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| Jennifer Danko, Co-Director  22 Twins Avenue  Newport PA 17074  717.275.5047  [Kjbr2005@embarqmail.com](mailto:Kjbr2005@embarqmail.com) | Lindsay Schroeder, Co-Director  5711 Snyders Church Road  Northampton PA 18067-9729  484.225.0440  [lrsoccer130@gmail.com](mailto:lrsoccer130@gmail.com) |

The Pennsylvania State Grange Youth Department offers a wide variety of programs and contests, designed for Grange members of all ages. We have revised the contests and programs again this year. We have added some new contests and we have kept some of the old. If you have any questions, please check out the Youth Website at [www.pagrange.org/youth](http://www.pagrange.org/youth).

The Youth program helps to build leaders by offering the Youth Ambassador Program and the Young Patrons Program. The State Grange Youth Department is very proud of its past. Please join in the action by participating in these programs. Everyone is encouraged to get involved.

The National Grange Youth Department also has contests and activities. Please check out the Youth Department page at the National Grange website, [www.nationalgrangeyouth.org](http://www.nationalgrangeyouth.org), for additional opportunities.

**FAMILY FESTIVAL CONTESTS**

Judging for the following contest will be held at the annual Family Festival in **July**. If you are unable to attend Family Festival, your entry may be sent with someone who is attending.

The entries in the contests at Family Festival must be submitted with the following information attached:

Name

Address

Age Division as of 1 Jan.

Telephone Number

E-Mail Address

Grange Name, Number and County

Contest Title/Class

**CHILI COOK-OFF**

***Rules:***

1. All entries must be submitted in a crock pot.
2. Entries must be delivered to the Food Prep area, usually Building 11, by 11:00 am on the Friday of Family Festival.
3. All entries must have a list of ingredients attached to the crock pot. No store-bought chili may be used.
4. All entries will be marked with a rating for the heat level (mild, medium or spicy).
5. Judging will take place no later than 4:30 pm on Friday.
6. All entries will be used for the Friday evening meal at Family Festival.

***Class****: (All ages/divisions in same class)*

1. With meat (any type such as beef, venison, chicken, etc.)
2. Without meat

***Judging guidelines***:

1. Taste – 50 pts
2. Texture – 20 pts
3. Uniformity – 20 pts
4. Appearance – 10 pts

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

**CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT**

***Rules:***

1. The tournament will be held in person at Family Festival, primarily on Friday and Saturday.
2. Teams consist of two people. Both team members must be Grange members.
3. American Cornhole rules will be followed for Doubles Play. Website is: <https://americancornhole.com/rules/>
4. Play schedule and bracket will be published after registrations are received for Family Festival.
5. The tournament is planned as a Double Elimination and includes a loser bracket; however, the Youth Department reserves the right to adjust the type of tournament based on the number of teams entered.
6. All team members will always exhibit good sportsmanship.

***Divisions:*** Age as of 1 Jan.

* + - 1. Junior, under 14
      2. 14 and older

***Prizes per team:***

1st – $40.00

2nd – $30.00

3rd – $20.00

**STATE SESSION CONTESTS**

Judging for the following contests will be held at the annual State Grange Convention. Entries must be delivered to the Display Room according to the deadline published in the session schedule. If you are unable to attend the Convention, your entries may be sent with a representative from your area.

The entries in the contests at State Grange Convention must be submitted with the following information:

Name

Address

Age Division as of 1 Jan.

Telephone Number

E-Mail Address

Grange Name, Number and County

Contest Title/Class

**CREATE A GRANGE YOUTH ADVERTISEMENT**

This contest is to create an advertisement for a Grange activity or promotion.

***Rules***:

1. Your ORIGINAL design must be drawn/sketched/colored, or computer generated on paper or card stock in a standard 8 ½ by 11” size.
2. Your design can be black and white or color.
3. Your entry could be for an actual event held by your Grange, for a future event, or for a made-up Grange event.

