

BETSY E. HUBER

22nd MASTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE

The Person

Betsy E. Huber was born and raised on the family dairy farm in Westtown, Chester County PA. She is a third generation Grange member, active in Goshen Grange #121 and Chester/Delaware Pomona Grange #3. She served as the first woman Master of Goshen.



Betsy married Henry T. Huber in 1966 and they had three children- Ellen Marie, Peter, and Andrew. She and Henry were selected as the PA Grange Young Couple of the Year in 1971.

She was elected Supervisor of Upper Oxford Township serving for 24 years (first woman). Served on several committees for PA State Association of Township Supervisors and the Chester County Association. In 2004 she received the Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture in Chester County.

While State Master she served on many state committees. Chair of DEP Ag Advisory Board, President of PA State Council of Farm Organizations, Secretary of PA Farm Link, Trustee, Penn State University 2005-17.

First woman elected PA State Grange Master 2002. Elected to a fourth term by a “write-in” vote, as her name could not appear on the written ballot according to the By-Laws. Five new Granges were organized during her term.

Elected to National Grange Executive Committee 2006-14, Chair 2007-14 and elected National Master in 2015. (first woman)

2003 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- The Credentials Committee reported 187 Subordinate Delegates representing 40 counties and 55 Pomona Delegates representing 33 Pomonas. A total of 450 registered for the State Session.
- The Sixth Degree was conferred on 19 candidates.
- Granger of the Year was Margaret Tau, Hayfield Grange #800, Crawford County.
- Nine Subordinate Granges participated in the Action II Granges:
 - Kennett #19, Chester County
 - Goshen #121, Chester County
 - Shavers Creek #353, Huntingdon County
 - Hayfield #800, Crawford County
 - Lawsville #1455, Susquehanna County
 - Mahoning Valley #1649, Lawrence County
 - Allegheny #1843, Lycoming County
 - Hookstown #1980, Beaver County
 - Big Knob #2008, Beaver County
- The Sixth Degree Drills of Flora, Ceres, and Pomona were taped.
- Membership Recruiter of the Year – Sharron Kimmel obtained 15 new members and Ruth Wright obtained 14 new members. Both are members of Middletown Grange #684, Bucks County.
- July 2002 – June 2003 membership showed a loss of 1,669 members and 17 Subordinate Granges.

- Membership as of June 30, 2003
 - 17,036 Subordinate members including, 1,234 Lifetime members and 771 Associate members in 343 Subordinate Granges
 - 426 Junior members in 34 Junior Granges
- A resolution presented by the Good of the Order Committee was adopted by the Delegates directing the Master to appoint a committee to do a Feasibility Study of the current State Grange Headquarters to see if it would be more economical to sell the current facility and purchase or rent other space or upgrade the current facility with necessary improvements. The study was to be completed by September 30, 2004 and report back to the Delegates at the 2004 State Session.

LEGISLATION

- Passage of Water Resources Planning Act – gave DEP the authority to develop a new state water plan through regional and statewide committee structure.
- The delegates voted to support Country of Origin labeling on all food products imported into the United States.
- The Family Issues Committee Report asked that the State Grange support reform or repeal of the “No Child Left Behind Act”
- The delegates supported a resolution asking that legislation be drafted and enacted to require random testing of school personnel for substance abuse.
- The delegates asked for legislation to be adopted to prevent school teachers or administrators from serving on district school boards where they are employed.

LECTURER

- Grange Academy held at Wilson College with 98 in attendance.
- Mid-Atlantic Lecturers’ Conference hosted in DE by MD and DE State Lecturers.
- Subordinate Community Night Reports
 - 1st - Under 75 members – Briar Creek #146, Columbia County
 - 1st - 76-150 members – Pioneer #1777, Berks County
 - 1st - Over 150 members – Ontelaunee #1617, Berks County
- Pomona Community Night Report
 - Lehigh-Northampton Pomona #68

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- The Committees were combined into one Committee.
- Jodi Keith, Lincoln #914, Huntingdon County, placed third in the Sign-a-Song Eastern Regional competition.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Subordinate Reports - Under 75 members
 - 1st – Lawsville #1455, Susquehanna County
 - 2nd – Banner #1115, Cambria County
 - 3rd – Pleasant Hill #1861, Cambria County

