

July/August 2020

# PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE NEWS





**HOT OFF THE PRESS...  
FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE GRANGE  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE**

**GRANGE URGES PASSAGE  
OF DISTRACTED DRIVING  
BILL**

LEMOYNE... The Pennsylvania State Grange wrote April 17 to both Republican and Democratic Chairs of the Senate Transportation Committee urging action on a distracted driving bill in anticipation of an eventual loosening of COVID-19 driving restrictions.

The letter to Majority Chair Kim Ward (R-Westmoreland) and Minority Chair John Sabatina (D-Phila.) said that the Senate Transportation Committee should act on House Bill 37 sponsored by Rep. Rosemary Brown (R-Monroe) to plan for when driving will resume. The letter suggests that when the stay at home edict is relaxed, there will be a surge of driving activity and a resurgence of driving while texting or using cell phones for talking or taking selfies when driving.

In 2015, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported there were 3,196 fatal crashes that occurred on U.S. roadways that involved distraction (10% of all fatal crashes).

More recent Pennsylvania figures from PennDOT's 2018 PA Crash Facts and Statistics cited 128,420 reportable 2018 crashes of which 14,292 (11%) were attributed to distracted driving. These distracted driving accidents resulted in 63 deaths.

The House passed House Bill 37 in January but the Senate Transportation Committee has not yet taken up the bill. The Grange letter notes that the General Assembly's focus is rightly on addressing the coronavirus COVID-19 crisis but that the Senate Transportation Committee should act "as is prudently possible."

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**GRANGE SUPPORTS  
BROADBAND REACH BILLS**

LEMOYNE... The Pennsylvania State Grange is supporting new legislation that will help communities and their residents in rural Pennsylvania to finally receive high-speed Broadband. Specifically, the two pieces of legislation are Senate Bill 1118 sponsored by Senator Joe Pittman (R-Indiana) and House Bill 2438 sponsored by Rep. Clint Owlett (R-Tioga/Potter/Bradford). These bills would allow rural electric cooperatives and others easier access to "piggyback" on the electrical wiring already in place to expand communications technology to unserved and underserved parts of the State with no or little access to the Internet. SB 1118 and HB 2438 streamline the approval process that must take place before the "piggybacking" can begin.

"The advantage of this legislation is that it takes advantage of existing infrastructure," said Pennsylvania State Grange President Wayne Campbell. "The Grange has repeatedly said that universal access to high-speed Broadband is to this century what Rural Electrification was to the 20th Century. Different technology, but the same message - rural America must not be left behind."

The National Grange was a national leader to achieving the goal of Rural Electrification and is working at the national level to expand rural Broadband. The Pennsylvania State Grange has championed bridging the Digital Divide in Pennsylvania for over a decade. "This approach of utilizing existing electrical infrastructure where feasible helps to provide another answer to the high-cost reality of telecommunications companies that are asked to connect the proverbial last house on the left. Streamlining this

approval process will hopefully speed up the approval process and put more money on Broadband expansion that would have previously been spent on permit acquisition," Campbell said.

Currently, SB 1118 is in the Senate Communications & Technology Committee. HB 2438 is in the House Consumer Affairs Committee.

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**MEDIA STATEMENT ON  
WOLF'S VETOS**

Pennsylvania State Grange believes that the May 19 veto by Governor Wolf of more business opening legislation is unfortunate. While appreciating his desire to defend his original business closure order, hopefully he will see that there is significant interest in getting PA's economy and tax base back on track by safely following CDC guidelines. It is our hope that he will allow auto dealers and garden centers to reopen with CDC guidelines just as he did with Realtors a short time after his veto of the legislation that would have done the same thing. Source: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/20200519-Real-Estate-Guidance.pdf>

Our fear is that these vetoes will poison the proverbial well as the Governor and the General Assembly begin to discuss State Budget enactment in June. Our Government's actions in both branches have become extremely partisan and this is hurting all Pennsylvanians! Pennsylvania deserves a team working together, now more than ever, and that is not what we are seeing.

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*"Heads Up" continued on page 6*



# PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE NEWS

July/August 2020



## Pennsylvania Grange News

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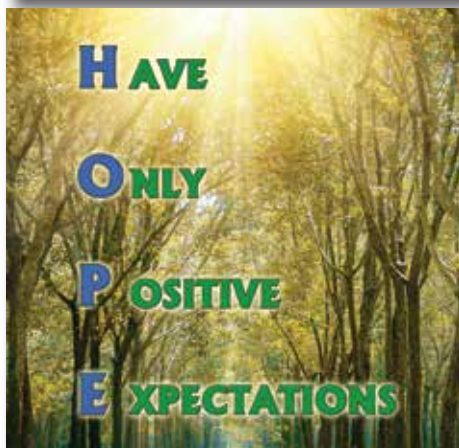
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## From the President's Desk

Wayne D. Campbell  
PA State Grange President  
president@pagrange.org



*American Values.  
Hometown Roots.*

January 2, 2020 Lizzie Bailey, Cliff Bailey, Debbie Campbell and myself are busy setting up the Pennsylvania State Grange booth at the Farm Show. Members of Valley Grange are getting the world famous milk shake machines cleaned up and ready for another year of dispensing those delicious milk shakes. Grangers are active over in the Family Activities corner assembling quilt displays, photos made from seeds, sewing displays and many other family related displays. We were all excited just thinking about the week ahead. Friday night at the Pa Preferred Dinner the Pennsylvania State Grange Royalty were able to mingle with Legislators, business owners, representatives from Penn State Land Grant University, and meet with Secretary Redding. Saturday morning, we were all at the State Grange booth excited to tell visitors the advantages of being a Grange member and how Grange can make a difference in your community. Life was good!!!

Fast forward to March 19, 2020. Brittany Covey, our Pennsylvania State Grange Office Secretary, brought in hoagies her daughter was selling for Debbie and I. We talked about this new virus that has been in the news called the Coronavirus. We wondered how it would affect the operations at the office, how will it affect our Granges and Grangers throughout the state and even the country. We monitored the news throughout the day and wondered what steps our government would be taking to help keep us safe. It was a little different than any other day at the office, but it was another day at

the office. We said our goodbyes late that afternoon and said I'll see you tomorrow. By the time I had reached my home in Perry County, Brittany had texted me and asked if I heard the news. Pennsylvania's Governor has issued a stay at home order and all non-life sustaining businesses are to close by 8:00 P.M. tonight. WOW. It's May 12, 2020 and Brittany and I still have not seen each other at the office.

Our world changed in what seemed like hours. It suddenly became not okay to shake hands, not okay to give someone a hug when you meet them, not okay to run out to the store for a single item. Jobs were lost by the thousands, lives were turned upside down, and as of today, we are still wondering what our future will look like.

But in these trying, stressful, uncertain times, Grangers again stand above the crowd. Within days members were making masks to give to health care workers and other at risk members in their community. Granges were becoming food distribution points in conjunction with their local food banks and making food items to give out in addition to the food from the food bank. They were contacting neighbors and elderly members to see if they were okay and did they need anything from the store. Many of our members are essential workers, doctors, nurses, healthcare providers, truck drivers, and the list goes on, who continue to go to work every day to keep our lives safe. Grangers began to embrace a new way of coming together, that thing called ZOOM conferencing. It was the new way to hold a Grange meeting. In many cases more members joined in because they could do so from the safety and

comfort of their homes even if they were hours away from the Grange Hall.

May 11, 2020 brought another announcement by the Pennsylvania State Grange no one could have ever imagined. The word went out that Youth Camp, Junior Camp, and Family Festival have all been cancelled for 2020. Not in our most bizarre dreams would we have ever thought we'd see an announcement like that. Every day is bringing new cancellations of public events. When will we return to life as we knew it? Will we ever return to life as before, or is this the new normal? I don't have the answers to these questions, but I do know that every day Grangers are meeting a need in their communities. Every day Grangers are cultivating connections to be sure there is a brighter future for all our communities.

Let's make sure we continue to make a difference in our communities. Let's follow the Grange motto, "In essentials unity, in nonessentials liberty, and in all things charity". Thank God every day for all the blessings he has bestowed upon us, even in these trying times. Let's start each new day as we start our meetings, "The hour of labor has arrived and the work of another day demands our attention." I look forward to when we can again gather in our halls and gain comfort and strength from that time together.

Fraternally,  
Wayne D. Campbell,  
Pennsylvania State Grange  
President  
president@pagrange.org





**Chaplain's Corner**  
 Judy Pressler  
 PA State Grange Chaplain

**Promises Made:  
 Promises Kept**

Do you ever stop to notice how God answers you sometimes in ways you did not expect? He has promised that He would be with us always. When I mentioned to our daughter that I have been praying about my next article, she suggested a theme. I told her she must have been the answer that God promised!

Beginning in March we entered a very unsettling period in our lives. We don't know what to expect that our lives will be like in July or August. Will restrictions be lifted or will they still be in place? Will we have escaped or contracted the COVID 19? Will employees be back to work or still unemployed? Will we be feeding our families from the grocery stores and own gardens or will we still be depending on food banks? Will we be attending church in our living rooms or in our sanctuaries? Will our camps be up and running or a dream for next year? Wherever we find ourselves this summer, one thing is for sure. God has promised He would be with us always.

As I write this in early May we are still in the Easter season and we could compare our situation to that of the disciples in their first Easter season. From Good Friday on they experienced a very unsettling time. They had no way of knowing what life was going to be



like for them from that day forward. Their leader had been crucified, dead and buried. And because of the violent mood of the crowds, they had every right to be living in fear and uncertainty. Would they be recognized as His followers and hunted down? Should they run away or just hide out? Could they possibly have the same influence on the people now or could their message be conceived as worthless? What did their futures hold? They temporarily forgot He had promised He would not abandon them.

Their Easter season began when He arose victorious over death and appeared to His disciples. Once again He promised He would never leave them orphans. He was going to send his Holy Spirit as a comforter and counselor for them.

His promise is as good today as it was then: He will never leave us without a Comforter to help

through the twists and turns of our earthly lives and to help prepare us for our heavenly home. He will be with us through our deepest valleys, comfort us in our fears and desperation, surround us in our loneliness, depression, illnesses, and even grief over the loss of loved ones.

Think of it like this: When you see a beautiful butterfly this summer, remember how that caterpillar had to go through its dark chrysalis period before it could emerge triumphantly into what God intended it to become! Remembering his promises, we too can emerge triumphantly into what God wants us to be!

Praying for love in all aspects of your lives,  
 Judy Pressler, Chaplain  
 jxp2@psu.edu





## Membership News

Lizzie Bailey

PA State Grange Membership & PR  
Director

### It's a new day with new opportunities!

Many people have experienced loss of family members, some people may have been ill and recovered, and workers stepped up on the front lines and became our heroes. Our kids and youth lost out on schooling, events, being able to see friends and extended family. Stay at home orders, social distancing, masks, and waiting patiently to go through phases of red, yellow and green. This all has been part of our new normal.

But in spite of all the challenges, regulations, and loneliness of missing people this pandemic created some positive things.

We all were given the gift of downtime and we discovered our families again. Kindness emerged as people started taking care of each other by donating, volunteering, calling their neighbors to check on them, and running errands for those with compromised health.

Strangers stepped up to help farmers by buying milk and helping sell their eggs and produce so animals could be saved and people could receive food that needed it.

The list could go on and on about great acts of kindness and gratitude.

Grangers stepped up in times of need and gave it their all and dug a little deeper and gave more.

We turned to technology, as this became the avenue for virtual communication. We socialized, we learned through online classes and workshops, we held parties, we played games, and we cooked. We invited neighbors, acquaintances, and even strangers to our events. And these people came and we all had fun!

In this new day, Grange is so important as our organization offers what many people are yearning for, and they just didn't realize it till a pandemic stopped us all in our tracks. There are opportunities for Grange to grow if we keep our momentum. Social distancing is here for the long haul and Grangers need to be looking for opportunities to involve those around us.

We at the state office are here for our members, let us work with you, to create virtual events, do Grange business, and look for these new opportunities in your area.

I'm a phone call/email away, check in with me to let me know how you are doing.

Yours in Grange service,  
Lizzie Bailey  
PR/Membership Director  
717-254-9550 Cell  
717-737-8855 Office  
publicrelations@pagrange.org

*"Heads Up" continued from page 2*

## COVID TRANSPARENCY LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rural Pennsylvania took the brunt of business closures. Closing an auto dealer or a gardening center or a small mom and pop store is a big deal to a rural community. Farmers took a big hit when closing restaurants led to the dumping of milk, eggs, and vegetables. Why did "they" make those decisions? Why were Realtors closed in PA and not in any other state? Why were the big box stores allowed to keep their retail sales of non-food items going while traditional department stores like PA-owned Boscov's were forced to shutter their doors?

In defense of the Governor, he had to do something quickly and quick decisions had to be made. However, the best public policy is one that is thought through where everyone believes that there are consistent criteria for making these decisions.

The business shut-down waiver process seemed arbitrary with some businesses saved financially and others not. Who made those decisions? Who knows? When methodology for these decisions is hidden, people will see exceptions to the supposed rules and wonder if the closures are merited. That perception prompted a Republican reaction from the legislature, which in turn, prompted the Governor's reaction, which of course generated more partisan backlash, more vetoes, and an unsuccessful attempt to override.

Here is the real tragedy. Lack of transparency has made people even more skeptical of our government at a time when people must trust that officials have everyone's best interest at heart. Credibility is at the heart of our democratic system. In Pennsylvania's case, that was lost.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Campbell  
Pennsylvania State Grange  
President





## Family Activities

Melanie Melius

PA State Grange Family Activities  
Director

Hello Everyone!

I hope you are all staying Safe and Healthy. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge ALL ESSENTIAL workers who have had to work in the Danger Zones. Doctors, nurses, assisted living caregivers, grocery store clerks and stockers, restaurant workers, warehouse workers, mail and delivery workers, police, fire department personnel, EMT's, garbage collectors, janitors, and other sanitation workers, truck drivers, farmers, funeral home personnel and any others who I may have missed. Thank you all!!

Centre County moved into the yellow phase of reopening on May 8 but are still only allowed 25 people or under in a group. We are being asked to stay at home as much as possible. Merle and I and the 2 dogs go for a ride once in a while just to get out of the house. The dogs, Sadie and Maggie, enjoy the car ride and when we get home they take a big nap.

I hope with all this time on everyone's hands you are getting some of the contests done that you will be entering **next** year. If anyone needs additional raffle tickets, please contact me either by phone or email listed at the end of this article. We are requiring ALL the Quilt raffle tickets be sent back before State Session this year. A letter was received at the State Office stating that drawings for small games of chance must be held in the county in which the license is

issued. In order to comply with this requirement, we must do the drawing before we go to Erie for State Session. PLEASE !!! still bring additional prizes to Erie, as winners will be previously drawn at the State Office in anticipation of your donations. In order to comply with this requirement, we MUST have ALL QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS SENT BACK to me NO LATER than OCTOBER 2, 2020. So PLEASE Buy or Sell your raffle tickets early.

