Pennsylvania Grange News

April/May 2016

Planning for State & National Sessions

Pennsylvania Grange News
20 Erford Road, Suite 216
Lemoyne, PA 17043
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www.pagrange.org

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A portion of members' dues is paid as a subscription.
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Cover Photo Credit:
Denae Zvarick
Keystone Grange #2
Montgomery County

Benefits of Being a Granger

The Pennsylvania State Grange and the National Grange offer numerous benefits and savings programs to their members. For details on this benefit and others, visit the Member section of the National Grange website, www.nationalgrange.org.

The National Grange offers ***SureBridge*** supplemental insurance plans to help you navigate life's twists with cash benefits to cover unexpected expenses that occur when you are sick, injured or disabled. The money can be used for anything you choose; out-of-pocket medical expenses and deductibles, to help offset a loss of income, or help with everyday living expenses such as rent, mortgage, car payment or groceries. It's your money, your decision.

Dental Insurance	$16.00/child, $19.00/adult
Vision Insurance	$9.00/individual, $25.00/family
Gap Medical Insurance	$7.50/individual

(Used to pay the high deductibles and out-of-pocket maximum)

For more information and a FREE quote, call toll free 855-533-1776 or email maryann@nationalaffinity.net.

Free CVS RxCard-Discount Prescriptions

Your health is important and you can feel better when you take your medicines as prescribed by your doctor. The FREE RxSavingsPlusSM prescription discount card program can be used anytime a medication is not covered by insurance, you can even use it for your entire family and pets. Vist the Nataional Grange Member section to print your card today.

Deadline

Items for the June/July Issue are due by May 18. Send to publicrelations@pagrange.org.

From the President's Desk

Elizabeth Downey
PA State Grange President
president@pagrange.org

I feel that I've been living at the Capitol for the past few weeks supporting programs that are vital to every one of us including: PSU Ag Research, 4-H, Cooperative Extension, the Center for Beef Excellence. Current state budget issues would also eliminate 12 rural hospitals throughout the state and hold up funding for schools, townships and vital human service programs. It boggles the mind that elected officials can't sit down and work this out. My article is short to give space to the extensive legislative report in this issue. NEVER hesitate to call any legislator or the Governor and voice your thoughts.

I urge all of you to participate in the PSU Trustee election process. Call your Extension office to learn the date of your local caucus and GO. Volunteer to be a representative of your county at the election on May 5 to support the candidacy of two excellent individuals. The PA State Grange Executive Committee has endorsed two Grangers in their candidacy for PSU Ag Trustee.

Lynn Dietrich, of Chambersburg PA, is currently employed by Manitowoc Crane as director of engineering. He graduated from Penn State University in 1973 with a degree in Agricultural Engineering. In addition to his membership in Cumberland Valley Grange #2104, Lynn is a member of the Penn State Alumni Association and American Farm Bureau.

Abe Harpster, from Spruce Creek PA, is a partner with Evergreen Farms — Pennsylvania's largest dairy operation. He is a 1994 Graduate of Penn State with a degree in Agriculture Business. His ties to the University remain strong; he hosts tours and student classes on Evergreen Farms, offers summer internships and currently serves as a Trustee. Abe is a member of numerous Ag organizations and of Baileyville Grange #1991 in Centre County.

I hope to see many of you at the elections!

150th Annual National Grange Convention

Power of the Past, Force of the Future

Washington, DC | November 15-19, 2016

We Need YOU!

Be part of the Power of the Past and Force of the Future, join us at National Grange in Washington DC.

We need volunteers for the following:

6th Degree
(officers, drill ladies, set-up/clean-up)
On-Site Registration
Hospitality Room
On-site Office Support
Youth & Junior Support

To learn more about this great opportunity, contact one of the PA Co-Chairs!
Christie Straub - bagge28@yahoo.com
724-699-9190
Kimberly Myer - kac5187@yahoo.com

Junior Grange Camp

July 3 - 9, 2016

It's time to register for Junior Grange Camp!

