



Eagle Grange #1

Route 15 & East Blind Road
Montgomery, PA 17752



September, 2021

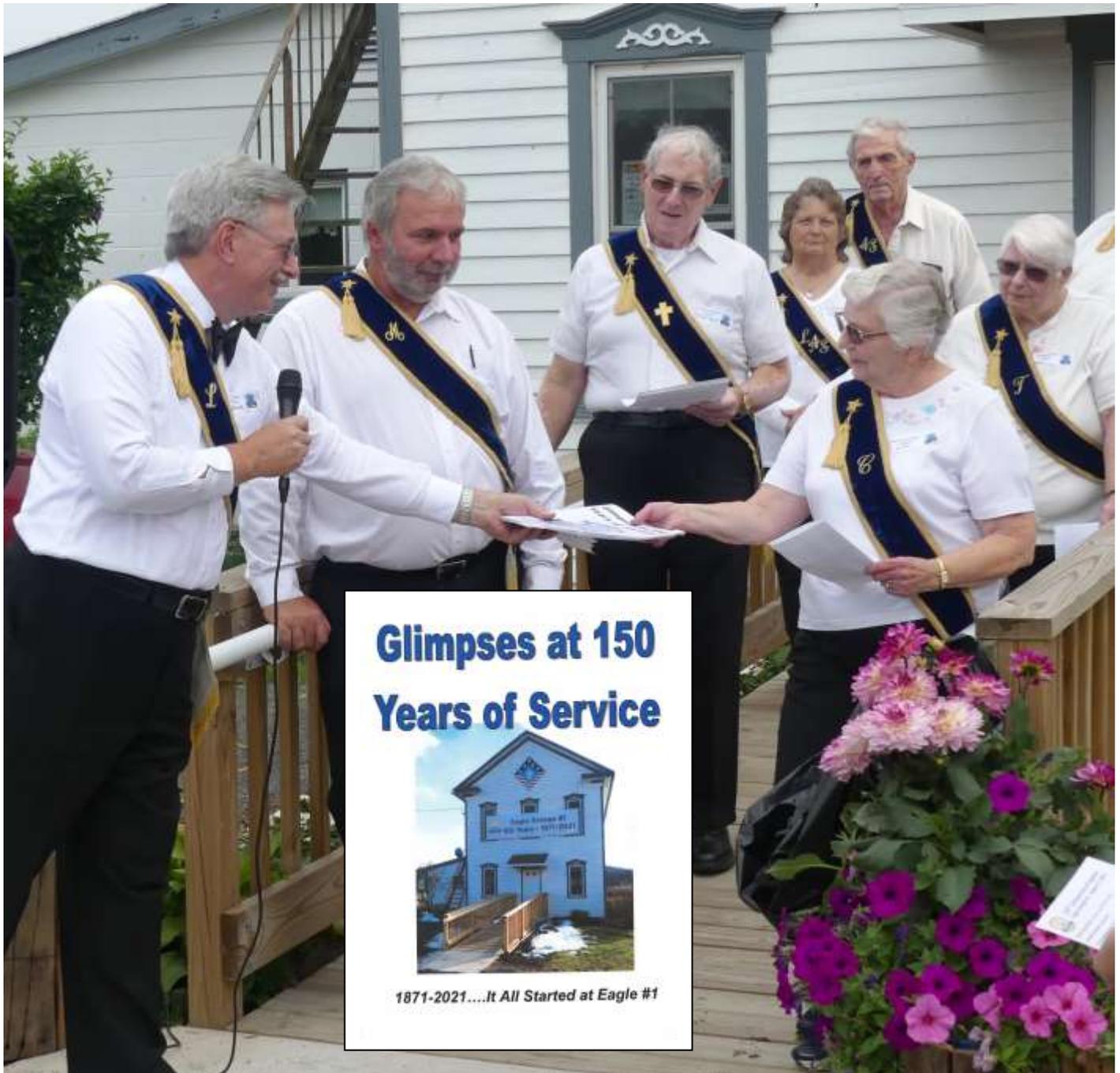
150th Anniversary Celebrated in Grand Style

It is often said “A picture is worth a 1,000 words”. If you were one of the 70 persons present for the 150th anniversary celebration of Eagle Grange #1 on August 7th, you’ll likely enjoy seeing the pictures to re-live just a bit of that festive evening. If you were not there, then enjoy a glimpse of this milestone in the life of Pennsylvania’s first and oldest continuously active Grange.