***Class:***

1. Social Media Post
2. Flyer
3. Brochure

***Division:*** Age category as of 1 Jan.

1. 14-21 years of age
2. 22-35 years of age

***Prizes***:

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

**CREATIVE WRITING**

***Rules*:**

1. All entries must be the original work of the contestant.
2. Only one entry per person, per class (2 maximum).
3. Essays are to be a minimum of 300 words and a maximum of 500 words.
4. Poems should include a minimum of 3 stanzas.
5. All entries must be typed and double spaced.
6. Themes are as follows: 2024 – “A Day I’ll Always Remember”;   
    2025 – “My Grange Superhero”

***Divisions:*** Age as of the 1 Jan.

1. Junior, under 14
2. Youth, 14-35
3. Senior, Older than 35

***Class:***

1. Poem
2. Essay

***Judging guidelines***:

1. Organization – 50 pts
2. Responds to topic – 20 pts
3. Follows guidelines – 20 pts
4. Content – 10 pts

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

***Entries may also be emailed or mailed to the Youth Director by September 30th.***

**CUPCAKE DECORATION**

***Rules:***

1. Make cupcakes (may be an original recipe or from a box mix)
2. Decorate cupcakes.
3. Submit 4-6 individual cupcakes (decorated identically or following one theme) on a plate for judging.
4. Must have visible label with information attached to the top.
5. One class – Cupcake Decorating

***Divisions:*** Age as of 1 Jan.

Junior, under 14

14 and older

***Judging Guidelines:***

1. Appearance – 40 pts
2. Creativity – 40 pts
3. Use of Theme or Same Decoration – 20 pts

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

**GRANGE DISPLAY CONTEST (National Youth Contest)**

This contest is to create a digital or folding display that could be utilized at a county fair, library, Grange Open House, or other forum to promote the Grange, a Grange program, or a Grange issue.

***Rules***:

1. All entrants must be youth or young adult members of a subordinate Grange. Entries may be submitted by an individual or group in the same age division.
2. The first-place entry in each category will be sent to National Grange for judging.
3. The theme of the display must be Grange related.
4. Display should be no larger than 3’ x 4’ and should be able to stand by itself. Digital displays must be on a flash drive in an .MP4, .MPG, or .WMA format.
5. Displays will be judged on content (30 pts), organization (30 pts), originality (15 pts), and neatness (25 pts).
6. One class – Folding Display

***Division:*** Age category as of 1 Jan.

1. 14-21 years of age
2. 22-35 years of age

***Prizes***:

1. 1st - $20.00
2. 2nd - $15.00
3. 3rd - $10.00

**RECYCLED CRAFT**

***Rules:***

* 1. 80% of entry must be made with recycled material(s).
  2. Nothing requiring electricity to operate is permitted.
  3. Non-perishable materials only.
  4. Maximum of 16" long by 16" wide and 20" high.

***Class:***

1. Plastic
2. Fabric
3. Wood

***Division:*** Age as of 1 Jan.

1. 14-21 years of age
2. 22-35 years of age

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

***Entries will be judged on workmanship, creativity, design, and general appearance.***

**SCRAPBOOK PAGE**

Use your own creative ideas and enter the Scrapbook Page contest.

***Rules:***

1. A 12" X 12" (standard) scrapbook page
2. Entries may be put in a page saver sleeve.
3. No kits or patterns from magazines or other commercial sources will be accepted.
4. Judging will be based on general appearance, creativity, neatness, and the skillfulness of scrapbook page technique.

***Class:***

1. Grange Related
2. Other (i.e., family, friends, school, sports, etc.)

***Divisions:*** Age as of 1 Jan.

1. 14-21 years of age
2. 22-35 years of age

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

***The scrapbook pages may also be mailed to the Youth Director by September 30th.***

**START WITH A CAKE MIX**

***Rules:***

1. Start with a commercial cake mix.
2. Add additional ingredients to create a cake only, not a dessert (no creams or puddings – due to spoilages) No refrigeration available.
3. Must include recipe for judges to review.
4. Must have visible label with information attached to the top.

***Class****: (All ages/divisions in same class)*

1. Chocolate Cake Mix
2. White/Yellow Cake Mix
3. Spice/Other Cake Mix

***Judging guidelines***:

1. Taste – 50 pts
2. Texture – 20 pts
3. Uniformity – 20 pts
4. Appearance – 10 pts

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

***The cake is to be prepared and delivered to the State Grange Convention as a finished product. All cakes will be auctioned or offered for sampling at the State Grange Convention.***

**STRING ART CREATION**

***Rules***:

* 1. Size – maximum of 24” by 24”
  2. No kits
  3. Pattern of design of your choice
  4. One class – String Art Creation

***Division:*** Age category as of 1 Jan.

1. 14-21 years of age
2. 22-35 years of age

***Prizes***:

1. 1st – $20.00
2. 2nd – $15.00
3. 3rd – $10.00

***Entries will be judged on creativity, design, and general appearance.***

**YOUTH MONTH**

April is the month for special recognition in the Youth Department. Choose a meeting night in April so that your Youth Department can conduct the meeting or present a portion of the program. This program could involve some type of “community action” project. If you cannot do a program at this time of the year, another time is just as appropriate. You should consider giving a financial contribution to the State Youth Department Fund and the National Youth Leadership Fund during this month. These funds help support the Youth Department activities, camp, leadership conferences, etc.