60 pounds of food was collected at the Leadership Conference that was held at Logan Grange in Centre County On March 8, 2020. These food items were donated to the Centre County Food Bank. Thank you to all who donated the food.

The Family Activities Community service project will still continue even though Family Festival has been cancelled. I am asking that you please take the items that you have collected to your local Veterans Home. Please include the total number of items donated on your Subordinate and Pomona reports.

Here is a list of things that are needed:

### Men's Clothing - Sizes Small to 5x

- Sweatpants and Lounge Pants
- Sweatshirts (Pull-over and zip up)
- Button-down Flannel Shirts
- Winter Coats
- T-Shirts (short & long sleeve)
- Underwear—Boxers or Briefs (new, unopened packages only)
- Sturdy Sneakers/Boots/Slippers - Sizes 8- 14 Med & Wide
- Socks

### Women's Clothing - Especially 2x-4x

- Elastic waist pants and Sweat-pants
- Shirts/Sweaters/Cardigans and Socks

### Miscellaneous Items:

- Postage Stamps
- Amazon Gift Cards
- Universal Remotes
- Headphones (No Earbuds)
- Men's Wallets
- Wristwatches
- Umbrellas
- Reading Glasses
- Men's Belts
- Batteries (AA, AAA, C&D)
- Suspenders
- Toothpaste
- Body Wash (Men's & Women's)
- Board Games
- Slippers (all sizes)
- Women's Hair Ties/Pins/Clips
- Unopened Puzzles

Clothing can be new or very gently used (items must be clean).

If you have any question or require additional information, please call or email me at the information listed below.

Please stay safe and healthy and hope to see everyone at State Session this year.

Yours Truly,  
Melanie Melius  
Family Activities Director  
melmelius59@gmail.com or  
mle103@comcast.net  
cell (814) 360-7058





**Program Director**  
**Jenn Nauss**  
 PA State Grange Program Director

Greetings from South Central PA!

I hope this finds you and your families safe and well during these unprecedented times. So much has changed since I wrote the last article for the Grange News. But what has not changed is the potential for our Granges to continue their work in our communities. Granges across the state and nation have been adapting to these new times to best serve their communities. Some Granges are holding virtual meetings and hosting virtual programs for their members. Some Granges are reimagining their roles in their communities – making masks, helping feed the hungry, and with countless other projects. If your Grange has not done so yet, consider ways that you can reach the members of your Grange and members of your larger community. Are you able to use a virtual platform – like Zoom or Conference Calls – to hold meetings and connect with your members? Can you fill a need in your community with a special service project? How can you share the Grange story in your communities?

A few months ago, I never would have anticipated the far-reaching implications of COVID-19. The Regional Conferences that were scheduled at Big Knob Grange and Kutztown Grange have been postponed indefinitely. Should it be safe to gather in large numbers later this year, I will explore our options for rescheduling. Should it not be safe to gather, we will look forward to hosting the Regional Conferences next spring.

The COVID-19 crisis also impacts several of the Lecturer’s Department Contests and Programs. The Committee has been hard at work brainstorming ways that we can move forward with some contests and programs while recognizing that traditional ways are not possible at this time. These changes are summarized below.

**Talent Goes Virtual**

Because of the cancellation of Family Festival, the Talent Show for 2020 will be held virtually. Members are encouraged to submit video recordings of their talents, which will be presented in an online format. The classes and rules will remain the same. It will be determined if this will be a contest or an exhibition for 2020.

**Classes:**

1. Instrumental
2. Vocal
3. Variety/Other Acts

**Division:**

1. Subordinate (14+)

**Rules:**

1. Time Limit: No minimum; all acts will be held to a 5-minute maximum.
2. Participants must provide their own accompaniment (either live or recorded).
3. Best of Show winner from the previous year may not enter the Talent Contest in the same class the following year.

The Virtual Talent Show will be held on Saturday, July 18th (the

original date during Family Festival). More information about how to view and/or join the Talent Show will be shared closer to the time. Talent videos should be submitted by Saturday, July 4th to allow adequate time to compile videos for the Talent Show. Videos may be submitted by email or Cloud link to [jnauss89@gmail.com](mailto:jnauss89@gmail.com) or submitted on Flash Drive or CD to:

Jenn Nauss  
 10 West Schoolside Drive  
 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

**Introducing a New Report to Replace the Community Night/Open House Report**

The Lecturer’s Department is well aware of the fact that many Granges may have needed to postpone or cancel their Open Houses for this year because of the COVID-19 crisis. In recognition of this and to honor the work of Lecturers during these unprecedented times, we are introducing a new program – ***Creative Connections***.

This report will take the place of the Open House report form. There will be three divisions.

- **Division A** – Granges who were able to hold their Open House – “We had our Open House and here is what it looked like...”
- **Division B** – Granges who had planned their Open House but could not hold it – “We had our Open House planned, but could not have it. Here is what it would have looked like...”
- **Division C** – Granges who could not hold their Open House – “Because of COVID-19, we could not have our Open House. Here is what we did instead...”

Granges who fall in Division A can complete the form similarly to how they would have completed the Open House form in the past.

Granges who fall in Division B can complete the form similarly to





how they would have in the past, except some information will be unknown (like number of attendees). Lecturers should fill out the form with as much information and supporting documents as they have to show what their Open House would have looked like if they would have been able to have it.

Division C is designed to acknowledge that many Lecturers and Granges have found ways to share the Grange Story in their communities in ways other than a traditional Open House. Perhaps your Grange is holding virtual meetings with programs to engage your members. Maybe your Grange is finding unique ways to serve your community during this time. Whatever your Grange is doing to connect with your members and the community during this time of social distancing is important and is worthy of acknowledgement. If your Grange's outreach during this time has been community service, you can report on that in both this report and your Community Service Report.

There will still be membership classes in each division:

1. Pomona
2. Subordinate – Up to 50 members
3. Subordinate – Between 51 and 99 members
4. Subordinate – 100 or more members

Because of this change, winning Granges in each division and class will receive a framed Certificate of Excellence in lieu of a plaque for this year.

### **New COVID-19 Contest Classes**

New Classes have been added to the Pen in Hand and Photography Contests.

#### **Pen in Hand**

- NEW Class – “One thing I learned during Social Distancing...”
- Be creative with this! This could be a poignant life lesson

learned during the COVID-19 crisis. It could be a new skill or hobby (perhaps art or sewing or learning how to cut hair) that you have picked up with extra time on your hands. It could be a humorous piece.

- 500 word maximum
- All other Pen in Hand rules should be followed as detailed in the Guide to Contests and Programs

#### **Photography**

- NEW Class – “Beauty in the Midst of Crisis”
- This is also a class that allows for a lot of flexibility and interpretation! Maybe you have taken a photo of some beautiful flowers growing in your garden. Maybe you have taken a photo of your Grange's community service work during this time. Maybe you took a photo of a child or grandchild while you have been home. Use your imagination and hone your photography skills.
- All Photography rules should be followed as detailed in the Guide to Contests and Programs.

All other Contests and Programs are being continued. This is the perfect time to work on your “My Favorite Anything” entry or work on submitting your programs for the “Design a Program” contest.

Please read the weekly Grange email blasts and check the Grange website for any other updates that may come up in the next few months. Look for more information about how to join and/or view the Virtual Talent Show as we get closer to July.

As a reminder, please make sure to send reports and designated contests to me by **September 15**. The report forms are available on the Lecturer's page of the Pennsylvania State Grange website and also in a mailing to Granges.

In lieu of traditional program ideas, here are some ideas for how to continue to provide meaningful programs or otherwise connect with your members during this time of Social Distancing.

- Consider using a virtual conference call program – like Zoom – to hold meetings. The State Grange has a Zoom account and can help you to set up your meeting. What is really nice about Zoom is that both computer-users and dial-in-users can access the meeting. There are many programming options that would be possible on Zoom meetings, including educational speakers, programs about topics of interest, and even fun and games, like Bingo or Trivia.
- If virtual meetings are not an option, coordinate volunteers from your Grange to make regular contact with members who may not be connected through email or social media. Check-in on them to see how they are doing and if there is anything they need. Make sure they are getting updates from your local Grange and the State Grange.
- Work with your Community Service Chair to think of unique ways that you can serve your communities at this time. Even though some restrictions are in the process of being lifted, there will be plenty of needs that will continue, even as counties move to the yellow phase and green phases.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Also, please share with me what your Grange is doing to connect with your members and the community during this time. I would love to feature the great things you are doing in future articles.

Jenn Nauss  
State Lecturer  
jnauss89@gmail.com





# Youth News

**Youth Committee**  
Ellen Wadsworth  
PA State Grange Youth Director



## June 26-27, 2020 Youth Camp, Virtually There Theme

Who would have thought our lives and schedules would change so drastically from one issue of the PGN to the next? With the cancellation of so many of our favorite activities this year, we are looking for new ways to connect and socialize.

The Youth and Young Adults Committee will be holding Youth Camp this year with the newly revised theme of "Virtually There". We are planning several fun activities during the weekend of when Youth Camp would have been held, so save these dates and times on your calendar!

- **Friday, June 26**, Virtually There Camp Kick-off beginning at 6 pm, followed by a night of activities, and
- **Saturday, June 27**, Virtually There Camp activities beginning at 5 pm

The complete schedule and links will be posted on the "Penn-

sylvanias State Grange Youth and Young Adults" Facebook group soon. If you are not a member of this group yet, please search for the group and send a request to join so that you will not miss out on the fun! Some of the activities being planned include Trivia, card games, scavenger hunt, escape room, and possibly more. Attendance at any of the events during Virtually There Youth Camp will earn you a special memento to be sent in the mail. Please register at the Youth Camp link: <https://form.jotform.com/200735641693154> if you plan to participate. There is no cost for the Virtually There Youth Camp this year.

If we receive a positive response from activities at Virtually There Youth Camp, we will schedule additional nights throughout the rest of the summer.

At this time, we are still planning to hold our annual Young Adults Weekend, 21-23 August.

The sign-up link is: <https://form.jotform.com/200697787218165> and we will be staying in the Harrisburg area. Attendance for this event will be capped at 20 Young Adults, so register soon.

In this time of change and uncertainty, we are continually looking for new ideas and ways to help our fellow Grangers. If you are looking for a little something different for your Grange virtual meeting, let me know. Our Pennsylvania State Grange Youth Ambassadors, Young Patrons, as well as our committee and myself, are ready and willing to provide a program for your Grange or event.

Ellen Wadsworth  
Pennsylvania State Grange Youth and Young Adults Director  
Cell: 417-967-6474,  
email: [youth@pagrange.org](mailto:youth@pagrange.org)





## Pennsylvania State Grange Cookbooks

**\$30**

[www.pagrange.org](http://www.pagrange.org)

(click on cookbook tab)



Limited quantities available...

(717)737-8855



**History Committee**  
 Doug Bonsall  
 PA State Grange History Committee  
 Director

**See the new 150th anniversary page on the State Grange website found under <https://www.pagrange.org/about-us.html>**

**Light The Cake**– Big plans were made earlier this year to light a birthday cake to recognize the upcoming 150th anniversary of the Pennsylvania State Grange. The cake was introduced at the first of the planned regional leadership conferences held early March in Centre County and several of the candles were sold that day (see attached photo). We had

hoped to take the cake all over the state at various Grange activities (other regional leadership conferences, camps and Family Festival) and challenge members to sponsor one of the 150 candles. The monies raised will be the kick-off of finances needed to fund the State Grange’s 150th anniversary celebration, beginning with the April 2021 kick-off and continuing through the 2023 session in Reading, PA. Some candles have been purchased but we are behind schedule with the cancellation of Grange activities this spring and summer.

With your help, we can still reach our goal to have all candles sponsored and the cake ablaze by the time of the state session in Erie this fall. To find out what candles remain and how to make your contribution, contact Steve & Karen Mohn, 308 Mill Road, Womelsdorf, PA 19567 (askmohn@comcast.net).

**Anniversary Kick-Off** – Did you reserve the date of Saturday, April 17, 2021, to attend the kick-off of the State Grange’s 150th anniversary? A big day is planned starting with an open house and reception at Eagle Grange #1 near Montgomery, PA where the Grange movement began

in Pennsylvania in 1871. A festive luncheon is planned at the nearby Country Cupboard Restaurant and Shops north of Lewisburg featuring a motivational speaker and historical candlelighting ceremony. For tickets and details, contact Anna May Nauss, 10 West Schoolside Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (amnauss@aol.com).

**Update on Eagle Grange** – Speaking of Grange #1, as of late spring major renovations to the hall were al-



*Help to light the PA State Grange 150th anniversary cake by sponsoring one or more of its 150 candles*

most completed to improve the Eagle Grange Hall so the organization can better serve its community. Funded by a combination of monies from donations and the sale of some real estate, the hall now features two accessible restrooms, new paint and flooring in the dining hall and kitchen, interior and exterior emergency lighting, an entrance ramp that meets current building codes and dedicated handicap parking spaces. Thanks to all those who contributed money, labor and moral support to this pioneer Grange supporting this initiative.

**Looking for Degree Teams** – An important part of our history is the

traditional degree work that teaches Grange principles. While many people note the importance of Grange ritual, the degrees seem to be exemplified infrequently in many parts of the state. As part of the 150th anniversary activities, we hope to present the first and second degrees at the state session in 2021 and the third and fourth degrees in 2022, complete with tableaux and speaking parts memorized. In 2023, the celebration will culminate with the exemplification of the fifth and sixth degrees in full form. We are looking for Granges, counties or other groups of patrons to exemplify the first through fourth degrees. If interested, contact Doug Bonsall, PO Box 765, Dauphin, PA 17018 (douglas.b@verizon.net).

**New On-Line Resources** – Perhaps you’ve noticed the addition of many more digitized files to the History Committee pages of the State Grange website. During some unexpected free time of this past spring, several committee volunteers uploaded the final group of documents that

tell nearly 150 years of the Pennsylvania State Grange story – officers’ registers, Executive Committee minutes and historical books published at major anniversaries. With the exception of future documents as they are created, this completes the microfilming and digitizing to preserve important documents that began several years ago.

Doug Bonsall, Chair  
 Pennsylvania State Grange  
 History Committee  
 douglas.b@verizon.net





# Junior News

## Junior Committee

Lurae Benzio

PA State Grange Junior Committee Director

Hello and Happy Summertime to all of you!!