A butterfly launch led by the Grange officers opened the anniversary festivities. Fifteen Painted Lady butterflies (close-up on inset), one for each decade of Eagle’s history, were released with an appropriate ceremony in which the work of generations of faithful Grange members was remembered.

Historical Booklet Dedicated to Murrays; Troutman



A 48-page publication filled with pictures and narrative detailing 150 years of Eagle Grange history was unveiled and dedicated to three faithful members.

Above, Program Coordinator and booklet editor Doug Bonsall (left) presents the first two of 200 copies of the 150th anniversary book to honorees **David Troutman** (center foreground) and **Joann Murray** (right foreground). The third honoree **Fred Murray** was unable to attend, having just been released from the hospital on the day of this sesquicentennial observance.

While supply lasts, the booklets (*cover shown on inset*) are available free of charge to all members of Eagle Grange and to all those individuals, businesses and groups that sponsored ads making the publication possible. Others are invited to consider making a voluntary donation for each book. Pick up your copy(ies) at the Grange Hall during any event or contact Doug Bonsall at 717-921-1957.

Candid Shots from 150th Anniversary – August 7, 2021



As visitors stepped into the decorated dining hall, each was greeted with fresh flower arrangements, linens and favors in the traditional Grange colors of blue and gold.



The anniversary votive favors, handcrafted by Secretary Jenn Nauss with personalized etching, are sure to become a collector's item.



The air conditioning recently installed on both floors of the Grange Hall meant everyone was comfortable despite the warm August day.



Chaplain Elliott Weiss leads the invocation and food blessing just before the fellowship of a traditional Grange meal.



Karen Williamson (left) and Daisy Styer (right) made sure there was plenty of food on the buffet line as guests filled their plates.



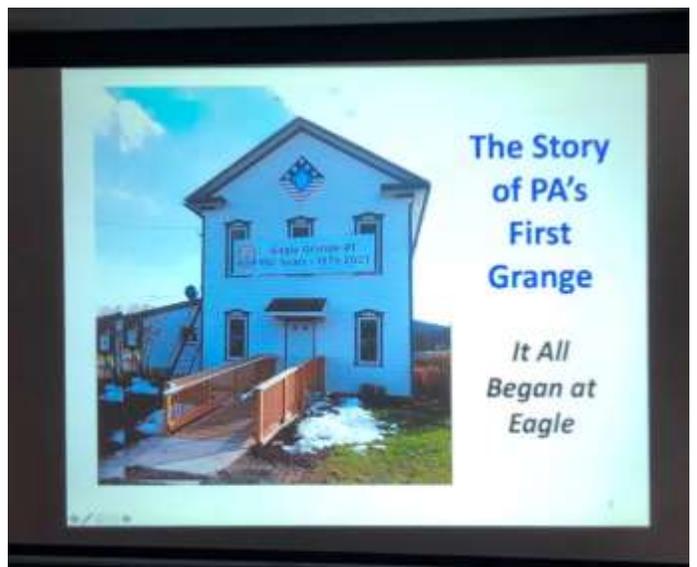
After eating the audience settled back for the evening's program.



Daun Williamson shared her vocal talents by singing "On Eagle's Wings" and her own original version of "The Lord's Prayer". Guests also enjoyed her instrumental background music during dinner.



The menu of the free dinner included fried chicken, cranberry meat balls, assorted salads, rolls/butter, pickled eggs and fresh fruit....an abundance of food and fellowship.



A whirlwind look at 150 years was featured in a PowerPoint slide program. Many of the images are also printed in the historical booklet.

Citations Presented by Grange & Government Officials



State Grange President Wayne Campbell (right) presented a congratulatory certificate.

