



Pennsylvania Grange News

March/April 2024



Tax Exemptions Coming to PA Grange Halls

On the cover:



Cultivating Connections: PA Association of Milk Dealers



Subordinate Spotlight: Centre Hill #885



Farm Show Highlights

Pennsylvania Grange News
26 CJEMS Ln.
Mifflintown, PA 17059
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The Master's Station

Matthew Espenshade, Pennsylvania State Grange Master
mespenshade@pagrange.org

Celebrating Community, Advocacy and Fraternity

As we turn another month on the 2024 calendar, getting ever closer to spring, we pause and make note that April is not far away. With that month comes a special opportunity for us as Grange members.

The National Grange has designated April as Grange Month. It is a time to reflect on what being a Grange member truly means. Our Fraternity is unique among organizations, and our key pillars of community service, grassroots advocacy, and fraternal bonds, combined, cannot be found anywhere else.

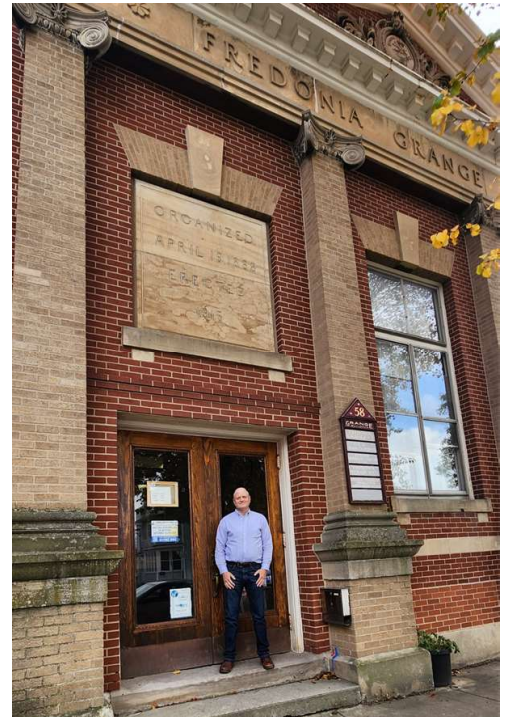
The Grange is grassroots advocacy... we are part of an organization that opens doors for its members to engage with local, state and national legislators about issues of importance. Membership connects individuals to a long line of dedicated individuals who have done great work on behalf of farmers and rural Americans.

The Grange is community service... working together to lend a helping hand to our friends and neighbors empowers each of us to make a difference in our hometowns, and work for the betterment of our rural way of life. As Grangers, we are a reflection of the communities we serve and are the ones best suited to address its needs.

The Grange is a family... the fraternal bonds of this organization distinguish it from many others with similar objectives. Though in our Granges we may have differences of opinion from time to time, the connections we make with each other as Brothers and Sisters help strengthen our fraternal bonds, and with it, the bonds within our local communities.

For several years now, the National Grange has encouraged subordinates across the country to make special efforts during Grange Month to bring attention to the extraordinary work done by its members. Special gatherings, themed events and notable projects turn this into a month-long celebration for communities and Grange members of all ages. It is a wonderful reminder that Grange has something for everyone.

Grange Month is an opportunity to not only honor our traditions and the unique bond we share through the generations, but also a time to refocus our efforts and dedicate ourselves to improvement.



This April, may we as Grangers, together, plant the seeds of goodwill with Faith, and nurture them that we may have a bountiful harvest. I hope you, your subordinate and your Pomona Granges take time to recognize and celebrate our storied past and our bright future.

Fraternally,
Master Matt

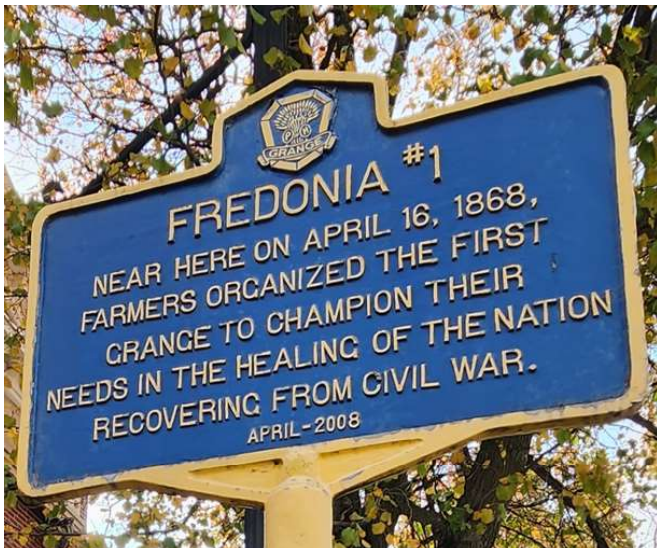
So Why Is April Designated... 'Grange Month'?

It was my first trip to western New York State. Having had an eventful week representing Pennsylvania at the 157th National Grange Session in Niagara Falls in November 2023, Charlene and I were prepared to make the long drive home to Lancaster County. However, we knew there was one slight detour we would have to make.

As a couple who appreciates Grange history, both Charlene and I had been looking forward to a quick visit to Fredonia on our trek home. Many others who had attended the National Session had made a pilgrimage earlier in the week, but this was our chance.

Of all the scenic destinations scattered throughout this fertile agricultural and wine country region of New York, you'd probably have to be a Grange member to have Fredonia at the top of your list.

So why Fredonia?... and what does that have to do with Grange Month?



Well, in a small Chautauqua County hamlet in New York named Fredonia, 21 charter members organized Fredonia Grange #1 on April 16, 1868. It was the first working subordinate outside Washington, D.C. Those charter members would not only embolden the local subordinate, but also cultivate the future of the Grange in New York.

Early on, as word was spreading about Oliver Hudson Kelley's vision for an agricultural fraternity, one of the earliest inquiries came from A.S. Moss in October 1867. A resident of Fredonia, New York, Moss became an enthusiastic supporter of the idea and is a primary reason the idea took root in his hometown. Grange

historians may recall his name as the first Assistant Steward of the National Grange. Oliver Hudson Kelley credited Moss as "the father of the first genuine Grange which lived, breathed and had a being."

Today, we recognize the crucial role the establishment of Fredonia Grange #1 had in perpetuating the Fraternity, and its founding in April of 1868 had on the future of the Grange.



Membership News

Norman Houser, Membership Director
nhouser@pagrange.org

Making Grange Personal

We started the year with the 2024 Pennsylvania Farm Show, which could not have been done without the willingness of members from all over the state who spent time staffing the booth. I cannot thank enough those who were willing to help in one capacity or another over the week. The Grange continues to grow thanks to your devotion to helping.

While it is snowy and rainy outside, we should be looking forward to summer events. Many of your Granges have booths or tables at the fairs and festivals across the state. If your Grange does not have a booth – now is the time to start looking forward to those events.

Contact those fairs and festivals now so your Granges have a space in at those fairs. Don't just stop at having a table – I encourage you to have a member to be present if possible. Potential members want to see you being present and they want to hear why the Grange means so much to you.

While at Farm Show, I was stopped by an elderly lady who asked: "Why should I join the Grange?" After telling her about the Grange, she stopped me and says: "It sounds like you're just reading one of your brochures. Why should I join the Grange?"

As I've reflected on this conversation, I quickly realized was there was no "personal" in my discussion. The conversation I had was distant and filled with facts, information memorized and spoken without any "personal" in it.

How are you making Grange "personal" to those you meet and talk with? It is easy when

we are asked "What is the Grange?" to recite the facts. Why we were founded and what we are doing today are easy to talk about. But are we reciting facts or have you made Grange "personal" in your life?

If we want to continue to grow, then we need to focus on the "personal" when sharing the Grange with new members. How has the Grange personally affected you? Are you excited about being a Granger?

Let me share a couple "personal" quotes to start conversations with potential members:

1. "Let me tell you what the Grange means to me (or my family)."
2. "I'm a member of the Grange because...."
3. "I'm glad you asked me about the Grange."
4. "Here's what the Grange is doing in our community...."

The next part is the hardest for all of us. If you are asked about the Grange, consider a "Thank you" or "Would you like more information" at the end of the conversation. It sounds simple, but it does mean a lot to those you are sharing with. Ending the conversation this way reinforces the idea to potential new members that YOU have an interest in them going.