WOW - what a crazy end of winter and spring we've had! At the time I am writing this - most of Pennsylvania will be moving into the "Yellow" stage of the plan to get our state back to working and functioning a little more. However, so much is not going back to "normal" and it is affecting all of us in one way or another. It was a very sad day when I had to announce that the Pennsylvania State Junior Grange Camp was being cancelled. For decades, Juniors have been attending a week of camp and enjoying the fun, friendships and memories made. Although we won't be together in person, the Junior Grange Committee and I are working on offering some virtual fun and a few surprises during the week that we would have been at State camp. We will have activities, craft sessions, presenters, how-to videos and we will also have a LIVE online Coronation Ceremony on Friday July 3rd. During the Coronation - we will announce the new Junior Grange Ambassadors. Information was sent out to the Juniors who are age eligible and they went through a process similar to what they would do if they were at camp. So, if you receive this edition of PA Grange News prior to July 3rd, please tune in to the Coronation. (details will be announced on the email blast and facebook page)

During this trying time of social distancing, it can be difficult to find joy... especially if you are a child and are missing your friends. Many of our Juniors across the commonwealth have kept busy with their online school, building forts, climbing trees, baking goodies, helping around the house and even celebrating their birthdays in unique (and social distancing) ways! I featured a few Juniors in the photos to show you that they are finding ways to keep busy, help each other and share a message! It is great to see so many smiling faces in these photos.

As we approach the late summer and start of the new school year, I wish for all of you to make the most of the situation and do good things. Bring a smile to someone's face, learn a new skill or work more on the skills you have struggled with. Do more with your family and appreciate what you have around you. Time moves so quickly and all of this will be a distant memory one day. So while you have the time... do some good so those memories are extra special!

Big Hugs and High Fives to all of you! Keep being AWESOME!

Fraternally,  
Lurae Benzio  
Junior Grange Director  
Benz4@comcast.net  
724-643-5750



*Elisabeth's birthday*



*Gio's birthday*

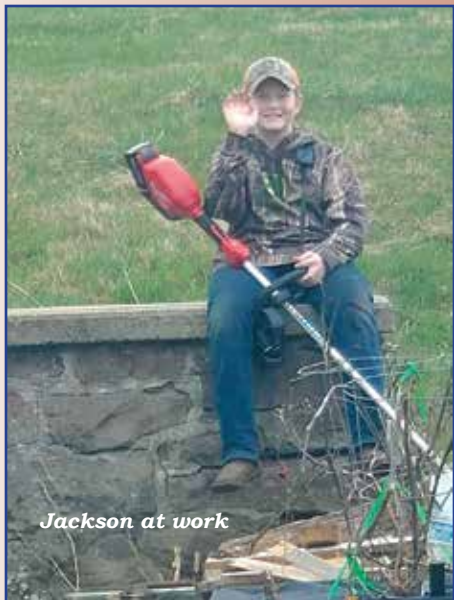


*Reyburn family*



*Grace's pillows*





Jackson at work



Danko trees



Reyburn fort building



Natalee's calf



Martin science project



Zug grands



Martin schooling



# Major Changes to the 2020 Pennsylvania State Grange Convention

The Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State Grange has made the very difficult decision to greatly scale back this year's convention. Due to the dangers presented by the Coronavirus we have decided to follow the same format being used by the National Grange. The safety of our members must be our primary concern. Only Delegates, Officers, and minimal staffing will be allowed to attend. No guests, Grange or otherwise, will be able to attend session. All resolution work will be completed by the committees via ZOOM meetings prior to the convention and a single committee representative will be at session to present recommendations. Committee members who are not Delegates will not be allowed to attend. There will be no displays, presentation of the 6th Degree, Banquets, Benefit

Auction, and Youth or Junior activities. By the time you read this in the PGN your Subordinate and Pomona Master/President will have received a detailed letter with application for your Delegates.

Our Directors are working on ways to continue the work of the committees virtually. Please watch for information in the email blasts and on Facebook for further details. If you do not receive the email blast please contact Lizzie Bailey at 717.254.9550 to have your email address added to the mailing list. If you have members without email, please share the information with them as it becomes available.

The drawing for the Family Activities Quilt was going to take place prior to session due to a clarification

of the Small Games of Chance Law this year. That drawing will still take place and the winners will be announced. Please send any prizes to session along with your Delegates. Any winners who are present will receive their prizes and the others will be distributed as quickly as possible.

Please be aware that this was a very difficult decision for the entire Executive Committee. We enjoy the business and fellowship at session as much as everyone else. We just do not feel that, at this time, we can adequately prepare for session to be held in a safe format for all our members. If you have any questions or concerns about the change in session, please let an Executive Committee member know.



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## 2020 National Grange Convention

The National Grange Executive Committee is very sorry to announce that the 2020 National Grange Convention will have many changes because of the Covid-19 pandemic and therefore will be open for National delegates and officers only. No visitors or Grangers will be invited to attend in person this year.

The convention will be cut to two days and the only business will be voting on resolutions and electing two executive committee officers. Extra activities, such as the Evening of Excellence, Youth and Junior Public Speaking and Sign a Song, will take place virtually. The Seventh Degree will not be exemplified this year.

Other recognitions such as Community Service awards, Distinguished Grange, Grange Legacy Family, and the Quilt Block Contest, will be held and awards given, but there will be no ceremony. National Grange Department Directors will be sending out information regarding their programs and how they will be handled this year, so stay tuned!

The Valley Forge Casino Resort, site of the convention, has been closed since March 14 to this date (June 6). We don't know when it will be permitted to open, because the counties around Philadelphia are a hot spot for the virus. The hotel is willing to allow us to downsize our convention to two days, 80 people, hopefully without penalty, so we are

exercising that option at this time.

Also we do not want to endanger any of our members by asking them to travel and to spend days in a large crowd. The health and safety of our Grange family comes first. We feel it may not be safe to gather, even by November. Many of your State Sessions will see major changes this year also. We hope you will understand this decision, and keep on working at the local level as much as you can to help your communities.

Fraternally,  
Betsy E. Huber  
National Master





# Grange News

## LINCOLN GRANGE #914

Members of Lincoln Grange #914 spent one Saturday working at making masks for their community. Members Jodi Keith Kensing-er, Stacie Keith, Cindy Keith, &



Reba Clapper sewing masks

Reba Clapper worked at cutting fabric out, pinning the liner and fabric together, and sewing the



Cindy Keith sewing together a mask

pieces together. It was quite the process they had figured out and all the while practicing social distancing! Many of the community



Stacie Keith pinning masks together



Stacie and her dog Riley in charge of drive by pick up for community masks



members praised their efforts and thanked the Grange members for their time and talents.

## LOG CABIN UNITY GRANGE

Stories from members and their involvement with Grange never grow old. Ginny Straub of Log Cabin Unity Grange, Mercer County celebrated 60 years as a Granger this past April. Ginny shared that her neighbor was an avid Grange member at Mill Brook Grange. Ginny was invited to go along to an event. She liked Grange and she joined when she was 16 years old.

Ginny has a lifetime of memories that are wrapped around



Grange. She met her husband Richard through events. One evening at the Mercer County Grange Fair Square Dance he asked her to dance. Ginny shared that he was very quiet, but before the evening was over, he was able to steal a kiss under the moonlight with her. Ginny laughed as she said, "He was an old bachelor at 33 and I was an old maid of 26 when we married a few years later".

Ginny shared that she and Richard raised their two boys; Joel and Chris in Grange. The boys attended camp every year, they both served as Junior Princes and Youth Ambassadors. In later years after Joel married Christie (Bagenstose), they served as Young Couple of the Year. Ginny said with great pride, "I have never missed a Junior Grange Camp in all these years". She also added

"Grange News" continued on page 20



# Pennsylvania State Grange

## Officer Descriptions for the 148th Session

October 15-18, 2020  
Erie, PA

At the 148th Annual Pennsylvania State Grange Session all offices will be up for election. Pennsylvania State Grange By-Laws state in Article VI, paragraph 1.6.1, "With the exception of Secretary and Treasurer, no office holder's name shall be printed on the ballot for an office if that officer shall have held the same office continuously for six years immediately preceding."

If you are interested in serving as a State Officer, suggestions for office will be received on Friday afternoon, October 16th at 1:45 P.M. If you would like more information about serving as a State Officer, or know that you would like to be suggested, please contact the Pennsylvania State Grange office for the contact information of the Nominating Committee or have someone pre-arranged to suggest your name. The election will take place Saturday, October 17th, at 11:00 A.M. just before the lunch recess.

The By-Laws do not allow nominating speeches in the Grange, but, in Article VI, paragraph 1.6.6, it states "Each person suggested for a state office shall be permit-



ted to appear and speak before the delegate body for a maximum of two minutes at a designated time prior to the election." These presentations will be allowed immediately after the suggestions from the floor are received Friday afternoon.

Following are brief job descriptions for each State Office, along with the current officer's name and length of time served in that office. A complete description of officer duties can be found at [www.pagrange.org](http://www.pagrange.org).

All officers are to memorize their part in the Degree work; be available for speaking engagements as approved by the State President/Master; support and promote the policies and programs of the State Grange; submit articles for the Pennsylvania Grange News as requested by the editor or President/Master; attend the State Convention, special events, officer's meetings; and prepare an annual report for the Journal of Proceedings.

### **PRESIDENT/MASTER:**

Wayne Campbell [3 years], Be available to work in the Pennsylvania State Grange Office, make Grange and office management decisions; appoint Advocates/Deputies and committees; provide leadership in the absence of policy and/or when adjustments are appropriate; hire and supervise the State Grange office staff; represent the State Grange at various functions; speak where invited; oversee all State Grange programs and projects; develop and implement new programs, serve ex-officio on all committees; provide leadership in legislative matters; visit Granges as needed;





hear concerns of rural Pennsylvania, help members resolve problems; inject new ideas and provide the tools needed to encourage membership growth; oversee status of all Subordinate and Pomona Granges; organize and reorganize Granges; write articles for the Pennsylvania Grange News [PGN] and letters of communication.

**VICE PRESIDENT/  
OVERSEER:**

JV Lamb [3 years], In the event of an emergency be prepared to fulfil the office of President/Master, fill in for the Master at workshops, meetings and activities as needed; serve on the Executive Committee; speak at engagements as requested by the President/Master, be available as needed by the State President/Master; and serve as a member of the Board for the Grange Foundation.

**LECTURER:**

Jennifer Nauss [2 years], Develop the yearly Lecturer's program with the assistance of your Committee, provide support, assistance and guidance for Subordinate and Pomona Lecturers and the Lecturer's Committee via communications; plan and lead music at State Convention; promote and conduct the annual talent contest; plan and oversee the Lecturer's displays, exhibits, contests and judging of programs under the Lecturer's direction at state and district events; promote Grange projects and policies; budget income and expenses; file quarterly financial reports; visit Granges as available; write articles for the PGN.

**STEWARD:**

Andrew Kieffer [2 years], Schedule State Advocates working at State Session; conduct the election of officers; assist in preparing the stage for the Session and Degree.

**ASSISTANT STEWARD:**

Robert Kleckner III [2 years], Assist with conducting the Convention; aid the Steward in preparing for the meeting and degree.

**LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD:**

Lorena Baughman [4 years], Assist with conducting the Convention; aid the Steward in preparing for the meeting and degree; store, wash and iron the court ladies' gowns for the Degree.

**CHAPLAIN:**

Judy Pressler [4 years], Provide spiritual guidance and/or meditations at all sessions of the annual Convention and other state events; prepare and conduct the annual memorial service; write articles for the PGN.



**TREASURER:**

Henry Seidel (16 years), Assist the State President/Master in managing certain financial matters; report to the Executive Committee quarterly in writing regarding changes made in investments; manage the scholarship loan and grant programs, including pay-back schedules; be knowledgeable regarding investments, book-keeping and financial planning; manage the lifetime membership program funds and Grange Trust Fund accounts; manage Grange Improvement Loan accounts; serve as a member of the Board of the Grange Foundation; be responsible for safekeeping of legal documents; present annual financial and audit reports.

**SECRETARY:**

Debbie Campbell (8 years), Prepare minutes of the Session and publish the Journal of Proceedings; communicate with Subordinate and Pomona secretaries; be available to the State Grange office staff on a weekly basis; be available to handle specific duties as assigned by the State President/Master and Executive Committee. Assist Office Secretary in logging

and processing Quarterly Dues from Subordinate Granges and oversee prompt payment of Dues to National Grange as required by the By-Laws. Maintain Grange supply department inventory and sales; process 25, 50, and 50-plus year certificates for membership.

**GATEKEEPER:**

Gene Zvarick [5 years], Manage the flow of business at the State Session; assist with preparation of stage for meetings and Degree.

**CERES:**

Hannah Leibensperger (2 years), Launder, store, and press the Ceres drill costumes and accessories for the drill team; select court ladies.

**POMONA:**

Jennifer Beamon [2 years], Launder, store and press the Pomona drill costumes and accessories for the drill team; select court ladies.

**FLORA:**

Virginia Mangel [4 years], Select and teach each drill team for the Degree; launder, store and press the Flora drill costumes and accessories for the drill team, pillar girls and rose girls; select court ladies.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Richard Mangel [4 years] Be available to attend meetings of the Executive Committee in Harrisburg or other areas of the state as needed; contribute to decision making and be available to explain decisions made throughout the year; bring ideas to aid in the development of programs, policies, and projects; provide oversight of property and funds of the State Grange; serve as a member of the Board for the Grange Foundation. (Other Executive Committee members are Janet Pratt, Barbara Schroeder and Dr. James Diamond.)





**Government Matters**  
**Vince Phillips**  
 PA State Grange Lobbyist

**IMPORTANT TO YOU!**

Please contact the Pennsylvania State Grange on issues that are important to you. After all, our legislative goals come from members. Please let us know: [legislative@pagrange.org](mailto:legislative@pagrange.org) or 717-737-8855 or 717-346-1063. If

you want help in drafting a resolution to be considered by your local Grange which then gets voted on at State Session in October, please utilize the Pennsylvania State Grange as a resource. If you want to see the positions taken by the Pennsylvania State Grange on legislative and regulatory issues, please refer to our web site, [www.pagrange.org](http://www.pagrange.org).

Pennsylvania State Grange members have a variety of interests and backgrounds. What all have in common is a desire to appreciate the blessings we are given even while wanting to improve the state in which we live. This article discusses how Grange members can let their concerns be acted on by the Pennsylvania State Grange. When they suggest Grange policies through Resolutions at the State Session, it represents this grassroots, member-centered, policy process. What should we advocate? You tell us.

Here are a few from the 2019 State Session that were adopted and became Grange policy.

- Resolved: The Pennsylvania State Grange actively advocates passage of legislation to allow milk haulers an exemption from weather-related closings of Interstate highways.
- Resolved: The Pennsylvania and the National Grange support legislation calling for a halt on implementation of MS4 and if implementation is continued, farmers be exempt from having to incur costs connected with storm water management plan development or simply be exempted from the MS4 requirement altogether. (MS4 is federally-mandated storm water management with costs borne by municipalities and ultimately the taxpayers.)
- Resolved: The Pennsylvania State Grange urge the PA Game Commission to allow electronic transmission and payment for antlerless deer hunting license applications.