- Subordinate Reports – Over 76 members
 - 1st - Perry Valley #1804, Perry County
 - 2nd – Middletown #684, Bucks County
 - 3rd – Schnecksville #1684, Lehigh County
- Pomona Reports
 - 1st – Montour-Northumberland-Union #31
 - 2nd – Jefferson #20
 - 3rd – Centre #13

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- Subordinate Director of the Year – Cherry Ellworth, Aleppo #2054, Greene County
- Pomona Director of the Year – Freda Cusick, Centre Pomona #13

JUNIORS

- 2003-04 Prince – Philip Vonada, Centre County and Princess – Jennifer Adams, Berks County

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- Derek Schroeder, Berks County placed first with his Elevator Speech at the 2003 Mid-Atlantic Youth Conference
- 2003-04 Youth Ambassadors – Jodi Keith, Huntingdon County and Doug Sattazahn, Berks County

NATIONAL GRANGE

- William A. Steel elected Master of the National Grange, the second Pennsylvanian to serve in this position

2004 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 60 Pomona Delegates, 197 Subordinate Delegates, and a total of 485 registered for the Session
- The Sixth Degree was conferred on 29 candidates.
- Delegates voted to sell the PA State Grange Building at 1604 N. Second Street in Harrisburg by a vote of 168 in favor and 91 not in favor
- Granger of the Year was Douglas Bonsall, Perry Valley Grange #1804, Perry County.
- Three top member recruiters were:
 - Charles Wismer, Keystone Grange #2, Montgomery County – 10 members
 - Douglas Bonsall, Perry Valley Grange #1804, Perry County – 11 members
 - Sharon Kimmel, Middletown Grange #684, Bucks County – 18 members
- Membership as of June 30, 3004
 - 15,909 members including 916 Associate members and 1,281 Lifetime members in 334 Subordinate Granges
 - Lost 1,127 members and nine Subordinate Granges
 - 296 Junior members in 31 Junior Granges
- Grange members staffed the Farmer for a Day booth at the Annual PA Farm Show
- State Grange History Committee set up guidelines for retention of historical documents.

- The delegates approved a resolution calling for the discontinued use of the Annual Word as proof for membership in a Subordinate/Community Grange.

LEGISLATION

- The Grange was instrumental in the passage of legislation requiring commercial manure haulers to become trained and certified.
- The Grange was active in formulation of revisions to nutrient management regulations.
- The delegates approved a resolution asking the PA Game Commission and PDA work together to develop an effective groundhog population reduction program.
- The delegates approved a resolution in support of the growing of industrial hemp.
- The Family Issues Committee presented a definition for marriage as one man and one woman. The statement was approved as policy for the State Grange.
- The delegates asked for the reinstatement of the Helmet Law for motorcycle operators and passengers.

LECTURERS

- The first Family Festival held at the Centre County Grange Fairgrounds with 160 in attendance.
- Community Night Reports: - Subordinate
 - 1st – under 90 members – Frankfort Springs #1989, Beaver County
 - 1st – over 90 members – Fleetwood #1839, Berks County
- Community Night Reports:- Pomona
 - Lehigh-Northampton #68
- Talent Best of Show – Instrumental – Jennifer Nauss, Valley Grange, York County

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Community Service Reports:- Subordinate under 75 members
 - 1st – Kennett #19, Chester County
 - 2nd – Pleasant Hill #1861, Cambria County
 - 3rd – Union #152, Susquehanna County
- Community Service Reports:- Subordinate over 75 members
 - 1st over 75 members – Big Knob #2008, Beaver County
 - 2nd – Perry Valley #1804, Perry County
 - 3rd – Middletown #684, Bucks County
- Pomona Granges
 - 1st – Lehigh-Northampton #68
- Eastern Regional Sign-a-Song competition
 - 1st place Group – Stacie & Jodi Keith, Huntingdon County
 - 2nd place Individual – Catherine Carberry, Huntingdon County

JUNIORS

- 2004-05 Junior Prince – Jonathan Sattazahn, Berks County; Princess – Rebecca Hetzel, Allegheny County

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- 2004-05 Young Couple – Clark and Judy Kitner, Valley Grange #1360, York County
- Mid-Atlantic Youth Conference Jodi Keith, Huntingdon County received Best of Show for her speech.
- Youth Camp held at Camp Sylvan Hills

- 2004-05 Youth Ambassadors – Andrew Kieffer, Berks County and Miranda Hollabaugh, Warren County.

