



# Pennsylvania Grange News

January-April 2023



PA Farm Show Highlights

Meet Your New Department & Committee Chairs

White House Christmas Tree Has Grange Roots



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**Pennsylvania Grange News**

26 CJEMS Ln.  
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[www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org)

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## *The Master's Station*

Though we may not have seen the last of Winter's chill, the recent sunny skies and warmer days have turned my attention and hopes towards the coming season, Spring.

I often find myself in the doldrums during February. Three prior months of working outside on the farm all day, with a stark and barren landscape everywhere you look, can take its toll on your spirits. However, now, as I notice the Canadian geese returning to the farm pond, the occasional flash of bright red as a cardinal flies by, and an endless supply of mud under my work boots, I am reminded that brighter days and greener pastures are just around the corner.



Springtime on the farm is a critical season. Your labors in the Spring will chart your course for the entire year. It will determine when your corn will be ready for harvest in the fall. Getting in the fields late during Spring will make baling that fifth cutting of alfalfa hay a challenge come October. Many

## *Spring Cleaning...*

### *In Your Home, In Your Grange*

of us understand the implications of unexpected delays, whether planting in the field, or your backyard garden.

Ever since I began my Grange journey long ago, I've connected this time of year with the emblems of the First Degree... the Ax, Plow, Harrow and the Spade, and its lesson of Faith. The emblems of the First Degree encourage each of us to free ourselves of the clutter so often found in our lives. These distractions impede our personal growth, and in doing so, our happiness. I imagine it is why "spring cleaning" is commonplace in so many households, like mine.

Take some time to consider which "seeds" you will plant in your local Grange as well. Too often in my own subordinate, of which I am the Master, we get complacent; enjoying the ease and comfort of doing the same things, year after year. As you plan your 2023 Grange calendar year, why not branch out, and cultivate a new event or endeavor. If you are in need of inspiration or ideas, check out the "150 Acts of Service" being performed by your fellow Brothers & Sisters across the state in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Pennsylvania State Grange. With earnest dedication, and Faith, see what new growth and opportunities comes to fruition.



I would also encourage each subordinate to do some “spring cleaning” on their membership roster. When is the last time you updated your membership’s email list? In this digital age, we are fortunate to be able to share pertinent information and events with just the click of a computer mouse. Please utilize this capability to keep engaged with members that can’t always attend meetings. The Pennsylvania State Grange has the ability to share with every member the latest news and upcoming events through Constant Contact email service. But like a wrong number on the telephone, it only works when your contact information is current. Updates can be made year-round on your subordinate quarterly reports.

I have had the honor of serving as your State Master for the past four months. I am blessed to be surrounded by a talented team of dedicated Grange members in your State Office, and beyond. The Pennsylvania State Grange has a great story to share, and I want

each of you to be part of it. I am so pleased to share with you in this edition of the PGN, the Grange members who said YES to helping to grow our Grange by agreeing to serve as state directors or committee chairs.

As you and I begin our Grange labors in this New Year, let us rededicate ourselves to the advancement of our Order, our commitment to developing grassroots legislative initiatives, and continued service to our local communities, and beyond.

Fraternally,  
Master Matt

“Spring is the  
time of plans  
and projects.”  
- Leo Tolstoy



Matthew Espenshade is the Pennsylvania State Grange President. He is a member of Elizabethtown Grange #2076 in Lancaster County. Matt can be reached at [president@pagranchise.org](mailto:president@pagranchise.org).

## Chaplain's Message

As we travel into this new year together, it brings up the story about Mary and Joseph escaping to Egypt and not knowing what is ahead of them. In Matthew 2:13-15, When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

I cannot fathom what was going through their minds, leaving in the middle of the night and escaping to a far away land, where they knew NO ONE.... and they had no one to help them get settled into their new life, with a newborn! With us having Riggs (who is currently six months old as I type this), I cannot imagine leaving in the dead of night with him, riding on a donkey with our limited possessions and moving to a far away land with no help.

We know more now than they did. God watched over them in their travels. He went ahead of them and protected them. Mary and Joseph had to trust God, like they had never trusted before. Now, not only to they trust Him to guide them, but they also had to trust Him with their lives. They were going into the unknown, just as we are with 2023 ahead. Yet, just like Joseph and Mary, to have any inner peace we need to trust God with our lives. Our faith assures us that God sees way out ahead of us and therefore will guide us in what is best for us. So, as we step out into 2023, just remember, three years ago, when we welcomed in 2020, we had no idea what was ahead. Covid 19 was a foreign thing, yet here we are - we survived! He got us through as He will in what's ahead for 2023. Let us, like Joseph and Mary put our trust in the only

guaranteed anchor, God our Father, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the continued presence of the Holy Spirit around us and in us.

As I am typing, my family and I are traveling home from Kentucky where we got to see the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum. I highly recommend you visiting both some day. It amazes me that God asked Noah to build a great boat, one large enough to house two of every animal on the earth and still have living quarters on the boat for him and his family. What an enormous task to take on! Being able to see it in person and walk through it and REALLY reflect on the countless hours, let alone the years that it took for Noah and his family to complete the Ark, just blows my mind.



You and I are lucky to be living in an area and in a time of our lives where we can see God is present in everything, if we just open our spiritual and physical eyes. In every corner, in every situation, He is there. I pray that as we step into the Lenten season, that is nearly upon us, that you will look deep into your soul and listen to what God is asking of you. It may even be to lead a bible study at your church, or a small get together with family and friends. Whatever it may be, do it with love and grace in your heart! Colossians 3:23-24 says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." Happy New Year friends!



Jodi Keith Kensinger is the PA State Grange Chaplain. Jodi is from Lincoln Grange #914 in Huntingdon County. She can be reached by email at [sunflowercow19@yahoo.com](mailto:sunflowercow19@yahoo.com).

# *The Lecturer's Scroll*

Greetings from South Central PA!

As spring and warmer weather get closer and closer, it is a reminder that the year is moving along!

All of the details about the Lecturer's contests and programs can be found in the 2022-2023 Guide to Contests and Programs, available at [www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org) – both on the “Documents” page and on the “Lecturer's” page.

Members' talents in many areas can be nurtured and encouraged through programming. Encourage members to participate in the Photography Contest by asking a local photographer to present a program on “pro tips” for taking great pictures. The Photography Contest is now virtual and is open to any and all members – no preliminary judging at the local/Subordinate Grange level is required. Classes include: bridges, wildlife, landscape, people, and celebrations.

Similarly, local artists, craftsmen, and writers could lead programs about their skills and foster these gifts in your members. Encourage them to participate in the Art, My Favorite Anything, or Pen In Hand contests.

Work with your Lecturer to plan meaningful programs that would be of interest to your members. As you plan programs, remember the “Design a Program” contest – an opportunity to share the programs you are creating for both recognition and to share ideas with other local program directors. Document the programs that you are holding – both by summarizing what happened and – MOST IMPORTANTLY – taking pictures! We should be sharing these summaries and photos with local media and on social media, like Facebook, to get the word out about the programs and other activities and events happening in our Granges. Keep these pictures so that you can prepare a Lecturer's

Scrapbook for the year, both as a way to look back at what your Grange has done and also to enter in the Scrapbook Contest.

As you plan programs, if you find yourselves wanting to host a program that is beyond your financial abilities, keep in mind that we began a “Lecturer's Grant” a few years ago for exactly this purpose – to financially support local Lecturers/Program Directors who need it.

Mark your calendars and make plans for these upcoming events and activities:

Family Festival – July 13-16, 2023 – Centre County Grange Fairgrounds – Centre Hall, PA

The Pennsylvania State Grange's Family Festival will again be held at the Centre County Fairgrounds in July. As I write this, the schedule of events is still being finalized, but plan to participate in the following activities:

- State Grange Talent Contest – The annual talent contest will be held during the Family Festival on Saturday evening. I know our Grangers have talent and this is the opportunity to show case that talent! **NEW THIS YEAR – Preregistration will be REQUIRED by June 15th (the same deadline as Family Festival registrations).** Participants can enter in 3 classes – Vocal, Instrumental, and Variety. All acts are limited to a 5-minute maximum. There are cash prizes for the top three entries in each class. Plus, the best overall act – named the Best of Show – is given the opportunity to represent Pennsylvania in the National Grange Evening of Excellence, which is held in conjunction with the National Grange Convention in November 2023. This year's National Convention is in Niagara Falls, New York, November 14-18!



- Sip & Paint – Back by popular demand! Plan to join us for our 3rd annual Paint & Sip – a fun painting class led by an instructor – on Friday, July 14th from 9:00-11:00 am. The instructor will lead the group through painting a picture on canvas while we enjoy some “mocktail” refreshments. This is perfect for artists of all abilities and experience! This year, the Sip & Paint will be a fundraiser for the 150th Anniversary Session! The cost will be \$20 and will cover the instructor fee and all materials. All proceeds will be donated to the 150th Anniversary Session! Join us for a fun time for a great cause!



### Eastern Regional Leadership Conference (National Grange)

This year’s National Grange regional leadership conference will be held in North Carolina the weekend of August

4-6, 2023. Our region has returned to

“Eastern Region”, which means that our region now includes from Pennsylvania to Florida. This weekend conference is a wonderful opportunity to meet and network with Grangers from around the eastern United States. Workshops are led by National Grange staff and State Grange leaders from around the region. It is an informative and fun weekend and is a great way to be introduced to National Grange programming. Please continue to check the PA State Grange website and Facebook page for more details, which will be forthcoming.

### A Quarter’s Worth – National Grange Lecturer’s Newsletter

Each quarter, the National Grange Lecturer – Ann Bercher from Minnesota – issues a newsletter featuring articles and ideas from Lecturers around the country. These newsletters are included in the weekly Patrons Chain email newsletters and are also available on the Lecturer’s page of the State Grange website – [www.pagrang.org/lecturers.html](http://www.pagrang.org/lecturers.html). Past issues are available on the Lecturer’s page – please check out this great resource!

Wishing you a wonderful start to spring! As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or ideas!

Jenn Nauss  
PA State Grange Lecturer

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Jenn Nauss is the PA State Grange Lecturer. Jenn belongs to Valley Grange #1360 in York County and Eagle Grange #1 in Lycoming County. She can be emailed at [jnauss89@gmail.com](mailto:jnauss89@gmail.com)





## Program Ideas:

### **March:**

- **March 1 – Peanut Butter Lovers’ Day** – many of us love peanut butter, but there are also many people who are allergic to peanuts and other nuts, often times dangerously so. Invite an allergist or other medical professional to talk about food allergies, how to be aware of these food allergies to avoid possibly dangerous situations, and how to safely respond if you are around someone having a severe allergy reaction.



- **March 21 – National / World Agriculture Day** – celebrate agriculture, its contributions to our communities, and those who do this important work. Plan an event and invite neighbors and other community members to learn more about local agriculture, enjoy food prepared with local ingredients, and talk about ways to support local agriculture.

### **April:**

- **April 5 – National Walking Day** – invite an instructor to lead an exercise class appropriate for your members – maybe a Zumba class to get your members up and dancing, maybe a class for those with limited mobility to find ways to keep active if intense exercise is not an option.



- **April 20 – Volunteer Recognition Day** – celebrate your members and the volunteer work they have done this year! Consider awarding a Community Citizen Award (available through National Grange) to honor a community member who goes above and beyond in serving others.