# MEMBERS DRIVE GRANGE POLICY

**What Does This Have to do With You?**

Our strength comes from you, our members. The things we advocate come from you, our members. Ask yourself these questions.

- What is going on with state government that has or is affecting you now?
- What legislation is important to rural PA? What do you want to see enacted?

**The Process: Put Forth a Resolution.**

Take your ideas and write them down. There is a format for Resolutions. It includes two parts. The first is Whereas. The whereas clauses show the need. What is the need that prompts your suggestion as Grange policy? The second part of the format is the Resolved. Simply put, what do you want the Pennsylvania State Grange to advocate?

**Here is a sample format:**

***WHEREAS, much of PA agriculture depends on pollination by bees, and;***

***WHEREAS, bees are under stress with hive collapses and emerging threats like the Asian Murder Hornet, and;***

***WHEREAS, research is vital to finding ways to restore and preserve the PA bee population; therefore be it***

***RESOLVED: The Pennsylvania State Grange asks***



**the PA Department of Agriculture to declare restoration of PA's bee population a state priority for research funding.**

That wasn't so hard was it? Rest assured, if you need help in drafting something, please feel free to contact the State Office for help (legislative@pagrange.org).

The next step is the hardest. An individual must first take his or her idea and bring to their own Grange for discussion. That means that the author must talk with other members about their idea. Addressing the fear of public speaking that some have, keep in mind that this is not a speech.



It is a conversation with fellow Grangers. You say why this idea is important. Fellow members ask questions and you all discuss it. Then your Grange votes to forward your suggestion.

The next step is a state-level meeting which usually takes place in September. The Pennsylvania State Grange has specific subcommittees that take the ideas and



discuss them. Their role is to vet the proposed Resolutions to make sure that they do not duplicate existing Grange policy and that they are feasible. Then, these committees forward the Resolutions to the State Session Delegate body with recommendations.

These recommendations would be evaluated by Delegates. Is the Resolution present policy? Should it be adopted or rejected? Should it be amended and then approved? The State Session Delegates make the final decision. Sometimes the recommendations from the Resolutions meeting are heeded. Sometimes not.

That ensures that every recommendation from a Grange member gets a fair hearing at both the Resolutions meeting and by State Session Delegates.

Sometimes the State Session Delegates ask that the Resolution be sent back to the relevant res-

olutions committee for re-drafting in case the original Resolution was unclear or needs to be amended. Then, it goes back to State Session again for the final decision on what our policies should be.

Of course, if you have a Resolution that means something to you and others, attending and participating in local and state Grange meetings is certainly an important part of achieving your goal.

Underscore the importance of this process. It is open. It is transparent. And it is fruitful because then the Pennsylvania State Grange has a direction of what its members want it to do. Your adopted Resolution also provides marching orders for Grange lobbying and media. The most important takeaway from this article is that you can make your views felt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Vince Phillips is the lobbyist for the Pennsylvania State Grange. He has lobbied in PA since 1989, coming from the Nation's Capitol where, among other things, he served on President Reagan's Transition Team and held a Reagan Administration appointment at USDA.

Vince Phillips  
Legislative Director  
Pennsylvania State Grange  
717-346-1063  
FAX 717-232-7005  
legislative@pagrange.org



“Grange News” continued from page 15

that in 2007 they were chosen as Grange Family of the Year.

“Grange offers something for everyone who joins”, added Ginny as she thought about all the things over the years that Grange provided them. She has held just about every office through the Mercer County Pomona, was Master at Stonypoint Grange and Log Cabin Unity Grange. She added that Richard passed away in 2017 and it is hard losing a spouse. She added that her strength comes from the time she spends with her family and lifelong Grange friends she has made from across the country.

Congratulations Ginny on 60 years a Granger!

### PROGRESS GRANGE #96

In mid-March, as the COVID-19 stay-at-home restrictions were



Making over 100 sandwiches

just beginning to keep people of all ages from their schools, jobs, and



Packing weekend bags in Progress Grange Hall



Hunger Heroes / Progress Grange members Denny McCloskey, LeDon Young, and Tammy Jurkowski

families, a call for help was sent out from the local YMCA to open up food distribution sites across the Penns Valley area of Centre County. Responding to this need, Progress Grange #96 Master Denny McCloskey reached out to Mel Curtis, Moshannon Valley YMCA Branch Director, offering the Progress Grange in Centre Hall as a family food pick-up location.



Seated - LeDon Young, Rear Left to Right Tammy Jurkowski, Alaina McCloskey, Marshall Stoner, Denny McCloskey, Diana Powlus, Maddie Gooch, Hannah Gooch

The Progress Grange, after much preparation and planning, opened its first distribution on



LeDon Young and Debbie Peterson delivering food to a senior not able to come to the hall for pickup



Soph helping with food delivery

April 10, 2020. Wanting to help more than just the local families, it was decided that the Grange would not only help sort, prepare and distribute the weekend family bags, they would also offer a luncheon meal to local seniors



Weekend bags ready for distribution

and veterans. These folks would receive, at no cost, a homemade soup and sandwich, fruit, and a dessert treat. Many bags were delivered personally to shut-ins by Grange members and other community volunteers.



Awaiting first vehicle to load



*Marshall Stoner and Alaina McCloskey loading vehicle with food items*

The Penns Valley Hope Fund has also partnered with the Progress Grange and the YMCA to financially support the effort to get food in to the hands of those that need it most. Private, individual donations have been given in excess of \$500. Each week numbers have grown steadily, with items such as milk, eggs, and fresh fruit being offered along with various shelf-stable foods. It is estimated that the Grange distribution has helped over 500 individuals since this project began.

To make a private donation or for more information, please con-



*Master Denny McCloskey asking family what items they need*

tact Master Denny McCloskey at [denny@dmproductions.net](mailto:denny@dmproductions.net).

We also want to make known a few other facts;

1. In past weeks, Progress Grange made over 100 sandwiches each week. Half of them are turkey and other half ham. They are put in the senior / veteran bags. This past week we made almost 150 sandwiches
2. Progress Grange made over 150 pieces of chocolate cake to be included in the bags this past week.
3. Progress Grange, made the soup that is included in the senior / veteran bags (Ham Potpie, vegetable beef, and ham and bean)
4. Our location is also being used as a warehouse for packing and distributing bags to other locations in Penns Valley area
5. It takes many hours of preparation each week for the distribution to take place (over 60 hours of volunteers)



*Senior / Veteran bags ready for distribution*

Several of our members met at the Grange and prepared the Ham pot pie that went in the first Senior and Vet bags, and the vegetable soup that went in the next time, and the ham and bean that is going in this time. They made the cake and cupcakes that went in last weeks. A little bit of home made goodness for our seniors and vets. Denny has specific numbers of the folks who come for the meals, and the weekend bags, as well as the number that we deliver with the help of community members who have asked to join in.

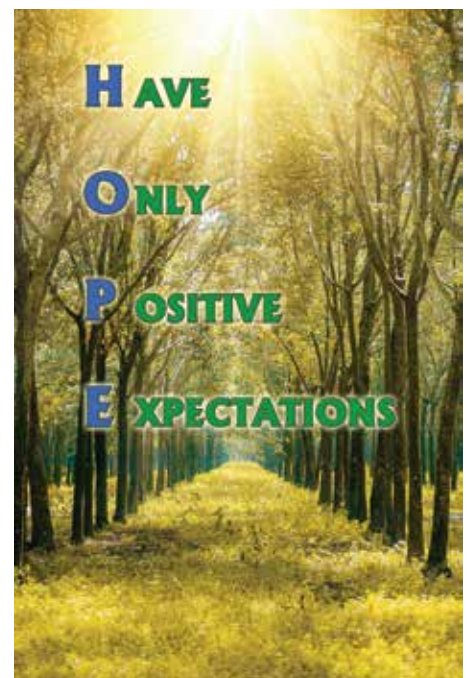
## VENANGO GRANGE

In Venango County Wesley Grange members were joined by local students in preparing “Vial of Life” kits. A “Vial of Life” decal on an entry door indicates to first responders that vital information is posted on the refrigerator door. The kit contains important medical information that can assist emergency personnel in administering the proper medical treatment. The free kits prepared by Wesley Grange will be used by those in Venango and surrounding



*Venango: L-r Sophie Shadle, Shanee Smith, Hope Kellner, Alisa Lipinski*

counties including Crawford, Clarion, Mercer, Butler, and Lawrence. More information on the “Vial of Life” program can be found online at [vialoflife.com](http://vialoflife.com).





## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

### Eagle #1

Jordan Downey  
Cindy Newcomer

### Goshen #121

Jessica Wadsworth

### Union #152

Wanda Brooks  
William Brooks  
Clista Parkhurst  
Donna Potter  
John Potter

### Union #325

John Walters  
Mary Walters

### Dawson #419

Lois Connors

### Forest #853

Bonnie Meisel

### California #941

Roxanne Kvalkauskas

### Oliver #1069

Carol Hardbarger  
Barry Signor  
Theresa Signor  
Wendy Witmyer

Jeffrey Wood

Joanne Wood

### Harmony #1201

Mark Fox

### Hickory #1285

Eunice Dunn

Robert Pernesky

### Chester Valley #1496

Pat Mastrangelo

Ralph Mastrangelo

### Ontelaunee #1617

Chris Blatt

Zoe Merkel

### Stony Point #1694

Nicholas Ammann

### Gouglersville #1749

William Fultz

### Virginville #1832

Richard Geisinger

Robbert Hiza

Lisa Houser

Donna Leibensperger

Denael Strong

Mackenzie Wolfe

### Capital City #2111

Jim Bohner

Shelly Bohner

Joel Figueras

Harold Forney

Morgan Ruziecki

James Swetlick  
Sean Swetlick  
Emily Webb  
Michelle Zandome

## BIRTHDAYS

### Mt. Nebo #1872

Katherine (Kay) Holman  
100 years old on May 21, 2020

### Bernville Grange #1887

Norman Reifsnyder  
August 25, 1921

## IN MEMORIAM

### Eagle #1

Paul Renninger

### Logan #109

Jean Lair

### Beech Flats #336

Duane Wilcox

### Shaver's Creek #353

S. Horace Mowrer

### Hartslog Valley #375

Benjamin F. Dively

### Dawson #419

Virginia Wiltrout

### Walker #786

Margaret S. Adams

### Hayfield #800

Patricia Barnes

### Forest #853

Patricia Stenger

Dennis Luther

### California #941

Paul M. Kohl

### Elkland #976

Carl F. Hugo

### Star #993

Ethel Jones

Thomas R. Hahn

### Labor #1063

Margaret Branning

### Central #1216

Edythe Glassmire

### Tioga #1223

Charles Jones Jr.

### Port Matilada

#1284

Jean Reese

### Valley #1360

Justin Boose

Marcia Nace

### Burgettstown

#1502

Wayne Kramer

### Central #1650

Dorothy Arndt  
Curtis Freibolin  
Paul Krause  
Warren Creitz

### Schnecksville #1684

Carl Heintzelman

### Harmony #1692

Jean Klutsarits

### Trexlerstown #1755

Sandra Gangewere

### Spring Church #1803

Buryl Harley

### Virginville #1832

Dorothy M. Nester

### Fleetwood #1839

Harold Aulenbach

### Mt. Nebo #1872

Margaret Maier

### Bernville #1887

Margaret Swope

### South Buffalo #1908

Wayne Ashbaugh

### Unionville #1971

Alice Saul

### Baileyville #1991

Charles E. Richard



Pennsylvania State Grange

To receive Grange emails...

To: 22828

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**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Join us to kick-off the celebrations for the PA State Grange's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!  
Saturday, April 17, 2021**

**10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Eagle Grange #1 Open House**

Celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Eagle Grange #1 and drop by to learn more about Pennsylvania's historic first Grange near Williamsport

**1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

**PA State Grange 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Kick-Off Luncheon and Program**

Kick-off the celebrations for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a luncheon and program at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg (a short drive from Eagle Grange #1)

**Turn the day into an outing!** Visit some of the many unique sites in the Williamsport-Lewisburg area. Email Doug Bonsall at [douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net) for a list of attractions to visit before and after these Grange events.

For tickets, contact Anna May Nauss at (717) 697-5104 or [annauss@aol.com](mailto:annauss@aol.com).

Tickets - \$25/person

Checks made payable to the PA State Grange History Committee

Mail payment and self-addressed stamped envelope (for tickets) to:

Anna May Nauss, 10 West Schoolside Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

## **Pennsylvania State Grange**

### ***Pennsylvania Grange News***

20 Erford Road, Suite 216

Lemoyne, PA 17043

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- National Grange Travel Center
- Office Depot/Office Max/Shop.com
- TSYS Merchant Solutions

#### **Pennsylvania State Grange Benefits**

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- Avis Rental Car: Discounted Member rates
- BJ's Wholesale Club: Save \$15 on Base, or \$30 on Rewards Membership, plus 1 free month
- Tickets at Work: Offers discounts on movie tickets, concerts, travel, theme parks, and shopping

The Pennsylvania State Grange also offers scholarships and interest free loans



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

**Pennsylvania State  
Grange**

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# PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE NEWS

September/October 2020

2020  
Virtual  
Pennsylvania State Junior Grange Camp





**HOT OFF THE PRESS...  
FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE GRANGE  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE**

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE  
STATEMENT REGARDING REP.  
MARK KELLER APPOINTMENT  
AS AG COMMITTEE CHAIR**

LEMOYNE... Pennsylvania State Grange President Wayne Campbell issued the following statement because of the appointment of PA Representative Mark Keller's (R-Perry) to serve as Majority Chair of the House Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee:

*"The Pennsylvania State Grange is delighted to see that Perry County Rep. Mark Keller is the new Majority Chair of the House Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee. He is a leading proponent for farmers and has always been effective as an advocate for rural interests to fellow legislators because he is a hands-on farmer. He is a loyal friend to the Pennsylvania State Grange and other agricultural groups. We applaud his work and his continuing legislative efforts on behalf of Pennsylvania Agriculture as Committee Chair."*

*"The Pennsylvania State Grange also wants to thank immediate past Chair Rep. Marty Causer for his stewardship of the House Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee. During his tenure, the Committee led on so many issues affecting the Agriculture Community that run the gamut. The PA Farm Bill, Broadband legislation, milk hauling during emergencies, and many other pieces of constructive legislation are a few that show his handiwork. We wish him the very*

*best in his new role as new House Majority Policy Committee Chair."*

\*\*\*\*\*

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE  
GRANGE STATEMENT REGARD-  
ING WOLF ADMINISTRATION  
BROADBAND ADVOCACY**

LEMOYNE... Pennsylvania State Grange President Wayne Campbell issued the following in the wake of a letter sent by Governor Tom Wolf and ten other Governors urging Federal policymakers to fund Broadband expansion.

The Pennsylvania State Grange appreciates the intent of the Governor's letter asking the President and Congress to fund expansion of high-speed Broadband in unserved and underserved areas. We respectfully point out that good intentions are best demonstrated at home.