2005 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 60 Pomona Delegates from 35 Pomona Granges, 183 Subordinate Delegates from 107 Subordinate Granges, and 429 Total registered
- The Sixth Degree was conferred on 39 candidates
- George Wolff, Lebanon County received Friend of Grange Award for his legislative work for the Grange
- Ruth Wright, Middletown Grange #684, Bucks County, received Outstanding Recruiter Award for securing 13 new members
- Granger of Year Susan Tau, Hayfield Grange #800, Crawford County
- Membership as of June 30, 2005
 - 14,842 Subordinate members, including 1,314 Lifetime members and 841 Associate members in 633 Subordinate Granges
 - 330 Junior members in 29 Junior Granges
- The State Grange Headquarters at 1604 N. Second Street Harrisburg sold on March 23, 2005 for \$276,000 to Murray Associates, Architects
- July 13, 2005 office space was leased at 20 Erford Road, Suite 310, Lemoyne for five years
- Master Huber elected to the Board of Ag Trustees at Penn State University
- History Committee catalogued all minute books from closed Granges. Twenty-nine boxes were turned over to the State Archives to be microfilmed and stored.
- Archives also filming Journals of Proceedings from 1874-2004.

LEGISLATION

- Passage of ACRE, Act 38, allowing farmers to petition the PA Attorney General to determine the legality of township ordinances that they feel are more stringent than the state law allows.
- Humane Officer Enforcement Act added more hours of instruction, allows courts to suspend or revoke any officers who has been convicted of a crime including presenting false credentials or carrying a firearm without proper training and certification.
- Ag Loan Forgiveness Program Expanded – Commonwealth continued to encourage students who obtained agriculture or veterinary degrees to work in PA Act 181 made PA resident students who attend college out-of-state eligible for assistance also.
- Crop Insurance Changes – Act 208 enhanced the state crop insurance program by encouraging producers of agricultural commodities to purchase federal crop insurance as a risk management tool. It also provided financial assistance to eligible producers by defraying crop insurance premium costs.
- Growing Greener II included a substantial amount of money for the PA Farmland Preservation Program.
- Health Care: The Grange convinced the Governor to protect PA's low income chronically ill, disabled and elderly during the transition from Medicaid to Medicare prescription programs. Allowed new state regulations to coincide with federal changes so that patients would not have to switch their medicines twice within a few months.
- Co-sponsored five seminars on "How to Deal with the Challenges of Overabundant Deer in Your Community".
- The delegates support extension of the deer season but with no Sunday hunting.
- The delegates favored legislation to include political telemarketing in the Do Not Call program.

- The delegates called for mandatory sentencing of not less than 25 years for first time sex offenders of children 12 years of age or younger, as well as requiring child molesters to wear tracking devices for life after being released from prison.
- The delegates favored legislation to eliminate all benefits to illegal residents.
- Asked the General Assembly to rescind their latest pay raise
- Co-sponsored 12 Listening Sessions on the 2007 Farm Bill.
- State Session Evaluation Committee recommended that the Session be changed to begin on the Saturday before the second Monday in October, effective with the 2007 Session

LECTURER

- Second Family Festival held at Centre Hall Grange Fairgrounds with 190 in attendance
 - Community Night Reports: 1st – Pioneer #1777, Berks County

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Subordinate Reports - Under 75 members
 - 1st – Pleasant Hill #1861, Cambria County
 - 2nd – Elkland #976, Sullivan County
 - 3rd – Union #152, Susquehanna County
- Subordinate Reports - Over 75 members
 - 1st – Perry Valley #1804, Perry County
 - 2nd – Hayfield #800, Crawford County
 - 3rd – Valley #1360, York County and Schnecksville #1684, Lehigh County
- Pomona Granges Community Service Reports
 - 1st – Montour-Northumberland-Union #31
 - 2nd – Bucks County #22
 - 3rd – Lehigh-Northampton #68

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family Activities Director of Year –

- Subordinate - Gladys Nadik, Frankfort Springs, Beaver County
- Pomona – Debra Durilla, Washington County

JUNIORS

- 2005-06 Junior Prince – Zachery Snyder, Warren County and Princess Gail Switzer, Berks County