These steps seem simple, but it makes an impression on those you are sharing the Grange with.

I am in the process of planning out this summer's visitations. I would like to visit your Grange to either attend a meeting, see your Grange in action, or give a presentation. Please drop me an email and we can set up a time for me to visit your Granges.

Subordinate Spotlight

Centre Hill Grange #885

By: Norman Houser

Clearfield County

On my travels, I've come to appreciate the location where Grange halls were erected. Many of the older halls were built in stunning locations. Arriving at the intersection of Summer Hill and Sington Roads, I stepped out into the cool autumn afternoon to appreciate the surroundings – forests and fields. Next to the hall are soccer fields and on this day the air was filled with cheers and laughter as a game was being played.

In the *History of Clearfield County, Pennsylvania* (ed. Lewis Aldrich), the purpose of the Grange is: “the aim, object and purpose of the society is to, in every manner, improve the condition and advance the interests of all persons, and their families as well” thorough “honest, open, determined effort.”

Those words written long ago ring true with the members of Centre Hill Grange, both historically and in the modern times.

Centre Hill was organized on June 20, 1889, with A.C. Lansberry accepting the position of Master/President. On July 1, only a couple days after being organized, Centre Hill Grange was chartered with fifteen members.



In the history of Centre Hill Grange, it is noted that they once operated a general store in the community of Morrisdale. One of the objectives behind the organization of Centre Hill was for members to purchase goods at a

cheaper rate. J.B. Dunkle, the Vice President/Overseer, was elected to be the storekeeper by the Grange. Each member with a team of horses would take turns traveling the three miles to the train station in Wallacetown to pick up and deliver goods to the Grange operated store.

Members first met in a room above the store owned by Reuben Holt in Morrisdale. Their first hall was erected in Morrisdale but would be torn down and moved to the current location. In May 1958, the construction of the current hall began. In early June 1961, on the day they were to move into their new hall, disaster struck – fire destroyed the old hall. This disaster did not stop members from wanting to help their community and the Grange continued to grow. On June 29, 1964, John Scott, the President/Master of the State Grange at the time, dedicated the new Grange Hall.

The hall has hosted craft sales, carnivals, dances, and reunions. They regularly hold a chicken and waffle meal and a chicken BBQ. They've made cards for the local nursing homes, have donated books to the West Branch School district and have donated gift baskets to families in need.

At Christmas time, a free dinner with entertainment is held for the elderly in the community. The meal has become a reunion of old friends and family where stories are shared and passed on.

Members of Centre Hill Grange remain dedicated to their core beliefs, willing to reach out and help those in need within their community and look they forward to making the difference in their community in years to come.



History Committee

Doug Bonsall, History Committee Chair
douglas.b@verizon.net
717-921-1957 or 717-460-0723

Where to From Here?

Although the celebratory aspects of the 150th Anniversary of the Pennsylvania State Grange may have reached its climax during the session in Morgantown this past October, the History Committee intends to continue the spirit of the anniversary to preserve Grange history. The State Grange Executive Committee has approved the request of the History Committee to use the remaining anniversary funds of just under \$15,000 to:

- Purchase glass cases to prominently display Grange artifacts at the State Grange office to carry out a directive at the time the new office was acquired. A portion of the space in the Mifflintown office will be set up as a mini-museum to display selected items to highlight 150 years of Pennsylvania Grange history. See request for donation of artifacts below.
- Mat & frame selected anniversary proclamations, pictures, etc. for their preservation and appropriate display in the State Grange office
- Place permanent bronze markers at gravesites of persons who were influential in the formation and early history of the Pennsylvania State Grange. Among those being considered are: Luke Eger (responsible for the organization of the first Pennsylvania Grange in 1871); David Mauger (first PA State Master) and Frank Porter (first PA State Overseer and the organizer of 41 of Pennsylvania's earliest Granges). If funding permits, similar markers may also be obtained for the three Pennsylvanians initiated into the National Grange Hall of Fame after nomination of our State History Committee.

- Continue to microfilm and digitize State Grange historical documents to preserve and make this information readily accessible online. Five years ago State Grange documents from 1873 were microfilmed/digitized and recent documents (PA Grange News, Journals of Proceedings, Registers, etc.) are awaiting similar permanent preservation.

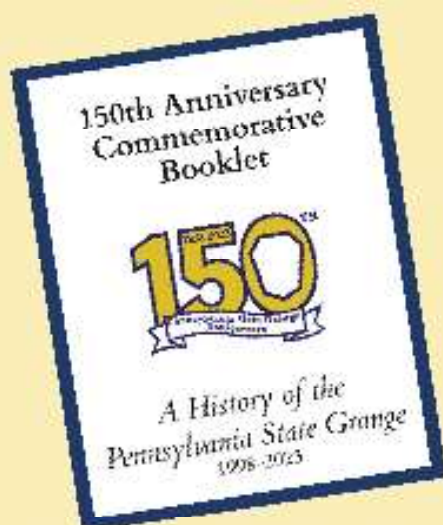
These projects, which the annual operating budget of the State Grange might not be able to cover, are long-term initiatives that will take at least a year or more to complete. When finished, the results will be of long-term historical importance. At this point, costs are still being researched but we expect the remaining funds will cover these plans so that additional fund raising through appeals, etc. will not be necessary in the foreseeable future.

Looking for Memorabilia – The History Committee is seeking donations of selected Grange memorabilia in good condition suitable for display in the museum area at the State Grange office. We have a complete set of documents so we are **not** looking for Journals, Grange News or Registers or common Grange items like implements, gavels, and commercially manufactured regalia. Things we will consider to add to the historical collection include convention buttons, badges, Grange souvenirs or early ritualistic items (e.g. original handmade regalia). You may contact the History Committee Chair to discuss potential donations or items may be brought to Grange events such as this year's regional leadership conferences, Family Festival and State Session to be examined. The History Committee reserves the right to accept or decline any memorabilia donations.

Doug Bonsall, Chair

Don't miss your chance...

to own a lasting memento of the
PA State Grange 150th Anniversary!



Booklets - \$10 each

**Anniversary
Historical Booklets
and Ornaments
for Sale -**
*perfect gifts for
special occasions!*

**while supplies last*



Ornaments - \$10 each
Set of 4 Ornaments - \$35

Special Anniversary Sale!
4 Ornaments + 1 Booklet - \$40

Prices above do *not* include shipping. Shipping will be waived for anyone who arranges pick-up of their order, including from the State Grange office, at the PA Farm Show, and at the Winter 2024 Regional Leadership Conferences. If pick-up is unable to be arranged, shipping costs will be calculated. Buyers will be notified regarding the cost of shipping once calculated and payment will be due before items are shipped. Contact one of the below committee members to place your order!

For State Grange Office Pick-Up and Shipping, contact:

- **Debbie Campbell** - (717) 737-8855 / secretary@pagrange.org

To Coordinate Pick-Up, contact:

- **Central PA** - **Doug Bonsall** - (717) 921-1957 / douglas.beverizon.net
- **Central PA / Regional Conferences** - **Jenn Nauss** - (717) 512-1261 / jnauss89@gmail.com
- **Eastern PA** - **Karen Mohn** - (610) 589-2473 / kmohn260@gmail.com
- **Western PA** - **Susan Tau** - (814) 763-4831 / setau919@windstream.net



Family Activities

Cindy Schlegel & Evelyn Cottrell, Co-Directors
clbasket@ptd.net

Time is sure flying by – by the time is edition of the PGN is printed we will be getting ready for Easter and hopefully an early Spring. I don't know about you but I'm done with winter and cold weather – I'm ready for Spring.

I would like to thank everyone who helped sell Quilt Raffle tickets at the Farm Show. Thanks to Mother Nature, the Opening Saturday was snowy and was not as busy as usual as well as Tuesday with the heavy rains and flooding. Mother Nature sure enjoyed keeping us on our toes that week.

The Family Activities packets will be going out soon. Evelyn and I will be making our way to the State Grange office to get the envelopes stuffed and ready to mail. The 2024 Quilt Raffle tickets will be included in the packets. Please sell the tickets included in your packet and return the stubs and money to Evelyn. If you need more tickets please contact Evelyn.