### **May:**

- **Appreciation Weeks** – May is the month of appreciation weeks for many community helpers – teachers, nurses, police, and EMS. Celebrate the helpers in your communities by doing something to show your appreciation for them (care packages, collect items of need, etc.). Work with your community service committee and invite representatives from these fields to a meeting to accept the donations.



- **May 31 – Save Your Hearing Day** – Invite an audiologist or other specialist to discuss hearing and ear health.

# Family Activities



Hi Everyone,

At this time I'd like to say my goodbyes to everyone. I would like to thank Ginny and Dick Mangel for welcoming me in at the beginning of my Grange adventure. Beth Downey, thank you for asking me to be the Family Activities Director and to Wayne Campbell for trusting me to stay on as Director. I need to say a huge thank you to the girls on my committee, Evelyn (and Richard) Cottrell, Cindy Schlegel, Shirley Garren, Isabella Boone, and Karen (and Bryan) Poorman. Without you all the endless computer and contest work would not have gotten done on time. Last but not least, I'd like to say thank you to my better half Merle Eyer. Through these last few years, you have been with me and helped get everything done from the yearly mailings to unload everything at State Session.

Thank you all and see you all at State Session,

Melanie Melius

We want to thank Melanie for her years of service as the Family Activities Director!



Hi Everyone,

I'm Cindy Schlegel and I am one half to the Family Activities Committee Co-Chair

Team. I am excited to begin this next chapter of my involvement with the State Grange.



Thought I'd just give you some background on myself and my grange history & involvement. I am married to my husband, Harry, and have 3 children – Nathan, Hannah, and Mackenzie and 3 grandchildren – Hunter, Ryleigh and Rowen. Many of you already know my daughter as she is the past State Grange Ceres as well as a past State Jr Princess and State Youth Ambassador.

I am a member of St. Peters UCC church in Topton where I sing in the choir, assist with reading the scriptures and bake items for our bake sales.

After the bus company I worked for 24 years closed its doors suddenly, I had to find a new job – something outside the transportation industry. So I got a job working for the US Postal Service. I am now a PSE/Clerk with the US Postal Service which keeps me very busy, since I travel to several different post offices assisting them wherever and whenever I am needed.

I am a Lifetime Member of Pioneer Grange #1777 in Topton – Berks County. I have been involved with Grange all my life – even before I was old enough to be a junior

## Meet your NEW Family Activities Co-Directors

member. I am a past State Jr Princess – I won't tell how long ago that was. My family just received National recognition as a Grange Legacy Family - having 5 generations involved with the Grange. It all started with my grandparents, Ray and Kathryn Pensinger and continues on through my great-nieces, Cadence, Ava, and Grace.

I have been involved with the Family Activities Committee for I believe 7 years (the times keeps flying by the years



start to run together) and have enjoyed working with the committee on coming up with different ideas for the contests. I've gotten to meet lots of crafty Grange people both at State Session and at Family Fest throughout the past several years. Looking forward to meeting more of you when you bring your contest entries to State Session!

I hope everyone is continuing to work on their quilts, afghans, embroidery, cross stitch and plastic canvas projects as well as dollies/centerpieces (Cotton Thread entries). Don't forget about our new contest for 2023 – Woodburning, Tin Punching, Belts and Stenciling and who could forget our baking contests – Carrot Cake, Gingerbread Cookies and Chocolate Fudge. YUM YUM! Please check out the categories/classes in the Guide to Contest & Programs .

Please bear with Evelyn and I as we start the next chapter with the Family Activities Committee. By the time this addition of the PGN comes out, we hope to have our

committee in place. Help us help you, by offering us suggestions you might have regarding new ideas/contest for the future. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Due to my work schedule with the Post Office it is best to reach me by email [clbasket@ptd.net](mailto:clbasket@ptd.net) and I will get back to you as soon as I can. You can also call me and leave a voice mail – but note I will not be able to call you back til later in the evening.

- Cindy Schlegel

Greetings from Evelyn Cottrell Co-Chair for family activities committee,

I have been a granger for over 50 years. I am a member of Gibson Grange #798. I have held several offices in Subordinate Grange and Pomona Grange and a past officer of Pa State Grange (Lady Assistant). I presently hold the office of secretary in my home grange and also in Pomona.



Some of you grangers may know me because I have served on the Family Actives Committee for many years. I have also served on the Youth Committee and Lecturer's Committee.

I am looking forward to serving you as Co-Chair of the Family Activities Committee along with Cindy Schlegel. We have some new contests this year. I hope you find something you like to do and enter it in the contest.

- Evelyn Cottrell

# *Deaf & Community Service*



I want to thank the Pennsylvania State Grange for allowing me to serve as your Deaf and Community Service Director for the last two years. It was the greatest pleasure to work alongside an amazing committee; Cindy Shaffer, Jackie Clabaugh, Denise Clare, Terra Ingram, Thomas Kostelansky and Carlene Kleckner. I cannot say enough good things about how this team guided, taught me.

I would like to thank my mother, Lizzie Bailey, for inspiring me to take on such a task. You see, during the height of the pandemic, my mom hosted a weekly bingo night via zoom for Grange members. For the first time as a Grange member, I felt connected despite our very obvious social distancing. We gained friends all the way from California, Florida and to Vermont and across the state of Pennsylvania. I began to understand the Grange at a deeper level and how I could try to be part of a bigger picture.

My mom has always been and will be a “mover and a shaker”. She’s taught me that doing the right thing is not the easiest and sometimes doesn’t make you the most liked person. Her success doesn’t thrive from being liked by the masses. Her thought provoking ideas and business growth mindset has always challenged me to do and strive for more.

I knew taking on a state director position would be a challenge and often felt like a constant state of “this is all new to me”... but then I would think about my mom. I

often think parents must have a secret handbook on how to handle everything in life. My mom would give me notes of confidence to speak my mind, challenge status quo and invoke new ideas and it was a platform that thrust change in my personal and professional life. Thank you, Mom, for bringing us along on your Grange journey and giving me one of my own.

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work and participation over the past couple years. Remember that everything you do whether you feel it’s big or small, never goes unnoticed.

Continue to do good deeds,  
Rachel Bailey



We want to thank Rachel for her years of service as the Deaf and Community Service Director.

# Meet your *NEW* Deaf & Community Service Director

Greetings from chilly Southeast PA!

My name is Tina Keen and I am delighted to be your new Deaf & Community Services Director. I'm a lifelong Granger, having started in Junior Grange when I was 5. I am a member of Russellville Grange #91 where I serve as Lecturer and as Co-Leader for Russellville Junior Grange #550. I am honored to serve as President of Chester-Delaware Pomona Grange #3. I currently reside in Chester County with my husband, Todd, and three of our five children.

Crocheting for others is one of my favorite community service activities. I've crocheted prayer shawls, hats, scarves, and blankets that have been



donated to various organizations. I also enjoy plastic canvas, cross stitch, and embroidery. Our Grange is accustomed to me crocheting through most of our meetings - you may have even seen me crocheting during State Session. Keeping my hands busy is one quality I inherited from my mother - throughout her life she was always making items to give away. Many Grangers were blessed to receive a baby blanket from her. What skills do you possess that can be used to benefit others? We all possess the ability to help others in some way.

I'm delighted to announce my committee: Carole Huber, Cindy Shaffer, Janet Fishovitz, Judy Hetzell and Judy Shupp.

I'm excited to work together with these ladies and am grateful for their willingness to jump on board. Thank you for saying "I'd be delighted!" If you need ideas for activities, help filling out reports, or just have questions, please reach out!

Our focus for this year is Veterans. While all Granges and Grangers are encouraged to continue supporting their communities in manners of their choosing, we are asking for Granges to consider how they can support their local Veterans. Think outside the box! Reach out to the VFW to see how you can support their members. Can you serve a meal to the Veterans and their families? Provide favors for Memorial Day, Fourth of July, or Veterans Day? Perhaps make "Thank you" notes to be distributed?

Do you have a local VA? See how you can help support the Veterans there. Our local VA houses many veterans who would otherwise be homeless. Their income is insufficient to meet all of their needs so many go without basic necessities - things like toothpaste, deodorant, underwear, and socks. Is your Grange able to collect items to help support these needs? Contact Voluntary Services at your local VA and see how you can assist.

Does a local Veteran need assistance installing a ramp? Can your Grange assist in the physical labor required to fulfill this service? Perhaps you can help fill their refrigerator, freezer and pantry while you are assisting with the home.

At Family Festival, Christmas cards will be available to color and decorate that will be distributed to Veterans at a local VA Hospital. We will also be collecting

toiletries - mens deodorant, lotion, shaving cream or gel, toothbrushes (individually packaged), toothpaste, non-alcoholic mouthwash, hairbrushes and combs. There will be a bike/walk-a-thon with monies collected being donated to support our Veterans. Stay tuned to Facebook for more information!

Our culminating collection for this focus will occur at State Session in October, where we will be collecting underwear, t-shirts, socks, and toiletries to donate to Veterans. Please watch for more information in the upcoming months! The report form will include a section for how your Grange provided community service for our Veterans. An updated form will be available on the State Grange website as several changes have been made.



Make sure you are keeping records for all community service activities your Grange supports - how many people are involved, count or weight of items collected, who benefited from your activity, and any other pertinent information. Take pictures of

your activity or collection to be included in your report and to post to your Facebook page to spread word of your good deeds! Don't forget to send in your Grange's service projects to be included in the 150 Acts of Service by sending an email to Doug Bonsall ([douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net)) or Jenn Nauss ([jnauss89@gmail.com](mailto:jnauss89@gmail.com)) OR by completing this form: <https://forms.gle/hxBoi8wSp3nhuNu79>

Remember that all community service activities should be included on your report form. We know that many great things are happening in Granges throughout our state, but only a small portion of these activities are ever reported. Take credit for your activities! Community service can be donating money to a local fire company but it can also be making ornaments to give to local shut-ins. No deed is too "little" to be included.

We have created a new Facebook page for our Deaf & Community Services department. Please check out the State Grange Facebook page for more information and to connect to our page. This page is to share our ideas, projects, and questions - perhaps you can even get new ideas for your local Grange!

Keep up the good deeds! "Whatsoever you attempt to do, strive to do it well."

Fraternally,

Tina Keen

Tina Keen is the PA State Grange Deaf & Community Service Director. Tina belongs to Russellville Grange #91 in Chester County. She can be emailed at [pagrangedcs@mail.com](mailto:pagrangedcs@mail.com) or by phone at 973-255-8959.

# Youth & Young Adults

Hello. My name is Jennifer Danko and I am the new CO-Director for the Youth Department. I am a member of Oliver Grange #1069 in Perry County. For the past 20 years, I have been a middle school learning support teacher, recently in the Newport School District. Teaching children has always been my passion! My immediate family consists of my husband, Ken, and my twin children, Bryce and Riley. By the time you read this article, they will have celebrated their 18th birthday and will be preparing for their high school graduation. Bryce will be attending HACC majoring in Fire Science with a goal of becoming a Wildland Firefighter in Montana. Riley plans to attend Lancaster Bible College to major in Early Childhood and Special Education while continuing her athletic career in both field hockey and softball.



I am a fourth generation Granger, so this organization is very special to me. Starting as a Junior member, I attended state camp as a camper, helper, counselor, and also was previously on the Junior Committee. Following my junior years, I continued as a Youth where I was a Female Youth Ambassador with Brian Ebersole from 1997-1998. This was a turning point for me where I was able to come out of my comfort

zone, meet new people, and have many experiences speaking in front of people.



