbins (below) package the individual portions of dressing.



Elliott Weiss and Ruth Lundy have all the tasty goodies on the bake sale table ready.

# More Candid Dinner Shots



Jackie Murray stirs a big pot of gravy (above) while Daisy Styer (below) cuts tomatoes for the salads.



Sam & Keith Styer and Karen Williamson were just inside the front door to greet guests as they arrived, check reservations and accept payment.



# COMING EVENTS

**JUNE 25** – Pomona Grange Picnic – 4 p.m. @ Lime Bluff Recreation Area, Hughesville.

**JULY 11** – Eagle Grange Picnic – 6 p.m. @ Clinton Township Park, Route 54 (near the Clinton Township Fire Company). **Note date change from usual 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday to avoid conflict with July 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Meat, beverage and place settings will be provided; everyone attending please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share for the buffet meal.

- **Hosts** – Tom & Daisy Styer
- **Program** – “Canine Demonstration” by Sgt. Brian McGee of the Williamsport Police Department and his police dog Niko

**JULY 28** – Work day for Pulled Pork take-out dinner - 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; bring something to share for lunch

**JULY 29** – Pulled Pork Take-Out Dinner. Help needed from 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.; bring something to share for lunch

**AUGUST 1** – Grange business meeting at 6:30 p.m.

- **Host** – Phil Vonada
- **Program** – “Entomophagy” (Edible Insects)

**Eagle’s fair exhibit this year will examine the economic, educational and social impact of PA’s 110+ local fairs.** Plans are shaping up to take the exhibit to the Lycoming County, Montour-Delong, Juniata County and Bloomsburg Fairs.

# Mental Health Program Topic



In June, Kelly Gordon & Michaela Detrick from NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) discussed mental health issues and services available locally.

# Property Updates Continue as Funding Permits

A good deal of Eagle's financial resources over the past few years have been used to bring the Grange Hall up-to-date after quite a few years of minimal improvements and deferred maintenance. The results are remarkable and have made our facilities more modern, attractive and comfortable for Grange and community events.

Special thanks to all those individuals and organizations that have voluntarily contributed thousands of dollars to help accomplish this work. The Grange's popular take-out fund raising dinners have also raised \$20,000+ to fund improvements, thanks to the hard work of many members and friends of the Grange.

But there are still many projects remaining to accomplish needed improvements and to bring the facilities up to current public building codes. Here are some recent actions:

- *We're still doing battle with the birds! A hole in the wooden roof soffit on the front left of the hall provided a handy nesting site for a family of starlings but they have now been evicted. The hole was filled with an expandable foam and the soffit repaired/replaced (below) by Earl Neff, a contractor from Montoursville who also did much of the finish work on the new countertop/backsplash project.*



**Now there's no evidence of the bird damage**



- *Unfortunately, other birds like the Grange so well that they have found a way to return to the area around the kitchen exhaust fan. The first avian squatters were evicted last month; this latest group will be removed as soon as possible and protective wire mesh installed to prevent further entry.*
- *A donated baby changing station has been added to the handicap restroom (below).*



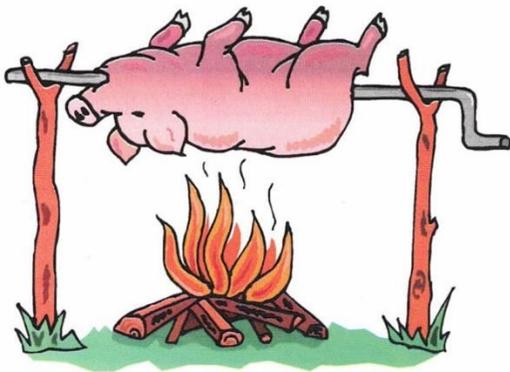
- *Stone has been installed around the perimeter of the paved parking area to improve safety with a smoother transition to the grassy area.*
- *Plans are in the planning stage to permanently mount and light the exterior sign board purchased several years ago.*
- *Quotes received from two contractors to retrofit and/or replace exterior doors on the Grange Hall and repair the fire escape came in much higher than expected. A third contractor is preparing another quote. It is likely this work will have to be done in phases.*
- *Two other local contractors are working with the Grange to come up with a cost effective solution to provide heat and air conditioning in the kitchen and restrooms.*
- *A narrow cabinet for handy storage of spices and cooking condiments. has been properly installed in the kitchen beside the newest stove.*
- *Investigate cleaning of septic system.*

# Take-Out Dinner

*Sponsored by Eagle Grange #1*

**Sat., July 29, 2023**

## Pulled Pork



**Roast Pulled Pork with Homemade Barbeque Sauce & Relish, Macaroni & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Oriental Slaw, Roll & Butter, Fruit Cup, Homemade Cookies**

*Suggested Donation - \$13*

**Advance reservations suggested\***

Contact Daisy Styer @ 570-546-5861 by 7/22

*\*Limited # of meals available without reservations*

**Pick-up 2-4 p.m. @ Eagle Grange Hall**

**Rt. 15 & East Blind Rd., Montgomery, PA**

**Next Take-Out Dinner**

*Stuffed Chicken Breast – Sept. 23, 2023*

# Eagle Grange #1

c/o Douglas A. Bonsall  
300 Swatara Street, PO Box 765  
Dauphin, PA 17018-0765



## July 2023 Newsletter

### We love our volunteers!



Grange members and friends (left to right) Daisy Styer, Libby Green, Reba Crawford, Linda Valentine, Carol Schnure, Hilda Sampsell, Doug Bonsall and Jackie Murray are all smiles and ready to serve meals at the most recent Eagle Grange take-out dinner.