

Myths Debunked

Isn't the Grange just a bunch of old farmers sitting around on hay bales swapping tractor stories?

That's a colorful image, but it's certainly not accurate! While it's true that the Eagle Grange started as a farmers' group back in 1871, it has evolved from a purely agricultural organization into a focal point for community events of all kinds. The membership is now made up of local residents from all walks of life and the main focus is community service.



Isn't the Grange one of those "secret societies"?

It used to be, but Eagle Grange has changed with the times. No

secret password or handshakes are used in our Grange. Meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. An open Bible and the American flag are a part of every meeting.

Aren't Grange meetings long and boring?

No way! Monthly meetings take many different forms but none last longer than 2 hours. Some meetings consist of a fellowship dinner followed by a program or some special event like presenting the annual *Community Citizen Award*. Other meetings include a short business session, a program, refreshments and perhaps the reception of new members.



Supporting the Grange

Can I join the Grange?

Of course! Anyone can become a member – individuals as well as businesses. A membership application can be found inside this brochure. There are lots of ways to get involved, and the best way to find out about them is to join the Grange and get involved in its activities.

When are the meetings?

Eagle Grange usually meets at 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of the month. Occasionally, meetings must be moved to other dates. To stay informed to visit our web page: <http://www.pagrang.org/pennsylvanias-first-grange---eagle-1.html>. A monthly newsletter is published to keep everyone informed what is happening.



What if I can't make the meetings?

You don't have to attend meetings to be a member. There are other Grange activities in addition to the meetings in which you can become involved as your time and interests

permit. You can help with service projects or fundraisers.

What are the benefits of membership?

In addition to the personal satisfaction provided when you help the Grange serve its community, members also have access to a variety of services and programs provided by the State and National Granges including input into legislative efforts at various levels of government.

What if I don't want to join, but still want to help?

Whether or not you become a Grange member, opportunities abound for sharing your time, energy, and skills in our many different projects. Monetary contributions to help the Grange finance projects are also very much appreciated.

Everything you ever wanted to know about



Eagle Grange #1

Serving the community since 1871



Grange Hall Location:

Route 15 & E. Blind Rd.
Montgomery, PA 17752

Web Page:

<http://www.pagrang.org/pennsylvanias-first-grange---eagle-1.html>

About the Grange

So what is the Grange anyway?

Grange is a nation-wide rural service organization with strong ties to the agricultural community. There are hundreds of local Granges in communities across the nation. The Grange was formed in 1867 to unite farmers in improving their economic and social position after the devastation of the Civil War. It has since evolved to include non-farm rural families.

What is the purpose of the Grange today?

Our local *Vision Statement* expresses that Grange today is about people growing together to improve themselves and to serve the community. We improve ourselves through various educational or recreational programs and we serve the community with projects every month.

Can you tell me more about Eagle Grange?

Our local community Grange is made up of your friends and neighbors who enjoy one another's fellowship while working together for good causes.

What's so special about this Eagle Grange #1?

The #1 indicates this was the very first Grange organized in the state of Pennsylvania. A few far-sighted individuals got together in early 1871 to form an organization that would provide an opportunity for rural residents to "develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among themselves." Eagle Grange has been continually active for almost 150 years.

The home of Eagle Grange..... is this historic hall, built in 1888, at the intersection of Route 15 and East Blind Road, Montgomery, PA, about 7 miles south of the city of Williamsport. Meetings and community activities are held in this building and surrounding grounds.



Why should I care about Eagle Grange #1?

The Grange is a uniquely valuable community resource to everyone who lives here. Our Grange is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the local rural communities in southern Lycoming County. Every year the Grange hosts, sponsors, or supports many worthwhile events and projects. We help school students, honor senior citizens, give charitable donations, provide holiday meals and make our facilities available to the community. If you want to continue having a vibrant rural life, you should care about the Grange.

EAGLE GRANGE APPLICATION

Individual Membership: Annual Membership Dues - \$50 (adults); \$12 (youth)*

*Free one year membership for any FFA student joining as first-time Grange member

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Open to all individuals who are at least 12 years old.

I hereby apply for membership in Eagle Grange #1 and desire to unite with others in elevating and advancing the interests of community life and family values. I understand the Grange is non-denominational and non-partisan and pledge on my honor to abide by the laws of my state and nation and the rules and regulations of the Grange.

Membership entitles me to participate in all Grange activities, to vote on business matters, to participate in services provided by the National & PA State Granges and to receive Grange publications.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

"Friend of Eagle Grange": Annual Donation - \$50 or more

Name _____

Open to businesses, organizations (including other Granges) and individuals who wish to provide special financial support to this historic Grange.

I hereby apply to become a "Friend" and understand that supporting the Grange as a "Friend" entitles me to attend Grange functions and participate in Grange projects but without vote on business matters.

Contact Person's Signature _____ Date _____

All Applicants: Phone _____ E-mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail completed application and payment to:

Karen Williamson, 900 Nichols Place, Apt. 205, Williamsport, PA 17701