My Grange family continued to grow when my mom, Deb Campbell, became the PA Junior Director, and then served on the National Junior Grange committee. She was always the one in the family to put herself out there in these very difficult, yet rewarding positions. Currently, as she serves as the PA and National Secretary, I couldn't be more proud of her and admire her ability to accept the challenge! As you know, my dad, Wayne Campbell, past PA State Grange President, took on this role for the past 6 years. He never thought he would have ever been able to fulfill the responsibilities as President, but looking back he has taken this organization to the next level. Well done, dad! In the middle of my dad's reign, Bryce, was selected as the PA State Grange Junior Ambassador and then became the National Junior Ambassador the following year. His Grange experiences have been nothing short of amazing. Being the parent, I was able to attend regional conferences and national sessions with him which I had not attended since my younger days. It was refreshing to be able to observe him making friends and memories that will stay with him forever. Currently, Bryce is the PA State Grange Youth Ambassador. He is looking forward to attending the National Session in New York to compete for the National Youth Team.

# Join us for the 2023 PA State Grange Youth Camp



Name \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Grange/County: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ 1st Time Youth Camper: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*ALLERGIES\*\*\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact & Telephone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Fee for the Weekend: \$75.00 per person  
(\$15.00 will be paid by the Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund Account)

Each person will pay \$60.00  
\*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL – 1ST TIME CAMPERS ONLY \$30.00\*\*\*\*\*

This fee includes lodging, 5 meals, activities, workshops, snacks and fellowship.

Participants need to bring their own bedding, towels, washcloths and personal toiletries.  
Additional information and directions will be emailed or sent to you  
after your application is received.

Register Online @ <https://form.jotform.com/220255897911159>

Or mail in paper copy and check to:

PA Grange Youth, c/o Jennifer Danko, 22 Twins Avenue,  
Newport, PA 17074



Click on the QR Code  
To Access Online Registration

QUESTIONS?? Email: [Youth@pagrange.org](mailto:Youth@pagrange.org) / Cell: 717.275.5047  
Registration and Camp Fee Deadline: June 1, 2023





I live with my boyfriend, Ben, Whiskey my dog, and the cat. I work at a doggie daycare, and run my Little Linds Photography business.



My grandmother, my dad’s mother, was where our Grange involvement first began. I can only imagine what conversations she is having about us and how we have been able to grow in this organization throughout our many years of involvement. I know that she is looking down on us from heaven through tears with a smile on her face. She is continuing to watch over us through those holes in the floor of heaven. I pray that my involvement as youth director holds up to her expectations for me. In addition, I hope that I can continue to grow the youth program and fill the shoes of Ellen in the best way possible for the future of our organization. Please do not hesitate to contact Lindsay and I to visit your Grange for a program with our royalty. We look forward to your support over the next year as we are anxiously planning various activities!

Since I’ve been apart of Grange for my whole life, and couldn’t think of a better opportunity to show my love and support to give back to this organization.

At a National level, I enjoy traveling to sessions to be a Communications Fellow and utilize my photography skills. I have also been a PA Youth Ambassador.

I look forward to working along side with Jen and our committee to continue to develop a Youth program that will empower the next generation of leaders in the Grange, their local communities, and beyond.

Lindsay Schroeder

Jen Danko

Hello everyone! A lot of you might know who I am as I’ve been on the youth committee for many years now and have been a Grange member apart of Virgenville #1832 since I was 5.

I now reside in Northampton, PA where



# The Junior Granger



As I begin my third year as PA's Junior Director, I just want to take a moment to say **thank you** to everyone who has offered me & the committee support over the past two years. To Wayne, to the Executive Committee and State Grange Officers, to Samantha Wilkins, to the past Junior Directors who have given me advice - Lurae, Karen, Mike & Janet, Kelly, Debbie - to past royalty who have supported our programming, to Ellen for being a great Director partner, and to every Granger of all level across Pennsylvania - **THANK YOU!**

I am very excited to be working with our new State Grange President and batch of Directors to keep growing Junior Grange programming in the state and across the country. I'm especially looking forward to working with Jen and Lindsay and helping our Junior Grangers become awesome Youth members!

There have been a few updates to our Junior Programs and Contests this year. Please take a look at the new pages in the 2023 Contest Guide.

A few things to note:

- The ages of the **Ambassador program** have changed slightly. Any Junior Granger in Pennsylvania who comes to camp, who is age 12, 13, or 14 can compete to be PAJG Ambassador, with the understanding that 14-year-olds who turn 15 before December 31 will be ineligible to compete for National Junior Ambassador.

- **Junior at Heart** - this new category has been added to a few of our contests, encouraging ADULT Grange members to get in on the fun. Look for the contests and

come have some fun with us. (These would make great Community Grange Lecturer programs...)

- **Junior Grange of the Year** - We are reintroducing this contest, based on the former Junior Leader of the Year. This comes with a CASH PRIZE for your Junior Grange (or Community Grange 1+ Junior program if you're not chartered yet), so please take a look at the requirements.

In the coming months, I hope Junior Granges across the state start working on projects and contests - maybe an aluminum/tin can recycled craft, baking muffins, creative writing, making scrapbook pages, or honing your talents for the talent competition - all of the PA State Junior Contests can be found in the Guide to Contests.

Check out this recipe for mix-and-match muffins that you can try to find your perfect muffin to enter! It starts with a base muffin mix that you can then play around with. I hope it brings some fun, exciting, and unique muffin entries to State Session this year.

This past year, our Junior Granges in Pennsylvania saw a lot of growth and excitement. I encourage all of you - Juniors and adults - to keep it up! Remember to invite your friends to Junior meetings and fun. State Junior Grange programming is open to all members of chartered Junior Granges and 1+ members. Junior Grange Camp is also open to non-members for one year, who will then become members of PA Junior Grange!

Stay tuned for more Junior Online Gatherings, Junior-Youth Meetups, and fun things coming for our Juniors Grangers. Plus, there will be some new Junior Grange events at the 150th Anniversary PA State Grange Session in Morgantown in October.

### **Junior Grange Camp**

I'm excited to announce that registration for **Junior Grange Camp "Shore" is Fun** is now open for campers! This year's camp will be held July 2-8 at Camp Sylvan Hills, and we will be having fun on the beach! The registration form is available at <http://bit.ly/PAJGcamp23> (it's case-sensitive!) or you can fill out the form included here in the magazine.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There is one big change for camp this year! *Starting in 2023 and continuing forward, there will be no 15-year-old Helpers at Junior Grange Camp*, with the exception of the Junior Ambassadors. While I (and the committee) love the excitement that our 15-year-olds have brought to camp, we encourage you to take a year off and return as a Helper after you turn 16! There are several reasons for this, and if you have questions or concerns, I would be happy to address them.

I am looking forward to working with Junior Grangers and Junior Leaders from across the state in the coming year. If you have any ideas, any questions, or any concerns - please reach out!

And don't forget about the 1+ program - any Subordinate/Community Grange can have a Junior Grange, starting with just ONE member! Read more about it here: <http://www.nationaljuniorgrange.org/what-is-a-1-junior-grange/>. To better serve all of our

Junior Grangers across Pennsylvania, it's imperative that we know *where* our Juniors are, so even if you don't have a Junior Grange Charter, make sure to count them and report them to me ([pajuniorgrange@gmail.com](mailto:pajuniorgrange@gmail.com)) AND to the State Office.



Finally, one of our PA Junior Grange Committee members has decided to take some time off to focus on her work and education at college. A HUGE **thank you** to Cassy Kehs for the time she has devoted to our Junior Grangers in her home county and across the state. I hope everyone who has been touched by her enthusiasm and love of working with kids will reach out to say THANK YOU! Cassy will be very missed as a committee member, but we can't wait to work with her in other ways!

That means that we also get to welcome a new face to the Committee. Everyone, please give a warm, loving welcome to Jimmy Knoerdel from Beaver County. Jimmy brings a great enthusiasm, experience as a Junior Grange member and a fun, youthful energy. He is definitely excited to work with our Junior Grangers!

Happy New Year, and remember to **be kind**,

*Phil*



# JUNIOR GRANGE CAMP

## Shore IS FUN!



July 2 - 8, 2023 - Sylvan Hills Christian Service Camp, Howard, PA

**Age 7 - 14 as of the start of camp**

Please fill out one application for each camper

*Counselors/Helpers: Please contact Philip to receive a registration form!*

Camper Name \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Age on 12/31/2023 \_\_\_\_\_

**T-Shirt Size (circle one)**

YS YM YL

Adult: S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Junior Grange Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

First Year at Camp? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ How many years in Jr. Grange? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Can your child swim? Yes - Beginner Yes - Intermediate

*circle one*

Yes - Advanced and comfortable in the water No - no experience

**Deadline: June 2, 2023**

Any application received after 6/2/2023 will be charged an additional \$20 and are not guaranteed a camp t-shirt.

*Camp Packets with more information will be mailed/e-mailed to all campers about 2 weeks before camp!*

**Cost**  \$225 Full-Week  
 \$145 Half-Week

*\$15 per camper is subsidized by the Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund*

*Half-Week Option (Weds-Sat) is available for **first-year 7 and 8 year-old campers ONLY***

**Sibling Discount:** Discount: 1st Child = Full Price; then \$20 off for each child after. (2nd = \$205; 3rd = \$185; 4th = \$165, etc.) *No sibling discount can be applied to the half-week option*

*We don't want to discourage anyone from attending camp! If you feel the cost is out of your range, please email [pajuniorgrange@gmail.com](mailto:pajuniorgrange@gmail.com). Some scholarships or cost-reduction options may be available.*

**Payment Options:**

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my check payable to PA Junior Grange

\_\_\_\_ Please email me with a link to pay online

\_\_\_\_ I will send an email to [pajuniorgrange@gmail.com](mailto:pajuniorgrange@gmail.com) to discuss payment options

**Mail completed forms and checks to:**

PAJG c/o Philip Vonada, 358 Clinton Street, South Williamsport, PA 17702

or scan and email to: [PAJuniorGrange@gmail.com](mailto:PAJuniorGrange@gmail.com)

Online form available at: <http://bit.ly/PAJGcamp23> (case sensitive)

### **Dates to remember:**

March 19 - Junior Jibber-Jabber on Zoom with National Junior Grange Director Samantha Wilkins (9pm) - this is for all Junior Directors and anyone interested in Junior Programming

March 26 - Junior Online Gathering

April - Grange Month

July 2-8 - Junior Grange Camp

July 13-16 - Family Festival

October 19-22 - 150th Anniversary State Grange Session in Morgantown (October 21-22 - Junior Jam)

November 14-18 - National Grange Session in Niagara Falls

### **Homemade Muffin Mix Recipe**

Courtesy of Jessica Fisher

#### Ingredients

- 3 cup unbleached, all-purpose flour
- 1 cup granulated sugar or brown sugar
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups mix-ins for muffins any combination of nuts, chocolate chips, or fresh or dried fruit, such as mashed bananas, blueberries, finely chopped apples, raspberries, or coarsely chopped cranberries

#### Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 375°. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with muffin papers or spray with nonstick cooking spray.
2. In a large mixing bowl, combine the flours, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and sugar.
3. In a separate bowl, combine the oil, milk, yogurt, eggs, and extract, if using. Whisk to blend.
4. Add the wet ingredients to the dry. Fold gently until mostly moistened, but still lumpy. Fold in mix-ins of your choosing.
5. For 12 large muffins, fill muffin cups completely, even mounding past their tops. For 18 kid-size muffins, fill almost full.
6. Bake 25-35 minutes, depending on how much you fill them. Bake until a tester comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack before serving.