Camper Fee: $130

(reflects $30 credit from Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund)

Visit www.pagrange.org to register online or print an application.

Registration Deadline is JUNE 5, 2015

Familly Festival Schedule

July 14-17, 2016

Deadline: June 10

Thursday, July 14

1:00-5:30	Registration
5:30-6:30	Dinner
7:00-?	Registration
7:00	Welcome
7:15	Workshop
8:30	Evening Activities
	Bingo
	Quilt Block Painting
	Vespers
11:00	Lights Out

Friday, July 15

7:00-7:30	Registration
7:30-8:30	Breakfast
9:00-11:30	Tour-Hummingbird Farm
11:30-12:00	Registration
12:00-1:00	Lunch
2:00-3:00	Workshop - CPR
	Quilt Block Painting
3:00-5:00	**Junior/Youth** games & crafts
3:15-4:15	Craft Workshop Tissue Box Cover
4:00-5:15	Registration

Friday, July 15 (cont.)

5:30-7:30	Dinner Hosted by FA & Youth Departments
7:30	Tent/Camper Judging
8:00	Evening Activities
	Movie Night
	Cake Walk - benefits Ronald McDonald House
	Ice Cream & Popcorn
	Vespers
11:00	Lights Out

Saturday, July 16

7:00-7:30	Registration
7:30-8:30	Breakfast
8:30	Group Photo
9:00-10:00	Junior Meetings
9:00-10:30	Quilt Block Painting
10:00-11:30	Blessing of Wraps
	Gift of Life presentation
	Bike/Hike-a-Thon Benefit Gift of Life
11:00-11:30	Registration
11:30-12:30	Lunch

Saturday, July 16 (cont.)

12:30	**Youth** Depart for Activity
1:15-2:15	Workshop Parlimentary Procedure
2:30-3:30	Craft Workshop Wooden Stools
4:00-5:00	Workshop Landscaping 101
5:30-6:30	Dinner
7:30	Evening Activities
	Talent Contest
	Introduction of Royalty
	Cake Walk - benefits Ronald McDonald House
	Vespers
11:00	Lights Out

Sunday, July 17

7:30-8:30	Breakfast
9:00-10:00	Worship Service-Chaplain

YOU CAN REGISTER ONLINE at WWW.PAGRANGE.ORG

Family Festival · July 14-17, 2016

Registration Form

Deadline: June 10

Please Print Clearly
One Person per Form

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Grange: _____

County: _____

___ **Tent** ($15 per night/tent, NOT per person)

Tentmates: _____

_____

___ **RV/Camper** ($15 per night/space, NOT per person)

RV/Camper-mates: _____

_____

Length: ____ ft. Trailer or Motor Home (circle)

____ Dump prior to leaving (Fee $15)

Day of Arrival:

Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

____ **Hotel** - Please make your own reservation
Quality Inn - State College
1274 N. Atherton Street
State College PA
Phone: 814-234-1600
Group Rate: $85/night

Please check crafts you would like to complete:

____ Wooden Quilt Block	$35	_____
____ Tissue Box Cover	$5	_____
____ Wooden Stool	$10	_____

MEALS (please check desired meals)
Kids: less than 3: Free, age 3-10: half price

____ ALL Meals	$46.50	_____
____ Thursday dinner	$7.00	_____
____ Friday Breakfast	$4.50	_____
____ Friday Lunch	$5.50	_____
____ Friday Dinner	$5.00	_____
____ Saturday Breakfast	$4.50	_____
____ Saturday Lunch	$5.50	_____
____ Saturday Dinner	$10.00	_____
____ Sunday Breakfast	$4.50	_____

Tent/RV/Camper Fee	____x $15	_____
RV Dumping Fee	$15.00	_____
Registration Fee		$5.00
TOTAL		_____

T-shirt size:
Child S M L XL
Adult S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL

Make Check Payable to: PA State Grange
Send Registration & Payment to:
PA State Grange
Attn: Family Festival
20 Erford Road, Suite 216
Lemoyne PA 17043

Deadline: June 10

5 Questions to Ask if You Keep Guns in Your Home

There are an estimated 300 million firearms in U.S. homes. And, with a lot of guns comes the potential for a lot of gun-related accidents. So, ask yourself these questions to help prevent your household in Pennsylvania from experiencing one.