The contest sheets included in the packets are for two years – 2024 and 2025. **Please make sure you read the contests carefully so you don't get the contests mixed up for the two years.** The major changes for 2024 are the Baking Contests and the Quilt Block Pattern. The Baking Contests for 2024 are Blueberry Muffins, Pumpkin Whoopie Pies and Cereal Candy. The Quilt Block is the “Southern Belle” pattern in blue & white fabrics – printed or plain. We also tweaked the dimensions in the Cross Stitch and Counted Cross Stitch Categories. Counted Cross Stitch is to be on Aida cloth only. The Embroidery Class in to be Hand Stitched Embroidery only. No Machine Stitched. Any questions, please contact Evelyn or myself.

Thank you again for being patient with Evelyn and I as we get adjusted to our new roles. We had a few hiccups this past year and we hope to have them straightened out for 2024. Thank you again for your patience.

Happy Easter! Happy Spring! Hope you have a happy, healthy and enjoyable Spring.

Fraternally,
Cindy Schlegel



2024 Raffle Quilt



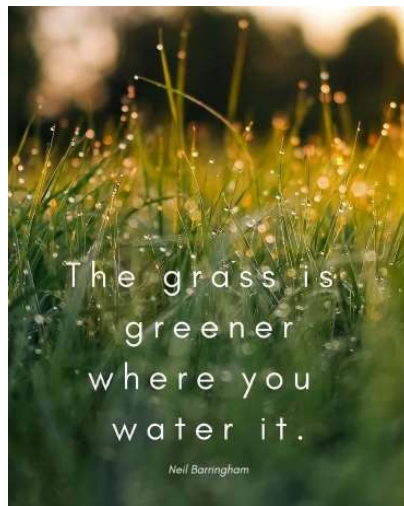
Chaplain's Message

Jodi Keith Kensinger, Pennsylvania State Grange Chaplain
sunflowercow19@yahoo.com

As I sit to type this, it is the middle of the night and the house is quiet, and both of my favorite guys are sleeping soundly. It is the dead of winter with 2 inches of snow laying on the ground.... And did I mention that its nearly 20° out?

The other night, I was laying in bed with Riggs and read him a book called "Miss Moo Goes to the Zoo." It is a cute book, about a cow (of course) who is fed up with her "boring" life and decides to leave the farm and embark on a better, adventurous lifestyle. Along her travels, she comes to a Zoo and encounters the Elephants, Giraffes, and Lions. Every single one of those animals are mean and nasty to her, telling her that she does not belong in their world and to leave. As she is leaving, she runs into the zebras, who are kind and nice to her. Miss Moo explains to them that she does not belong there and with their "Kind." The zebras tell her on the contrary.... She does belong with them... just maybe not in that section. So, the Zookeeper shows her to the petting zoo section and invites her to stay with them instead, where she could be petted and fed and taken care of, all the days of her life.

While I sat there reading the story to Riggs, I was reminded that the grass is not always greener on the other side and sometimes we need to face that harsh reality like Miss Moo did (the hard way). But with Jesus as our savior,



we have salvation with him and can enjoy the "greener side" of heaven whenever we pass from this life. In James 1:12 it says, "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him." If we endure everything that Satan throws at us in this life on earth, just think of the riches that God will bestow upon us once we get to heaven.

In another one of Riggs's books, "Just So You Know" by Max Lucado, it talks about how sweet Heaven will be; How there will not be any mean people; No sickness or death; No hardships or sadness. It will be a wonderful place where hugs are always welcomed; where you can eat your weight in chocolate (ok—maybe in my version of heaven); where the streets are lined with gold, and everyone is happy! No sadness in sight. In Matthew 6:20-21, "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." When we have salvation through Christ, we will have treasures in heaven.

So friends, in the start of the Lenten season, I encourage you to walk on a closer path with God. If you have not come to Salvation and know the one true God, I encourage you to join your local church and know God.... today! Easter is coming. Christ arose from the dead for your sins and mine! Hallelujah- Praise Jesus!

Happy Easter to everyone!

Love Always,
Jodi Keith Kensinger



Youth & Young Adults

Jennifer Danko & Lindsay Schroeder, Co-Directors
youth@pagrange.org
Jen 717-275-5047 Lindsay 484-225-0440

Happy New Year from the Youth Department! The royalty started off the new year in Farm Show style. We started with the PA Preferred Reception on Friday night where amazing food and drinks were enjoyed by all. The team was busy throughout the weekend with meet and greets, opening ceremonies, Ag Trivia, presentations on the main stage, working in the Grange booth, and volunteering in the milkshake stand. Ashlan Smith gave the Reflection during the Opening Ceremonies. It was a very snowy weekend, but this group continues to make their mark on the people they interact within various settings.

The saying for this year is ~ “More in ‘24” and we are running with it. Following National Grange, the youth had asked for a winter retreat. We are excited to say that the FIRST Winter Retreat will be held March 8-10, in Williamsport. This is an event that we hope to grow as we move forward in the coming years.

From a Winter Retreat we will then head to Youth Camp in June to explore Space. It is sure to be an “Out of this world Experience!” The registration form is on page 14 as well as a QR code that you can scan for the online registration. The team has been busy working on new creative ideas that follow the theme of camp. **Please note that the deadline to register is June 1.** Register today to ensure you are on the spaceship to make new discoveries. At camp, we will select the next Youth Ambassadors. If you are interested in representing PA in this role, please do not hesitate to reach out to Jen or Lindsay or any member of the Youth Committee.



July is the month for camping. From Sylvan Hills to Centre Hall, the youth department will remain in camp mode. We will continue to have our popular chili cook off on

Friday evening. The winter cold is the perfect time to practice those recipes. In addition, we will hold the cornhole tournament. Also, please note that new this year we will have a craft ~ String Art which requires advance registration and can then be entered into our contest at State Session. The youth will also have an outing at some point throughout the weekend as we are still in the finalizing stages. Saturday evening, we will select the new Outstanding Young Patron. If interested, please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions.

At the 2023 National Grange Session, new age requirements were outlined for the Youth and Young Adult Programming.



Please note that the following changes will take a rolling effect over the next two years.

GRANGE YOUTH
Age 14-20

GRANGE YOUNG ADULT
Age 21-30 (Present – November, 2025)
Age 21-25 (Starting – November 2025)

Members older than 25 should now be stepping into the role of a Grange mentor and encouraging the younger generation

to become involved members as they make transitions into full adulthood. These changes will affect the Youth Ambassador and Outstanding Young Patron contests beginning this year in the summer of 2024.

We look forward to “More in ‘24” with our department. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Blessings in the New Year,
Jennifer and Lindsay

Scholarships & Grant Applications Due May 1, 2024

Santee Student Loans

Five \$2,000 interest free loans awarded per year

Grange members or their children may apply for this as long as they are a full-time student at any institution accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

Pennsylvania State Grange Foundation Scholarship

\$500 per academic year
(may be renewed in subsequent years)

Up to four scholarships awarded per year

This scholarship is available to students entering their junior or senior year of college, and financial need must be demonstrated.

Deaf Interpretor Scholarship

\$250
one grant awarded per year

Applicants must be a Grange member in good standing and be enrolled in a credible program leading to certification as an interpreter for the deaf.

The Grange Scholarship Endowment at Penn State University

\$1,500 per academic year
(may be renewed in subsequent years)

This scholarship is to recognize the outstanding work of an undergraduate student enrolled in at least their sophomore year at any campus of Pennsylvania State University who also demonstrated financial need.

Rhone Grant

\$300
one grant awarded per year

Grant given in honor of Leonard Rhone, the third Master of the PA State Grange.

Applicants must be pursuing a degree in agriculture or human development & family services at Penn State University and secure a recommendation from both the President of their Subordinate and Pomona Granges.

For a complete list of Scholarships and qualifications please go to www.pagrange.org. Click on Documents and scroll down to Scholarship Forms

Join us for the 2024 PA State Grange Youth Camp



Name: _____ M _____ F _____

Address: _____ Age _____ DOB _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/Cell: _____ Grange/County: _____

E-Mail: _____ ALLERGIES _____

1st Time Youth Camper: Yes ___ No ___ Interested in Youth Ambassador? Yes ___ No ___

Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Contact Telephone Number: _____

Camp Fee for the Weekend: \$80.00 per person
(\$15.00 will be paid by the Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund Account)

Each person will pay \$65.00
*******SPECIAL – 1ST TIME CAMPERS ONLY \$40.00*******

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

Additional information and directions will be emailed or sent to you after your application is received.