While the Governor established the Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives with fanfare, he never funded it. In each State Budget he proposed, there continues to be no line-item for this important office. There is no resource so that the Office could actually coordinate Pennsylvania's efforts to secure Federal funding and serve as a liaison

between the FCC and State Government. The Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives has no dedicated staff. The lone staff person is 'borrowed' from the Department of Community & Economic Development.

The Pennsylvania State Grange urges Governor Tom Wolf to reinforce the leadership he has shown in advocating Federal Broadband funding by helping his own Office of Broadband Initiatives function as it should. We fear that without funding, the Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives will become irrelevant.

Following as a reference, is the letter from the Governor's Office, joining other state Governors. It was sent to President Trump and congressional leadership.

June 25, 2020

As Governors, we have seen and appreciate your quick and much-needed COVID-19 economic

*"Heads Up" continued on page 15*





# PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE NEWS

September/October 2020



## Pennsylvania Grange News

20 Erford Road, Suite 216  
Lemoyne, PA 17043  
1-717-737-8855  
[www.pagrangle.org](http://www.pagrangle.org)

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### Publishing Editor

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### 2020 Deadlines

November/December 2020 (Issue 6)  
September 11th, 2020

**Please address all 2021 articles to the Pennsylvania State Grange office for all future deadlines**

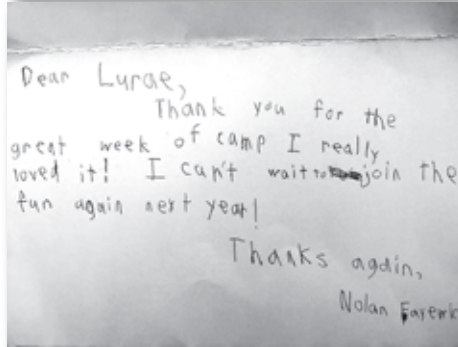
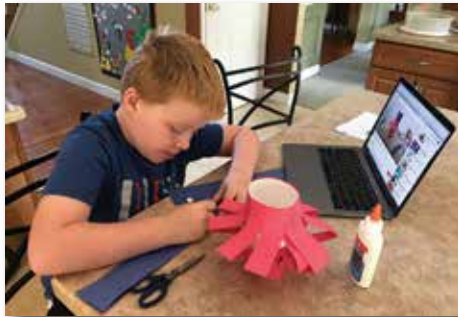
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Lemoyne, PA 17043



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## From the President's Desk

Wayne D. Campbell  
PA State Grange President  
president@pagrange.org



*American Values.  
Hometown Roots.*

In my last article I talked about these unusual times and the many things Grangers have been doing. I questioned if we would or when we would return to life as we knew it. I still ponder those two questions. But what I do know is that Grangers are still cultivating connections and making an impact.

We are still working very hard to get adequate Broadband across Pennsylvania. We continue to do everything we can to keep this at the top of Legislators and the Governor's priorities. The Pandemic has made it even more obvious how important an issue this is. Educating our children, providing health care for everyone, not only our seniors, and for farmers to be able to utilize Smart farm equipment and have access to the internet to be able to use programs that work in conjunction with the Smart farm equipment.

In many of my conversations I have found a strong desire of our citizens to help their neighbors. I say this because of what many have told me about the terrific response that not only Grangers have seen at their fundraisers, but other groups like fire companies have experienced. People have said chicken BBQ's, Fish Fries, etc. have sold out very quickly. We have posted on our website, [www.pagrange.org](http://www.pagrange.org), the CDC guidelines you will need to follow when holding any events or reopening to have meetings. All fundraisers that I am aware of have been held as drive through events.

Please take a moment to look at the benefits we offer in the member benefits page on our website. If you have trouble registering for the member benefits page, please call Lizzie or myself for help. One of our benefits, Tickets at Work, are offering some really good discount tickets to amusement parks, discounted hotel rates, and other discounts nationwide.

Yes, these are unusual times, but we have the tools to still cultivate connections. We have ZOOM Conferencing, we have the CDC guidelines to be able to safely do drive through events, and we have the perseverance to push on. Be willing to step out of your comfort zone and try something new.

The Pennsylvania State Grange office continues to operate on an appointment basis with everyone working from home as much as possible. Please call any of us with questions that we can help you with. President Wayne Campbell 717.275.5045, Pennsylvania State Grange Secretary Debbie Campbell 717.275.4469, Brittany Covey Office Secretary 717.743.9787, Lizzie Bailey Public Relations/Membership Consultant 717.254.9550, or Vince Phillips Legislative Consultant 717.728.1217.

Fraternally,  
Wayne D. Campbell,  
Pennsylvania State Grange  
President  
[president@pagrange.org](mailto:president@pagrange.org)



### **PGN ARTICLES: Effective Jan/Feb 2021 Issue!!!**

I would like to thank Heather Hiller for the time and dedication she has given to the Pennsylvania Grange News over the last several years. Heather has done an outstanding job of providing interesting and informative articles to our members and publishing a great magazine for us.

Effective with the January/February, 2021 issue of the Pennsylvania Grange News, the publishing of it will be moving back to the office of the Pennsylvania State Grange.

Please email all articles, photos, and other information for in the PGN to [pagrange@pagrange.org](mailto:pagrange@pagrange.org) or mail it to:

Pennsylvania State Grange, 20 Erford Road, Suite 216, Lemoyne, Pa. 17043.

Questions can be directed to Lizzie Bailey at 717.254.9550 or Brittany Covey at 717.743.9787.

Wayne D. Campbell, President  
Pennsylvania State Grange



**Chaplain's Corner**  
 Judy Pressler  
 PA State Grange Chaplain

# God's Abundance

I heard a minister say once that God is a **"God of Abundant Love."** What exactly does the word abundance mean? From a couple of different dictionaries: *an extremely plentiful or over-sufficient quantity or supply; overflowing fullness;* and from a Bible dictionary: *full of everything you need to sustain yourself in joy and purpose.* The **antonym for abundance** is *scarcity or dearth!* So what does that mean to us?

As autumn settles in, it is a time to reap the benefits of our planting and tending to our gardens. When we planted our gardens, we used new seeds and tilled the ground until it was just right. The corn, beets and onions came up and looked great. The tomato and pepper plants took root and began to look healthy. A few bean stalks popped up here and there and the cucumbers never came up. We bought more plants but couldn't find more bean seeds. Then the hot, dry weather hit and everything began wilting!

When we shopped for toilet paper, paper towels and hand sanitizer, the shelves were empty with warning signs: one per customer! Church doors were closed, restaurants only offered take-out meals and surgeries and ER trips were limited to patient only while family members waited in the parking lots! Person to person visits were taboo.

*We have to expect disappointments along our way, but we must not get bogged down and forget that God's love is always present no matter what we are going through.* We must remember that God's love is so wide, long, high and deep that it surpasses anything we could imagine. *He is at work in all things for the good of the people who love Him.*

At this writing, our corn is in tassel, we have small tomatoes on the vines, peppers and beans are hanging on the plants, cucumbers are in blossom. **We are expecting an abundant harvest to share with the local Food Bank.**

We never ran out of toilet paper, we found ample hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes and we are eating well...I have used my Grange cookbooks more these past several months than I did the other 50+ years!

We are now in good health and looking forward to attending State Session. We have kept up to date with friends and family by phone and computers and I was delighted to receive a nice letter from a Junior Granger asking about my welfare!!

I would say we are experiencing the **abundance of God's love**

even if it is in a different way than we had expected. God doesn't just love a little, He loves a lot! His **abundant mercy and compassion** are always extremely plentiful and overly-sufficient for all our needs. **He is a God of Abundance not Scarcity!**

-----  
*God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*  
 II Corinthians 9:8



Praying for love in all aspects of your lives,  
 Judy Pressler, Chaplain  
 jxp2@psu.edu





## Membership News

Lizzie Bailey

PA State Grange Membership & PR  
Director

### Zoom Meetings

Just a reminder that we have Zoom available for our Granges who want to have a virtual meeting or fun gathering. You can call in on a phone or use a computer to participate in the meeting.

### Membership Workshops

I know the past several months have been unusual times as we have abided by "Stay at home" orders to limit our socialization with others due to COVID-19.

Don't let these times distract you from our goals of growing membership. Actually, now is a great time to be discussing Grange!



**You're Invited...**  
**Pennsylvania State Grange Zoom Bingo**  
 Wednesdays  
 7:00 p.m.  
 (zoom room will open at 6:30 to socialize!)  
**Come join us for Bingo!!!**  
 Please email, or text/call Lizzie with any questions!  
 Email: [publicrelations@pagrange.org](mailto:publicrelations@pagrange.org) or Text/call: 717-254-9550

Don't forget to call me to schedule some time so we can work together on growing membership at your Grange.

### Zoom Bingo

The Pennsylvania State Grange is playing Virtual Bingo every Wednesday night on Zoom. It is a fantastic way to have some fun, fellowship and maybe win a prize or too! The more the merrier is our philosophy, so invite a friend, family members, and neighbor to join the fun! Contact Lizzie to receive a bingo card and more information.

### Email Blasts

If you are not receiving the Pennsylvania State Grange Email Blasts you are missing updates and pertinent news! Please call Lizzie at 717-254-9550, email: [publicrelations@pagrange.org](mailto:publicrelations@pagrange.org), or text: 22828 in message type: PAGRANGE hit send and then a message appears to enter your email address. If you have any questions, let us know.



**Pennsylvania State Grange**

To receive Grange emails...

**Text: 22828**  
**PAGRANGE**

Just send your email address by text message:

Message and data rates may apply

Yours in Grange service,  
Lizzie Bailey  
PR/Membership Director  
717-254-9550 Cell  
717-737-8855 Office  
[publicrelations@pagrange.org](mailto:publicrelations@pagrange.org)





## Family Activities

Melanie Melius

PA State Grange Family Activities  
Director

Hello everyone. I hope you are staying safe and healthy. By now everyone should know that both State and National Sessions have been modified for this year. Subordinate and Pomona Reports were initially scheduled to come to me by Sept.15, 2020, however, I'm going to CANCEL reports for this year. I will not be judging anything this year. Instead, I'm asking for next year's report to contain this year's 2019/2020 activities. This means that I will be judging 24 months on next year's 2020/2021 report. The 2020/2021 report will be due Sept. 15, 2021. In that report, please include all activities completed before the COVID-19 shut down and any activities in 2020.

If you have a National Quilt block that needs to be sent, please get it to me as soon as possible. I will be sending them in at the end of this September.

Quilt Raffle Tickets need to be sold or bought and returned to me NO later than Saturday OCTOBER 3, 2020. The Committee will be getting together and draw the winners at the State Office this year. We will announce the winners at the modified State Session and send home prizes with those who can attend. For those winners who are not attending the modified State Session, I will be mailing you your prizes. If your Grange is donating a prize for the Quilt and More Raffle, please send it along with someone that is attending modified session (Please have the


Grange name attached, so I know which Grange it is from). Thank you for sending prizes that help the Family Activities Quilt and More Raffle.

With all that said I hope to see all of the new contest entries in 2021. I'm looking forward to my Family Activities room overflowing with contest entries next year!- Can't wait to see everyone again... it has been a long year. Everyone stay safe and healthy.

Any Questions PLEASE call or email me.

Yours Truly,  
Melanie Melius  
Family Activities Director  
melmelius59@gmail.com  
(814)-360-7058






## Pennsylvania State Grange Cookbooks


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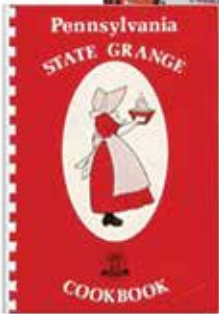
[www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org)

(click on cookbook tab)

**(717)737-8855**





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**Program Director**  
**Jenn Nauss**  
 PA State Grange Program Director

Greetings from South Central PA!

I hope that you had a wonderful summer, despite these unprecedented circumstances because of COVID-19. I certainly have missed seeing you at Youth and Junior Camps and Family Festival, the events that are the highlights of my summers. So many things have changed in the last few months and continue to change on a daily – sometimes hourly – basis. I hope that your Granges have found new ways to connect to your communities and your members despite the need for physical distance and other precautions.

**Updates to Contests and Programs**

Since the last Grange News article, there have been some changes to the State Session Contests and Programs. These are summarized below.

*Creative Connections*

In understanding that Granges had to put many in-person events on hold and to honor the work of Lecturers during these unprecedented times, we are introducing a new program – **Creative Connections**.

This report will take the place of the Open House report form. There will be three divisions.

- **Division A** – Granges who were able to hold their Open House – “We had our Open House and here is what it looked like...”
- **Division B** – Granges who had planned their Open House but could not hold it – “We had our Open House planned, but could not have it. Here is what it would have looked like...”
- **Division C** – Granges who could not hold their Open

House – “Because of COVID-19, we could not have our Open House. Here is what we did instead...”

There will still be membership classes in each division:

1. Pomona
2. Subordinate – Up to 50 members
3. Subordinate – Between 51 and 99 members
4. Subordinate – 100 or more members

Because of this change, winning Granges in each division and class will receive a framed Certificate of Excellence in lieu of a plaque for this year. Creative Connections reports are due to me by **September 15th**.

*Pen in Hand*

- NEW Class – “One thing I learned during Social Distancing...”
1. 500 word maximum
  2. All other Pen in Hand rules should be followed as detailed in the Guide to Contests and Programs

*Photography* – conducted VIRTUALLY this year

- NEW Class – “Beauty in the Midst of Crisis”
- Other classes continue: Pennsylvania – My Home, Sunrise/Sunset, Pets/Animals, Plants, Churches
- Photos (one per Subordinate Grange per class) should be submitted to Jenn Nauss via email (jnauss89@gmail.com) or on a flash drive or CD mailed to Jenn Nauss, 10 West School-

side Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

- Because there will not be a National Grange Photography Showcase this year, this year’s winner will not advance to a National Contest.

*Design a Program and Lecturer’s Grant*

Please reference the Guide to Contests and Programs for specific information about these two new programs. The “Design a Program” contest entries will be compiled into a Lecturer’s Idea Book that will be distributed and made available online. The Lecturer’s Grant is an opportunity for Granges to apply for funding to make their dream programs a reality. Entries for these programs are due to me by **September 15th**.

*Lecturer’s Reports*

Lecturers should submit their reports to me by **September 15th**. New this year is that Scrapbooks will be judged separately from reports submitted without scrapbooks. First place report winners in each class will be awarded \$10 and first place scrapbook winners in each class will be awarded \$50.

All report forms are available on the Lecturer’s page of the PA State Grange website and also were sent in a mailing to Granges. If you have not received a copy or cannot view the forms on the website, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*My Favorite Anything and Art Contests – Canceled*

Because of the changes with State Session, specifically that there will not be an Exhibit Room, the “My Favorite Anything” and Art Contests will NOT be held this year. Please continue to work on your creations and plan to enter them in the contests in 2021.