1. How secure are my guns? Nobody—especially kids—hould be able to access your firearms without your permission or knowledge. Keep them in a gun safe or locked cabinet, and consider a gun-locking device as a second layer of security.
2. Are my firearms loaded? Whenever they aren't in use, keep guns unloaded. And, every time you access a gun, check again that it isn't loaded.
3. Where's the ammo? Keeping ammunition separate from firearms, in a locked location, is yet another layer of security.
4. How much does my family know? Everyone should be aware that you keep guns in your house. And, remind kids regularly not to touch any firearms, anywhere — even if they find one in someone else's home.
5. What does my insurance cover? Homeowner's policies may cover accidental and negligent acts, but typically not intentional ones, which means you might not have liability protection even if you take action in self-defense.

We can advise you on whether an umbrella policy is appropriate and also make sure all of your guns are covered. Many policies have limits on property coverage for firearms. Give us a call to learn more.

Keeping firearms in your home is a personal choice. And, if it's one you make, be sure you do so safely. Because we here at Gunn-Mowery, LLC care about your family and our community, and we know you do, too.

For more information and to receive a no-obligation quote for your Grange or personal insurance, call Linda Willis or Dave Schlosberg at (800) 840-1243.

The Degree of Pomona

York-Adams Pomona Grange will be conferring the 5th Degree on Saturday, September 10 at 10:00 AM at Valley Grange Hall.
(1230 Rosestown Rd, Lewisberry PA)
All are welcome, please contact Jenn Nauss (717-697-5104 or jnauss89@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

PA STATE GRANGE SCHOLARSHIPS

ALL Applications
MUST be postmarked by May 1, 2016.

For a complete list of scholarships and the application visit www.pagrange.org or call the State Grange office, 800-552-3865.

Welcome New Grange Members

Big Knob #2008, Beaver Co.
Evan Alland
John Dean
Chris Larrick
Mandy Larrick
Ron Leindecker
Linda Mitchell
Erike Mueller
Jason Mueller
Fritz Retsch

Gouglersville #1743, Berks Co.
Rose Ward

Logan #109
David Packer
Helen Packer
Sally Ripka

Middletown #684, Bucks Co.
Tori Mier

North Woodbury #1923, Blair Co.
Brenda Warner

Plumsteadville #1738, Bucks Co.
Missy Barnhart

Red Lion #1781, York Co.
Clementine Candelario
Mitchell Grove
George Stein

Tuscarora #774, Juniata Co.
Mark Mortimer
Mary Lou Mortimer
Bobby Jo Reed
Donald Reed, Jr.
Terrance Shepler

Union #325, Centre Co.
Mike Bodle
Teresa Bodle
Jeffery Thomas
Jill Thomas

Valley #1360, York Co.
Ken Deitch
Pat Deitch

Victor #159, Centre Co.
Mark Higgins
Lanny McCoy

"As we enclose you within a circle of friendship, so does the Grange pledge to you pure friendship, enduring through life."
- From the New Member Welcoming Ceremony

DO YOU NEED VISION INSURANCE

The open enrollment period for Vision Insurance through the State Grange is June 1 - June 30 each year. If you wish to change the insurance plan you currently have or you would like to apply for insurance, it must be submitted in writing using an Enrollment Change Form. The form is available on our website or by contacting the State Grange office. Please call Sandy Herman, 800-552-3865, if you have questions or need additional information. Change forms must be postmarked by June 30, 2016.