Register Online by scanning the QR code.

Or mail in paper copy and payment to:
PA Grange Youth, c/o Jennifer Danko, 22 Twins Avenue, Newport, PA 17074

QUESTIONS?? Email: kjbr2005@embarqmail.com / Cell: 717.275.5047
Registration and Camp Fee Deadline: **June 1, 2024**





The Lecturer's Scroll

Jenn Nauss, Pennsylvania State Grange Lecturer
jnauss89@gmail.com

Greetings from South Central PA!

I hope this finds you well and enjoying (a hopefully early) spring! It seems hard to believe that we are already looking ahead to the summer, but there are several events coming up in just a few months.

Family Festival

The annual Family Festival will be held Thursday, July 18 – Sunday, July 21 at the Centre County Fairgrounds. This is a weekend of fun and relaxation – and a wonderful opportunity to reunite with old friends and make new ones. This year's theme will be "Go for the Gold!" in honor of the Summer Olympic Games. New this year will be a fun, team contest in which attendees will work together to earn points and bring home the gold! There will be activities throughout the weekend for teams to participate in and opportunities for teams to earn points; the team contest will culminate in a night of Olympic Games on Saturday evening where the winning team will be announced. Earn points for your teams by attending activities and workshops, working together to decorate your tents and campers, and by volunteering throughout the weekend. Look for more details about this friendly competition in the coming months. If you are interested in participating in the team contest, please check the appropriate spot on the registration form.

The registration form and schedule are included in this issue of the PGN. Please make sure to register by **June 15**. The schedule is tentative and subject to change, although many activities and events have been confirmed. Please mark your calendars to attend and register in plenty of time.

The annual **Talent Contest** will be held at Family Festival on Saturday, July 18, at 7:00 p.m. **Preregistration is required** by contacting me or by completing the appropriate information on the registration form. There are three categories – Vocal, Instrumental, and Variety. For more information and details about the Talent Contest, please refer to the Guide to Contests and Programs, available at <https://www.pagrang.org/lecturers.html>.

Eastern Region Leaders' Conference

The Eastern Region Leaders' Conference will be hosted by Pennsylvania the weekend after Family Festival – **Friday, July 26 – Sunday, July 28**. This National Grange conference is a time for Grange members and leaders from the Eastern Region (states along the East Coast from Pennsylvania to Florida) to gather to network and share information. The Lecturers', Youth, and Junior Departments have been hard at work planning for this conference, which only comes to Pennsylvania every several years. Although plans are still in the works, the conference will be held in the Capital Area and will feature a tour of the local area, workshops and activities at Valley Grange #1360 in York County, and times of fellowship. More information, including the schedule and registration, will be made available on the National Grange website, State Grange website, and on Facebook. Please stay tuned for more details and, in the meantime, save the date!

I hope to see many of you at Grange events this spring and summer. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions!

Jenn



Deaf & Community Service

Tina Keen, Deaf & Community Service Director
pagrangedcs@gmail.com
973-255-8959

“Let us be quiet, peaceful citizens, feeding the hungry, helping the fatherless and the widows, and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world.” - President during the Closing of the Grange

This year, we challenge you once again to think outside your comfort zone. With our focus on domestic violence survivors for the year, think of the many ways these individuals can be assisted. Do you have a local shelter? As countless children are placed in the foster care system each year due to domestic violence in their home, how can you encourage and support those in foster care? Together, we can do great things to show our support to these individuals.

Family Festival

Please consider donating a basket for our Silent Auction. All funds will be donated to Centre Safe (formerly Centre County Women’s Resource Center). Their mission is to empower survivors of sexual or domestic violence and to work toward the elimination of such violence. Baskets should be delivered to Family Festival on Thursday, July 18. If you would like to contribute a basket but aren’t attending, please reach out and we can connect you with someone coming from your area. This has been a successful way for us to support organizations in the past and your continued support is greatly appreciated.

We will hold our annual bike/walk-a-thon. Monies collected will be used to support domestic violence survivors. The children and adults have a wonderful time biking and walking – please support their efforts.



If you are attending Family Festival, please bring new items to donate to Centre Safe. Items needed are \$5 gift cards (Wal-Mart, Sheetz, Giant, or Weis only), cleaning supplies (smaller sizes), dishwashing sponges or brushes, and paper towels. These items are used both in the shelter and to assist individuals/families with start-up supplies when they are placed into safe housing.

Our workshop this year will focus on community service. We will be making tied fleece blankets that will be donated to Children & Youth Services of Centre County. These blankets will be given to children entering the foster care system. As I’m sure we are all aware, often these children are removed from their homes with only the clothes on their back, or maybe a garbage bag full of their items. Our prayer is that these blankets will give them something new that is theirs forever, and that our blankets may surround them with love. If you or your Grange is interested in assisting with supplying fleece for these blankets, please reach out to Tina by July 1.



Firefighter/Law Enforcement Officer/ Teacher of the Year Awards

Nominations are due to Tina by August 1.

Consider who in your area could be nominated for these awards; Granges may submit one name for each award. State and National forms are available on the PA

Grange Deaf & Community Service website. Unfortunately we did not have any nominations to forward to National Grange last year and I know we have many in our state deserving of these awards!



Report Forms

I'm aware it is possible to get overwhelmed by the sheer number of forms you receive from State Grange at the beginning of each calendar year. If you are the Secretary for your Grange, please distribute these forms to the proper individuals. Aren't certain what the forms are or who they go to?



Please reach out. I would be more than happy to assist you with both determining what has been mailed to you and how to properly fill out and return the forms. I know that many Granges are doing incredible things that aren't being reported.

“Whatsoever you attempt to do, strive to do it well.”

Fraternally,
Tina

Secretary's Corner

Debbie Campbell, State Secretary
dcampbell@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 annual 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. The **National Grange Hosting Assessment** is also due with the 1st Quarter, which is \$1.00 for each member in your Grange. This assessment was approved by the National Grange delegates in 2011.

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 (it should be when they joined the Grange not when they demitted to your Grange. Correcting this report, keeps our database up to date and makes sure your members receive important information such as the Pennsylvania Grange News.

Amanda Brozana-Rios, National Grange Membership Director, and I as the National Grange Secretary will be holding a couple of **Zoom Meetings for Subordinate Secretaries** to help with understanding member types, filling out forms correctly such as National Grange contest etc. and any questions you may have with your role as Subordinate or Pomona Secretary and your responsibilities. Please watch out for these Zoom meetings as you may find them very helpful.



Government Matters

Carrie Nace, Legislative Consultant
carrie@nsallc.com
717-424-5832

Preserving Our Heritage

After a long winter many of us look to the brighter days of Spring. We look forward to trips with loved ones, being outdoors and getting together with their Grange family. At the Pennsylvania State Grange, we are eager to work towards helping preserve these memories through activism, advocacy and funding. We have accomplished many goals this year and are excited to see what the new year brings.

Grange Wins Property Tax Relief For Grange Halls

The Pennsylvania State Grange has succeeded in its almost a decade-long quest to win property tax relief for Grange Halls throughout the Commonwealth. Specifically, the Grange worked with Rep. Ed Neilson (D-Phila.) on a bill that became an amendment onto a larger Fiscal Code bill.

Section 102-L expands the definition of purely public charity to include a Pennsylvania fraternal society, order, or association, that operates under a lodge system where earnings "are devoted to religious, charitable, scientific, educational, and fraternal purposes." Further, these groups must have been operating in the Commonwealth for at least 100 years.

The Pennsylvania State Grange was founded in 1873, meaning its title-holding buildings will be exempt from local property taxes and the PA Sales Tax, regardless of the age of the building or the Subordinate's charter.

For years, Granges in some counties have paid property taxes steep enough that it

interferes with the community services they provide because as nonprofits, their budgets are limited. For one Grange, the \$2,000 they raised for public service programs was voided because a property tax bill for the Grange amounted to just below \$2,000.