Please read the weekly Grange email blasts and check the Grange website for any other updates that may come up in the next few months. Circumstances with the virus change frequently, and therefore, some plans may also need to change as the circumstances do.

*“Program Director” continued on page 17*





# Historic Pennsylvania Grange Celebrates New Look

By Jenn Nauss  
Pennsylvania State Grange Lecturer/  
Program Director



A little more than a year ago, Pennsylvania's first Grange – Eagle Grange #1 in Lycoming County – embarked on a journey to renew itself. Together with the help of Doug Bonsall and Jenn Nauss from

continue their work for the next 150 years and beyond.

Through keeping an open mind to new ideas and the hard work of the members, Eagle Grange #1 has made some impressive strides in their renewal. They hosted a successful Candidates Forum last October for the County Commissioner candidates, which drew more than 80 people from the community. Individuals

and families continue to use the building for family functions and other gatherings. The Susquehanna Valley West Coast Swing Dance Community regularly uses the Grange Hall for weekly dance practices and performances.

bell, have also replaced the floor throughout the first floor of the hall. Grange volunteers have also done extensive painting to make the building a more attractive site for community events. It is thanks to the generous donations from Friends of Eagle Grange #1 from across the state of Pennsylvania and a few larger donations from Perry Valley Grange #1804, Valley Grange #1360, and Red Lion Grange #1781 that this work could be completed.



*(April 2020) Grange President David Troutman helps with the initial task of emptying all the kitchen cabinets for the upcoming renovation. (Photo Credit: Beth Downey)*

the Pennsylvania State Grange History Committee, the members of Eagle Grange #1 have made tremendous strides toward renewing the Grange as a community hub in Montgomery, Lycoming County.

Eagle Grange #1 was founded almost 150 years ago, in March 1871, thanks to the organizational efforts of Luke Eger. Pennsylvania's first Grange has been continually active since its founding almost 150 years ago but, like many Granges around the state and the country, has faced several uphill battles including decreasing active membership and financial difficulties. Eagle Grange's renewal project aims to increase their active involvement in Montgomery and surrounding communities to con-

tinually uses the Grange Hall for weekly dance practices and performances.

In order to make the building more accessible and readily used for such community events, Eagle Grange has undergone some major renovations. These include making the Grange Hall ADA-compliant with accessible restrooms, an entrance ramp, and a reserved handicap parking area. Grange volunteers from Eagle Grange and Valley Grange #1360 in York County, as well as Pennsylvania State Grange President Wayne Camp-



*(June 2020) The results of a long day of work - by 11 p.m. that evening, the floor was finally finished in the dining hall and kitchen. (Photo Credit: David Troutman)*



*"Eagle Grange" continued on page 21*



# Youth News

Youth Committee  
Ellen Wadsworth  
PA State Grange Youth Director



What an interesting summer! No in-person Youth Camp, or Junior Camp or Family Festival which was very depressing for the dedicated Grangers who organize these events as well as all those who attend. Hopefully you have participated in virtual Grange events to help combat the blues and to stay connected!

We held a virtual Youth Camp this past June with over 20 participants each night. The youth and young adults connecting to our Virtually There 2020 Youth Camp were able to visit with friends from across the state, as well as talk about how this pandemic has affected them. The youth also participated in several games, including scavenger hunts and trivia challenges, a pet show and tell and learned about the changes in the youth contests for this year.

Several youth and young adult members were eager to connect again for another activity. This time we co-hosted a Virtual Paint Night along with the State Lecturer. This activity was held on August 1st and was enjoyed by many Grangers and non-Grangers of all ages.

**UPDATES TO CONTESTS:** An update to our Youth and Young Adults contests, especially those held at State Session follows.

**State Public Speaking Contest** – all four categories will be held virtually on October 10, 2020. The rules and guidelines are in the

Guide to Contests and Programs 2020-21. Sign up by **October 1st** on <https://form.jotform.com/201985749128164> to reserve your time slot for:

- Prepared Speech
- Radio Spot
- Impromptu Speech
- DIY Speech

**Folding Display Contest** - is now called the GRANGE DISPLAY Contest – The rules have changed slightly to fall in line with the National Youth contest rules. The goal of the Grange Display contest is to create either a digital or folding display that could be utilized at a county fair, library, Grange open house or other forum to promote the Grange, Grange program or Grange issue. All entries for the Grange Display Contest must be received by email or mail by **October 1st** to [youth@pagrange.org](mailto:youth@pagrange.org) or 362 University Road, Lincoln University, PA 19352. Winners will be displayed on the Youth and Young Adults webpage and Facebook page.

Revised Contest Rules:

1. All entrants must be youth or young adult members of a subordinate/community Grange
2. Two age divisions: Youth - Grange members between the ages of 14-21 as of Jan. 1; Young Adult - Grange members between the ages of 22-35.
3. The display theme must be Grange related.
4. The winning entries from PA will be sent to National Youth Director for judging and hopefully exhibited at the National

Grange Session.

5. A Grange member may enter as an individual OR as a member of a group. All group entry members must be in the same age division.
6. Folding Display should be no larger than 3' x 4' and should be able to stand by itself. At least 3 photos of the folding display from different angles will be submitted for judging.
7. Digital displays must be on a flash drive and in .MP4, .MPG, WMA format.
8. Displays will be judged on content, organization, originality and neatness.

**Create A Button Contest** – This contest will be held following the same rules as in the Guide to Contests and Programs, however the button design must be submitted by **October 1st** to [youth@pagrange.org](mailto:youth@pagrange.org) or 362 University Road, Lincoln University, PA 19352.

**NEW! Grange Commercial Contest** - A Grange commercial is an advertisement promoting the Grange. The Commercial entry must be submitted by **October 1st** to [youth@pagrange.org](mailto:youth@pagrange.org) or 362 University Road, Lincoln University, PA 19352.

Contest Rules:

1. Contest participant(s) must film and edit themselves doing a commercial for the Grange.
2. Can include up to five people in the commercial.
3. Commercials should last between 30-60 seconds.

*"Youth News" continued on page 22*



## History Committee

Doug Bonsall

PA State Grange History Committee  
Director

See the new 150th anniversary page on the  
State Grange website found under  
<https://www.pagrang.org/state-grange-150th-anniversary.html>

promote anniversary activities to every Subordinate Grange.

**Light the Cake** – Candles to light our 150th anniversary birthday cake are being purchased but there are still plenty of opportunities for members to sponsor one of the remaining candles. The cancellation of so many Grange activities has put this initiative a bit behind schedule but we re-

planned at the nearby Country Cupboard Restaurant and Shops north of Lewisburg featuring a motivational speaker, a historical candlelighting ceremony and the induction of two Pennsylvania patrons (John W. Scott and J. Luther Snyder) into the National Grange "Hall of Fame". For tickets and details, contact Anna May Nauss, 10 West Schoolside Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 ([amnauss@aol.com](mailto:amnauss@aol.com)).

**Regional Coordinators for 150th Anniversary** – Regional coordinators have been appointed to assist the 150th Anniversary general committee to communicate with Pomona Granges within their area and to encourage involvement in the State Grange's upcoming sesquicentennial celebration.

- Northwest Region (Granges in Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and Warren Counties) – Kelly VanOrd; [kvanord@verizon.net](mailto:kvanord@verizon.net); 814-484-7295
- Northcentral Region (Granges in Centre, Clearfield, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter and Tioga Counties) – Cheryl Miller; [miller.cheryl39@yahoo.com](mailto:miller.cheryl39@yahoo.com); 814-355-1139
- Northeast Region (Granges in Bradford, Carbon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Northampton, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming Counties) – Monica Turner; [woakes@epix.net](mailto:woakes@epix.net); 570-942-4627
- Southwest Region (Granges in Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland Counties) – Janet Fishovitz; [jfishovitz@gmail.com](mailto:jfishovitz@gmail.com); 724-494-5472
- Southcentral Region (Granges in Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Cumberland, Huntingdon, Juniata, Perry, Somerset and York Counties) – Krista Pontius; [kpontius@greenwoodsd.org](mailto:kpontius@greenwoodsd.org); 717-385-6015
- Southeast Region (Granges in Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and Montgomery Counties) – Gene & Denae Zvarick; [info@keystonegrange2.org](mailto:info@keystonegrange2.org); 484-663-3219



Help to light the PA State Grange 150th anniversary cake by sponsoring one or more of its 150 candles

main confident that we can wrap up this fund raiser by the close of 2020. The monies raised will help fund the State Grange's 150th anniversary celebration, beginning with the April 2021 kick-off and continuing through the 2023 session in Reading, PA. To find out what candles remain and how to make your contribution, contact Steve & Karen Mohn, 308 Mill Road, Womelsdorf, PA 19567 ([askmohn@comcast.net](mailto:askmohn@comcast.net)).

**Anniversary Kick-Off** – Did you reserve the date of Saturday, April 17, 2021, to attend the kick-off of the State Grange's 150th anniversary? A big day is planned starting with an open house and brunch reception at Eagle Grange #1 near Montgomery, PA (just south of Williamsport) where the Grange movement began in Pennsylvania in 1871. A festive luncheon is

**Looking for Degree Teams** – In the last issue an invitation was issued for Granges, counties or other groups of patrons to exemplify the first through fourth degrees as part of 150th anniversary activities. We hope to present the first and second degrees at the state session in 2021 and the third and fourth degrees in 2022, complete with tableaux and speaking parts memorized. In 2023, the celebration will culminate with the exemplification of the fifth and sixth degrees in full form. To volunteer or for more information, contact Doug

Bonsall, PO Box 765, Dauphin, PA 17018 ([douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net)).

**Free Regalia/Grange Items** – The State Grange has an abundance of extra officers' regalia, songbooks, implements, staves, etc. from closed Granges that we'd love to share at no cost to your Grange other than arranging for transportation from the office. If your Grange needs any of these items, please contact Doug Bonsall.

Doug Bonsall, Chair  
Pennsylvania State Grange  
History Committee  
[douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net)

Pomona Granges will be asked to appoint an anniversary coordinator to





# Junior News

## Junior Committee

Lurae Benzio

PA State Grange Junior Committee  
Director

HELLO Juniors, JG Families and JG Supporters!

WOW! What a hot summer we are having!! As I write this article in mid July, the temp is 91 and the humidity is 90%. I don't want to complain too loudly because it IS SUMMER - - but I prefer the cooler temps that come in the Fall. We are entering that beautiful time of year when the leaves begin to change, the nights are crisp and there is pumpkin EVERYTHING!! Speaking of pumpkins, you may have heard by now that the Pennsylvania State Session is not happening as normal this year. The Departments will not be setting up their contest areas and that includes the Juniors. There will be no JG Jam either. This is very sad to me. Sad to all of us. But, I want to still have a pumpkin decorating contest - - VIRTUALLY! Same rules apply as what is in the Contest Guide. I want you to work on the pumpkin, make it look great, take a photo of it and then email that photo to me BEFORE October 7th. Send the photo to [benz4@comcast.net](mailto:benz4@comcast.net). I will then separate into the age categories and post online in the Junior Grange Facebook Page for judging. More details will be posted on the Facebook Page and in the Pennsylvania Grange Email blasts that goes out weekly. A copy of the Contest Guide can be found on the Pennsylvania Grange website: [www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org).

Many of you know that the Pennsylvania State Junior Grange Camp was held Virtually this year. It was a GREAT time and I am happy to report that the comments from campers and parents alike were positive. We all had challenges to face but in the end - we succeeded and had a nice week. I kicked off the week by doing a LIVE welcome from Log Cabin Grange in Crawford County where Ginny Straub is from. Her son Joel and daughter-in-law Christie Straub helped to make the evening special with a campfire so we could



roast marshmallows for S'mores. The Perseghetti Children joined me in kicking off the camp week. Some of the other events held were a Camp Sing-a-long on Monday Night with Jen Beamon and Gail Switzer leading the campers. On Tuesday night the teams faced off for Trivia Night with Tina Reich (our newest JG Committee member). Wednesday Night was BINGO night with Suann Johnson. We had a Talent Night on Thursday Evening and had 12 Juniors sharing their talents. Those Ju-

niors are: Nolan Fayewicz - magic trick, Sarah Scharf - flute, Elsa Kehs - singing, Alexis Servin - piano, Connor Servin - piano, Logan Eisenhower - bass clarinet, Heidi & Julie Eisenhower - piano duet, Sarah Riegel- piano & singing, Harvey Reyburn - Bassoon, Gayle Reyburn - singing, Cameron Narad - poster/art lesson. We have some amazing talent among our kiddos!!

The camp week ended on Friday with a special camp video, some special words from me (Lurae) for the Vesper service and then Philip Vonada sang "Pass It On" which is a tradition to sing on Friday night of camp - around candlelight. I want to thank my Junior Grange Committee for helping out, the Virtual Counselors and Helpers for sitting in on the Cabin Chat Times, those that did Vesper services, the families who sent me flag raising videos, Lindsey Schroeder for helping with the camp video and the many Grange members who supported the whole idea of having a virtual camp. Together we can accomplish great things!! I am sharing a few photos from camp (most taken by parents in their homes) and also sharing 2 sweet thank you notes from 2 Juniors who I can't wait to meet in person next summer!!

As we move into a new season and continue to have concerns about the Corona Virus and other obstacles, please remember to be kind to one another. We are all dealing with these challenges and we all have ways of dealing with adversity. Listen to each other, help each other, share ideas with each other and care about each other! A great Big VIRTUAL hug to all of you!

Fraternally,  
Lurae Benzio  
Junior Grange Director  
[Benz4@comcast.net](mailto:Benz4@comcast.net)  
724-643-5750







# 2020 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED!

Pennsylvania State Grange is pleased to announce the awarding of 3 scholarships and 3 interest free loans to Pennsylvania State Grange Youth.

The Pennsylvania State Grange Foundation Scholarship was established in 1996 by delegate action, this scholarship is available to any Grange member, in good standing, entering their Junior or Senior year in college. The following People have been awarded scholarships from the Foundation:

1. Dori Kralj is the daughter of Rick and Gretchen Kralj of Emlenton, Pennsylvania. Dori is attending Iowa State University where she is majoring in Animal Science and has a minor in International Agriculture.
2. Sara Benzio is the daughter of Mark and Lurae Benzio of Industry, Pennsylvania. Sara is attending Penn State University where she is majoring in Animal Science and Ag Business and has a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Science.
3. Jessica Cain is the daughter of Gregory and Cindy Cain of Howard, Pennsylvania. Jessica is attending Lock Haven University where she is majoring in Secondary Social Studies Education.

The Rhone Grant is given in honor of Leonard Rhone who was the third Master of the Pennsylvania State Grange. This scholarship is given in his name to honor the great

things he did for the Grange. This scholarship is only available to those pursuing a degree in Agriculture or Human Development & Family Services at Penn State University. The Grant is being awarded this year to:

1. Sara Benzio is the daughter of Mark and Lurae Benzio of Industry, Pennsylvania. Sara is attending Penn State University where she is majoring in Animal Science and Ag Business and a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Science.