Plan Your Summer FAMILY FUN!

PA/NY Family Picnic
June 18, 11 AM
Details on back page.

PA State Grange Family Festival
July 14 - 17, Centre Hall, PA
Registration Form - pg 5

Annual Family Picnics
August 7, 12 PM
DelGross's Amusement Park

August 20, 12 PM
Knoebel's Amusement Park

No need to RSVP to the Family Picnics, just bring place setting and acovered dish to share!

Grangers Helping Others

Centre County

Cuddle, enfold, embrace, hug are words that describe acts of comfort and reassurance that accurately represent the "Wrapped In Hugs" project. Recently, Ruth Vonda, State Director of Deaf and Community Services and member of Centre County Pomona Grange #13, challenged Centre County Grangers to knit or crochet 50 wraps to be contributed to the Gift of Life Donor Program. The wraps honor the individuals that unselfishly provided the gift of life to those in need. Ruth Vonda reported the families' reaction to the presentation of the wraps, "The recipients are deeply moved by the symbolism and beauty of the wraps when they are placed around their shoulders." The wrap symbolizes a hug of compassion, support and gratitude. The wraps will be presented at Family Festival in July.

Pictured left: Melanie Melius, Baileyville Grange #1991, has committed to making at least 10 Wrapped In Hugs wraps.

GIFT of LIFE DONOR PROGRAM
THE REGION'S ORGAN & TISSUE TRANSPLANT NETWORK

Wrapped In Hugs

Each year Gift of Life Donor Program celebrates those who made the decision to Give the Gift of Life at a Donor Recognition Ceremony. As part of the ceremony, donor families are presented with a hand-knitted or crocheted wrap to honor their loved one. Donor Families are deeply moved by the symbolism and the beauty of the wraps. Placing a one of a kind, warm wrap around someone's shoulders is a hug of compassion, support and gratitude.

Specifications

* Use any pattern you like
* Use machine washable, non-irritant yarn (i.e. cotton or poly-blend)
* Approximate size should be 30" x 60"
* Any color or mixture of color
* No tassles or fringe

We will be collecting wraps now through July 2016. Send completed wraps to Martha Ebersole, 640 Dellville Rd. Duncannon PA 17020. Or bring them to Family Festival!

ORGAN DONATION
A GIFT FOR LIFE

Member Recognition

Hayfield #800

Seated: Charlotte Henretty, 70 years; Standing left to right: Daniel Swift, 50 years and Sally Stanford, 5 years. Also recognized, not pictured: Millard Clark, 75 years and Barbara DiLucia, 20 years.

Just a friendly reminder...

It's not too early to send in your nominations for Granger and Grange Family of the Year! This is a great way to recognize and honor Grangers doing great things for your Grange and Community! Applications are available on the PA State Grange website or by contacting the State Grange office at pagrange@pagrange.org. ALL applications MUST be POSTMARKED by September 1.

Logan #109

Granger of the Year — Kris McCluskey (3rd from left) with committee members (l-r) Jack Bell, Vickie Confer and Martha Yarnell.

Dottie Houtz (left) 60 years, presented by Secretary, Kris McCluskey

Members recognized for years of service. Front row (l-r): Linda Clapper 45 years, Nancy Gentzel Burris 30 years, Lena Yarnell 75 years, Lynn Corl 75 years. Back row (l-r) Secretary Kris Mccluskey, Jim Mcclellan 60 years, Kevin Rider 40 years, Jeffrey McCellan 40 years and Commissioner Dershem. Also recognized, not pictured: Victor Lutz 60 years, Howard and Shirley Grove 40 years, Ethel Musick 40 years, Carol and William Watson 40 years, Bonnie Harter 25 years, Rick Snyder 25 years and Marsha Tate 25 years.

It's time to register for

Y O U T H C A M P

Camper Fee: $50

(reflects $15 credit from Jonathan Sattazahn Memorial Fund)

1st time campers ONLY $25!