Vince Phillips, the previous Pennsylvania State Grange Legislative Director, worked on this issue for many years and the Grange thanks him for setting the stage to get this proposal across the finish line.

Pennsylvania State Master Matt Espenshade applauded the General Assembly and said that this exemption showed sensitivity on the part of lawmakers to the need to dismantle public sector barriers to nonprofit groups that have been helping people over time. "Helping others is what Granges do. This law enables our members and their local Granges to continue our legacy in providing nonprofit safety nets to better rural communities," he said.

In congratulating the Grange, Rep. Neilson said that "Organizations like the PA State Grange provide invaluable services to our communities. The PA State Grange currently connects 5,700 members across the Commonwealth with resources that aren't available elsewhere," Rep. Neilson also said. "Designating organizations like the PA State Grange as public charities allows them to focus on the communities they serve without having to worry about burdensome taxes."

Bonnie Casselberry of Liberty Grange #1780, who has been advocating for this legislation for many years said, "Being exempt from property taxes will allow us to contribute more to our community which is the mission of Grangers

throughout Pennsylvania. I am happy to see policy which I advocated for finally make it across the finish line.”

"Designating organizations like the PA State Grange as public charities allows them to focus on the communities they serve without having to worry about burdensome taxes."

- Rep. Ed Neilson



What Happens Next

As with many policy changes, programs take time to implement and will likely not be seen until later this year. The next step involves seeking expertise from General Assembly Local Government Committees and from officials in the Department of Community and Economic Development to advise us on what legal steps we take to help Granges take the full benefit from this new law.

Questions we are asking:

- Will the Department need to issue any new regulations to implement this law?
- How will counties and school districts know about this change?
- Regarding the Sales Tax, will each Grange have to submit paperwork to the state to formally exempt them from this tax since we are purely charitable organizations or can a blanket recognition be made at the state level?

Please know that when details are known, the Pennsylvania State Grange will publish them in the weekly newsletter. Feel free to reach out to me at carrie@nsallc.com or 717-424-5832 with any questions.

Again, thank you Rep. Neilson for leading this legislative effort in the General Assembly and to those Granges and their members who have voiced the need. If you or your Grange would like to show him appreciation, his address is Hon. Ed Neilson, Main Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120 or eneilson@pahouse.net.

Continuing the Work

While easing burdens on local Granges is extremely important, so are preserving the actual buildings and history tied to the heritage of the organization. To that end, the Pennsylvania State Grange continues to work with local chapters to look for funding opportunities to help with improvements as well as to preserve records of historic Granges.

Eagle Grange #1, Pennsylvania's first Grange, recently submitted a proposal to the Pennsylvania Museum and Historical Commission for funding to archive and preserve many historical documents. The State Grange commends this approach to ensure historical records are preserved.

If your Grange is looking for solutions to preserve, please contact Carrie Nace.

Looking Forward

Looking forward, Governor Josh Shapiro unveiled his new economic development plan for Pennsylvania on January 30 that he says will help the state better compete with neighbors like New York and Ohio. The 10-year Pennsylvania Economic Development Strategy will focus on five sectors: agriculture, energy, life sciences, manufacturing, and robotics and technology, and include several new initiatives.

More details were released during his annual budget address on February 6. The Pennsylvania State Grange is reviewing the address to understand where the Governor's priorities are and how they related to Grange's priorities. Stay Tuned...



Public Relations

Bernadette Comfort, Public Relations Consultant
bernie@nsallc.com publicrelations@pagrange.org

Social Media Benefits

I was one to go kicking and screaming into the world of social media several years ago. While I don't need to share pictures of everything my dog does on social media I do find that social media has become a very useful tool not only for individuals but for organizations like the Pennsylvania State Grange and local Granges.

Nonprofit organizations like ours with limited budgets can benefit from using social media to grow our membership, to raise funds, to promote events, and to connect our communities. Some of the largest social media platforms are Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube, and Instagram. If your local Grange does not have any social media presence the Pennsylvania State Grange suggests starting with a Facebook and a Twitter account.

Suggestions for your social media accounts:

1. Pictures say a thousand words - the use of pictures can personalize your page and bring it to life. Social media posts with pictures or other visuals like graphics can drive up traffic to your page. Pictures help you promote individuals in your organizations too.
2. Post consistently - this way people will keep visiting your page or account for updates and more information. You can also schedule social media posts.
3. Tag and mention other individuals and organizations to help increase your visibility. Tagging an individual or organization will connect your post to them and their membership for higher visibility.
4. Be social and keep the conversation going - respond to comments made on your posts and ask questions to keep people engaged.

5. Go live - do a livestream from your local Grange event to gain exposure for your program or event.
6. Showcase volunteers and/or employees recognizing the work, talents and accomplishments of people who work regularly to promote your nonprofit's mission has benefits. It humanizes your organization, helping your audience understand that there are hard-working people behind your brand. It also builds community and promotes community connection.
7. Make content shareable - make sure that your posts are shareable so that others not only like your posts but share them. Shares multiply your exposure.
8. Share, share, and share again and have fun!

As we continue to build and increase our social media sites at the Pennsylvania State Grange, I ask you to take some time to like and share the Pennsylvania State Grange Facebook page and X (formerly Twitter) account.

Also, please consider sending us content to post about your local Grange activities on the Pennsylvania State Grange social media. Email any social media content to bernie@nsallc.com.



<https://www.facebook.com/PaStateGrange>



<https://www.x.com/stategrange>



PA Grange Partnerships for the Betterment of Agriculture and Rural Communities

Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers

Dairy farms are an integral part of the rural communities of Pennsylvania. In addition to the idyllic open spaces and pastoral settings so many neighbors appreciate, they create jobs, and have an economic impact far beyond the farm gate.

Among dairy states, Pennsylvania ranks eighth nationally, with 468,000 cows on 5,000 farms producing 10 billion pounds of milk each year. 99 percent of all dairy farms in the Commonwealth are family owned and operated. But what happens to that milk once it leaves the farm?

One key factor that sets Pennsylvania apart from other dairy states is the availability of local processing. Pennsylvania is second in the nation in the number of milk processing locations within their state, behind only California, the national leader in milk production. This processing capability not only decreases the costs of transportation assessed to farmers but provides options for farmers as to where they can send their milk, and flexibility for dealing with excess product.

Founded in 1933, the members of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers (PAMD) include employers who process fluid milk. With pride, they produce bottled milk, dairy products and dairy-based beverages for Pennsylvania consumers and beyond. The manufacturing jobs they create are a staple of their local Pennsylvania communities.

“A majority of our members are family-owned businesses that have been in operation for three or four generations,” said Rob Fulton, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers.

As part of the PAMD, these individual businesses work together to promote the interests of the farmers they rely on, as well as the processors’ unique business models. Many member processors work with a select group of nearby farms, with nothing more than a ‘hand-shake’ agreement. These processors have a fixed number of locations their product will go to, and how much milk they can handle from each farm. Often this limits the volume of milk they can accept from farms.



Rob Fulton, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers visits with Master Matt Espenshade before a PMMB hearing in 2023.

Among the members of the PAMD are independent bottlers. Their products can be found on the shelves of grocery and convenience stores across the state. Being part of the PAMD gives them a voice in Harrisburg regarding proposed state regulations and legislation. Membership provides the chance to highlight the important role their operations have in the stability of the dairy industry, and share challenges as well.

(continued on pg. 25)



The Junior Granger

Philip Vonada, Junior Grange Director
pajuniorgrange@gmail.com
814-404-7985

Spring is around the corner. Thank goodness!

It's been a cold and snowy winter in my area of the state, including during the Farm Show back in January. Brrr! But now, I can look forward to warmer days and all of the things I really like about spring. Spring gives us all a chance to "renew" our perspective on the world around us as everything slowly comes back to life.

This spring, I encourage you to take some time to just **be** in the world - take notice of everything that is going on around you, and spend some time in the sun.

I'm also bringing back the **spring photography challenge** to encourage Juniors to go outside this spring to get some awesome photos for our Photography Contest. All entries should be emailed to pajuniorgrange@gmail.com by May 31 - there may be some really cool prizes.



Email completed hunts (or as much as you have done by May 31) to pajuniorgrange@gmail.com

I also want to thank all of the Granges and individuals who have already given to our annual appeal. Thank you for your support and your belief in all of our Junior Grangers.