To freeze: baked and cooled muffins can be stored in a zip-top freezer bag in the freezer for up to 6 weeks.

To make as a mix: Take a large zip-top bag or container and label it with the wet ingredients and the baking instructions. Measure out the dry ingredients into the bag. Seal and store until ready to use.



Philip Vonada is the PA State Junior Grange Director. He belongs to Penns Valley Grange #158 in Centre County and Eagle Grange #1 in Lycoming County. Phil can be reached at 814-404-7985 or by email at [pajuniorgrange@gmail.com](mailto:pajuniorgrange@gmail.com). Phil's address is 358 Clinton St., South Williamsport, PA 17702.

## 5 Minutes with....

### Doug Bonsall

#### History Committee Chairperson

What Grange do you belong to?

Member of Perry Valley Grange #1804, Perry County and Affiliate Member of Eagle Grange #1, Lycoming County

How long have you been in the Grange?

I am a fourth generation Grange member so have been attending Grange events since I was a toddler. When Perry Valley's Junior Grange was organized in 1964, I became a Junior Member and graduated into the Subordinate Grange in 1969, holding many offices, including 22 years as Master. I also served as Master of Perry County Pomona. When I was 18 years old, I was appointed to the State Grange Youth Committee and become Youth Director in 1974 at age 20. In 1979, Pennsylvania hosted the National Grange session for the first time in 42 years and I had the honor of serving as host chairperson. After six years as Youth Director, I moved to six years as State Lecturer and during past of that term served on the National Lecturer's Advisory Committee, followed by two years as Chaplain, ending in 1988. In 2006 I was appointed to the State Grange History Committee and became chair in 2016.

What is your favorite Grange memory?

The tremendous enthusiasm leading up to the 1979 National Grange session in Lancaster, PA and the overwhelming attendance exceeding 8,000 persons.

Name one thing on your bucket list.

Develop significant local support for Eagle Grange #1 to insure its continued prosperity in the future.

Were you in any activities or clubs in high school or play any sports?

Never much of an athlete, my high school activities were focused on band, drum major, chorus, school newspaper editor and National Honor Society.

## Secretary's Corner

Debbie Campbell; State Secretary;  
secretary@pagrange.org

Hi everyone! The Secretary's job can be a challenge and requires a lot of hard work. It is imperative that accurate records are kept in your Grange. Thank you to all the Secretaries for Subordinate and Pomona Granges! The Secretary's Packet should have reached your secretaries by now. If not, please contact me at the information listed above.

*As a reminder, your 1st Quarterly Dues are due by April 30, 2023. The National Grange Hosting Assessment is also due with the 1st Quarter, which is \$1.00 for each member in your Grange.*

In the Secretary's Packet you will find a spreadsheet of your members. Please review the information such as, but not limited, to correct Address; Email addresses, Phone Numbers, DOB and Members Date (this is the date they joined the Grange. By you correcting this report, keeps our database up to date and makes sure your members receive important information such as the Pennsylvania Grange News.



# 2022 Grange Legacy Families

There were three Pennsylvania families that were honored at the 2022 National Grange Session in Sparks, Nevada. The Campbell Family, Schaeffer Family, and Pensinger Families were recognized for having 5 generations in the Grange. Congratulations to all of these families for all of their years of service to their communities through the generations.



The Campbell Family from Perry County; 3rd Generation, Wayne Campbell; 4th Generation, Jennifer Danko; 5th Generation, Bryce and Riley Danko.

The Schaeffer Family from Berks County; 2nd Generation, Shirley Stricker (not pictured); 3rd Generation is Tim Schaeffer, Greg Stricker (not pictured); 4th Generation, Marci Schlegel, Brittany Covey; 5th Generation, Cadence Tempel, Ava Jenkins and Grace Tempel.



The Pensinger Family from Berks County; 2nd Generation, Robert Pensinger; 3rd Generation, Ed Pensinger, Tammy Schaeffer, Cindy Schlegel; 4th Generation, Marci Schlegel, Brittany Covey, Nathan Leibensperger (not pictured), Hannah Leibensperger (not pictured); 5th Generation, Cadence Tempel, Ava Jenkins, Grace Tempel.



# *White House Christmas Tree has Grange Roots*

The arrival of the White House Christmas tree by horse and carriage kicks off the Christmas season at the White House. This past November, the tree had a connection to a Berks County Grange family as Paul and Pam Shealer presented First Lady Jill Biden with the 2022 tree featured in the Blue Room.

“That was a really neat experience,” Pam said. “It was a pretty seamless event. The tree got delivered the Thursday before Thanksgiving. Paul and his dad got to drive into the South Gate. Most people don’t get to drive into the White House.”

The Shealer family has been growing Christmas trees since 1936. Paul and Pam are the fourth generation of the family to operate Evergreen Acres Tree Farm, in Auburn, Schuylkill County. They took over the family business in January 2022. They manage about 50 acres of Christmas trees on owned and rented land. They sell fresh cut trees including Fraser Fir, Douglas Fir, Concolor Fir, Nordmann Fir and Turkish Fir. Most of the farm’s trees are sold wholesale in southeast Pennsylvania, but they do retail Christmas tree sales from their home farm.

The Monday before Thanksgiving, the family arrived at the White House for



the official delivery presentation. The family met Jill Biden and her grandson Beau as the tree was delivered by a team of horses on a festively decorated wagon. Pam said they spoke briefly with Jill Biden during the ceremony.

The family was able to tour several of the rooms, including the Blue Room, where the tree was on display. “We met the First Lady and then did the presentation. Afterwards, as a bonus, we were asked if we would like to stick around and watch Marine One land. The precision with how that pilot flew, was amazing.”

This is the second time the family won the contest after one of their Douglas fir trees was chosen in 2000 at the end of Bill Clinton's second term. Pam and their children are members of Ontelaunee Grange #1617 in Berks County.

The journey from farm to White House began for this tree about 20 years ago when the tree was planted as a sapling on their family tree farm.

The Shealer family’s adventure began



with a win at the 2021 Pennsylvania Farm Show, qualifying them for entry into the National Christmas Tree Convention in August 2021 in North Carolina.

An award-winning tree just does not magically appear. It takes care, attention to detail and patience. Paul and his father do all of the trimming and shaping on the farm. Preparing for the national contest, Paul said they selected the tree, prepped it, added damp clothes to the tree butt to keep it from drying out and drove overnight to get it to North Carolina in short order to keep it fresh.



At that convention, they were selected as the grand champion with a Douglas Fir, providing them the opportunity to have a tree from their farm featured in the White House Blue Room. The national convention only happens on odd-numbered years, so two winners are selected at each convention. They were selected to provide the tree in 2022.

Pennsylvania has had multiple tree farms win this prestigious award and have their trees serve as the official



Christmas Tree. Pam said they compete in the Pennsylvania Farm Show and National Christmas Tree Growers contests to see how their trees line up to others. “Like any commodity, if you are producing a good product you want to see how it compares,” she said. It also brings awareness to the family farm.

One unique element of the contest is each farm competes with a tree between six to eight feet in height. The tree for the White House is much larger. Pam said growers competing in the contest have a few trees in mind at the farm that could possibly work. “We had three trees” in mind, she said.

In October, members of the Biden’s staff arrived on farm to select the perfect tree. White House Chief Usher Robert Downing and Supervisor of Grounds Dale Haney selected a 19-foot Concolor Fir as this year’s tree. In November the tree was cut, hand-wrapped and prepared for transport to Washington. The National Tree Growers helped to make it a pretty seamless process doing the initial organization with the White House and promotion of their tree presentation.

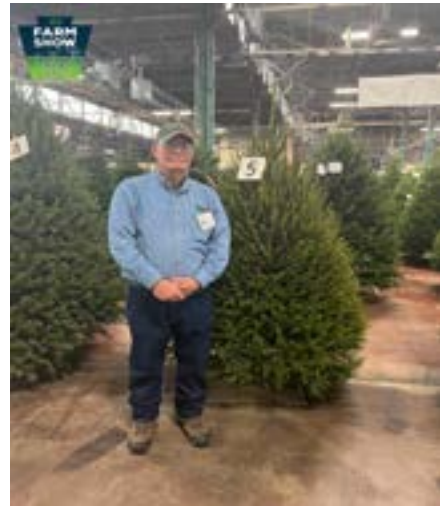


If you visited the 2023 Farm Show Evergreen Acres Tree Farm placed in the top 5 in each species class. We entered 6 trees and all placed in the top 5! Here were our results:

- Canaan Fir - 1st
- Norway Spruce - 1st
- Fraser Fir - 2nd
- Concolor Fir - 2nd
- Douglas Fir - 3rd
- Nordmann Fir - 5th

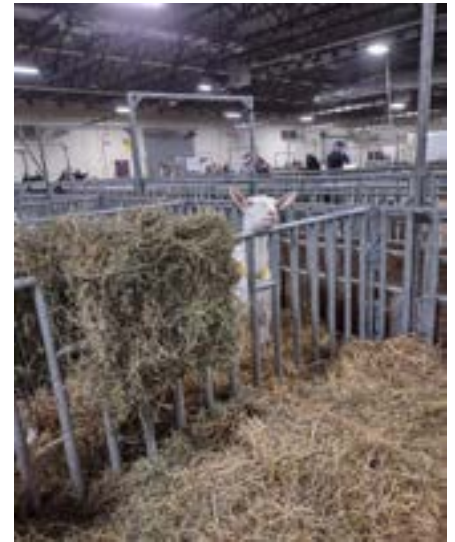
The recognition created plenty excitement among their customers and fellow Grangers as they prepared the tree for the White House. “They were excited. A lot of people congratulated us” Pam said. “They were excited to see it was people that they actually knew.”

This past Christmas season, they also received a boost with new customers visiting the farm thanks to the publicity, and from their customers spreading the word to friends. In January, the family exhibited Christmas trees at the 2023 Pennsylvania Farm Show. Of the six trees entered, all six placed in the top five in their tree classes, continuing the tradition of excellence.

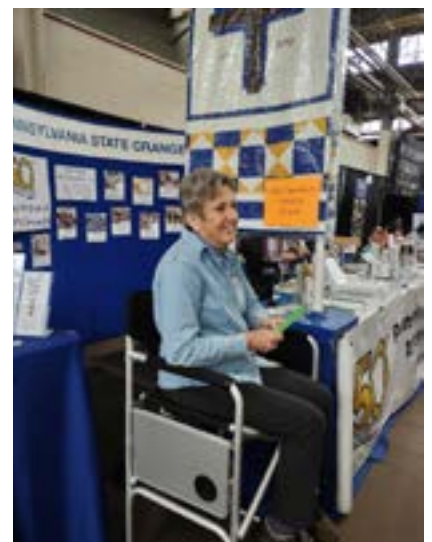


Pennsylvania has more than 1,400 Christmas tree farms across the state, covering nearly 31,000 acres, ranking third in the nation. Unlike other states where Christmas tree production is found in one region, Pennsylvania’s trees are grown in diverse areas, with York County harvesting the most Christmas trees in the state. Carbon, Columbia and Schuylkill counties rank 18, 20 and 24 in the nation for Christmas tree production in a region around Scranton. In the western part of the state, closer to Pittsburgh, is Indiana, the city known as the “Christmas Tree Capital of the World,” due to the large volume of Christmas tree farms dotting the region, which is rather strange considering their proximity to a city.