Visit www.pagrange.org to register online or print an application.

Registration Deadline is JUNE 10

National Grange Young Patron Contest

All youth (married and single) ages 21 to 35 are invited to compete for the Young Patrons contest. This is similar to the Youth Ambassador contest in that contestants will be given a knowledge test, answer an impromptu question and have an interview. The competition will take place at Family Festival and those interested in competing will need to register for and plan to arrive to Family Festival by 9 pm on Friday, July 15th. If you are interested in competing, please let Ellen Wadsworth, Youth Director, know by July 10th at youth@pagrange.org. All contest rules are located in the National Grange Youth Handbook which can be found on the PA State Grange website, www.pagrange.org.

Upcoming Youth Events

June 18	Youth Invasion – NY/PA State Grange Picnic, 11 am Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY
July 1 – 3	PA State Grange Youth Camp Camp Sylvan Hills, Howard, PA Theme: Grange Family Game Night
July 14 – 17	PA State Grange Family Festival Centre County Grange Fairgrounds Theme: Under the Sea
August 7	Youth Invasion – PA State Grange Family Picnic DelGrosso Amusement Park, Tipton, PA
August 20	Youth Invasion – PA State Grange Family Picnic Knoebles Amusement Park, Elysburg, PA
Oct. 21 – 23	PA State Grange Annual Convention Shippensburg, PA Watch *PA Grange News* for the application to serve as a Youth Officer
Nov. 15 - 19	150th National Grange Convention Washington, DC

Government Matters

Pennsylvania State Grange & the Ag Budget Battle

First and foremost, PA State Grange is beating the drum for adequate state spending on agriculture programs. This has two elements because the issue of funding involves two fiscal years of the PA State Budget. The new fiscal year which begins July 1, 2016 was the subject of hearings conducted by the legislature in February and March. All well and good but a huge hole must be plugged first, the state budget for the current fiscal year.

In late December 2015, Governor Tom Wolf cut out funding for Penn State's agricultural research and for the Extension program. The veto also removed funding for the Center for Dairy Excellence, Center for Beef Excellence, hardwoods development and marketing, the PDA line item for agricultural research, and many other programs benefiting rural areas such as rural hospitals, etc.

Putting things into perspective, that veto means no funding…nada…nein…zero!

Extension, for example, is barely limping along now because of other Penn State resources being diverted to save the program for right now. But Penn State says that it cannot justify raising tuition to continue support for these education programs (think 4-H) and that Extension employees will be laid off. In other words, this veto strikes to the heart of the land grant system and cripples Pennsylvania agriculture. By the same token, cutting off state support for the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine means an adverse impact on our future supply of vets.

On March 15, 2016, PA State Grange submitted testimony to members of the House and Senate Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committees at a joint hearing. The hearing simply posed the question 'What impact did the veto have on agriculture programs?'

Following are excerpts from the PA State Grange testimony:

PA State Grange asks that you look deeper at specific examples where the Budget Impasse has hit.

Consider:

- *A farmer needing advice on proper pesticide practices.*
- *A farmer trying to comply with the myriad of new Federal Food Safety Modernization Act requirements.*
- *A farmer wanting to implement Chesapeake Bay-friendly and EPA-compliant farming practices*

Where does this assistance to farmers come from? The Penn State agriculture research and Extension line items that were vetoed in December. These line item vetoes have huge environmental and biosecurity consequences.

A stated priority right now is developing career paths that lead to numerous professions that support Pennsylvania Agriculture. PA needs agricultural scientists and veterinarians just as it needs to encourage young people to develop a general interest in agriculture. Consumer education on where our food comes from is a priority just as understanding basics of biosecurity is important in today's society.

Line items that strengthen these career paths and consumer appreciation and understanding were vetoed.

Please consider these program examples: Farmers need access to expertise in their farming operations. Pennsylvania beef producers depend on the Center for Beef Excellence for best management practices. What are the best ways to maximize output in a farming operation? How does an agricultural producer minimize input costs? This program was eliminated by the stroke of a pen.