In January, Braden and Gayle did an amazing job representing Pennsylvania's Junior Grangers at the Farm Show. They got to meet not only Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, but also U.S. Senator Bob

Casey, U.S. Representative Glenn Thompson (Chair of the House Agriculture Committee), PA Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis, and PA Representative Eddie Day Pashinski (Chair of the House Ag and Rural Affairs Committee).

Braden and Gayle are doing a wonderful job as Junior Ambassadors - please invite them to your Grange for a meeting to help lead or present a program, to judge a contest, or to have fun with your Juniors!

In the coming months, I hope Junior Granges across the state start working on projects and contests - maybe a denim recycled craft, making Rice Krispies treats, creative writing, making scrapbook pages, designing diamond art, or honing your talents for the talent competition - all of the PA State Junior Contests can be found in the Guide to Contests.

During the **Junior Online Gathering** in January, Jen Beamon led us all in making Rice Krispies treats, which is this year's cooking contest - be sure to enter. And any kind of cereal is welcome for these treats! Check out the recipe on the next page.

Junior Grange Camp

I'm excited to announce that registration for Jurassic Journey, our 2024 camp, is open! This year's camp will be held June 30-July 6 at Camp Sylvan Hills, and we will be learning all about dinosaurs and the prehistoric world! The registration form is available at <http://bit.ly/PAJGcamp24> (it's case-sensitive!) or you can fill out the form included here in the magazine. Camp registration is due by May 31st.

Counselors and Helpers - Our committee is looking for Grangers age 16+ as of the start

of camp who are dedicated to assisting in leading camp. Counselors and helpers will play an integral part of camp, and many will have additional responsibilities than they have had in previous years. Anyone under age 18 will be considered a 'helper,' and counselors must be age 18.

All counselors and helpers must provide current clearances. Please email me at pajuniorgrange@gmail.com to receive the link to Counselor/Helper Registration. Please note: Just because you have been a helper/counselor before does not guarantee you will be on staff this year. All Counselors and Helpers should wait for official approval by our committee - we are looking for the "right mix" of counselors and helpers, and we will NOT approve any staff member, counselor, or helper until we have clearances and the appropriate volunteer forms.

This past year, our Junior Granges in PA saw a lot of growth and excitement. I encourage all of you - Juniors and adults - to keep it up. We are looking forward to a fun year, and I know we can continue growing. 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.

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, we need to 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) and to the State Office.

I hope you enjoy your Spring, and remember to be kind,
Phil

Dates to remember:

April - Grange Month

June 30-July 6 - Junior Grange Camp

July 18-21 - Family Festival (pre-register for the talent contest!)

October 18-20 - State Grange Session and Junior Jam in Cranberry Township. (Contest entry on 10/17)

November 12-16 - National Grange Session in Quad Cities, Iowa

Rice Krispies Treats (Courtesy of Kellogg's)

Ingredients

3 tablespoons butter

1 package (10 oz., about 40) JET-PUFFED

Marshmallows OR 5-1/2 cups JET-PUFFED

Miniature Marshmallows OR 1 (7 oz) jar

marshmallow fluff

6 cups Kellogg's® Rice Krispies® cereal

Sprinkles of your choice to decorate

Instructions

1. In large saucepan melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat.

2. Add KELLOGG'S® RICE KRISPIES® cereal and sprinkles. Stir until well-coated.

3. Using buttered spatula or wax paper evenly press mixture into 13 x 9 x 2-inch pan coated with cooking spray. Cool.

4. Cut into 2-inch squares. Best if served the same day.

MICROWAVE DIRECTIONS: In microwave-safe bowl heat butter and marshmallows on high for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes. Stir until smooth. Follow steps 2 and 3 above. Microwave cooking times may vary.



June 30-July 6 - 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 _____ **T-Shirt Size (circle one)**

Email _____ Adult: S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / _____ Age on 12/31/2024 _____

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: May 31, 2024 Any application received after 5/31/2024 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 *\$15 per camper is subsidized by the Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund*
- \$145 Half-Week

*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**

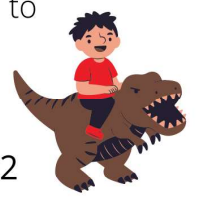
We don't want to discourage anyone from attending camp! If you feel the cost is out of your range, please email pajuniorgrange@gmail.com. Some scholarships or cost-reduction options may be available.

Payment Options: ____ Enclosed is my check payable to PA Junior Grange
 ____ I will send an email to pajuniorgrange@gmail.com to discuss payment options



Mail completed forms and payment to:

PAJG c/o Philip Vonada, 358 Clinton Street, South Williamsport, PA 17702
 or scan and email to: PAJuniorGrange@gmail.com
 Online form available at: <http://bit.ly/PAJGcamp24> (case sensitive)



Penn State University

Ag Trustee Election

The Penn State Board of Trustees is the governing body of Penn State University. It is comprised of 36 voting members and 2 ex-officio non-voting members. The board is responsible for guiding goals, policies, and procedures of the university, reviewing and approving university budgets, and acting in the best interests of the university community. The board delegates day-to-day management and control of the university to the president, with certain reserved powers as set forth in the university's bylaws. The board members represent various entities including, but not limited to, Pennsylvania county agricultural societies, business and industry, students, and faculty.

The board meets several times a year to discuss and approve university policies and budgets.

Please note important dates and deadlines:

Secretary Certificates must be submitted by March 26,
at 5:00 p.m. ET

County Caucuses held via teleconference on April 9,
from noon - 1:00 p.m.

Election Day in University Park - May 2



(Cultivating Connections continued from pg. 21)

Pennsylvania's location offers it a significant advantage in the dairy industry. The state is within a day's drive of approximately 50 percent of the nation's population. In addition, the fertile soil, ample water supply, favorable weather conditions, and established infrastructure make our state poised for growth.

The demand for dairy products continues to increase, most notably for cheese and whole milk. The State Grange and PAMD continue to work together to create a more favorable economic environment for dairy farmers, and further expansion of processing opportunities. Attracting businesses will likely require financial incentives, yet be fair and reasonable to established dairy processors.

"The Pennsylvania State Grange is in a unique position, as its members are not only the

farmers producing the fluid milk for a variety of dairy products, but the consumers purchasing them as well," said Matt Espenshade, a dairy farmer and Master of the Pennsylvania State Grange.

"In my 15 years of testifying before the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board (PMMB), I have often found common ground with the goals of the PAMD in regard to the future of the over-order premium placed on fluid milk that is produced, processed and sold within the state."

The Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers and its industry professionals are committed to the success of the dairy industry. By partnering with stakeholders, including the Grange, PAMD will continue to engage in meaningful discussions and offer insight to ensure the future growth of the dairy industry in Pennsylvania.

Farm Show Highlights



The Royalty Team at the Butter Sculpture.



The display for this year's show made out of apples from the Apple Growers Association.



One of the calves that was born on January 6 at the Calving Corner.



Evan Espenshade and Merle Reyburn earned their Keystone Degree from the FFA.



Norman Houser and Brittany Covey with State Representative Clint Owlett.



National Grange President Chris Hamp judged the Apple Pie contest on Saturday January 6.



The Royalty Team with Congressman GT Thompson.

January 6-13, 2024



Members Scot Dundore, Tammy Schaeffer and Ruth Vonada with Senator Mike Regan.



Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding with the Royalty Team at the PA Preferred Reception.



Farmers came out for our first Pesticide Applicators meeting.



Sawyer Straub with a pig.



Savannah, Riley and Dylan Beamon stopped by and handed out coloring books to kids that walked by the stand.

A special shout-out to all of the volunteers that helped out in the Grange booth during Farm Show week. We couldn't have done it without you!