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- Mid-Atlantic Youth Conference - Best of Show Speech – Susan Waxler, Beaver County
- 2005-06 Ambassadors – Philip Vonada, Centre County and Brittany Schaffer, Berks County

2006 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 193 Subordinate Delegates from 110 Subordinate Granges, 61 Pomona Delegates from 34 Pomona Granges, 455 Guests including 35 Juniors for 853 total attendance
- The Sixth Degree was conferred on 35 candidates.
- All Granger Banquet
- Friend of Grange presented to Representative Sheila Miller, Berks County
- 59 Granges recognized for a net gain in membership. Grange Recruiter of the Year – Dorothy Miller, Virgenville #1832, Berks County obtained seven new members.
- Granger of Year Award changed to Grange Family of the Year – John Keith Family, Huntingdon County
- Reorganized Oriental Grange #165, Wyoming County and Lawrence #533 and Girard #788, Clearfield County and Chartered Cumberland Valley #2104, Cumberland County and Hamburg #2103, Berks County.
- Added free Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefits for members.
- Membership
 - There were 13,684 Subordinate members, including 539 Associate members and 1,399 Lifetime members in 298 Subordinate Granges
 - 365 Junior Members in 30 Junior Granges
- The delegates voted to move the convention back to the third weekend in October beginning in 2008 and extend the convention by one day.

LEGISLATION

- Grange supported eminent domain legislation that resulted in two bills. The new laws strengthened the rights of property owners faced with an eminent domain eviction and prohibited the use of eminent domain for the taking of private property for private enterprise.
- The legislation also authorized an Agricultural Lands Condemnation Approval Board to review eminent domain claims against farm property and prohibited the seizure of such property except where necessary to protect the health and safety of the community.
- Some relief in property tax and rent rebates for residents 65 or older who own or rent their homes and whose yearly incomes are \$35,000 or less.
- Loss of Legislative Committee members Charles Wismer, Jr. and Paul Dawson.
- Eliminated the full-time Legislative Director's position and contracted with Wolff Strategies
- The Grange voted to oppose the humanization of animals in agriculture, pets, game and wild animals and fowl by granting them human rights.
- The delegates called for a coyote eradication program in PA
- The Grange called for the elimination of "fast food chains" from school cafeterias.
- The Grange supports legislation to encourage alternative fueled automobiles and provide incentives for purchasers of such vehicles,

LECTURERS

- Family Festival had 235 registered.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- 179 quilts received at Family Festival to be sent to wounded servicemen. The quilts were presented to the Poly Trauma Centers in the United States in MN, FL, VA, and CA.
- The 2005 Walk A Mile in My Little Slippers resulted in 551 pair being donated.

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- Youth Camp held in conjunction with the Family Festival.
- Ambassadors – Catherine Carberry, Huntingdon County and Jonathan Sattazahn, Berks County

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE - REPORTS

- Under 75 members – 1st – Kennett #19, Chester County
- Over 75 members – 1st – Perry Valley #1804, Perry County
- Pomona – Berks County #22

JUNIORS

- The Bike-a-Thon at the Family Festival raised \$395.00 to be used for shipping the quilts.
- The 60th Junior Camp was with 60 campers in attendance.
- 2006-07 Junior Prince – Matthew Werley, Berks County and Princess Sierra Hollabaugh, Warren County.
- Two Junior Granges were reorganized.

NATIONAL GRANGE

- At the 2006 Annual Session Master Huber elected to a 2-year term on the National Executive Committee

2007 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 174 Subordinate Delegates, 61 Pomona Delegates, and 125 Guests for a total attendance of 360
- The Sixth Degree was conferred on 44 candidates.
- 2007 Grange Family of the Year – Richard, Virginia, Joel and Chris Straub, Stony Point # 1694, Mercer County
- Friend of Grange Award – Walter Peechatka, Penn Ag Industries Association
- Outstanding Recruiter of the Year – Paul Miller, Berks County
- Fifty-eight Granges had a net gain in membership
- Grange Day held at the Farm Show in the VIP Lounge had 100 in attendance
- Membership as of June 30, 2007
 - 12,682 Subordinate members, including 533 Associate members and 1,455 Lifetime members, in 280 Subordinate Granges
 - 312 Junior members in 28 Junior Granges
- 17 Granges were disbanded during the year.
- The delegates voted that the convention be held only for three days.