Unfortunately, despite the clear benefits that these programs bring to the table, they were vetoed as pawns in an unfortunate and tragic chess game of who gets the final say on the State Budget. Perhaps there was no animus against Agriculture specifically since many non-agricultural programs such as Corrections were vetoed too. Perhaps the veto was simply "doing the numbers" and alphabetically, agriculture came first. It is not for me to say. However, PA Agriculture is the collateral damage in the budget impasse.

Pennsylvania Agriculture is a leading job creator and a huge economic engine for Pennsylvania and it should not, and must not, be sacrificed in the name of expediency.

****

The testimony also recognizes the support for agriculture by some top officials and references the fact that this veto decision was made by the Governor in apparent ignorance of these programs' importance to Pennsylvania's economy, job development and food security.

At the time of this writing, it is unclear whether or not Governor Wolf will again veto funds for these programs, but one thing is certain, PA State Grange will continue to press for restoration of these vital programs!

Chaplain's Corner

Jennifer Nauss
PA State Grange Chaplain
jnauss89@gmail.com

Greetings from South Central PA! I hope you and your families celebrated a joyous, blessed Easter and are enjoying the beginning of Spring.

The Grange motto is "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things charity." This article will focus on the first of these themes — unity. As the frequently used saying goes, "united we stand; divided we fall." We seem to be living in a time of great division. From the PA budget stalemate to the Presidential election, it certainly seems as though our state and national leaders are incapable of reaching — and often unwilling to reach — a compromise. But the division does not end there. It occurs in almost every facet of our lives; in our workplaces, in our activities, and in our Grange halls. Rather than engaging in civil discourse to debate our ideas, we often resort to "digging our heels in" and refusing to budge from our stances. Instead of focusing on our differences, we should be putting them aside to work toward our common goals.

Differences are inevitable and we are blessed to live in a country where we have the freedom to express those differences. 1 Corinthians 12:14-19 reminds us that, "Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being part of the body…If they were all one part, where would the body be?" We should acknowledge and respect those differences and we should celebrate our similarities, the things that unite us. We should remember that just as our actions and words can make a positive difference in the lives of others, our harsh words and deeds can make an equal negative impact in others' lives. As tensions continue to rise, especially in the current political climate, I pray for unity and understanding for us as individuals and for us as a nation.

I wish you and yours a great summer, filled with fun and time spent with family and friends. I hope to see many of you at the State Grange events planned for the summer.

Arlene Adam
Virginville #1832
Berks Co.

Harold Adam
Virginville #1832
Berks Co.

Betty Diamond
Plumsteadville #1738
Bucks Co.

Gregory Dimick
Russellville #91
Chester Co.

George Eisenbrown
Bernville #1887
Berks Co.

Betty Frisch
Central #1650
Lehigh Co.

Betty Fry
Hayfield #800
Crawford Co.

Quentin Gilbert
Star #993
Northampton Co.

Kenneth Hager
Plumsteadville #1738
Bucks Co.

Gertrude 'Trudy' Harple
Sanatoga #25
Montgomery Co.

Mary Kirkoff
Ontelaunee #1617
Berks Co.

Helen Lash
Sewickley #1897
Westmoreland Co.

Alfretta Leeper
Rostraver #919
Westmoreland Co.

M. DomerLeibensperger
Ontelaunee #1617
Berks Co.

Charles Mohn
Virginville #1832
Berks Co.

Bert Montgomery
New Vernon #608
Mercer Co.

Bruce Riegel
Ontelaunee #1617
Berks Co.

Harvey Rodgers
Russellville #91
Chester Co.

Jane Roman
Plumsteadville #1738
Bucks Co.

James Springman
West Branch #136
Lycoming Co.

Ronald Wood
Lawsville #1455
Susquehanna Co.