Lindsay Schroeder
Jennifer & Ken Danko
Elisabeth Reich
Desira Rickenbach
Shae Smith
Ashlan Smith
Gayle Reyburn
Braden Thomson
Phil Vonada
Chris & Duane Hamp
Cindy Schlegel

Ken Merritt
Sue Snyder
Michael & Brittany Covey
Savannah Beamon
Derek & Barbara Schroeder
Andrew Kieffer
Wayne & Debbie Campbell
Ruth Vonada
Thelma Brodzina
Bernie Comfort
Tina Keen

Stanley Reyburn
Tammy Schaeffer
Scot Dundore
Charlene Espenshade
Carrie Nace
Norman Houser
Cindy Shaffer
Jerry Cramer
Janet & Tony Fishovitz
Bob Pardoe
Libby Green

Jodi Keith Kensinger
Dick & Ginny Mangel
Cadence Tempel
Grace Tempel
Makayla Boyer
Rachel Brobst
Doug Bonsall
Jenn Nauss
Brad & Anna May Nauss
Steve & Karen Mohn
Ashley Mohn



2024 FAMILY FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JULY 18-21, 2024



All meals will be served **AT** the start-time. Please arrive at the beginning of the meal hour.
Schedule is **TENTATIVE**.

THURSDAY, JULY 18

- 1:00-4:30 Registration - Bldg. II
- 5:30 Dinner - Bldg. II (Penns Valley)
- 7:00-8:00 Welcome & National Grange Updates - Bldg. I4
President Matt Espenshade
National Grange Workshop by
Philip Vonada & Amanda Brozana Rios
- 8:00 Vespers & "Pass the Torch" - Bldg. I4
(immediately following workshop)
- 8:30-10:30 BINGO - Bldg. I4
(Optional - bring prizes worth \$5-10)
- 11:00 Quiet Time & Lights Out

FRIDAY, JULY 19

- 7:30 Breakfast - Bldg. II (Campbells)
- 9:15-11:30 Tour - Brush Mountain Bison
(Meet at 9:15 to Carpool)
Board Games / Corn Hole Available
- 9:30-11:30 Registration - Bldg. II
- 12:00 Lunch - Bldg. II - Hoagies
- 1:00-2:00 Legislative Updates - Bldg. I4
- 1:30-4:30 Cooking for Crowds - Bldg. II
- 2:00-4:00 Registration - Bldg. II
- 2:00-3:00 Youth Workshop - String Art - Bldg. I4
- 3:00-4:00 Junior / Youth Water Games
- 4:00-5:00 Membership Workshop - Bldg. I4
- 5:00 Dinner - Bldg. II - Chili Cook-off
(Hosted by Youth Department)
- 7:15 Cornhole Tournament - First Match
- 7:00-9:00 Family Movie Night - Bldg. I4
(Includes Popcorn)
- 9:00 Vespers & "Pass the Torch" - Bldg. I4
- 9:30 Knowledge Test - Bldg. II
- 11:00 Quiet Time & Lights Out

Assistance with cleaning and packing up of Building II on Sunday is much appreciated!

SATURDAY, JULY 20

- 7:30 Breakfast - Bldg. II (Campbells)
(Young Patron Finalists Announced)
- 8:45 Group Photo - Location TBD
- 9:15-10:00 Yoga
- 10:00-11:15 Photo Scavenger Hunt - Meet Bldg. I4
(Bring Your Own Camera/Cell Phone)
- 10:00-11:00 Bike-A-Thon
- Youth String Art Continued - Bldg. I4
- 10:30-11:00 Young Patron Interviews - Bldg. II
- 11:00-12:00 Anniversary Documentary Showing
- 12:00 Lunch - Bldg. II (Logan Grange)
(Impromptu Question to OYP Finalists)
- 1:00-2:00 Leadership Workshop - Bldg. I4
State FFA Team
- 2:00 Youth Outing - Location TBD
- 2:00-3:00 Lecturer's Workshop - Bldg. I4
- 3:00-4:00 Community Service Project - Bldg. I4
- 4:00-5:00 National Grange Communications
Workshop - Bldg. I4
How to Avoid Social Media Scams
- 4:30 Cornhole Finale
- 5:00 Dinner - Bldg. II (Walker Grange #786)
- 7:00 Talent Contest - Bldg. I4
(Pre-registration Required)
Introduction of Royalty
Olympic Games / Medal Ceremony
Vespers & "Pass the Torch"
Silent Auction - Final Bids Due
Ice Cream
(Clean out Buildings I2 and I4)
- 11:00 Quiet Time & Lights Out

SUNDAY, JULY 21

- 7:30 Breakfast - Bldg. II (Campbells)
- 9:00-10:00 Worship Service - Bldg. I4
- 10:00 Clean Up & Depart

The DCS Department is organizing a Silent Auction and Collection for Centre Safe.

Collection Items: \$5 gift cards to (Walmart, Sheetz, Giant, or Weis), cleaning supplies (smaller sizes), dishwashing sponges or brushes, paper towels. Donations of Silent Auction items are also welcome.



2024 FAMILY FESTIVAL

JULY 18-21, 2024

REGISTRATION



Please submit one form for each person attending.

Name: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____
 Grange: _____
 County: _____

_____ Tent (\$35 per night, NOT per person)
 Tent Mates: _____

_____ RV/Camper (\$45 per night/space,
 NOT per person)
 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

Hotel - Please make your own reservation
**Hotel and Rates are being negotiated. More
 information about the hotel will be made available
 as soon as possible.**

Talent Contest Registration - REQUIRED

Please indicate: (circle)

Junior (5-14) Subordinate (14+)

Vocal Instrumental Variety

Equipment Needed: _____

TEAM CONTEST

New this year, we will be having a friendly team
 contest throughout the weekend of Family
 Festival with different ways for your team to "Go
 for the Gold". Check here if interested in
 participating! _____

The Youth Outing on Saturday afternoon will have a
 cost (TBD) that can be paid at the time of the outing.

_____ I will be participating in the Youth Outing

_____ I will be participating in the Chili Cook-Off Contest
 (Bring entry in at least a 6 qt. slow cooker; must be taken to the
 dinner area in Bldg. II by 11 am on Friday)

MEALS (please check desired meals)

Children under 4 are free; ages 5-11 are half-price.
Tentative menu listed on page 32.

_____ All Meals	\$56.50	_____
_____ Thursday Dinner	\$8.00	_____
_____ Friday Breakfast	\$5.50	_____
_____ Friday Lunch	\$6.50	_____
_____ Friday Dinner	\$6.50	_____
_____ Saturday Breakfast	\$5.50	_____
_____ Saturday Lunch	\$7.00	_____
_____ Saturday Dinner	\$12.00	_____
_____ Sunday Breakfast	\$5.50	_____

Tent Fee (per night) _____ x \$35.00 _____

RV/Camper Fee (per night) _____ x \$45.00 _____

RV Dumping Fee \$25.00 _____

Adult Registration Fee (per person) \$10.00 _____

Child Registration Fee (per person) \$5.00 _____
 (5 - 17 years)

Cooking for Crowds Workshop \$5.00 _____

String Art \$10.00 _____

Total Enclosed _____

Deadline for Registration - June 15, 2024

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

Send registration and payment to:

PA State Grange

Attn: Family Festival

26 CJEMS Lane

Mifflintown, PA 17059

Granges in Action....

TREXLERTOWN #1755

For Thanksgiving, Trexlertown Grange held an Apple & Pumpkin Pie fundraiser. It took members (and some non-members) two days to prepare all of the pies. It was a very successful fundraiser.



LOGAN #109

Members of Logan Grange in Centre County were very generous at their Annual Christmas Event on December 11. They donated 100 non-perishable food items to the local food bank in Pleasant Gap. Shown in the photo is Barry Yarnell, Overseer and President of the Centre County Grange Fair Board and his mother, Martha Yarnell.



CENTRE COUNTY POMONA

One of the many community services projects of Centre County Pomona Grange #13 is ringing the bells for The Salvation Army. Members and families rang the bell from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 16 at the local Walmart.



CHESTER-DELAWARE POMONA



Chester-Delaware Pomona Grange filled goodie bags that were donated to Pocopson Nursing Home at their January meeting. Sixty bags were stuffed with items including window clings, toys, tablets and cards. Just one more way the Grange gives back to our community!

FLEETWOOD #1839

Fleetwood Grange put together an entry for our community's 150th anniversary celebration parade last fall. Some members walked along with the float to hand out slips of paper to give information about the Grange to gain new members. In addition, the Grange donated the hall to the community three times during the summer's festivities for some of their events as well as sponsored a billboard outside of town promoting the upcoming celebration.