LEGISLATION

- Minimum wage increased to \$7.15/hour – first increase since the federal increase to \$5.15 in 1997.
- Bill passed to create a farmers’ market development grant program for developing and/or expanding farmers’ markets.
- Healthy Farms – Healthy Schools which offered grants to schools for promoting ag education and nutrition in classroom. It also encouraged farm visits for school children to develop an awareness and appreciation for PA grown foods.
- Landowner Liability Act passed clarified that landowners who permit access to their property for hunters and others are absolved from liability for injuries the hunters may cause.
- Legislation establishing a Resource Enhancement Tax Protection fund passed allowing farmers to apply for tax credits for using best management practices on their agricultural operations.
- The delegates asked that when decisions are made concerning religious symbols or pray in public places that the decisions be made based on a public referendum.
- The delegates opposed the tolling of Interstate Highways in PA that currently are toll free.
- The Grange asked that an operational identification system for farms and livestock be in place as soon as possible to track animals during animal and human health emergencies.

LECTURERS

- Community Night Programs
 - Under 90 members – Frankfort Springs #1989, Beaver County
 - Over 90 members – Ontelaunee #1617, Berks County
- Jennifer Nauss, Valley Grange #1360, York County represented PA in National Night of Excellence

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Subordinate Reports - Under 75 Members
 - 1st – Pleasant Hill #1861, Cambria County
 - 2nd – Fairview #1351, Beaver County
 - 3rd – Kennett #19, Chester County
 - Honorable Mention – Frankfort Springs #1989, Beaver County
- Subordinate Reports - Over 75 Members
 - 1st – Kutztown #1836, Berks County
 - 2nd – Hayfield #800, Crawford County
 - 3rd – Fort Granville #1902, Mifflin County
 - Honorable Mention – Schnecksville #1684, Lehigh County
- Pomona Reports
 - 1st - Bucks County #22
 - 2nd – Montour-Northumberland-Union #31
 - 3rd – Cambria #51
 - Honorable Mention – Lehigh-Northampton #68

JUNIORS

- Junior Camp attended by 63 campers
- 2007-08 Junior Prince – Braden Gourley, Beaver County and Princess Brittany Haag, Berks County

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- 2007-08 Young Couple – Joel & Christie Straub, Mercer County
- 2007-08 Ambassadors – Gail Switzer, Berks County and Adam Waite, Juanita County
- Friend of Youth Award – Nettie Kauffman, Berks County

NATIONAL GRANGE

- Master Huber elected Chairman of the National Grange Executive Committee

2008 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 169 Subordinate Delegates from 127 Subordinate Granges, 60 Pomona Delegates from 41 Pomona Granges, and 173 Guests for a total attendance of 402
- The Sixth Degree was conferred on 44 candidates
- The All-Granger Banquet had 340 in attendance
- Friend of Grange – Representative Art Hershey, Chester County, Minority Chair of House Ag & Rural Affairs Committee
- Family Activities Chairman Ginny Mangel presented a check for \$1,400 to the PA Breast Cancer Coalition
- Grange Family of the Year – Paul and Dorothy Miller, Berks County
- State Officers Auction of items raised \$1,578 for the Grange Foundation
- Organized Penn State Grange #2105 on the Penn State University Campus
- Held four Family Picnics in Warren, Huntingdon, Lehigh and Lycoming Counties
- June 30, 2008 membership
 - 11,114 Subordinate members, including 416 Associate members and 1,469 Lifetime members, in 269 Subordinate Granges
 - 302 Junior Members
- Grange Foundation – Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund was established to enable more children to attend Junior and Youth Camps. The fund amounted to \$15,543.50.
- A resolution was passed beginning January 1, 2009 that each state be assessed \$1.00/member each year and create a dedicated fund for the National Grange Convention beginning in 2012. Each state to determine method used to meet assessment.
- A resolution was passed that would require any Lifetime Member in a closed Grange must join another Subordinate Grange or lose their status and forfeit the fee paid.

LEGISLATION

- Alternate Energy Investment Act authorized funding for residential customers and small business loans, grants, reimbursements and rebates to support energy conservation and weatherization projects that could reduce energy bills.
- Act 3 amended the Right-to-Know Law and now allows public access to government records including financial records of salaries, state contracts and business expenditures for all branches of government with minimal restrictions.
- Smoke Free PA Act prohibited smoking in public places with exceptions for private residences, certain residential facilities, private clubs under restricted condition, 25% of gaming floor and other restricted venues.