During his remarks Campbell said *“The Grange is needed now even more than it was 150 years ago. We need to stay in the forefront of promoting Broadband accessibility, having it extend to under-served rural areas. We also need to protect valuable, productive farmland from the indiscriminate installation of large black panels for solar farms.”* He explained the Grange supports clean, alternative energy sources but advocates solar installations be strategically located on less agriculturally productive land.



Eric House (right) presented a citation from the Pennsylvania House on behalf of Representatives Joe Hamm and Jeff Wheeland.



County Commissioners Tony Mussare (left) and Scott Metzger (right) gave Eagle President David Troutman a citation from Lycoming Co.



A citation sponsored by Senator Gene Yaw from the State Senate of PA was delivered by Liz Bowman (right).

Eagle's Longest Member Cuts the Cake



Just after 7 p.m. it was time to climax the celebration with the cutting of the anniversary cake. Always smiling, Sister Joann Murray had the honor of cutting and serving the cake as Eagle's longest continuous member (68 years) and the only current member who is a direct descendant of the 1871 founding charter members.

Another New Member

Welcome to **Tammy Rupert** of *Montgomery, PA*. A short welcoming ceremony will be held at the September 7th meeting to officially greet **Tammy**, **Glenn Pauling** and **Daun Williamson**, all of whom have recently joined Eagle Grange.

Call David Troutman @ 570-220-1685 to arrange for use of Grange Hall. Both floors now have improved heating/cooling for year round comfort.

Learn About the Amish

The Amazing Amish will be the featured program at the next regular meeting of Eagle Grange #1 on Tuesday, Sept. 7th. Katie King of Cogan Station, who grew up Amish near Elimsport and is now married to Karen Williamson's nephew, will describe the differing beliefs and practices of various Amish/Mennonite sects.

At this meeting we also expect to hear a preliminary proposal on an Eagle Scout project which proposes to construct an outdoor fire pit area on the grounds of the Grange. Another important item of business will be consideration of a request from the Taber Historical Museum for the Grange to make a permanent gift of the antique corner cupboard that has been on loan to the museum since 1972.

Coming Events

August 27 – Preparation for Pulled Pork Take-Out Dinner – 10 a.m. (lunch provided)

August 28 (See Page 9) - Pulled Pork Take-Out dinner; help needed from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; lunch provided

September 4 (See Pages 10 & 11) – Free McNett Country Band Concert & Veterans' Recognition @ Montgomery Firemen's Park – 6 p.m. (rain date is Sept. 5th)

September 7 – Grange Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.; program on *The Amazing Amish* by Katie King
Hosts – Janet Reynolds & helpers

September 18 – Eagle Grange Open House from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; light brunch served to guests from throughout the state; finger food donations &* hosts needed; followed by State Grange 150th anniversary kick-off luncheon at Country Cupboard in Lewisburg – 1:30 p.m. (tickets required for luncheon)

All Eagle Grange members present at the luncheon will have a special part in a candle lighting ceremony. The National Grange president will pass the light of the Grange to Eagle first, just as it happened in 1871. Then Eagle will pass the light on to the rest of Pennsylvania.

October 5 – Grange Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.; Farm Bureau to be invited; program on *Spotted Lanternfly Invasion* by Penn State Extension
Hosts – Volunteer(s) needed

Family Fun Fair Candid

This new service project was held July 24th with many free, kid-friendly activities. The Milton FFA chapter assisted with the event and Thrivent Financial provided funds for supplies and prizes. Everyone participating had a great time despite the rather limited attendance.



Coloring Contest (above) & Face Painting (below)



Kitchen Crew for the popular Lasagna Dinner

Tour to Landfill Facility

About 25 members and friends of the Grange participated in a tour of the nearby Lycoming County Sanitary Landfill and Recycling Center on August 3rd. The event, in lieu of a formal meeting that month, was most educational.

It is interesting to note that the Grange Hall was made available to a number of citizens' groups that opposed the building of the facility about 50 years ago. Facility staff was anxious to show us the high caliber of environmental stewardship practiced on-site to process an average of 1,000+ tons of trash per day on the several hundred acres of land leased from the federal Bureau of Prisons.