**YOUTH CAMP**

This is a weekend of education, fun and fellowship geared towards the youth of the Grange. Watch in the PA Grange News and on the website for the application form and details for the weekend.

Camp Dates: 2024: June 28-30, 2024  
 2025: To be Announced

Camp Location: Camp Sylvan Hills, Centre County (Subject to Change)

Fee: TBA (the Jonathan Sattazahn Fund will cover $15.00 of each camper's fees).

**YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

This program gives recognition to the outstanding Grange Youth in Pennsylvania. One or two Youth Ambassador may be chosen each year. The Ambassadors serve on the State Youth Department Committee for one year. Previous Ambassadors are not eligible to compete again.

**Program Guidelines:**

1. Ambassador candidates must be members of the PA State Grange for at least one year and in good standing. If not 6th Degree members, Ambassadors must be willing to become 6th Degree members during their term.
2. Ambassador candidates must have their parents’ consent to compete if under the age of 18.
3. Grange youth competing for the Youth Ambassador Program must be between the ages of 16-21, have observed their 16th but not their 23rd birthday by December 31 of the year they will represent PA at National Grange Convention.
4. Ambassador candidates must be single, never have been married, and have no children to be eligible to compete. They must not marry, become pregnant or father children during their term.
5. Ambassadors must be properly dressed for all Grange related events and must always represent the Grange appropriately.
6. Ambassadors must be willing to attend various Grange and agricultural events throughout the state and their region during their reign. These events include State Grange Convention, Farm Show, Royalty Trip, Youth Camp, Family Festival, and Ag Progress Days. Other events, local and statewide, may occur during their term and Ambassadors may be asked to participate in them.
7. Ambassadors must be able to attend the Youth Activities Days at the National Grange Convention to represent Pennsylvania. This convention would be in November following the end of their term. Requirements for participation at the National Grange Convention may change. Please review the National Grange Youth website for any changes.
8. Ambassadors must attend the Eastern Regional Leaders Conference during their term and participate in the Prepared Speech contest.
9. Ambassadors must be willing to promote the Grange Youth Department activities and contests.
10. Ambassadors will be selected during Youth Camp. Judging is based on ambassadorship, an interview, speaking ability, and a written test of Grange knowledge.

**OUTSTANDING YOUNG PATRON PROGRAM**

The PA State Grange Outstanding Young Patron(s) helps promote and generate enthusiasm for the Grange, specifically the Youth programs and contests. The Young Patron also serves on the State Grange Youth Committee for one year.

**Program Guidelines:**

1. Grangers competing for the Young Patron Program must be between the ages of 22 - 35, have observed their 22nd birthday, but not their 37th birthday by December 31 of the year they attend National session. Young Patron candidates may be married or single.
2. Previous Young Couples who have participated in the Young Couple program at the National Grange Convention is not eligible.
3. Young Patron candidates must be members of the PA State Grange for at least one year and in good standing. If not 6th Degree members, Young Patrons must be willing to become 6th Degree members during their term.
4. Young Patrons must be willing to attend various Grange and agricultural events throughout the state and their region during their reign. These events include State Grange Convention, Farm Show, Royalty Trip, Youth Camp, Family Festival, and Ag Progress Days. Other events, local and statewide, may occur during their term and Young Patrons may be asked to participate in them.
5. Contestants must be present at Family Festival where the judging will be held. Judging will be based on an interview, ambassadorship qualities and a written test of Grange knowledge. Judges may select one or two individuals to serve as the Young Patron(s).
6. The Young Patron must be able to attend the Youth Activities Days at the National Grange Convention to represent Pennsylvania. This convention would be in November following the end of their term. Requirements for participation at National Grange Convention may change. Please review the National Grange Youth website for any changes.
7. Young Patrons must attend the Eastern Regional Leaders Conference during their term and participate in the Prepared Speech contest.
8. Young Patrons must be properly dressed for all Grange related events and must always represent the Grange appropriately.

