



# Eagle Grange #1

Route 15 & East Blind Road, Montgomery, PA 17752

August 2024



Coming up August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.



## Honey of a Program

Lewisburg commercial beekeeper David Hackenberg will discuss “Bees, Pollination & Honey Production” at our next Grange meeting. The program will include an educational audiovisual presentation, a glass-encased live beehive and a display of honey related products.

Hackenberg Apiaries specializes in bee pollination, trucking, honey production and education in the beekeeping industry. Dave’s life’s work has grown to run beehives in in six states - Florida, California, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Maine and New York – pollinating crops worth millions of dollars. Mr. Hackenberg witnessed the first case of what would eventually become known as Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) in November 2006 and reported it publicly in February 2007. Since then, he has been featured in two documentaries about CCD and has represented the beekeeping industry in front of Congress on issues concerning pesticides. He received the American Beekeeping Federation President’s Award in 2008 for bringing the plight of the honeybee to light.

## August 9<sup>th</sup> – Picnic Guests of Perry Valley

Again this summer Eagle Grange has been invited to a picnic hosted by our friends at Perry Valley Grange. The location in Port Trevorton, PA is about halfway between our two Granges. We’ll eat at 6 p.m., enjoy fellowship and games and Eagle will b receive a \$6,000 donation from Perry Valley to help fund our siding project. If you didn’t sign up to attend the picnic at our last meeting, you’ll have one more chance to make a reservation at our Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Location:** Bolton Family River Lot, 9 Shady Lane, Port Trevorton, on the banks of the Susquehanna River (about 35 miles from Eagle Grange Hall)

**Directions** - Follow Routes 11-15 south through Shamokin Dam-Selinsgrove area. South of Port Trevorton, look for Weaver’s Market & Bakery on the right in the village of McKees Half Falls. Approximately one mile south of Weaver’s, look for blue signs along the highway for **MAHANTANGO BOAT ACCESS AREA** and bear right onto the jug handle road that allows you to go north back toward Selinsgrove. From the jug handle, go straight across the highway onto Shady Lane. Do not follow the paved road that turns left to the boat access area but instead go straight down the unpaved Shady Lane toward the river. Travel a couple hundred years and at the “T” make a left turn; the picnic will be held at the second lot/cottage on the right. There is plenty of parking behind the cottage. If you get lost, call Doug’s cell phone at 717-460-0723.

### Please bring:

- Something to share for the meal (casserole, salad or dessert); *meat, beverage, table cover and place settings provided by our hosts*
- a prize, wrapped or unwrapped, for bingo gifts and door prizes

# Eagle's 1<sup>st</sup> Place Exhibit @ Lycoming Fair



This year's theme determined by the Department of Agriculture - *Flourishing with Opportinites & Rooted in Agricultrue* - was illustrated on Eagle's display by showing the Grange's key principles, taught with the symbolism of agricultural tools, as the "roots" of the organization. The leaves of the tree illustrated the Grange's leadership, advocacy, community service and education initiatives.



Variations of this exhibit, dependent on the space size at each location, will also be on display at the Montour-Delong, Perry County, Juniata County and Bloomsburg Fairs. The purpose of our Grange placing exhibits at local fairs each summer/fall is to both educate the public on agricultural issues and also to strengthen the presence of the Grange in our communities.

The premiums earned are usually donated to some cause or special project.

Working on this year's exhibit were (left to right): Phil Vonada, Jenn Nauss, Patty Peterman, and Doug Bonsall.

# Grange Calendar

**August 6** – Eagle Grange meeting – 6:30 p.m.  
Program – “*Bees, Pollination & Honey Production*”  
by Beekeeper Dave Hackenberg of Lewisburg

- Election of officers for 2025-2026
- Host – Phil Vonada

**August 12** – Exhibit set-up at Perry County Fair

**August 18** – Remove exhibit at Perry County Fair

**August 30** – Exhibit set-up at Juniata County Fair

**Sept. 3** – **Eagle Grange Outing** at Four Friends Winery, 528 Cemetery Hill Rd., Montgomery

- Tour of grape harvest & wine making processes
- Packing of Birthday Cake Kits
- Speaker on Domestic Violence
- Host – Tammy Rupert

**Sept. 8** – Remove exhibit at Juniata County Fair

**Sept. 12** – (tentative) bag lunch catering project

**Sept. 15** – Eagle hosts Eger/Porter grave marker dedication with supper & video showing to follow

**Sept. 18** – Exhibit set-up at Bloomsburg Fair

**Sept. 27** – Work day for takeout dinner – 10 a.m.

**Sept. 28** – Takeout chicken breast dinner – see Page 5 for details; help needed starting @ 10 a.m.

**Sept. 29** – Remove exhibit at Bloomsburg Fair

**This sign greeted the 40 or so persons who attended Eagle’s annual picnic on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Warrior Run Church near Watsonstown.**



This historical site and the nearby Fort Freeland played a part in the American Revolutionary War. We apparently had such a good time setting up the food buffet, enjoying the food, delighting in the fellowship and learning from the guided tour that everyone forgot about taking more pictures. Another good reason to attend Grange events in person!

## Upcoming Service Project

Domestic violence and service to its victims is one of the projects that Granges are being urged to do this year. Eagle is collecting items to pack Birthday Cake Kits to donate to the Family Promise Shelter of Lycoming County located in Williamsport.