The Grange has a Grange Scholarship Endowment at Penn State University. The recipient of this scholarship is selected by the Penn State Office of Student Aid Scholarship Committee. Applicants apply to the Pennsylvania State Grange who then forwards the applications to the committee for review. This year the recipient is:

1. Mikara Anderson is the daughter of Gerald and Holly Anderson of Three Springs, Pennsylvania. Mikara is attending Penn State University where she is majoring in Animal Science, Business and Management, and a minor in

each Agribusiness Management and Wildlife and Fisheries Science.

The Pennsylvania State Grange also offers an interest free loan established by Ellis M. Santee who was an active Grange member and country doctor who knew the importance of a good education. This loan fund was established by the late doctor to help young members get that education. This year that assistance will be given to the following:

1. Dori Kralj is the daughter of Rick and Gretchen Kralj of Emlenton, Pennsylvania. Dori is attending Iowa State University where she is majoring in Animal Science and has a minor in International Agriculture.
2. Sara Benzio is the daughter of Mark and Lurae Benzio of Industry, Pennsylvania. Sara is attending Penn State University where she is majoring in Animal Science and Ag Business and has a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Science.
3. Mikara Anderson is the daughter of Gerald and Holly Anderson of Three Springs, Pennsylvania. Mikara is attending Penn State University where she is majoring in Animal Science, Business and Management, and has a minor in each Agribusiness Management and Wildlife and Fisheries Science.





“Heads Up” continued from page 2

stimulus for the American people. We know that much more needs to be done and we look forward to our continued work with you to respond to this crisis together.

As COVID-19 continues to impact both urban and rural communities, we are gravely concerned about the compromised digital access that now threatens entire communities, and people’s livelihoods, educational access, quality of healthcare and lives.

Our rural communities are particularly less prepared to mitigate the pandemic itself and adapt to what will certainly be a different world in a post-COVID economy, in large part because of the lack of access to Broadband. Some 18 million Americans lack access to Broadband internet connectivity, 14 million of whom reside in rural America. In today’s economy these communities, businesses and families without adequate access are left behind, and the consequences are staggering from an economic, health, education, and social standpoint.

Broadband is not a luxury, but rather a critical infrastructure that’s vitally important to our economic future and national security. While the investment to-date is much appreciated, we believe it is only a down payment in the total investment needed to close this gap.

An FCC estimate from 2017 estimates it would cost \$80 billion to bring high-speed internet to the remaining parts of our country that do not have access. Last year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a report, citing Deloitte data, that estimated it would require “between \$130 and \$150 billion over the next five to seven years, to adequately support rural coverage and 5G wireless densification.”

Additional Broadband investment must meet the level of the challenge and be made at the speed that is clearly now required. This investment will unleash economic potential, promote stable job growth that’s resilient in times like these, and ensure all businesses and families can participate in the digital economy.

This investment will unlock the potential of a new generation of technologies for healthcare advancement, ensure that school children across America have access to the best educational tools, foster new ways of doing business, stimulate the advancement of agricultural and food production technologies and give states and communities the opportunities to capitalize on smart infrastructure deployment.

Mr. President, Congressional Leaders – we must work together as past generations have done to provide a service fundamental to life in America today. It is time for the Rural Electrification Act of our generation. As you consider this investment, we urge you to look to the lessons of the past and ask ourselves not how we can afford to embrace innovation and bring new technologies to all communities, but with all we stand to lose, how we can afford not to.

As Governors, we are all ready to partner with you to ensure an efficient and effective strategy to quickly deploy these resources to bridge the digital divide. We call on Congress to act immediately and together to pass a groundbreaking package that provides the necessary digital access to all Americans.

Sincerely,  
Governor Doug Burgum, North Dakota  
Governor Tom Wolf, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Governor Kristi Noem, South Dakota  
Governor Tony Evers, Wisconsin  
Governor Kim Reynolds, Iowa  
Governor Kate Brown, Oregon  
Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio  
Governor Laura Kelly, Kansas  
Governor Eric Holcomb, Indiana  
Governor Jay Inslee, Washington  
Governor Tim Walz, Minnesota

\*\*\*\*\*

**TO: Members, PA State Council of Farm Organizations and Interested Parties:**

Good morning all,

I am forwarding this information from Penn State. I hope you and others who look to you will find it to be a resource.

Since pollination and the health of bees are critical to Pennsylvania Agriculture (and this is Pollinator Week), please distribute this information widely.

Thanks,

Vince  
Vince Phillips  
Executive Director  
PA State Council of Farm Organizations

Hi everyone,

I wanted to pass along some resources that have been developed by our colleagues that you might find useful!

First, WiBee (<https://pollinators.wisc.edu/wibee/>) is a new citizen science app developed by the Gratton Lab at University of Wisconsin. It is smart-phone accessible and can be used to track bee visits to flowering plants. It has a data dashboard that can be used to work with the submitted data. This is a great tool for growers, gardeners and students!

Second, Cornell University released its 432 page analysis of the economic benefits and risks to pollinators of neonic use in NY agricultural systems: <https://pollinator.cals.cornell.edu/pollinator-research-cornell/neonicotinoid-report/> Scott McArt summarized the main results on his Twitter thread: <https://twitter.com/McArtLab/status/1275774701214863363>

Third, The Pollinators movie is now available digitally for download: <https://www.thepollinators.net/how-to-watch>

This movie has received numerous awards, and is a great summary of the complex interactions between our food systems, commercial beekeeping, and pollinator health. This is an excellent resource for education and outreach.





# Pennsylvania State Grange

## Officer Descriptions for the 148th Session

October 15-18, 2020  
Erie, PA

At the 148th Annual Pennsylvania State Grange Session all offices will be up for election. Pennsylvania State Grange By-Laws state in Article VI, paragraph 1.6.1, "With the exception of Secretary and Treasurer, no office holder's name shall be printed on the ballot for an office if that officer shall have held the same office continuously for six years immediately preceding."

If you are interested in serving as a State Officer, suggestions for office will be received on Friday afternoon, October 16th at 1:45 P.M. If you would like more information about serving as a State Officer, or know that you would like to be suggested, please contact the Pennsylvania State Grange office for the contact information of the Nominating Committee or have someone pre-arranged to suggest your name. The election will take place Saturday, October 17th, at 11:00 A.M. just before the lunch recess.

The By-Laws do not allow nominating speeches in the Grange, but, in Article VI, paragraph 1.6.6, it states "Each person suggested for a state office shall be permitted to appear and speak before the delegate body for a maximum of two minutes at a designated time prior to the election." These presentations will be allowed immediately after the suggestions from the floor are received Friday afternoon.

Following are brief job descriptions for each State Office, along with the current officer's name and length of time served in that office. A complete description of officer duties can be found at [www.pagrange.org](http://www.pagrange.org).



All officers are to memorize their part in the Degree work; be available for speaking engagements as approved by the State President/Master; support and promote the policies and programs of the State Grange; submit articles for the Pennsylvania Grange News as requested by the editor or President/Master; attend the State Convention, special events, officer's meetings; and prepare an annual report for the Journal of Proceedings.

**PRESIDENT/MASTER:**

Wayne Campbell [3 years], Be available to work in the Pennsylvania State Grange Office, make Grange and office management decisions; appoint Advocates/Deputies and committees; provide leadership in the absence of policy and/or when adjustments are appropriate; hire and supervise the State Grange office staff; represent the

State Grange at various functions; speak where invited; oversee all State Grange programs and projects; develop and implement new programs, serve ex-officio on all committees; provide leadership in legislative matters; visit Granges as needed; hear concerns of rural Pennsylvania, help members resolve problems; inject new ideas and provide the tools needed to encourage membership growth; oversee status of all Subordinate and Pomona Granges; organize and reorganize Granges; write articles for the Pennsylvania Grange News [PGN] and letters of communication.

**VICE PRESIDENT/**

**OVERSEER:**

JV Lamb [3 years], In the event of an emergency be prepared to fulfil the office of President/Master, fill in for the Master at workshops, meetings and activities as needed; serve on the Executive Committee; speak at engagements as requested by the President/Master, be available as needed by the State President/Master; and serve as a member of the Board for the Grange Foundation.

**LECTURER:**

Jennifer Nauss [2 years], Develop the yearly Lecturer's program with the assistance of your Committee, provide support, assistance and guidance for Subordinate and Pomona Lecturers and the Lecturer's Committee via communications; plan and lead music at State Convention; promote and conduct the annual talent contest; plan and oversee the Lecturer's displays,





exhibits, contests and judging of programs under the Lecturer's direction at state and district events; promote Grange projects and policies; budget income and expenses; file quarterly financial reports; visit Granges as available; write articles for the PGN.

**STEWARD:**

Andrew Kieffer [2 years], Schedule State Advocates working at State Session; conduct the election of officers; assist in preparing the stage for the Session and Degree.

**ASSISTANT STEWARD:**

Robert Kleckner III [2 years], Assist with conducting the Convention; aid the Steward in preparing for the meeting and degree.

**LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD:**

Lorena Baughman [4 years], Assist with conducting the Convention; aid the Steward in preparing for the meeting and degree; store, wash and iron the court ladies' gowns for the Degree.

**CHAPLAIN:**

Judy Pressler [4 years], Provide spiritual guidance and/or meditations at all sessions of the annual Convention and other state events; prepare and conduct the annual memorial service; write articles for the PGN.

**TREASURER:**

Henry Seidel (16 years), Assist the State President/Master in managing certain financial matters; report to the Executive Committee quarterly in writing regarding changes made in investments; manage the scholarship loan and grant programs, including payback schedules; be knowledgeable regarding investments, bookkeeping and financial planning; manage the lifetime membership program funds and Grange Trust Fund accounts; manage Grange Improvement Loan accounts; serve as a member of the Board of the Grange Foundation; be responsible for safekeeping of legal documents; present annual financial and audit reports.

**SECRETARY:**

Debbie Campbell (8 years), Prepare minutes of the Session and publish the Journal of Proceedings; commu-

nicate with Subordinate and Pomona secretaries; be available to the State Grange office staff on a weekly basis; be available to handle specific duties as assigned by the State President/Master and Executive Committee. Assist Office Secretary in logging and processing Quarterly Dues from Subordinate Granges and oversee prompt payment of Dues to National Grange as required by the By-Laws. Maintain Grange supply department inventory and sales; process 25, 50, and 50-plus year certificates for membership.

**GATEKEEPER:**

Gene Zvarick [5 years], Manage the flow of business at the State Session; assist with preparation of stage for meetings and Degree.

**CERES:**

Hannah Leibensperger (2 years), Launder, store, and press the Ceres drill costumes and accessories for the drill team; select court ladies.

**POMONA:**

Jennifer Beamon [2 years], Launder, store and press the Pomona drill costumes and accessories for the drill team; select court ladies.

**FLORA:**

Virginia Mangel [4 years], Select and teach each drill team for the Degree; launder, store and press the Flora drill costumes and accessories for the drill team, pillar girls and rose girls; select court ladies.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Richard Mangel [4 years] Be available to attend meetings of the Executive Committee in Harrisburg or other areas of the state as needed; contribute to decision making and be available to explain decisions made throughout the year; bring ideas to aid in the development of programs, policies, and projects; provide oversight of property and funds of the State Grange; serve as a member of the Board for the Grange Foundation. (Other Executive Committee members are Janet Pratt, Barbara Schroeder and Dr. James Diamond.)

*"Program Director" continued from page 8*

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

**Program Ideas**

September

Back to School: The plans for returning to school this fall continue to be in flux and are changing rapidly. Regardless of whether students are back to school in person, learning remotely, or doing some combination of the two, schools, educators and students need all the support they can get. Consider inviting a local teacher to educate your members – and the community – about the challenges facing schools in these unprecedented times. If it is safe to meet in person, invite them to speak at a meeting. If it is not, consider having a Zoom meeting or having the teacher write an article to put in your newsletters or on social media. Work with your Community Service chair to make a donation of cleaning supplies to your local school district or reach out to a local district to see what types of materials they may need to support safe, in-person education or remote learning.

October

October 24 – Make a Difference Day – Celebrate the ways your Grange has made a difference in your community. Reflect back on the programs and projects your Grange has conducted in the last year and have a planning discussion about what sorts of programs and projects your Grange should have for the coming year.

I encourage you to continue to think of ways to provide programming for your members, even if you are unable to meet at this time. Maintain communication with newsletters, phone calls, and emails. Consider using Zoom (the Pennsylvania State Grange has an account) to hold meetings virtually if it is unsafe to meet in person. Share any creative ideas you have been using to reach your members; I'd love to share the great work you are doing in future articles.

Jenn Nauss  
State Lecturer  
jnauss89@gmail.com  
(717) 512-1261





**Government Matters**  
**Vince Phillips**  
 PA State Grange Lobbyist

**IMPORTANT TO YOU!**

Please contact the Pennsylvania State Grange on issues that are important to you. After all, our legislative goals come from members. Please let us know: [legislative@pagrange.org](mailto:legislative@pagrange.org) or 717-737-8855 or 717-346-1063. If

you want help in drafting a resolution to be considered by your local Grange which then gets voted on at State Session in October, please utilize the Pennsylvania State Grange as a resource. If you want to see the positions taken by the Pennsylvania State Grange on legislative and regulatory issues, please refer to our web site, [www.pagrange.org](http://www.pagrange.org).

The understatement of the year goes as follows: This has been and is a trying time for Grangers, their families, their communities and frankly for all of rural Pennsylvania. A recent cartoon showed people blowing horns and throwing confetti. When asked, they replied that regardless of what the calendar says, they were done with 2020 and preferred to be in 2021.

In addition to the obvious such as what the business shut-downs have done to rural economies, an underlying issue has emerged that illustrates how non-metropolitan Pennsylvania has been specifically hurt by the coronavirus. This impact is similar to what our non-rural friends have faced but it affects rural PA far worse. The reason is that a resource other communities have simply is not available in much of the rural parts of the state.

That resource is access to high-speed Broadband. Here is the conventional wisdom: use technology to overcome adversity caused by the coronavirus crisis.

- School buildings are not open or only partially open? Solution is learning remotely from your computer at home!
- Business closing or forced cut-backs? Solution is on-line commerce!
- Ag meetings or training? Solution is to go virtual!
- Difficulty in receiving in-person health care? Solution is Telemedicine!

In other words, no worries. Technology can save us. Right? WRONG.

If we do not have access to technology, all the modern Internet resources in the world become irrelevant to the fact that:

# “REMOTELY” PROSPECTS ARE REMOTE FOR RURAL PA

- Rural students cannot do their homework or attend virtual (remote) classes.
- Businesses cannot market products and services remotely.
- Virtual meetings are ignored if you can't go virtual. Thus, the value of these meetings – whether an Extension workshop or a virtual event – is lost.
- Distance from medical care and isolation continue to be public and personal health issues.