- Act 60 protected citizens who are eligible for PACE and PACENET support from being disqualified because their income standards exceeded the qualifying threshold due strictly to a cost of living increase in Social Security.
- Sponsored informational meeting at Hooper's Equipment to educate state and federal government officials about precision agriculture. Precision agriculture is an information management, decision making tool that farmers can use to reduce input costs while increasing yields to make farms environmentally friendly and efficient.
- The Grange supports the use of an independent body for redistricting for state and federal voting districts.
- The delegates approved a resolution asking that legislation be enacted to establish a licensing and bonding process for home repair and/or remodeling contractors.

LECTURERS

- Fifth Annual Family Festival held at Centre County Grange Fairgrounds with 200 in attendance
- Mid-Atlantic Lecturers Conference held in Winchester, VA hosted by VA and TN
- Community Night Programs
 - Under 90 members – 1st – Allegheny #1843, Lycoming County
 - Over 90 members – 1st – Virginville #1832, Berks County
- Best of Show Talent – Instrumental – Kelly, Kurtis and Ben Rohrback and Dennis Bausher, Fleetwood Grange #1839, Berks County

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Subordinate Reports – Under 75 Members
 - 1st – Kennett #19, Chester County
 - 2nd – Sugar Hill #1969, Jefferson County
 - 3rd – Harveys #1444, Greene County
- Subordinate Reports - Over 75 Members
 - 1st – Middletown #684, Bucks County
 - 2nd – Logan #109, Centre County
 - 3rd – Hayfield #800 Crawford County and Schnecksville #1684, Lehigh County
- Pomona Reports
 - 1st – Montour-Northumberland-Union #31
 - 2nd – Berks #43
 - 3rd – Bucks #22

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- Delivered 171 ABC quilts for children at Family Festival
- Subordinate Family Activities Director of Year – Helen Coughanour, Rostraver #919, Westmoreland County
- Pomona Family Activities Director of Year – Laura Wike, Berks County

JUNIORS

- Junior Camp held at Camp Sylvan Hills Christian Camp with 61 campers, eight staff, 12 counselors, and 15 helpers in attendance.
- In honor of Jonathan Sattazahn, Brittany Heltzell did her Senior Project as a memorial to Jonathan and raised enough money to take the Juniors bowling and to the Penn State University Creamery.
- 2008-09 Junior Prince – Bobby Wike, Berks County; Junior Princess – Ashley Mohn, Berks County

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- Youth-Young Adult weekend held in State College
- Youth Camp held in conjunction with the Family Festival
- 2008-09 Ambassadors – Braden Gourley, Beaver County and Brittany Heltzell, Allegheny County.
- Youth sold chances on Longaberger Picnic Basket filled with items and raised \$240.00. The money was given to the Deaf & Community Service Committee for Operation Shoebox.
- 2008-09 National Youth Ambassador Gail Switzer, Berks County

2009 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 161 Subordinate Delegates from 77 Subordinate Granges, 61 Pomona Delegates from 40 Pomona Granges
- Sixth Degree conferred on 28 candidates
- Top Recruiter of the Year Karl Altenheim, Odin #1254, Potter County, obtained nine new members
- Granger of the Year Margaret Storm, Pleasant Hill #1861, Cambria County
- Grange Family of the Year Elizabeth Anstadt Family, Lycoming County
- Family Activities Department presented a check for \$1,108, the proceeds of the quilt raffle, to Johnstown Injury Center for Vets
- Baskets, donated by State Officers, raised \$1,080 for the Grange Foundation.
- Two Family Picnics held at Knoebels and DelGrosso Parks
- State Grange Office moved from the third floor to the second floor at Erford Road, Lemoyne at the request of the landlord
- Summer Intern Myken Poorman conducted a random survey of membership
- Membership as of June 30, 2009
 - 10,421 Subordinate members, including 343 Associate members and 1,500 Lifetime members in 259 Subordinate Granges
- PA Grange Heritage Quilt Trail established to celebrate and promote the culture, heritage and visibility of the PA State Grange by placing quilt blocks on Grange halls and other suitable buildings throughout the state.
- Delegate action raised the Annual Session registration fee to \$15.00 effective with the 2010 Session
- The delegates approved a resolution asking that the National Grange amend the Digest of Laws to allow for the printing and/or production of visuals for ritual instruction.
- The membership dues were raised to \$8.75 per quarter due to an increase in National Grange dues.