# Farm Show Highlights



# Pennsylvania State Grange

The 107th annual Pennsylvania Farm Show by all accounts was a huge hit this year. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture says the food court reported record sales this year. From goat snuggling to rodeos to dairy shows, the Farm Show had something for everyone of all ages. The Pennsylvania State Grange was pleased with the success of its 2023 Pennsylvania Farm Show legislative panels. The topics addressed in the programs addressed challenges facing many Pennsylvanians and the agricultural community.

## **SCAMdoulous: How to avoid being a victim of Cyber Crime**

Have you ever gotten a text, call or email seemingly from someone you know and trust that asks for assistance? Maybe it's a request to help set up a venmo or zelle account or a request to help buy gift cards for a friend or fellow grange member. While it may seem innocent, upon closer inspection you will find it is a scam. While you may feel fear or embarrassment you are not alone!

On Wednesday, the Pennsylvania State Grange gathered an expert panel on cybercrime on the Lancaster Farming Stage to give tips and advice on avoiding being a victim of scams and what to do if you become a victim.

Because the Pennsylvania State Senate was in session and working on serious issues, Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill could not attend, however, Rep. Torren Ecker discussed how the general assembly

can give law enforcement extra tools to go after the bad people who target individuals for their money.

WGAL 8 investigative reporter Brian Roche emphasized to not take it personally when scammers target you. 95% of the time they have no idea who you are and warned that 56% of the time fraud attempts come through your phone.



York County District Attorney, David Sunday spoke to how his office investigates and prosecutes criminals taking advantage of Pennsylvanians stating that scammers can try a 1,000 times to scam the public and if they only succeed two times it is a win for them, and they will continue. He recommends everyone do a credit check on themselves twice a year.

Chief Information Officer Garth Pricer of Members 1st Credit Union finished the panel by talking about what to do if you are a victim of cybercrime stressing that time is of the absolute essence. Contact your bank directly by calling the number of the bank on your statements if you feel you may have been scammed. He finished by saying to treat cybercrime like

# Farm Show Panels a Success

a mosquito, if you get bit, get treated. Always remember, help is out there and all you need to do is reach out! If you have any questions on who can help, your Pennsylvania State Grange team is here to help. Call, email or text Carrie at 717-424-5832 or [carrie@nsallac.com](mailto:carrie@nsallac.com) and we will connect you with resources.

## Workforce Development: A Collaborative Effort

Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding kicked off the Pennsylvania State Grange's second panel on workforce development by stating that workforce is always in the top two discussion points in meeting with agricultural businesses.

"To support agriculture into tomorrow, we need to inspire, attract, and retain the talents we have today. Through agriculture education, we can inspire the students of today to become leaders of agriculture in the future. By highlighting the opportunities of our industries, we can attract talent to join us. And in growing opportunities and building career paths to advancement, we can retain those who are already vested in our industry." Secretary Redding said.

Rep. Torren Ecker of Adams County discussed what he has seen in his district which is steeped in agricultural history. non-partisan and will continue to work with his



colleagues, colleges and universities to work to address these shortages.

Sara Gligora who serves as the Special Assistant for Workforce Development in the Department of Agriculture, discussed her role and the role of the Department of Agriculture in helping to form collaborative partnerships to address the needs of the agriculture communities.



Michele Shearer of the Center for Dairy excellence spoke about the programs the center offers to highlight programs for middle and high school students. Shearer works with the Grow PA Ag Workforce Development Committee. This collaborative group works on ways to support educators and parents to help middle and high school students explore careers in the Food and Agricultural Sciences in Pennsylvania and beyond.

The panel's student representative was Bryce Danko, a senior at Greenwood High School. Danko is a member of Oliver Grange #1069 and is very involved in the Pennsylvania State Grange's Ambassador

## **Valley Grange #1360 Led by a Strong Group of Volunteers helps the Famous Farm Show Milkshakes Celebrate its 70th Birthday**

program. Danko spoke on and his involvement with the Greenwood FFA and their state accolades in competition. He feels that his Ag teachers and the FFA program has better prepared him for his goal of becoming a firefighter in Montana.

The last panelist was Cheyenne Wivell an Ag teacher and FFA advisor at Bermudian Springs High School in Adams County. She discussed the importance of exposing students to agriculture and the opportunities that these industries can provide. She feels Ag education is essential and feels her students benefit greatly from the school's curriculum.

All the panelists agreed that if organizations can work in a collaborative fashion, their shared goals in providing a well-educated Ag workforce can be achieved.

Readers can watch the panel on Rep. Torren Ecker's website at [www.repecker.com](http://www.repecker.com).

The Pennsylvania State Grange would like to thank all the panelists who gave their time over two days at the Farm Show to bring their expertise to show attendees.

For more information on either panel, please contact Carrie Nace at 717-424-5832 or [carrie@nsallc.com](mailto:carrie@nsallc.com)

Anyone who knows and encounters Fae Snyder from Valley Grange #1360 understands they will be met with a beautiful smile and a kind greeting. Some may not know that she is the driving force behind those famous "Farm Show" milkshakes.



If you visited the Farm Show this year you know how large the crowds were. The line for milkshakes was extremely long and never seemed to go down. In fact, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture says the food court reported record sales this year.

For seventy years Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association has been serving famous PA Farm Show milkshakes. For every one of those years Fae Snyder has been helping to bring the happiness of the sweet treat to attendees.

It started in the fall of 1953 when then Executive Director of the Dairymen's Association, John Blyholder, a Valley Grange member talked to Fae about the possibility of a partnership between the Grange and the Dairymen's milkshake stand. Fae agreed and in January of 1954 famous milkshakes premiered at the Farm Show.

Fae says that the original stand was in the main exhibition hall at the McClay Street entrance and in the beginning, they would start with a brick of vanilla ice cream and mix it by spindles that you see in small ice cream shops. She admits that she was skeptical when the Dairymen introduced the milkshake mixes with the new machines but acknowledges it caught on and 70 years later the milkshakes are still a huge hit. Fae and Valley Grange's commitment to the PA Dairymen's Association to provide the volunteers to keep the stand moving quickly is a testament to the mission statement of the Pennsylvania State Grange.



“Service and volunteering are about people helping people, and this is what makes the Pennsylvania Farm Show the incredible event that it has been for 107 years.” Dave Smith, Executive Director of the PA Dairymen's Association says, “The Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association has been thrilled to have all the Grange members and families help partner and staff the milkshake business at the Farm Show for 70 years. The efforts of these Grange members

and families have been invaluable to the efforts to support Pennsylvania farm families.”

“Volunteering in the milkshake stand is a place to be able to see people you only see once a year at the Farm Show.” Fae Says, “The partnership of Valley Grange with the Dairymen's association provides for the health of our grange as it is the big fundraiser of the year.”

The money earned by Valley, helps serve the community all year long and is a testament to the philosophy of grangers across the Commonwealth as the Pennsylvania State Grange Celebrates its 150th anniversary with 150 Acts of Service.

Hats off to Fae Snyder and the entire Valley Grange #1360 for the success of this year's Farm Show and to a successful continued partnership.



# Government Matters



## Historic Start to a New Legislative Session

I hope everyone had a great Holiday season filled with time with loved ones and wonderful memories. As we begin to look to spring, I find myself looking forward to a new year of grange events! April brings Grange Month followed by, Grange Ambassador Day on the Hill, Family Fest and Ag Progress days! All will be here before we know it! As always I am so excited to connect with each of you.

2023 certainly started with a bang in Harrisburg. While Governor Shapiro began to settle into a new role and began picking his cabinet, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives fell into utter chaos.



It began on election night when poll numbers began to be reported. Going into election day in the State House, Republicans enjoyed a healthy 113-90 majority. On election night it began to become apparent that after a decade of Republican control, Democrats would take control of the House. The control of the House would, however; be by the slimmest of margins and be decided by three special elections in Allegheny County that were caused by the death of one member (Rep. Tony DeLuca) and two members being elected to higher office (Rep. Austin Davis & Rep. Summer Lee) that triggered Special Elections.

On Swearing-In Day 2023, (January 3, 2023) Republicans held a precarious seat lead in the House due to the three vacant seats. It soon became apparent that it would be a long day as the chamber had to elect a Speaker of the House with no clear majority of one party or the other.

In a surprise move on swearing-in day, they House moved to vote Democrat Rep. Mark Rozzi as Speaker of the House. Rozzi, a moderate Democrat from Berks County, was seen as a compromise candidate for both caucuses. However, chaos soon arose as neither caucus could agree to House rules that set framework to be able to meet in session. Hence, the House has not met for voting session and is not scheduled to come back into session until February 21st. Stay tuned for the next chapter of this saga!

## Pennsylvania State Grange Busy in the Capitol Despite Lack of Session

Regardless of the lack of session days in Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania State Grange has been busy positioning its policy for action. The Farm Show brought a wonderful opportunity to connect with many House and Senate members on issues of importance to Grangers.

Additionally, we have either met with or have schedule meetings





with many officials on these issues. Senator Doug Mastriano is in the process of introducing legislation that would ban large scale solar farms from Class I and Class II farmland. We will be meeting with his office to work in a collaborative way to move this legislation.

On February 14th, Matt Espenshade and I met with Nathan Clark, Executive Director of the Senate Agriculture Committee in Senator Elder Vogel's office. It was a lengthy meeting to discuss the Pennsylvania State Grange's Agriculture priorities. In addition the Pennsylvania State Grange Master, Matt Espenshade, has agreed to testify at an upcoming hearing Senator Vogel's office will be holding around dairy issues.



On February 23rd at 6:00 pm, I will be participating in Rep. Melissa Shusterman's virtual event on Scams. Rep. Shusterman reached out to us because she followed our Farm Show, "SCAMdalous" very closely and wanted to model an event after ours. The event will be taped and we will be forwarding the link to our members who may be interested in watching it to learn how to better protect ourselves from online predators.

I also would like to encourage our

members to get on Rep. Torren Ecker's website to watch the Pennsylvania State Grange's panel on workforce development mentioned in a previous article at [www.repecker.com](http://www.repecker.com). Find out how the Grange can partner with other organizations to collaboratively work together to connect students with employers in Agriculture industries.



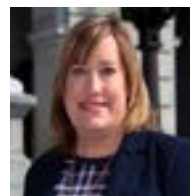
### **Legislative Zooms**

It was great to see an increase in participation at our first legislative zoom of the year on February 9th. I hope to see more of you attend our monthly zooms on the second Thursday of each month as we meet to discuss the latest legislative developments. This provides time for each of us to discuss issues of importance to grange members and allows me to better represent everyone.

In addition, I love visiting grange's and I am happy to come to talk to your chapter to talk about what is happening in Harrisburg and throughout the state. I want to know what is important to you so please contact me and I will come join a meeting.

For more information please email me at [carrie@nsallc.com](mailto:carrie@nsallc.com) or call 717-424-5832.

Carrie Nace is a Senior Associate with Novak Strategic Advisors. She represents the Pennsylvania State Grange and assists members with legislative needs. Carrie also belongs to Valley Grange #1360 in York County. She can be emailed at [carrie@nsallc.com](mailto:carrie@nsallc.com) or call 717-424-5832.



# What Flowers Attract Bees To Your Garden

[almanac.com/best-flowers-bees](http://almanac.com/best-flowers-bees)

Most of the pollination is carried out by native pollinators—including flies, beetles, moths, and butterflies—but native bees are the unsung heroes. (Note: Honeybees are non-natives and not as important for widespread pollination.)