The liner of the landfill basin prevents ground water contamination as the buried trash decomposes. The trash is covered with soil at the close of every work day to minimize odors and prevent litter dispersal.



A bald eagle was observed at the fill site on our visit.

To learn more about the operation which generates an annual profit of several millions dollars for the county, view a 10 minute presentation at:

<https://youtu.be/xt7uh8lcnKQ> .



An added bonus during the landfill tour was a stop at the historic Stone Church which was part of the property seized by the federal government's PA Ordnance Facility during World War II. Many Grange families were affiliated with the church and/or were affected by the building of the munitions plant.



Finally, a stop for ice cream ended a great evening.

Another Service to the Community

COVID Mobile Van @ Grange



David Bittner (left) outside the van which gave free vaccinations during the July 24th Family Fun Fair.

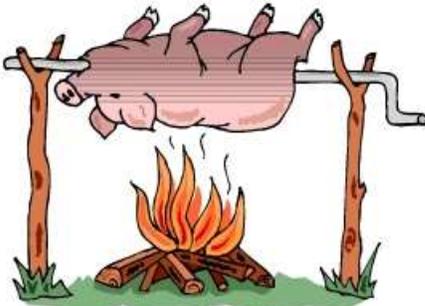
HELP! We are very much in need of help for the Grange's next take-out dinner (below); several of our regular volunteers are having health issues and we need others to step forward both on Friday, August 27th and on Saturday, August 28th. Donations of home baked goods, especially pies, are always welcome as these items are great sellers.

Take-Out Dinner

Sponsored by Eagle Grange #1

Sat., August 28, 2021

Pulled Pork



Roast Pulled Pork with Homemade Barbeque Sauce, Macaroni & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Oriental Cabbage Salad, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, Peach Shortcake

Suggested Donation - \$12

Advance reservations suggested*

Contact Joann Murray @ 570-547-1340

**Limited # of meals available without reservations*

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

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

Next Take-Out Dinner

Roast Turkey & Trimmings – November 13, 2021

Come, sit back and enjoy an evening of free entertainment by the McNett Country Band. Be sure to bring your lawn chair! Did you know the original members of this band performed at the 100th anniversary of Eagle Grange in 1971?

McNett Country Band

Free Concert & Veterans' Recognition



Sat., Sept. 4, 2021 – 6 p.m.

Rain Date: Sunday, Sept. 5, 2021 – 6 p.m.

Fire Company Concessions Open at 5 p.m.

Montgomery Firemen's Park

2nd Street, Montgomery, PA 17752



Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Eagle Grange #1

As this newsletter is being prepared on 8/20/2021, we've received registration from about 20 local veterans to attend the Grange's program on Sept. 4th to honor their military service. This recognition is intended for all veterans and is definitely not limited to Grange members. Please encourage your friends, neighbors and family members who served in any branch of the armed forces to register.



U.S. Veterans' Recognition & Free Concert by McNett Country Band

Saturday, September 4, 2021 @ 6 p.m.
(Rain Date Sunday, Sept. 5th @ 6 p.m.)

Montgomery Firemen's Park
Second Street, Montgomery, PA

Eagle Grange #1 is pleased to sponsor this free community event as part of its 150th anniversary celebration. Concessions by the Fire Company will be open prior to and during the concert. At the concert intermission, local veterans will be introduced and presented with a personalized certificate recognizing their military service. Pre-registration for U.S. veterans is required by completing and submitting form below. Please wear your service uniform, if possible, and check-in at veterans' registration table beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Registration for Veteran Recognition Program - Sept. 4, 2021

Name _____ Phone ____ - ____ - _____

Served in military: Branch(es) _____

Dates of service: From _____ (year) to _____ (year)

If you plan to attend, please complete and return this form **no later than August 21, 2021** to: *Doug Bonsall, PO Box 765, Dauphin, PA 17018*

Eagle Grange #1

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



September 2021 Newsletter



Eagle Grange Celebrates 150 Years