LEGISLATION

- Legislative Grassroots Training held for Grange members by Versant Strategies
- The delegates voted to oppose any effort to empower or allow the EPA to levy any fines, fees, or other monetary pressure based on methane emissions by livestock.
- The Grange supports state and federal legislation allowing the humane slaughter of horses.
- The delegates asked for a federal law mandating the use of an Identification Number other than an individual's Social Security Number.
- The Governmental Issues Committee addressed the problems with uniform lease and royalty payments in the Marcellus Shale drilling industry.

- The Grange will oppose any legislation to impose extra taxation by the Commonwealth when the State Police must take over law enforcement for a municipality without a local police force.

LECTURERS

- Sixth Family Festival held with 215 in attendance
- Community Night Reports
 - Under 90 members – Frankfort Springs #1989, Beaver County
 - Over 90 members – Virginville #1832, Berks County

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Subordinate Reports - Under 75 members
 - 1st – Kennett #19, Chester County
 - 2nd – Scrubgrass #1705, Venango County
 - 3rd – Allegheny #1843, Lycoming County
 - 4th – Pleasant Hill #1861, Cambria County
- Subordinate Reports - Over 75 members
 - 1st – Perry Valley #1804, Perry County
 - 2nd – Valley #1360, York County
 - 3rd – Hayfield #800, Crawford County
 - 4th – Big Knob #2008, Beaver County
- Pomona Reports
 - 1st – Bucks #22
 - 2nd – Perry #69
 - 3rd – Lehigh-Northampton #68
 - 4th – Montour-Northumberland-Union #31

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- October 2009 the Executive Committee approved the publication of a new cookbook.
- Quilt raffled with proceeds of \$1,288 to be donated to the Johnstown Brain/Injury Center for Veterans who have suffered some extent of brain trauma during service to our country.
- Pomona Director of the Year – Virginia Mangel, Butler County #17
- Subordinate Director of the Year – Caroline Reilly, Scotch Valley #510. Blair County

JUNIORS

- Junior Camp held at Sylvan Hills Christian Camp with 43 campers in attendance
- PA Junior Grange Supporter of the Year Willie Schlemmer, Lawrence County
- 2009-10 Junior Prince – Zechariah Houser, Centre County and Princess Jennifer Reed, Susquehanna County
- National Super JG Awards – Brittany Haag and Ashley Mohn, Berks County
- Eastern Youth Regional Junior Public Speaking Contest – 13-14 age division – Ashley Mohn, first place and Lindsey Schroeder, second place, both of Berks County
- Lawrence County Junior Grange #547 chartered in July 2009

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- Gail Switzer, Berks County, participated as a Horizon Leadership ambassador and won the honor of serving as Youth Mentor at the 2009 National Convention.
- March 2009 Grange Youth Retreat replaced Youth Camp for the year and held at Camp Hebron, Halifax, PA. Sixteen youth attended.
- 2009-10 Youth Ambassadors Jennifer Nauss and Michael Snyder, York County
- Young Marrieds Weekend held at Family Festival.
- 2009-10 Young Couple Dustin and Julie Kunkle, Berks County

NATIONAL

- Master Huber re-elected to Executive Committee and as Chairman
- Grange Trademark – companies applied for permission to use the name Grange on their products.