Membership-Leadership Workshop

For ALL Grange Members, especially those currently serving or wishing to serve as an Officer. The workshop will focus on enhancing leadership skills, membership growth, and officer training. It's a great opportunity for Grangers to learn more about the role of each office and how to recruit and keep new members.

Four Sessions Available:

Saturday, May 21, 2016, 9 AM - 3 PM
Kutztown Grange #1836, Berks Co.
Kemp & James Alley, Kutztown PA 19530
Register By: May 6

Saturday, June 25, 2016, 9 AM - 3 PM
Eagle Grange #1, Lycoming Co.
Rte. 15 & East Blind Rd., Montgomery PA 17752
Register By: June 10

Saturday, August 6, 2016, 9 AM - 3 PM
Buckhorn Grange #1119, Cambria Co.
2095 Fieldstone Ave., Summerhill PA 15958
Register By: July 22

Saturday, September 24, 2016, 9 AM - 3 PM
Hayfield Grange #800, Crawford Co.
19935 Grange Center Rd., Saegertown PA 16433
Register By: September 9

$15 per person

includes lunch, snacks and materials

Name: _____

Grange Name & No.: _____

Current Office: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Session: ☐ May 21, Kutztown ☐ June 25, Eagle

☐ August 6, Buckhorn ☐ September 24, Hayfield

Make Check Payable to: PA State Grange
20 Erford Rd. Suite 216, Lemoyne PA 17043

Preview of 2016 State Session

There are some exciting changes happening at the 144th Annual State Session to be held in Shippensburg PA, **October 21-23** so we wanted to share an early preview to help you plan for the event.

The biggest change is the days session will take place. ***Session will start on FRIDAY (10/21)*** morning and wrap up SUNDAY (10/23) afternoon. Business will be conducted on Friday and Saturday, and we will be holding evening sessions. **There will be a full election of officers this year.** Suggestions for office will be Friday afternoon, the election will be Saturday just prior to the lunch break and installation will be Saturday evening.

The **YOUTH Luncheon is now an evening banquet!** That's right, we will be holding the youth banquet on Saturday evening. As has always been the case, **EVERYONE** is invited to attend the youth banquet, no matter your age! **The FOUNDATION AUCTION will be held at this banquet** so we are encouraging everyone to attend and spend some money to benefit the Grange Foundation.

Contest entries will be accepted Thursday evening and Friday morning. Judging of the entries will take place on Friday afternoon, and the exhibit room will open to the public Friday evening and be open all day Saturday..

The Junior Jamboree will be Saturday - Sunday, and the committee has some great things planned for all the Junior Grangers.

The 144th Annual Session will wrap up on Sunday afternoon with the All Granger Luncheon. We are working on securing an exciting keynote speaker for this event. Details will be in a future issues of *PA Grange News.*

This is an **exciting opportunity** for all of us to try something new. The South Central Host Committee and the PA State Grange Executive Committee are excited about the changes and are working to plan a great State Session.

Our headquarters hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott, which is adjacent to campus. All events and banquets will be held on campus and we'll have transportation available for getting from the hotel to all events.

A full schedule, registration form and hotel reservation information will be in the next issue of PA Grange News. We hope to see many of you in Shippensburg!

Secretaries Source

Sandy Herman
PA State Grange
Office Manager
pagrange@pagrange.org

Financial Protection

Here are some tips to help you protect your Grange's assets:

1. Have an annual audit completed for your Grange records.
2. Make sure someone other than the Treasure is looking over each month's reconciliation and the checkbook register. This is not to infer that your Treasurer would try to cheat the Grange—it is just good stewardship.
3. Have more than one signor on every account. This way if the only signor is lost to the organization through death or demit, you have a way to access your money. (If you find yourself in the position that you've lost your only signor, talk to the bank to find out how you can access your funds. If you aren't able to get any help, please call the State Grange Office. We may be able to offer some assistance.
4. If your Grange has a dedicated credit card, have more than one person review the statements.
5. Have periodic reviews of the Petty Cash account.
6. Have more than one person review any investment statements.
7. Pay attention to the Treasurer reports so you are well informed.