**Each Birthday Cake Kit includes the following:**

- Yellow cake mix, any brand
- Can of lemon-lime sodae (e.g. Sprite)
- Can of icing, any flavor
- Small pack of cake candles
- Disposable cake pan with plastic lid
- Blank birthday card suitable for any age

The point of the kit is to provide women and children, possibly living in the shelter or in temporary housing due to domestic violence, the opportunity to celebrate family birthdays with a homemade cake which can be easily baked in a toaster oven. The soda enables the cake to be made without adding eggs or oil.

We are asking for donations of any of the above listed items to be brought to the Grange Hall prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>. A Thrivent Action Team grant will help purchase some supplies but we need time to determine what additional amount of each item are needed before the kits are packed at our Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Ms. Jenny Milburn, Executive Director of Family Promise, will be with us on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> to accept the kits and explain the work of the shelter.**

# Roof Painting, Siding & Landscaping Projects

**By the time this newsletter reaches your inbox or mailbox, the painting of the Grange Hall roof may be underway.** By vote of the Grange on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, a painting contract for \$3,200 from Fisher Roofing was approved. This is the same contractor that painted the roof 12-14 years ago. We are thankful the inspection found the roof to be in generally good condition so replacement was not needed at this time.

The next step in this year's big improvement project will be the installation of insulation and vinyl siding on the exterior of the hall. Amos King expects to start this work in early September; the project could take up to two weeks to complete.

The final part of these exterior improvements will be the replacement of the shrubbery around the perimeter of the hall. The landscaping will be designed and planted by students from the Penn College of Technology Earth Science Center just across Route 15 from the hall; Grange members had a tour there in the spring of 2023. The Montgomery FFA Chapter has stepped forward to remove the old bushes when the planting is ready to begin, which could be as early as this fall but might not be until next spring.

The Grange is responsible for the cost of the plant materials purchased from local nurseries. Individuals, families and business may support the landscaping by sponsoring plant materials. This can be done in memory of/in honor of a loved one or to note special events (birthday, anniversary, etc.). There are three different levels of sponsorship; the first priority will be shrubbery but some trees (as previously discussed/approved) and perennials could also be planted if sufficient gifts are received.

**Sponsor a Bush (or two) @ Eagle Grange**

Name of Sponsor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Sponsor - Perennial Level

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35 Sponsor - Shrub Level

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Sponsor - Tree Level

Given In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **Eagle Grange #1**  
and give/send to **Secretary Jenn Nauss, 10 W. Schoolside Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

Two of Eagle's charter members will receive a well deserved honor when their graves are marked with permanent bronze markers during a ceremony at Mount Zion Maple Hill Cemetery on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.

*The markers are being provided by the PA State Grange for a total of five persons, all of whom are being honored for their historical Grange service.*



**Luke Eger**, who farmed near the base of Bald Eagle Mountain just outside Montgomery, is credited with bringing the Grange to Pennsylvania after reading about the fledgling organization in a national agriculture publication. Doing so inspired him to contact Grange founder Oliver Hudson Kelley in Washington, DC and the rest is history – Eagle Grange #1 was organized on March 4, 1871, the first in all of Pennsylvania. Brother Eger was Eagle's first Master.

Eger's brother-in-law **Francis "Frank" Porter** initially joined the Grange just "to keep peace in the family" but soon became one of its most enthusiastic leaders. A local businessman elected to the State Legislature in 1879, Porter was the first Overseer (vice president) of the State Grange when it was organized in 1873 and was responsible for organizing 41 Granges all over northcentral Pennsylvania between 1873 and 1907.



Representatives from the six still active Granges organized by Porter, along with other Grange officials, will conduct a dedication service at 3:30 p.m., rain or shine, at the cemetery, followed immediately by a light supper served in the Eagle Grange Hall. Following the meal, the documentary film of the State Grange 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary pageant presented last October will be shown. Jenn and Anna May Nauss were responsible for creating this outstanding audiovisual review of the history of the Pennsylvania State Grange.

If you plan to attend the meal, there will be an opportunity to sign-up at the next Grange meeting. We will need a few volunteers to help prepare the food and will probably do this on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with a bag lunch catering job offered to the Grange as a fund raiser.

If all goes as planned, we will be having a work day in early August to husk, cut and freeze sweet corn for our take-out dinners. Since we don't know exactly when the corn being donated to the Grange will be ready, we probably won't know the specific date until a few days beforehand - so expect a phone call.

# Stuffed Chicken Breast Take-Out Dinner

**Sat., Sept. 28, 2024**

*Sponsored by Eagle Grange #1*

Stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, Oriental slaw, pickled beets, roll & butter, apple crisp

*Suggested Donation - \$13*



**Advance reservations suggested\***

Contact Daisy Styer @ 570-546-5861 by 9/23

*\*Limited # of meals available without reservations*

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

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

**Next Take-Out Dinner**

*Roast turkey & all the trimmings – Nov. 2, 2024*

# Eagle Grange #1

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



## August 2024 Newsletter

### State Grange to Dedicate Eger/Porter Grave Markers *Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> – 3:30 p.m.*



The Maple Hill Mount Zion Cemetery, 37 Ridge Road, Montgomery, is located about two miles from the Eagle Grange Hall “as the crow flies” – 2.8 miles by road.

Grave of Luke Eger,  
Brought Grange to state  
in 1871 with Founding of  
Eagle Grange



Gravestone for Francis  
“Frank” Porter, 1<sup>st</sup>  
Overseer of PA State  
Grange; organized 41  
Granges in state



See Page 4 for a look at the legacy left to us by Luke Eger & Frank Porter.