There are over **4,000 species of bees** native to North America, ranging from the world's smallest bee—the 2mm (.08") long fairy bee (*Perdita minima*)—found only in the desert southwest, to the large carpenter bees that reach 40mm (1.6") long. No matter their size, all native bees rely on blooming plants for sugary nectar and protein-packed pollen to feed themselves and their offspring.

A bee's flower preference depends on the length of its tongue! Some bees have long tongues that can easily access nectar in tubular-shaped blossoms like penstemon, columbine, and honeysuckle, while those with short

tongues go for daisies, asters,

and sunflowers. Small bees like small florets and composite flowers, while big bumblebees and carpenters like larger flowers. Try to plant a mix of different flower shapes and sizes to attract a variety of bee species to your space. Flower color matters. Bees can't see red, which is a color more attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies. Bees are drawn to purple, blue, white, and yellow.

Perennials offer the highest quality nectar and pollen but there are exceptions. Some bees are specialists, like the squash bee that prefers only squash, pumpkin, and gourd blossoms. The most effective pollinators are the generalists that get their food from a wide range of plants. This includes not only native trees and perennials but some non-natives like crimson and white clovers and annuals as well.

Annuals have the advantage of blossoming all season long. Bees flock to alyssum, cleome, zinnias, sunflowers, salvia, calendula, and verbena.





Bees are active until the weather cools down in late fall and still need to feed. Grow some late bloomers like dahlias, asters, ironweed, goldenrod, Joe Pye weed, rudbeckias, and helianthus to keep the party going. Bumblebees love bottle gentian, too!

Native bees need more than pretty flowers to survive. We need to provide water, shelter, and nesting sites. Banish pesticides and other poisons from your yard.

Your culinary herbs such as sage, thyme, borage, lavender, chives, dill, basil, oregano, rosemary, and mint can do double duty. Plant them throughout the vegetable garden, let some of them flower, and they will draw in the pollinators to your other plants.

The eternal struggle for bees in temperate zones is finding enough food in late winter and early spring, when most of nature is still sleeping! Here's what we can plant to help them out: Some early blooming trees and shrubs to consider are vernal witch hazel, maples, willows, serviceberry, and redbud. They flower when not much else is in bloom yet. Early blooming fruits including cherry, plum, raspberry, blackberry, and blueberries. Mid-season flowers such as anise hyssop, black-eyed Susans, coneflowers, catmint, cleome, penstemon, globe thistle, milkweed, monarda (bee balm), coreopsis, daisies, phlox, gaillardia, and yarrow are bee magnets.



When shopping for plants, look for chemical-free ones. Systemic insecticides can make the whole plant toxic—nectar and pollen included!

## 2023 Family Festival MEALS

Any items are subject to change



### Thursday Dinner

(Provided by Penns Valley Grange #158)

Spaghetti and Meat Sauce; Garlic Bread  
tossed salad and Dessert

### Friday; Saturday; Sunday Breakfast

Pancakes-French Toast/Syrup/Butter  
Scrapple/Sausage/Bacon  
Eggs made to order  
Toast; English Muffins; Bagels  
Milk; OJ; Coffee; Hot Tea  
Cold Cereal  
Fruit

### Friday Lunch

Hoagies — Ham; Hard Salami; Bologna;  
Tuna Salad; Tossed Salad  
Fresh Fruit  
Pickles; Pickled Eggs—Red Beets  
Nacho's & Cheese  
Pudding; Dessert

### Friday Dinner

(Provided by Youth Dept.)

Hot Dogs  
Baked Potatoes  
Chili from Cook-Off  
Tossed Salad; Cookies



### Saturday Lunch

(Provided by Logan Grange #109)

Taco Salad; Tossed Salad  
Grilled Cheese;  
Tomato Soup  
Applesauce;  
Pudding & Dessert

### Saturday Dinner

(Provided by Baileyville Grange #1991)

Pulled Pork Sandwich (prepared in a Bacon Wrap)  
Variety of BBQ sauces on side  
Baked Beans  
Cole Slaw  
Macaroni Salad  
Tossed Salad  
Strawberry Shortcake

## Family Festival News—

Family Festival 2023 will be held July 13th thru 16th. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> year of Family Festival which started in 2004. There will not be a theme for this year's event, but the stage will be decorated to highlight our 150th Anniversary celebration.

Please fill out and return the form located in this issue of the PGN to attend. We have limited the number of workshops in response to the surveys asking for more free time.

### Workshops—

Barb and Glenn Gross – Quilt Block painting workshop,  
Amy Koenig – Ribbon Christmas craft workshop  
Jenn Nauss, State Lecturer – Paint and Sip event  
Tina Keen, D&CS Director – Sign Language  
Carrie Nace, Legislative Consultant – Legislative issues  
and how you can make a difference.  
The Youth Department — Parli-Pro.

There will be a change in how the meals are being prepared. Several Granges in Centre County have offered to serve some of the meals. See the lunch menu for more information.

Breakfast and Friday lunch will be done by the "old" crew.

Friday afternoon will be water games and Saturday will be filled with fun events for the Juniors, Youth, and Youth at heart.

There will be information available at registration on local points of interest for you to visit or partner with others to visit those places in Centre County you always wanted to visit.

2023 People's Choice Festival of PA Arts and Crafts will also be going on providing another venue for you to visit right there on the Fairgrounds. Google [peopleschoicefestival.com](http://peopleschoicefestival.com) for more information

Stay tuned to social media and Constant Contact for additional details as they become available. We look forward to seeing you in July for another great Family Festival event.



# 2023 Family Festival

## Schedule of Events

July 13-16, 2023



### Thursday, July 13

- 1:00 – 4:30 Registration – Bldg. 11  
 5:30 - 6:30 Dinner – Bldg. 11  
 7:00-8:00 Welcome & National President  
 Betsy Huber & Master Matt  
 Espenshade Workshop – Bldg. 14  
 8:30 Vespers – Bldg. 14  
 9:00-11:00 Hot Potato – D&CS  
 Quilt Block Painting – Bldg. 12  
 11:00 Quiet Time & Lights Out



### Friday, July 14

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast – Bldg. 11  
 Quilt Block Painting – Bldg. 12  
 9:00-11:00 Sip & Paint – Lecturer's Workshop  
 9:30-11:30 Registration – Bldg. 11  
 12:00-1:00 Lunch – Bldg. 11  
 2:00-3:00 Legislative Updates presented by  
 Carrie Nace – Bldg. 14  
 2:00-4:00 Registration – Bldg. 11  
 3:00-5:00 Junior/Youth Water Games (by Stage)  
 5:00-6:30 Dinner – Bldg. 11 – *Chili; Hot Dogs; Baked Potatoes; Salad; Dessert*



*Hosted by Youth Department*

- 7:15 Cornhole – First match  
 7:00-9:00 Family Movie Night – (B) – Includes—  
 Popcorn and Ice Cream Sundaes  
 9:00 Vespers – Bldg. 14  
 Hot Potato – D&CS  
 9:30 Knowledge TEST – Bldg. 11  
 11:00 Quiet Time & Lights Out



*D&CS Committee is having a Silent Auction all weekend, donations are appreciated and proceeds will benefit Veterans, Thank you!*

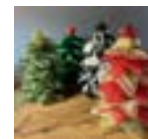
#### Collecting items for the Veteran's Home

Men's deodorant; lotion; shaving cream or gel; toothbrushes (individually packaged); non-alcoholic mouthwash, hairbrushes and combs.

D&CS will have available to color and decorate cards that will be distributed to Veterans at local hospitals.

### Saturday, July 15

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast – Bldg. 11  
*(Announce Young Patron Finalists)*  
 8:30 Group Photo – Location TBD  
 9:30-11:30 Junior Activities  
 9:00-10:00 Christmas Tree Craft  
 Workshop – Bldg. 12  
 Adult Supervision  
 Required.  
 9:00-10:00 Young Patron Interviews – Bldg. 11  
 10:00-11:00 Parli-Pro Workshop – Youth –  
 everyone welcome! – Bldg. 14  
 12:00-1:00 Lunch – Bldg. 11  
*(Impromptu Question to Young Patron Finalists)*  
 1:00-3:30 Quilt Block Painting – Bldg. 12  
 1:00-2:00 Sign Language – Bldg. 12  
 1:00-2:30 Sixth Degree Officer Practice – Bldg. 14  
 3:00-4:00 Bike-A-Thon  
 5:00-6:00 Dinner – Bldg. 11  
*Pulled Pork Sandwiches  
 (Prepared in Bacon Wrap)  
 Baked Beans; Cole Slaw;  
 Macaroni Salad; Tossed Salad  
 Strawberry Shortcake*  
 6:00 Corn Hole Finale  
 7:00 Talent Contest – Pre-registered –Bldg. 14  
 Introduction of Royalty  
 History Committee – talk about  
 Anniversary Celebration – Doug  
 Bonsall/Jenn Nauss  
 Vespers – Bldg. 14  
 Hot Potato – D&CS  
 Special Dessert  
**Clean out Building A & C after all events are over for the evening.**  
 11:00 Quiet Time & Lights Out



### Sunday, July 16

- 7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast – Bldg. 11  
 9:00 – 10:00 Worship Service – Bldg. 14  
 10:00 Clean Up and Depart

**Assistance cleaning and packing up of Bldg. 11 is much appreciated**

**Thank You! Wishing you a safe trip Home!**



# Pennsylvania State Grange Family Festival July 13-16, 2023

Please submit one form per each person attending. Thank you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grange: \_\_\_\_\_  
County: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tent (\$30 per night/ NOT per person)  
Tent mates: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ RV/Camper (\$45 per night/space,  
NOT per person) (Fees have increased)  
RV/Camper-mates: \_\_\_\_\_

Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. Trailer or Motor Home  
(Circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Dump prior to leaving (Fee \$25)

Day of Arrival: (circle one)  
Thursday    Friday    Saturday    Sunday

**Chili Cook-Off Contest – at least 6 qt. slow  
cooker; Must be taken to the dinner area  
by 11:00 am. on Friday**

*These entries will be part of the  
dinner for Friday night.*



Hotel- Please make your own reservation  
Reservation block reserved at—  
Ramada Conference Center  
1450 South Atherton St.  
814-238-3001  
**\$129.00 PLUS TAX PER NIGHT**

**Use Group Code PAGRANGE23**

**Deadline for hotel rate is  
June 18, 2023**

**Talent Contest Registration – must pre-register**  
Please indicate which category you will be  
entering—

\_\_\_\_\_ Vocal; \_\_\_\_\_ Instrumental;  
\_\_\_\_\_ Variety

**Equipment you will need** \_\_\_\_\_

**We would like to thank local Granges that  
are providing some of the meals.**

**We apologize but due the increase of food  
cost prices had to be increased.**

### MEALS (please check desired meals –

Children 4 and under are Free, ages 5-11 half price.