2010 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE ORDER

- Credentials Committee reported 160 Subordinate Delegates from 91 Subordinate Granges, 58 Pomona Delegates from 32 Pomona Granges
- Sixth Degree conferred on 30 candidates
- Family Activities Director presented a check for \$950.00 to the American Heart Association from the quilt raffle.
- Top Recruiter of the Year Paul Miller, Virginville #1832, Berks County
- Granger of the Year Paul Miller, Virginville #1832, Berks County
- Grange Family of the Year Samuel Reyburn Family, Russellville #91, Chester County
- State Officers basket auction raised \$2,610.25 for the Grange Foundation.
- Additional collection taken for the American Heart Association raised \$196.00 making the total \$1,145.00.
- PA, DE, NJ sponsored a Grange Growth Summit near Wilmington, DE. Thirty-five members from four states attended.
- Grange Family Picnics held at Conneaut Lake, Knoebel's Amusement Resort and Williams Grove Steam Show.
- Membership as of June 30, 2010
 - 9,713 Subordinate Members, including 188 Associate members and 1,506 Lifetime Members in 254 Subordinate Granges
- Chartered Susquehanna Community #2106, Clearfield County and Madison #2109, Columbia County
- February 10th all Board members of the Grange Service Corporation resigned, except the Master, as they were unable to make the January payment to Geisinger Health Plan.
- Executive Committee decided to continue the Granger of the Year and Grange Family of the Year for one more year. National Grange discontinued the recognition for lack of participation. The program will be reevaluated after the 2010 Session.
- There were 24 Subordinate and Pomona Granges participating in the Grange Heritage Quilt Trail.
- Good of the Order Committee – resolution adopted to eliminate the annual password and the annual dues card and lifetime membership cards to be used as the official proof of membership.
- A resolution was approved to amend the By Laws to allow alcoholic beverages in Grange halls and on Grange property under certain conditions in non-Grange meeting situations

LEGISLATION

- “Pie Day” held May 4th in the Capitol Lobby to support Senator Vogel’s bill to allow non-profit organizations, like the Grange, to sell home-baked goods at their functions if labeled as not being prepared in a state inspected kitchen. Approved and signed by the Governor.
- Increased fines and penalties for violations of the Game and Fisheries law including assault of an enforcement officer and circumstances resulting in revocation of hunting license.
- The delegates again addressed the possible implementation of a severance tax on gas and asked that at least 30% of any severance tax be returned to the local municipality where drilling occurs.
- A resolution was approved that would oppose any effort to restrict the tethering of dogs outside.

LECTURERS

- Family Festival held with an excess of 200 in attendance

DEAF & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Subordinate Reports - Under 75 members
 - 1st – Liberty #1780, Lawrence County
 - 2nd – Shermanata #1796, Perry County
 - 3rd – Laurel Point #915, Armstrong County
 - Honorable Mention – Kennett #19, Chester County
- Subordinate Reports - Over 75 members
 - 1st – Big Knob #2008, Beaver County
 - 2nd – Valley #1360, York County
 - 3rd – Fort Granville #1902, Mifflin County
 - Honorable Mention – Walker #786, Juniata County
- Pomona Reports
 - 1st – Jefferson/Clarion #20
 - 2nd – Perry #69
 - 3rd – Montour-Northumberland-Union #31
 - Honorable Mention – Lehigh-Northampton #68

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- Published 2010 Cookbook
- Quilt raffle benefit American Heart Association raised \$1,150
- Over 600 Christmas ornaments made for PA Christmas tree at National Grange in NC
- Subordinate Director of the Year Helen Sweeley, Penns Valley #158, Centre County
- Pomona Director of the Year Karen Harvey, Lawrence Pomona #65

JUNIORS

- Six National Super JG Awards presented – Jechariah Houser, Centre County, Benjamin Wadsworth, Chester County, Lindsey Schroeder, Michelle, Ian and Meredith Lengel, Berks County.
- Junior Camp attended by 31 campers
- Perry Valley #1804, Perry County presented a Wii game system, new Prince and Princess sashes, and Princess tiara in memory of Lesta Schreiber.
- 2010 PA State Junior Grange Supporter of the Year Betsy Huber, Chester County
- 2010-11 Junior Prince Daniel Pratt, Venango County and Princess Jenna Sattazahn, Berks County
- Russellville Junior Grange, Chester County organized.
- Lock-in with Youth-Young Adults held at Logan Grange, Center County for 12-19-year olds

YOUTH-YOUNG ADULTS

- Twenty-four attended Youth Camp and Young Marrieds
- 2010-11 Ambassadors Patrick Wadsworth, Chester County and Jennifer Adams, Berks County
- 2010-11 Young Couple Derek and Barb Schroeder, Berks County

NATIONAL

- Anstadt-Downey Family, Lycoming County and Strittmatter Family, Cambria County recognized as Grange Families of the Year.
- National Grange sponsored Pomona Summit held in September at London Grange, Mercer County with seven in attendance from PA.