Understand that these problems are not new. They were obstacles faced by rural communities long before the coronavirus crisis. What is different is that technology is hailed as a panacea and it is not a solution if the technology is not available.

Put another way, the Digital Divide between technology haves and have-nots has been very much there for some time but the lack of access to high-speed Broadband is felt more deeply because of coronavirus.

**CORONAVIRUS UNDERSCORES GRANGE’S NO. 1 PRIORITY**

As most know, the number one priority for the Pennsylvania State Grange is achieving the goal of universal access to high-speed Broadband. We believe that Broadband is to this century what rural electrification was

in the 20th Century.

Look at these parallels:

- Each involves technology where rural areas don't have it universally (electricity and Broadband).
- Each involves education. Electric lighting helped education just as the Internet is essential now.
- Health care: Can you envision medical care without electricity? Well, in this century, the challenge is access to the Internet as the new phase of medical care.
- What did electricity do for businesses? Storage, manufacturing, retail sales were all greatly enhanced because of electricity. In this century, it is digital technology.

So, how do we get to universal access to high-speed Broadband? Barring a multi-billion dollar Marshall Plan for Broadband, the efforts will remain piecemeal with all the little parts of the solution adding up to bridging the Digital Divide. The Pennsylvania State Grange is working on a number of these, a partial list of which follows.

**How To Pay for It**

- Pennsylvania State Grange believes that there needs to be a centralized office to coordinate PA efforts to gain funding. Now, the Governor's Office of Broadband



Initiatives exists, but the Governor has never requested any funding for the Office. There is only one employee and she is part-time. PA State Grange wants to see that Office funded as part of the State Budget.

- **House Bill 2348** (Causer-R-McKean/Cameron/Potter) would take an existing tax credit for telecommunication investment and convert it into a matching grant program.
- **Senate Bill 835** (Langerholc-R-Cambria/Clearfield) establishes a grant program to spur telecommunications investment in underserved areas.

**Ways to Facilitate Development Without Tax Dollars**

- **Senate Bill 1118** (Pittman-R-Indiana) and **House Bill 2438** (Owlett-R-Potter/Tioga) streamline the process whereby a rural electric cooperative can upgrade existing electrical lines to have a Broadband component.
- **House Bill 2055** (Snyder-D-Greene/Fayette) removes certain legal obstacles for small municipalities who are tired of waiting for Internet and decide to become an Internet Service Provider (ISP).
- **Senate Resolution 48** (Phillips-Hill-R-York) directs that an audit be done on whether or not telecommunications companies are meeting current legal obligations regarding access to Broadband.
- **House Bill 305** (Snyder-D-Greene/Fayette) and **Senate Bill 470** (Phillips-Hill-R-York) would have an inventory take place of state-owned structures to identify which ones could be marketed to host telecommunications equipment. Those spaces would be leased with proceeds going to the Commonwealth.
- Right now, telephone users pay a nominal 911 fee to pay for citizens' use of 911 to report emergencies. Pennsylvania State Grange wants policymakers to look at a similar Broadband fee for cell phone users. There are likely more cell phones in Pennsylvania than there are people. Since universal access to Broadband helps strengthen PA's economy, education, health care and its agricultural base, all people should play a part in getting us there.

**Try To Develop a Comprehensive Broadband Plan**

- **Senate Resolution 47** (Phillips-Hill-R-York) created a Broadband Task Force and Advisory Committee to compare different ways of reaching universal access to Broadband. **Pennsylvania State Grange is the ONLY rural advocacy group included in the Advisory Committee. The resulting report would help legislators figure out what to do.**

NOTE: This is not an encyclopedic list. Other bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate that address other pieces of the puzzle. The Pennsylvania State Grange supports all but one, the Restore PA plan proposed by the Wolf Administration. Our opposition presents several arguments:

- Restore PA is a \$4.5 billion dollar loan which would be paid back by taxing Marcellus Shale natural gas extraction (called a severance tax). If less gas is being extracted because of a low market price for natural gas, PA gets less money and taxpayers are left to make

up the difference in repaying the loan.

- Restore PA is supposedly meant to fund Broadband but there is no set amount dedicated for that purpose. Broadband must compete with flood remediation, downtown revitalisation, parks, transportation, and several other areas for this money. Any resources for Broadband would be diffused by money going to all these other purposes.

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Vince Phillips is the lobbyist for the Pennsylvania State Grange. He has lobbied in PA since 1989, coming from the Nation's Capitol where, among other things, he served on President Reagan's Transition Team and held a Reagan Administration appointment at USDA.

Vince Phillips  
Legislative Director  
Pennsylvania State Grange  
717-346-1063  
FAX 717-232-7005  
legislative@pagrange.org



**PRESIDENT CAMPBELL'S LETTER PUBLISHED IN LANCASTER FARMING** on July 25th, 2020

The Pennsylvania State Grange appreciates the intent of Governor Tom Wolf's recent letter to the President and Congress asking them to fund expansion of high-speed Broadband in unserved and underserved areas. We respectfully point out that good intentions are best demonstrated at home.

While the Governor established the Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives with fanfare, he never funded it. In each State Budget he proposed, there was no line-item request for this important Office. How can the Office actually coordinate Pennsylvania's efforts to secure Federal funding and serve as a liaison between the FCC and State Government with no resources? The Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives has no budget or dedicated staff. The lone staff person is 'borrowed' from the Department of Community & Economic Development.

The Pennsylvania State Grange urges Governor Tom Wolf to reinforce the leadership he has shown in advocating Federal Broadband funding by helping his own Office of Broadband Initiatives function as it should. We fear that without funding, the Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives will become irrelevant.

Following is a quote from the original letter from the Governor, joining other state Governors sent to President Trump and congressional leadership

Additional Broadband investment must meet the level of the challenge and be made at the speed that is clearly now required. This investment will unleash economic potential, promote stable job growth that's resilient in times like these, and ensure all businesses and families can participate in the digital economy.

Although good advice to Washington, at a minimum, we should start by funding the Governor's Office of Broadband Initiatives.



# Grange News

## LIBERTY GRANGE #1780

Liberty Grange held a FREE drive-thru Strawberry Social on Saturday, May 30, 2020 for our Community Service event. We gave away Strawberry Shortcake "kits" that included: a cup of



strawberries, piece of white cake, an ice cream cup and plasticware. Although there was no charge,



many people wanted to make a donation. We raised \$134 for the Harlansburg Presbyterian Church Food Bank that has been serving families in our community.



## SOUTH AUBURN GRANGE #1188

On July 25, 2020 the South Auburn Grange # 1188 held a virtual fundraiser via mail-in contributions along with a chicken barbeque and donation campaign for the benefit of the Helping Hands Food Pantry in Wyalusing, PA. The Grange is happy to report that over \$3,300 was raised for this worthy, non-profit food pantry. The Grange would also like to thank our Grange members and friends and neighbors that supported the fundraiser.



*Peg Huyck of Helping Hands receiving funds from Charlene Tewksbury of the South Auburn Grange*



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The Pennsylvania State Grange receives a referral stipend...  
If asked for a referral code use: pagrange**

“Eagle Grange” continued from page 9



(June 2020) State Grange president Wayne Campbell, along with members from several other Granges, tackled the job of installing beautiful new laminate flooring. (Photo Credit: Beth Downey)

The work at Eagle Grange #1 is not done! In the next few months, Eagle Grange is planning several other community events. These include honoring three local fire companies on August 4th, when Eagle Grange hosted members of the fire companies to celebrate their essential work in the community. On September 5th, Eagle Grange is hosting a community yard sale at their Hall, which is prominently located off of Route 15. Community members will be invited to set up their own tables at this yard sale. Eagle Grange also



(July 2020) The new and improved entrance to the historic Eagle Grange Hall; note the accessible ramp and the reserved handicap parking area. (Photo Credit: David Troutman)

hopes to make the day a “Community Day” and include other important services to the community. These include sponsoring a blood drive with a mobile blood bank and inviting a shredding truck for community members to shred confidential paperwork. These are only a few examples of the types of events that Eagle Grange plans to coordinate to better serve the community and become a hub of community activities in Lycoming County.

Future building renovation projects when funding becomes available include the installation of wall-mounted ductless HVAC



(June 2020) The dining room is ready for its first event with new tables and curtains added. (Photo Credit: David Troutman)

units to add air conditioning to the building, updating the kitchen appliances, and renovations to the second floor of the building.

Eagle Grange #1 is excited to showcase their “New Look”, their



(June 2020) The kitchen is now clean, bright and well equipped with stainless steel work counters. All the cabinets were painted to create this fresh and welcoming look. (Photo Credit: David Troutman)

history, and celebrate their continued work in the future at an 150th Anniversary Open House held next spring in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Grange’s 150th Anniversary Kick-Off Celebration. Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 17, 2021 from 10 am – 1 pm and plan to visit Eagle Grange #1 for this Open House!

If you would like to contribute to the ongoing work at Eagle Grange #1, please consider becoming a Friend of Eagle Grange. More information about Eagle Grange’s history and background and the Friend of Eagle Grange application can be found on the State Grange website at <https://www.pagrang.org/pennsylvanias-first-grange---eagle-1.html>. Contact Jenn Nauss (jnauss89@gmail.com or 717-512-1261) or Doug Bonsall (douglas.b@verizon.net or 717-921-1957) for more information about becoming a Friend of Eagle Grange!



(June 2020) A panoramic view of the completed handicap accessible restroom. About \$35,000 plus countless hours of volunteer labor has been invested in the renovation work. Large donations came from Valley, Perry Valley & Red Lion Granges. (Photo Credit: David Troutman)



"Youth News" continued from page 10

4. The participants must include a written script.
5. Three age divisions:
  - Youth - Grange members between the ages of 14-21 as of Jan. 1;
  - Young Adult - Grange members between the ages of 22-35;
  - Youth Alumni ages 36 and older.
6. Commercials must be on a flash drive and in .MP4, .MPG, WMA format.

**Youth and Young Adult Contests that will not be held this year:** Start with a Cake Mix, Cupcake Decorating, Scrapbook Page, Recycled Craft, Building Blocks Creation,

At the time of writing this article, the Youth and Young Adults Department are still planning to hold the following annual events:

- 21-23 August – Young Adults Weekend
- 26 September – Youth and Young Adults Family picnic
- 10 October – Virtual Contest night
- Jan/Feb 2021 – Youth Winter Retreat

In this time of change and uncertainty, we are continually looking for new ideas and ways to help our fellow Grangers. If you are looking for a little something different for your Grange virtual meeting, let me know. Our Pennsylvania State Grange Youth Ambassadors, Young Patrons, as well as our committee and myself, are ready and willing to provide a program for your Grange or event.

Ellen Wadsworth  
 Pennsylvania State Grange Youth and Young Adults Director  
 Cell: 417-967-6474,  
 email: youth@pagrange.org



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

**Union City #89**

Anne Hall

**New Vernon #608**

Shirley McIntire

**Middletown #684**

Nicholas Forsyth

Sydney Ochoco

**Tuscarora #774**

Linda Rowles

**Walker #786**

Joseph Zook

Kathy Zook

**Lincoln #914**

Holly Anderson

Mikara Anderson

Reba Clapper

**Buckhorn #1119**

Veronica Drenning

Vince Jerz

Susan Kotelnicki

**Chestnut Ridge #1133**

Ensley Clark

**Jefferson #1373**

Amy Curry

Susan O'Leath

Linda Cehily

**Donegal #1495**

Nick Cranmer

Angel Eppinger

Lakeir Rue

James Jones

**Ontelaunee #1617**

Peter Schiaroli

**Stony Point #1694**

Nicholas Ammann

**Plumsteadville #1738**

Neil Adams

Edwardine Adams

**Shermanata #1796**

Sue Dennison

Kenneth Hilbish

**Virginville #1832**

Harold Madeira

**Fleetwood #1839**

Sarah Berger

Rebecca Berger

Peter Rohrbach

**Long Branch #2072**

Mark Gazi

Anna Marie Gazi

**Cumberland Valley #2104**

Luke Herbert

Kiah Krall

Kendra Kent

Dan Gold

Kristen Nearhood-Gold

Cameron Gold

**BIRTHDAYS**

**Fred Hosler**

April 19 (93 years old)

**Betty Yinger**

June 28 (96 years old)

**Fae Snyder**

June 24 (88 years old)

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Red Lion #1781**

Dorothy "Dot" Lanis

Emerson T Knaper

**Kingwood #1765**

Loretta Sechler

**Halfmoon #290**

Roy Beck

**Marion #223**

Harold Hoy

**Madison #2064**

Leo Dobbs

**Bernville #1887**

Margaret Swope

**Mt. Nebo #1872**

Margaret Maier

**Valley #1360**

Janet Snyder

Dorothy Hykes

Lida Bear

**Virginville #1832**

Myers D Adam

**Edinboro #947**

Arthur Williams

**Buckhorn #1119**

Joseph Raptosh

**Bald Eagle #1390**

Anna Daughenbaugh

Marcella Hunter

**Westfield #1514**

Lloyd Raney

Richard Martin

**Plumsteadville #1738**

Elizabeth Dutterer

**Community #2048**

Charles Funk

**Central Grange # 1650**

Miriam Masters

Carolyn J. Mantz



**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Join us to kick-off the celebrations for the PA State Grange's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!  
Saturday, April 17, 2021**

**10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Eagle Grange #1 Open House**

Celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Eagle Grange #1 and drop by to learn more about Pennsylvania's historic first Grange near Williamsport

**1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

**PA State Grange 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Kick-Off Luncheon and Program**

Kick-off the celebrations for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a luncheon and program at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg (a short drive from Eagle Grange #1)

**Turn the day into an outing!** Visit some of the many unique sites in the Williamsport-Lewisburg area. Email Doug Bonsall at [douglas.b@verizon.net](mailto:douglas.b@verizon.net) for a list of attractions to visit before and after these Grange events.

For tickets, contact Anna May Nauss at (717) 697-5104 or [annauss@aol.com](mailto:annauss@aol.com).

Tickets - \$25/person

Checks made payable to the PA State Grange History Committee

Mail payment and self-addressed stamped envelope (for tickets) to:

Anna May Nauss, 10 West Schoolside Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

## **Pennsylvania State Grange**

### ***Pennsylvania Grange News***

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## **WHAT CAN THE GRANGE DO FOR YOU?**

### **BENEFITS**

#### **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 Rental Car: Discounted Member rates
- BJ's Wholesale Club: Save \$15 on Base, or \$30 on Rewards Membership, plus 1 free month
- Tickets at Work: Offers discounts on movie tickets, concerts, travel, theme parks, and shopping

The Pennsylvania State Grange also offers scholarships and interest free loans



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

**Pennsylvania State  
Grange**

**[www.pagrang.org](http://www.pagrang.org)  
1 (717) 737-8855**