EAGLE #1

On December 16, Eagle Grange held a Jingle Bell Jamboree. The day consisted of a visit with Santa, crafts, cookie decorating, hot cocoa, and snacks.



PROGRESS #96



Congratulations to Tammy Jurkowski, Secretary of Progress Grange #96 who was voted Progress Grange Granger of the Year. A well deserved honor for someone who spent countless hours

helping to feed our community over the past few years.

On December 9th, the 2nd Annual Brunch with the Grinch was a huge success. Over 250 Who's came to visit. This event helps to fund our Books for a Buck program that puts a book in each child's hands.



For this year we chose Kaitlyn Snyder's first grade class at Centre Hall - Potter

Elementary School. Progress Grange donated funds that will give each child one book per month. For a total of 10 books for each student for the school year.

Progress Grange would like to congratulate our member Teaghan Bair for becoming the 2023 - 2024 Centre County Grange Fair Queen!



Thursday Dinner

(provided by Penns Valley #158)
 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce; Garlic Bread;
 Tossed Salad; Dessert

Breakfast (Friday, Saturday, & Sunday)

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
 Nachos & Cheese
 Pudding; Dessert

Friday Dinner

(provided by Youth Department)
 Chili from Cook-Off
 Hot Dogs; Baked Potatoes; Tossed Salad
 Cookies

Saturday Lunch

(provided by Logan Grange #109)

Taco Salad; Tossed Salad
 Grilled Cheese; Tomato Soup
 Fruit

Saturday Dinner

(provided by Walker Grange #786)
 Ham; Scalloped Potatoes
 Other Items to be determined
 Dessert



**5 Minutes with...
Isabella Boone**

**PA State Grange
Flora**

What Grange do you belong to?

Baileyville #1991 in Centre County

How long have you been in the Grange?

Officially since 2014 but unofficially my whole life. I would go to Grange meetings with my gram and pap and they would sit me up behind them on the stage with my toys. When I originally joined, I joined the PA State Junior Grange but then I was able to join my home Grange as a +1 member. I then received my 6th degree in 2018 and my 7th degree this past November in Niagara Falls.

What is your favorite Grange memory?

I would say either Capital Day in 2021 when I was youth ambassador or this past State Session since it was my first session as a state officer.

Name 1 thing on your bucket list.

I would love to travel to London to sightsee and explore. I'm a big museum person so I would love to go and visit everything.

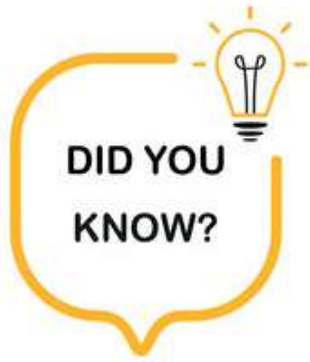
What is your favorite dessert?

My favorite sweet treat is definitely caramel gelato. I could eat a whole container by myself!

What is your favorite TV show?

Recently my boyfriend and I have been rewatching Grey's Anatomy and it's making me remember how good the original seasons were!

7 Outstanding Organizers



In a review of Grange records, we note that seven persons stand out as organizers of local Granges in Pennsylvania:

- **Stephen W. Buck** – Bradford County; organized 54 Granges throughout northeastern PA between 1873-1874
- **D.C. Kennedy** – Erie County; State Overseer 1875-1878 & State Executive Committee 1879-1895; organized 48 Granges throughout western PA between 1874-96
- **Frank Porter** – Lycoming County; State Overseer 1873-1875 – organized 41 Granges throughout northcentral PA between 1873-1907
- **Edward B. Dorsett** – Tioga County; State Lecturer 1906-1912, State Overseer 1912-1914 & State Master 1927-1933; organized 37 Granges all over the state between 1907-1932
- **William F. Hill** – Crawford County; State Lecturer 1894-1898 & State Master 1898-1908; organized 34 Granges all over the state between 1894-1922
- **Rev. Harry G. Teagarden** – Jefferson County; State Chaplain 1902-1904, 1910-1916 & State Lecturer 1916-1920; organized 33 Granges in Armstrong, Clarion, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson and Westmoreland Counties between 1915-1920
- **H.H. Brown** – Columbia County; State Steward 1875-1876; organized 27 Granges in Columbia & Luzerne Counties between 1873-1876

Isn't it amazing that these men, all volunteers, had such enthusiasm and dedication to bring the Grange into dozens of new communities? Most amazing of all is the stamina of Brother Buck, heading the list as the organizer of 54 Granges, did all this in just two years' time!

Grange Cookbook Classics

Oyster Cracker Snack

- 16-18 oz. oyster crackers (small 1 ½ package - 11 oz.)
- 1 cup oil
- ¼ tsp garlic powder
- ¼ tsp lemon pepper
- ⅓ tsp dill weed
- 1 pkg Hidden Valley Ranch salad dressing (dry)

Mix together Hidden Valley Ranch salad dressing and all other ingredients in a light container or plastic bag. Shake often the first day. Eat after second day.

(Suggestion: very good as snacks or to drop into soups.)

Mrs. Allen D. Fink, Macungie #1569



This recipe can be found in the 125th Anniversary edition of the Pennsylvania State Grange.



Welcome New Members

Eagle #1

Sara Jane Auker
Patty Peterman

Sanatoga #25

Robert Bombund
Logan #109

Colleen Kennedy

Dawson #419

Kayla Leichliter

Middletown #684

Mark Schmidt Jr
Molly Scheetz

Mason Scheetz

Justin Awckland

Paul Davis

Monica Scheetz

Mark Scheetz

Mackenzie Umana

Madeline Umana

Bruce Awckland

Tracey Awckland

Tioga #1223

Jessica Barron

Greta Foster

Aimee Barton

Valley #1360

Hollis Zimmerman

Scrubgrass #1705

Margaret Hawkings

William Hawkings

Trexlertown #1755

Louise Schultz

Big Knob #2008

Shirley Kaszer

Tanee Booker

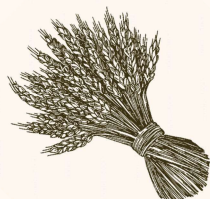
Renee Gerber

John Munroe

Jennifer Fishovitz

Grassroots #2112

Jody Harris



In Memoriam

“Well Done Good and Faithful Servant...”

Sanatoga #25

Robert E Zimmerman

Logan #109

Nancy Smeltzer

Atlantic #344

Arden McConnell

Hickory #1285

William Bundy

Chester Daugherty

Valley #1360

Janice Coover

Hillcrest #1674

Patty Hoffman

Trexlertown #1755

Joyce Walter

Liberty #1780

Joanne Brenneman

Perry Valley #1804

Janette Witmer

Virgenville #1832

Linda Reichert

Nelson Zook

Kutztown #1836

Lorraine Greiss

Fern Kerschner

Eleanor Siegfried

Marion #1853

Capt. Mary Sattazahn

Big Knob #2008

Hilda Pflug

Patty Brandt



Keep in mind that May 1 is the deadline for many scholarship opportunities.



PA State Grange Family Festival

July 18-21, 2024

Centre County Grange Fairgrounds

**JOIN THE TEAM!
GO FOR THE GOLD!**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

MARCH

- 8-10: Youth Retreat; Williamsport
- 9: Regional Leadership Conference; Eagle Grange Hall
- 10: Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 18: National Legislative Fly-In (Virtual)
- 31: Easter

APRIL

- 22: Earth Day
- 30: 1st Quarter Dues Report Due (Assessment & Junior Dues)

MAY

- 1: Scholarship Deadline
- 2: Penn State Ag Trustee Election
- 27: Memorial Day

JUNE

- 14: Flag Day
- 28-30: Youth Camp; Camp Sylvan Hills
- 30-July 6: Junior Camp; Camp Sylvan Hills

JULY

- 4: Independence Day
- 18-21: Family Festival; Centre County Fairgrounds
- 26-28: Eastern Regional Conference; Pennsylvania (TBD)
- 31: 2nd Quarter Dues Report Due (Bonds Due)

AUGUST

- 13-15: Ag Progress Days; Pennsylvania Furnace

SEPTEMBER

- 2: Labor Day
- 10: Resolutions Due
- 15: Committee Report Forms Due (for State Session)

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.pagrange.org
(717) 737-8855

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