_____ All Meals	\$54.50	_____
_____ Thursday Dinner	\$8.00	_____
_____ Friday Breakfast	\$5.50	_____
_____ Friday Lunch	\$6.50	_____
_____ Friday Dinner	\$6.00	_____
_____ Saturday Breakfast	\$5.50	_____
_____ Saturday Lunch	\$6.50	_____
_____ Saturday Dinner	\$11.00	_____
_____ Sunday Breakfast	\$5.50	_____

Tent Fee Per Night \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

RV/Camper Fee Per Night \_\_\_\_\_ X \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_

RV Dumping Fee .....\$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee per person (4 and  
under Free) .....\$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Quilt Block Workshop .....\$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Sip & Paint fee – Proceeds to benefit  
the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State  
Grange 2023 State Session .....\$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Christmas Ornament  
Workshop .....\$7.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline for Registration- June  
15, 2023**

Make checks payable to: **PA State Grange**

Send Registration & Payment to:

PA State Grange  
Attn: Family Festival  
26 CJEMS Lane  
Mifflintown PA 17059



## THE CELEBRATION IS UNDERWAY!

After more than two years of planning, the Pennsylvania State Grange is now officially in its 150th anniversary year! Multiple opportunities for individual and Grange participation in this sesquicentennial anniversary are available between now and the finale at the next state session in Morgantown, October 19-22, 2023. Last fall all Granges were provided with complete details about all these anniversary opportunities; if this information has not yet been shared in your Grange, please inquire with your Secretary or contact Doug Bonsall. Here's a summary of the ways that you and your Grange can participate:

- **Acts of Service** - brief descriptions of many new, unique service projects to benefit the community shared on the State Grange Facebook page and website.
- **“Light the Cake”** - financial contributions in amounts from \$1-\$150 continue to finance the celebration; contributors will be listed in the historical program booklet
- **Sponsorships** - larger contributions in six categories ranging from \$250-\$5,000; all sponsorship levels include a complimentary ad in the historical program booklet
- **Historical Booklet Ads** - be part of the published history of the State Grange by purchasing an ad block in one-eighth,

quarter, half, three-quarter and full page sizes; due by 7/31/2023

- **Candle Lighting Ceremonies** - 12 brief monthly prepared ceremonies with a reading and votive lighting for use at local Grange meetings, each about a different aspect of the organization
- **Recognition of 50 year+ Sixth Degree members** - help us identify and contact persons who received the Sixth Degree in 1973 or earlier
- **Tabletop Displays** - set up a 4' table display at the 2023 session about your Grange to either share its history or tell the story of current activities
- **Pennants** - every Grange (Subordinate, Pomona and Junior) is encouraged to make a pennant to be part of the hotel decorations
- **Door Prizes** - every Grange is asked to donate a door prize of an approximate \$25 value - gift baskets, gift cards, handcrafted items, etc.

**Acts of Service** After a slow start, this service to community aspect of the anniversary has really taken off since the state session last fall. We have reached and now surpassed the original goal of 150 Acts of Service as our Granges continue to make even more positive impacts across Pennsylvania. As of 2/7/2023, a total of 152 projects had been reported by Subordinate, Junior and Pomona Granges. You can read about all these creative acts at: <https://www.pagrang.org/state-grange-150th-anniversary.html>. Most of these are new and exciting activities involving people in all kinds of service opportunities, while promoting the



Grange to their respective communities. The acts are being posted to the State Grange Facebook page, one by one, to share all the amazing stories. Please continue to report additional acts to Doug Bonsall ([douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net)) or Jenn Nauss ([jnauss89@gmail.com](mailto:jnauss89@gmail.com)).

See the latest 150th anniversary update on the State Grange website by clicking on <https://www.pagrang.org/state-grange-150th-anniversary.html>

**Candle Lighting Ceremonies** A series of monthly candle lighting ceremonies, each written by our State Lecturer and History Committee member Jenn Nauss, each with a different emphasis, has been provided to local Granges to commemorate the 150th anniversary in their meetings from November 2022 through October 2023. The topics for the next few months are:

- January 2023 – Renewed Purpose
- February 2023 – Legislation/ Advocacy
- March 2023 – Faith
- April 2023 – Sharing the Grange Light with Others (Grange Month)

- May 2023 – Perseverance

**Sixth Degree Members for 50+ Years**  
We want to present you with a special certificate and, for those able to attend in person, a recognition ceremony will be held following conferral of the Sixth Degree on October 21, 2023. This conferral will be the first time in many years done in full form, including the three beautiful drills.

**This is the final call for eligible members to complete and submit the form shown here.**

**PA STATE GRANGE SIXTH DEGREE MEMBERS FOR 50 PLUS YEARS**

If you received the Sixth Degree in or before 1973, the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will include a special recognition for you. Special recognition will be observed at the conferral of the Sixth Degree in Morgantown in October 2023.

Please provide this information no later than December 31, 2022, to: **Susan Tau, 14687 West Road, Saegertown, PA 16433-8720, (phone) 814-763-4831 or (email) [setau919@windstream.net](mailto:setau919@windstream.net)**. Upon receipt, the information will be verified in the annual *Journals of Proceedings* where degree initiates are recorded. More details about the recognition will be sent by e-mail (or mail) to individual honorees prior to October, 2023.

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME WHEN DEGREE WAS RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR DEGREE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL GRANGE NAME, NO. & COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT GRANGE NAME, NO. & COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_



**Sponsorships** State Grange sessions are normally hosted and financed by one of the state's six regions on a rotating basis. Due to the extended length of the session in Morgantown and the special anniversary activities planned there, delegates at the 2020 and 2021 state sessions affirmed that all Granges would accept volunteer and financial responsibility to make the 2023 anniversary possible. As of 11/25/2022, the following had already stepped up to provide generous amounts of financial support:

Diamond Sponsor

(Assembly of Demeter level - \$5,000 or more)

- Perry Valley #1804, Perry County

Gold Sponsor

(National Grange level - \$3,000-\$4,999)

- Virginville #1832, Berks County

Rose Quartz Sponsor

(State Grange level - \$2,000-\$2,999)

- Perry County Pomona #69
- Horizon Farm Credit

Emerald Sponsor

(Pomona Grange level - \$1,000-\$1,999)

- Anonymous
- Crawford County Pomona #26
- Berks County Pomona #43
- Breidegam Family Foundation/East Penn Manufacturing Co.

Sapphire Sponsor

(Subordinate Grange level \$500-\$999)

- Mary C. Humpton - in memory of family ancestors in East Lynn #1263, Chester County
- Lance & Cheryl Miller - Marion #223, Centre County
- Doug Bonsall & Craig Staller - Perry Valley #1804, Perry County
- Eagle #1, Lycoming County
- Service 1st Federal Credit Union
- Huntingdon County Pomona #6

Ruby Sponsor

(Junior Grange level - \$250-\$499)

- Mary Sproat - London Grove #63, Chester County
- Harveys-Aleppo #1444, Greene County
- Greene County Pomona #63
- Plumsteadville #1738, Bucks County
- Sanatoga #25, Montgomery County
- Robert F. Pardoe, Jr. - California #941, Montour County
- Pioneer #1777, Berks County
- Michael & Jane Adams - Kutztown #1836 & Hamburg #2103, Berks County

There's still time for more individuals and Granges to contribute. Watch this column in future issues for a list of additional supporters.

**Seeking Sixth Degree Candidates;  
Goal is 150**

For the first time in many years, the Sixth Degree will be conferred in full form "Pennsylvania style" at the state session this coming October. The unique impressive drills by teams of costumed participants and the beautiful rose curtain will come to life on the stage of the Twin Valley High School on Saturday, October 21st, starting at or about 1:30 p.m. The high school is located at 4851 N Twin Valley Rd, Elverson, PA 19520, about three miles from the headquarters Morgantown Holiday Inn Hotel. If you or other members of your Grange have not received this beautiful Degree of Flora, please plan now to do so in this 150th anniversary year. Our goal is to have 150 new initiates into the Sixth Degree; watch for further details to obtain an application.

# 2023 Anniversary Commemorative Item Now Available

Get your limited-edition handmade Christmas ornament, wall hanging or coaster to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the PA State Grange. Just 250 pieces have been commissioned to commemorate this occasion! Each piece is numbered, made from wood right here in PA. To purchase your historical item, send \$10 for one or \$35 for a set of four to: Karen Mohn, 308 Mill Road, Womelsdorf, PA 19567. Please make check or money order payable to: PA State Grange History Committee. Previous 150th anniversary commemorative items sold out quickly in 2021 and 2022 so don't delay – order and prepay today! Orders will be guaranteed when payment is received and the numbered items will be reserved for each buyer in the order received/paid. Orders will NOT be shipped and must be picked up at Family Festival in July or the 2023 State Session at Morgantown in October. For questions or to place an order today, contact Karen Mohn, 610-589-2473 or [kmohn260@gmail.com](mailto:kmohn260@gmail.com).



## FINAL COMMEMORATIVE ITEM

Christmas Ornament



Wall Hanging



## ORDER YOURS TODAY!

[kmohn260@gmail.com](mailto:kmohn260@gmail.com) 610-589-2473

**1 FOR \$10 OR 4 FOR \$35**



Coaster



# Join in the Celebration!

October 19-22, 2023 - Holiday Inn Morgantown

## Sponsorships

- Sponsor the anniversary - \$250 - \$5,000+
- Due July 31st for recognition in program

## Historical Booklet Ads

- Sponsor an ad in the historical booklet/program- 1/8th Page - Full Page
- Due July 31st

## Pennants & Door Prizes

- Create a pennant for your Grange
- Donate a door prize (\$25)
- Bring to the session

## Grange Displays

- Show off your Grange with a table-top display
- Cash prizes
- Register by July 15th

## 50+ Year

### 6th Degree Members

- Register ASAP for recognition at the 150th Anniversary Session in October

## Commemorative Item

- Limited edition ornament / coaster / wall hanging
- \$10/each or \$35/4-pack
- Reserve yours ASAP!

Visit [www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org) for more information!

In the lead up to the 150th Anniversary Session in October, I would also like to encourage your Granges to hold programs to join the celebration. The 150th Anniversary will only come along once and it is truly an impressive feat for our Grange. Participate in the monthly candle lighting ceremonies, work together to create a pennant to decorate the hotel and an engaging display about your Grange, and think outside the box to find other ways to celebrate.

Virginville Grange #1832 in Berks County did just that! Virginville Grange held an anniversary kick-off celebration as the program for their meeting on Wednesday, November 16th. It was a wonderful way to join the party! It was a jam-packed evening with the following highlights:

- Recognizing members who received the Sixth Degree 50+ years ago
- Lighting the 150th Anniversary Candle as part of the candle lighting ceremony
- Playing 150-themed interactive games
- Gathering around the piano to sing the 150th Anniversary Song

Doug Bonsall, Anniversary/History Committee Chair, and Jenn Nauss, State Lecturer, were in attendance for the meeting and spoke about the upcoming plans for the anniversary. Thank you to Virginville for pledging a \$3,000 sponsorship for the anniversary and for reporting their Acts of Service.

Please consider some ways that your Grange can also join the celebration! Share what your Grange is doing so that we can highlight other anniversary festivities around the state!



50+ Year Sixth Degree Members – Virginville Grange recognized their members who received their Sixth Degree 50 or more years ago.

Candle Lighting – All Granges received copies of the monthly candle lighting ceremonies and Granges who were at the State Grange session received special etched anniversary votive holders. All Granges can participate in the monthly candle lighting ceremonies by reading the monthly lesson and lighting a candle on the altar.



Members Gather to Sing the Anniversary Song – Virginville Grange members joined in singing the 150th Anniversary Song, with lyrics written by Anniversary/History Committee Chair, Doug Bonsall.



# Start Planning Now!



**October 19-22, 2023**

**Holiday Inn Morgantown - \$129 + tax / night**

**Room reservations and registration will  
begin late summer!**

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Doug Bonsall is the Chair of the History Committee. He belongs to Perry Valley Grange #1804 in Perry County and Eagle Grange #1 in Lycoming County. Doug can be reached at 717-921-1957 or 717-460-0723, or emailed at [douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net).