Again, none of this is to infer anything bad about your Treasurer, this is for their protection as well. As the Bookkeeper for the State Grange office, I welcome accountability for my work. It makes me rest easier.

American Values Hometown Roots

Gene Zvarick, PA State Grange Steward

I'm always been thinking of ways to bring the community together—to get people involved. Turns out the answer is right on our community Main Street. The answer is the local Grange and the events and programs they sponsor. The Grange has the best interests of the community in mind and is here to serve the citizens regardless of their individual backgrounds. As a nonpartisan, nondenominational, grassroots organization with numerous members who care about the future of their surrounding community, we have the ability to bring the community together.

The answer is the local Grange...

You have a blank slate, a blank canvas, an empty book...how do you want to fill it? What do you want it to look like when you are done? What kind of legacy do you want to leave? While the work of our Order is never complete you have the ability to mold the Order and yourself into something wonderful. Take advantage of the Grange and what it has to offer you. Yes, I am asking you to take advantage of the Grange. That is why we are here—to benefit you. There are numerous ways we can benefit you. You are in the driver's seat.

My question and challenge to all Grange members is this: Are you willing to bounce off our great history in the Grange and springboard into the future as we write and create our own history? Are you ready to continue to grow and flourish as the Grange further lends our influence to agriculture and the community?

To be a part of the continuing story come out to your local historical Grange hall. Experience the real feel of "American Values and Hometown Roots" at the Grange.

Happy Birthday

Frances Astle
March 6, 1926
Russellville #91
Chester Co.

Aliene Bussard
January 29, 1921
Dayton #1819
Armstrong Co.

Warren Creitz
March 11, 1923
Central #1650
Lehigh Co.

Olive Dietrich
May 21, 1920
Virginville #1832
Berks Co.

Gladys Durlin
February 23, 1924
California #941
Montour Co.

Mirian Forney
January 16, 1925
Star #993
Northampton Co.

Thomas Hahn
January 10, 1924
Star #993
Northampton Co.

Ethel Jones
April 9, 1924
Star #993
Northampton Co.

Fran Kessler
April 30, 1923
California #941
Montour Co.

Verna Kopicz
March 8, 1923
Ontelaunee #1617
Berks Co.

May Lafaver
January 19, 1923
Virginville #1832
Berks Co.

Miriam Masters
May 10, 1918
Central #1650
Lehigh Co.

Norman Merkel
May 15, 1920
Virginville #1832
Berks Co.

Norman Nace
March 4, 1925
Gideon #2010
York Co.

Ralph Schappell
May 6, 1923
Ontelaunee #1617
Berks Co.

Martha Shannon
April 14, 1917
Mahoning Valley #1649
Lawrence Co.

Anna Trach
March 17, 1923
Star #993
Northampton Co.

Erma Trach
February 17, 1923
Star #993
Northampton Co.

Pearl Wonderly
April 22, 1923
Central #1650
Lehigh Co.

Dorothy Zug
April 16, 1919
Goshen #121
Chester Co.

Pennsylvania State Grange
Pennsylvania Grange News
20 Erford Road
Suite 216
Lemoyne, PA 17043

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PA/NY GRANGE FAMILY PICNIC

LETCHWORTH STATE PARK

JUNE 18, 2016 • 11:00 AM - ?

$11/PERSON, INCLUDES FOOD AND BEVERAGE. BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE.

PLEASE RSVP TO SANDY AT THE STATE OFFICE, 800-552-3865 OR PAGRANGE@PAGRANGE.ORG.

LETCHWORTH PARK HAS CAMPING FACILITIES AND LOTS TO SEE AND DO. DETAILS ON RENTING A CABIN OR CAMPSITE CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.NYSPARKS.COM.