**STATE GRANGE CONVENTION YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND YOUTH OFFICER TEAM**

“State Grange Youth Days” were developed to encourage the Youth and Young Adults from across the state to attend, participate, and learn about the workings of the State Grange Convention. A team of youth officers will be selected to open or close a session at the State Grange Convention. An application will be printed in the PA Grange News and available on the website. Each Youth Officer will exhibit the duties of their State Office. They may be invited to serve on a state committee, should attend the meetings, and attend Drill Practice. This is a very rewarding experience. Activities are planned where the Youth/Young Adults can participate. Fun, fellowship, and activities are the elements of the State Grange Youth Days, as well as making new friends and getting reacquainted with old ones.

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**

The Public Speaking Contest is an outstanding program that builds leadership in all those who participate. There is no Theme or Subject for this contest. The contest will be held at the annual State Grange Convention. All first-place state winners of the Prepared Speech category are eligible to compete at the Regional Youth Conference held the following spring. If the 1st place winner cannot attend the Regional Youth Conference, the 2nd place winner will be asked to take their place.

This program is open to Grangers of all ages. There will be three classes along with four age divisions as follows (age as of 1 January):

Division 1. – Under 14 years of age

Division 2. – 14-21 years of age

Division 3. – 22-35 years of age

Division 4. – 36+ years of age

Props are allowed, but not encouraged, and should be appropriately sized for the room and audience (such as posters, power point presentations, etc.). Points can be deducted for props at the judges’ discretion.

***Judging Criteria:***

1. Voice – spoke clearly, easy to understand.
2. Stage Presence – dressed neatly and appropriately, posture, nervousness, etc.
3. Expression – Delivered speech with enthusiasm and emotion.
4. Confidence in speaking, content of speech, clarity of thoughts and ideas on topic.
5. One point will be deducted for every 30 seconds a participant is under or over the time established.

**Class A: Prepared speech**

* Contestant may choose any topic they consider appropriate for the audience.
* Contestants will be required to answer an impromptu question at the end of their speech. The questions will be related to the contestant’s chosen speech topic.
* Contestants are required to submit three (3) copies of their speech outline. These outlines are not judged; they are for “reference only” by the judges. Copies must be given to the Director(s) before the competition.

***Time:***

Minimum: 3 minutes ~ Maximum: 5 minutes

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

**Class B: Impromptu Speech**

* An impromptu speech is delivered without preparation or thought ahead of time. No note cards are used, and topics are generally randomly drawn.
* Impromptu speeches should be at least one minute in length and not longer than 5 minutes.
* Timekeeper will hold up their hand when the 1-minute mark has been reached and when 4 min. 30 sec. mark has been reached so the speaker knows when he/she can stop.
* Participants will draw two topics, select their choice of the two and return the other topic.
* One point will be deducted for every 30 seconds a participant is under or over the time established.

***Prizes:***

1st – $10.00

2nd – $5.00

3rd – $3.00

**Class C: Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Speech**

Have you ever thought of entering the public speaking contest, but didn’t because you weren’t able to think of something to talk about? Well, the Youth Department is sponsoring a Public Speaking DIY speech contest. This contest will be held at State Session. The winner of this contest will not go on to the regional level – this is a PA-only contest.

* Speeches may describe any type of activity and the steps you needed to take to successfully complete the action, task, craft, etc.
* Speeches may have some form of visual aid to make the presentation more interesting and understandable.
* You may use actual items, power points, posters, tri-fold boards, wikis or other form of media in your presentation. The medium you choose to use must be approved by the PA State Youth Director prior to State Session.
* In addition to the Judging Criteria above, the speaker will also be judged on the:

1. How clear the overall DIY steps were presented and the ease of following the steps.
2. General appearance, design, creativity, and neatness of the visual aid.

***Time:***

Minimum: 3 minutes ~ Maximum: 5 minutes

***Prizes:***

1st – $20.00

2nd – $15.00

3rd – $10.00

**Youth Committee**:

Jennifer Danko, Co-Director

Lindsay Schroeder Co-Director

Robert Beamon

Maggie Cornie

Gail Switzer

Youth Ambassadors –Elisabeth Reich and Shae Smith (June 2023 – June 2024)

Outstanding Young Patrons – Desira Rickenbach and Ashlan Smith (July 2023 – July 2024)