# What's happening across PA....

## BIG KNOB #2008

Big Knob #2008 held a Thanksgiving Pie sale, where they sold 314 pies. All the proceeds which was over \$2500 were given to children and families in the community to brighten their Christmas holiday.



## WESLEY #1675



Wesley Grange will be holding an All You Can Eat Buckwheat Breakfast on Saturday March 25 from 7am-1pm. It will be held at the Grange Hall on Old Route 8, 2 miles north of Barkeyville. We hope to see you all there to support our community in Venango County.

## CHESTNUT RIDGE #1133 NORTH STRABANE #1434 GINGER HILL #1549



All three Granges held a combined Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to benefit each Grange's own charitable endeavors. It was a very successful event and everyone had great food and fellowship.



## CRAWFORD COUNTY POMONA

Crawford County Pomona held a Veterans' Recognition program on Saturday October 29.



Pictured left to right: Veterans Mark Bellini, Scott Setta, Ronald Miller, William Stright, George Wasko, Donnie Zarembiski, Lyle Hoovler, and John Enterline.

## LIBERTY #1780

Liberty Grange was featured in the local newspapers regarding everything that they accomplished in 2022.



For 2023, Liberty has another Bunny Brunch planned as well as reaching more classrooms with the “Books for a Buck” program and other activities! Stay tuned to what they do next in their community.



## STONY POINT #1694



Stony Point Grange President Ken Ammann (right), presented a donation check to Tim McGee, Commander of the Mercer County Disabled American Veterans organization on December 22nd. The Grange held their Veterans Pancake Day on Veteran’s Day weekend in November with proceeds going to the Mercer County DAV transportation program. Also pictured are Stony Point members Martha Gruber, Stan Gruber, Bernie Fulton, and Don Ramsey of the Mercer County DAV.

## ELIZABETHTOWN #2076

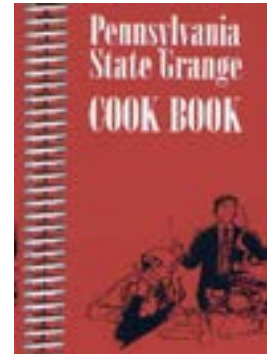


Elizabethtown Grange purchased 7 FFA jackets for deserving first-year members that were ineligible to apply for the state foundation jacket scholarship. Each applicant submitted an essay to the Grange, sharing what the blue jacket means to them, and what they hope to achieve during their time in FFA.

*If your Grange is doing any community events please email a small description and pictures to [pagrang@pagrange.org](mailto:pagrang@pagrange.org) We would love to highlight your Grange's event in the next PGN!*



# MARKETPLACE



## Cookbooks

[www.pagrang.org/grange-store](http://www.pagrang.org/grange-store)

We less than 300 left of the  
1950 edition in stock!



## Apple Butter

The Pennsylvania State Grange has been able to purchase one batch of Apple Butter to sell for this year. The 91 cases of Apple Butter have been distributed throughout the State for your convenience in picking it up. Please contact one of the following people to arrange picking up Apple Butter if your Grange would like to sell it.

Contact the Pennsylvania State Grange office at 717.737.8855 for pricing.

Union Grange, Susquehanna Co. Wayne Oakley 570.575.9978  
Progress Grange, Centre Co. Tammy Jurkowski 814.404.2460  
Crawford Pomona, Crawford Co. Sherman Allen 814.671.9947  
Fairview Grange, Beaver Co. Chuck Campbell 727.601.3184  
Pennsylvania State Grange office 717.737.8855

Developing a relationship with road side produce markets and country stores has proved successful for several Granges in marketing the product.



## The History of the PA State Grange Office



The idea to open a State Grange Headquarters Office was first proposed at the 1916 state session held in Philadelphia to meet a need for the Grange to be in Harrisburg during sessions of the state legislature, not for the purpose of lobbying but to keep members informed what was being done at the State Capitol on agricultural concerns. The office was opened in January 1917, in

rented space in the Spooner Building with Fred Brenckman as legislative representative. In 1918 Mr. Brenckman was elected Secretary of the State Grange and the office functioned both as the Grange's legislative and administrative center. In 1919 the offices moved to the Telegraph Building where they remained until the purchase of a building at 1604 North Second Street for \$37,000 in 1952. At the 80th annual session on Allentown that year, Executive Committee member Dr. Ira C. Gross presented a proposal that each delegate pledge their Grange to contribute \$1 per member to a Headquarters Fund; the plan was adopted unanimously and by 1954 almost \$57,000 had been contributed. Major renovations were necessary to convert the building into offices and the cost of \$45,045.12 to do this work for exceeded the original estimates. The building was dedicated on September 13, 1956 and continued as the state headquarters until the sale of the property in 2005 for \$276,000. After that sale, the State Grange headquarters then moved to a rented space in Lemoyne just across the river from Harrisburg. In May 2021, the State Grange purchased a building in Mifflintown, about 35 miles north of the State Capitol Building, to serve as the headquarters.

## Grange Cookbook Classics

### Beef Nacho Casserole

1 lb ground beef	2 c tortilla chips, crushed
1 c frozen corn, thawed	2 c shredded cheese
1 (12 oz) jar salsa	optional toppings:
3/4 c mayonnaise	shredded lettuce, tomato
1 Tbsp chili powder	sour cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Brown ground beef and drain. Stir in corn, salsa, mayonnaise and chili powder. Layer 1/2 of each mixture, chips and cheese in a 9x13 or larger pan. Repeat. Heat until cheese melts, between 10-20 minutes. Top with shredded lettuce, tomato and sour cream if desired.



Sue Bankert, Red Lion Grange #1781

This recipe is from the PA State Grange's 150th Anniversary Cookbook.



# Welcome New Members

<b>Russellville #91</b> Merle Reyburn	<b>Shavers Creek #353</b> Karen Ewing	<b>South Auburn #1188</b> Denise Delamarter	<b>Ontelaunee #1617</b> Renee Reeser	<b>Pioneer #1777</b> Cadence Tempel
<b>Progress #96</b> Shelie Rice	Michael Ewing	Michele Hirkey	Matthew Reeser	Ava Jenkins
<b>Logan #109</b> Diane Lomison	Jennifer Goshorn	Francis Hirkey	Riley Reeser	<b>Liberty #1780</b> Thelma Wilson
Celesta Powell	<b>Middletown #684</b> Scott Vogin	<b>Ginger Hill #1549</b> Ryan Flaugh	Kevin Reichart	Chase Kosciuszko
Mike Powell	Craig Bollinger	Abby Flaugh	Charles Orr	<b>Red Lion #1781</b> John McCarthy IV
Mary Lou Jurkowski	Sheila Bollinger	<b>Watson #1068</b> Allyson Spencer	<b>Stony Point #1694</b> Jocelyn Snyder	<b>Virginville #1832</b> Rita Krick
Joy Struble	Megan Diaz	<b>Valley #1360</b> Nelson Boring	Paula Snyder	<b>Ridgeview #1948</b> Debbie Noble
Stephen Struble	Jesse Diaz	Matthew Ruppert	Shaun Keck	<b>Walker #2007</b> Peter Honchar
<b>Penns Valley #158</b> Ed Race	<b>Girard #788</b> Ed Owens	Jackson Wamsley	Amber White	
Fallon Race	<b>Chestnut Ridge #1133</b> Jacqueline Fordyce	<b>Richland #1413</b> Kim Hetzler	<b>Plumsteadville #1738</b> Jesse Hallowell	
Hannah Burke			Anita Duscher	
			Diane Reshetar	
			Richard Reshetar	



## In Memoriam

“Well Done Good and Faithful Servant...”

<b>Eagle #1</b> Fred Murray	<b>Shavers Creek #353</b> Eleanor Isenberg	<b>Port Matilda #1284</b> Gene Martin	<b>Big Creek #1559</b> Keith Strohl	<b>Kutztown #1836</b> Kenneth Dietrich
<b>Canasurago #27</b> Jay Nickles	<b>Dawson #419</b> Sara Garee	<b>Roseville #1290</b> James Grant	<b>Ontelaunee #1617</b> Lynn Emerich	<b>Fleetwood #1839</b> Leroy Biehl
Frank Poust	<b>Laurel Point #915</b> Suzanne Yount	<b>Valley #1360</b> Robert Edwards	Stephan Core	Grace Balthaser
<b>London Grove #63</b> Lawrence Parrish Jr	<b>California #941</b> Grace Kohl	Fred Hosler	<b>Mahoning Valley #1649</b> C Crawford Garvin	<b>Marion #1853</b> Harold Zechman
Diana Hoopes	<b>Sebring #1047</b> Delores Oakley	<b>North Strabane #1434</b> Robert Weaver	<b>Central #1650</b> Pearl Wonderly	<b>Hookstown #1980</b> Marlene Edwards
<b>Fulton #66</b> Dorothy Houser	<b>Watson #1068</b> William Martin	<b>Harveys-Aleppo #1444</b> John Buzz Walters	<b>Virginville #1832</b> Stanley Christman	<b>Montour Valley #2005</b> Agnes Lesniak
<b>Russellville #91</b> Paulette Ash	<b>Fairdale #1157</b> John Parks	<b>Pleasant Hill #1505</b> Trudy Wright	Norman Merkel	<b>Big Knob #2008</b> Linda Mitchell
Cheryl Ruoss	<b>East Lynn #1263</b> Ella Leach	Catherine Franze	Russell Miller	Lois Miller
<b>Logan #109</b> Jay Houser	Thelma Roney		Ruth Kerschner	
			Thelma Kehl	



**PA YOUTH CAMP 2023**



*Stay tuned to a fundraiser raffle that will benefit the PA State Junior Grange!*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023**

MARCH

13: Daylight Savings Time begins

APRIL

9: Easter

MAY

29: Memorial Day

JUNE

30-Jul 2: PA Youth Camp; Camp Sylvan Hills

JULY

2-8: PA Junior Camp; Camp Sylvan Hills

4: Independence Day

13-16: Family Festival; Centre County Fairgrounds

18-23: Grange Revival; Curtis Upper Peninsula of Michigan

AUGUST

8-10: Ag Progress Days; Pennsylvania Furnace

SEPTEMBER

4: Labor Day

OCTOBER

18-22: 151st Annual State Session; Morgantown, PA

NOVEMBER

5: Daylight Savings Time Ends

11: Veterans Day

14-18: National Grange Session; Niagara Falls, NY

23: Thanksgiving

# Pennsylvania State Grange

*Pennsylvania Grange News*

26 CJEMS Lane

Mifflintown, PA 17059

## What can the Grange do for you?

### **National Grange Benefits**

- Wyndham Hotel: Members save up to 20%
- Hertz/Avis/Budget Rental Car
- CVS Caremark: Savings up to 50% with CVS RxSavings Plus Card
- National Grange Travel Center
- Office Depot/Office Max/Shop.com
- TSYS Merchant Solutions

### **Pennsylvania State Grange Benefits**

- American Income Life: All members receive a \$3000 Accidental Death Benefit
- Avis Car Rental: Discounted Member Rates
- BJ's Wholesale Club: Save \$15 on Basic, or \$30 on Rewards Membership, plus 1 free month
- Tickets at Work: Offers discounts on movie tickets, concerts, travel, theme parks, and shopping.



Contact the Pennsylvania State Grange office with any questions about becoming a member...and start enjoying the many benefits of being a Grange Member... immediately!!!

**Pennsylvania State Grange**  
**[www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org)**  
**(717) 737-8855**

The Pennsylvania State Grange also offers scholarships and interest free loans.