

J. COLLINS MCSPARRAN

13th MASTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE (1956-1962)



The Person:

- Son of John A. McSparran, sixth Master, and born in Drumore, Lancaster County. Completed two years at School of Liberal Arts at Pennsylvania State College specializing in English.
- Employed for five years in private industry. In 1938 returned to family homestead and operated on shares with his father until 1940 when he purchased the farm and operated it continuously until 1952.
- 1952 appointed by Executive Committee to fill the office of Secretary upon resignation of Joab K. Mahood, who had accepted a Governor's appointment to the Milk Control Commission.
- Married Ella Hostettler who had a mutual interest in the Grange. Both served in many capacities in Fulton Grange and Lancaster County Pomona Grange.
- Member of Drumore School Board and Treasurer of Southern Lancaster County Joint School Board
- Director of Eastern States Farmer Exchange, Coatesville
- 1951 selected as Executive Secretary of PA Council of Farm Organizations. Chairman of Council's Committee working for the advancement of School of Agriculture of PA State College and expansion of its research facilities, especially in animal and poultry disease identification and control.
- Member of Executive Committee of Board of Trustees at PA State University for many years.
- State Master McSparran became a candidate for Governor in the 1962 Primary election. He was granted a leave of absence from the State Grange during the campaign and Thomas S. Gardner, Columbia County, member of the Executive Committee served as State Master pro-tem.
- McSparran's campaign was not successful, but brought prestige and honor to the Grange and made many people aware of the work of the Grange.

Of Note:

- 1957 instituted a new bookkeeping system in the State Grange Office.
- Change made in handling of Dr. Ellis M. Santee Scholarship Fund.
- 85th Annual Session held at Reading, the Delegates received printed copies of the financial statement presented to Delegates for the first time as well as copies of the resolutions.
- The PA Grange News played a new role in getting programs distributed earlier in the Grange year. The November issue included programs for 1958, saving the cost of printing a goals folder and putting information in the hands of every Grange family.
- Mr. and Mrs. George Steele, Chester County, Miss Esther Schaffer, Berks County and Mr. Gerald Shumway, Bradford County wrote guidelines, charts or instruction sheets for the Sixth Degree drills with guidance from Professor William Gordon, PA State University, who had originated and directed the drills. This made the facilitating of the Sixth Degree drills possible for anyone to stage the drills.
- 1958 a revised Constitution and Bylaws for State, Pomona and Subordinate Granges was printed.

- C. Wesley Starr, Chester County, made an extensive study of Bylaws and suggested corrective changes known as “the parliamentarian” at the State Session. Incorporated in the book were all the changes made by Delegates since 1950. Every Subordinate and Pomona Grange provided with copies.
- Dr. Ira C. Gross resigned as Secretary. The Executive Committee appointed. O. W. Rittenhouse, Fayette County to fill the unexpired term. He served for seven years as Secretary.
- Thomas Gordner, Columbia County, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, became the new member of the Executive Committee.
- Harvey Worthington, Chester County, became new Chairman of the Legislative Committee and Thomas Merkel, Berks County, became a new member of the Legislative Committee.
- January 9, 1959, groundbreaking held for the National Grange Building in Washington, DC. Several PA State Grange officers were attending a National Grange Conference there at the time and were present for the groundbreaking.
- April 28-29, 1959, 52 dairymen representing many Pomona Granges met at Phillipsburg, PA to discuss self-help dairy program proposed by National Grange and National Milk Producers Federation. This helped clarify the facets of the program.
- First Committee on Local Government appointed by Master McSparran at the 87th Session at Bedford to address problems and duties of local governments.
- Philip Price, Chester County, resigned as Treasurer after 21 years.
- September 30, 1960, John H. Minor, Greene County appointed to fill the position.
- Eleven new Grange halls were dedicated during J. Collins McSparran’s tenure as Master. He served as the dedicating officer for all ceremonies.

Legislation:

- 1957 – One of the greatest victories when legislation passed and Governor George Leader signed the Grange drafted bill making permanent the program which farmers received a refund of the tax paid on gasoline used in farm equipment. This returned to farmers between four and six million dollars a year.
- Grange instrumental in securing enactment of legislation on the following:
- Establishing new standards and regulations covering the production and distribution of chemical compounds in agriculture to protect buyers of such materials from unscrupulous manufacturers.
- Repealed limited use of school buses by school districts for transportation of children and permitted their use for extra-curricular activities resulting in a savings to school districts and taxpayers.
- Strengthened milk control law.
- Removed the license fee on bulk milk dispensers in schools.
- Permitted Department of Highways to construct underpasses under new and relocated highways.
- Allocated \$30 million annually from the State Motor License Fund to townships, boroughs, and cities to be used in construction and maintenance of roads.
- Conditions within agriculture industry varied in PA. Some areas enjoyed best crops and large section of state suffered from drought. Farmers felt the squeeze and in particular the poultry industry. More and more people left the farm forced by the economic conditions.
- 1958 – Governor failed to recognize that American agriculture demanded similar legislative assistance as industry such as bargaining power.
- Declining prices and increasing costs in field of agriculture had offset benefits of higher production. Would the nation maintain the prevailing pattern of agriculture based on the family farm or turn to corporate farming with control of food production monopolized?

- 1959 – Grange frustrated with questionable action of State Tax Equalization Board in revamping market evaluations of real estate in PA school districts. Valuations certified to Superintendent of Public Instruction and findings issued to compute amount of state aid for each district. Many rural school districts found that their real estate values increased 20, 30, 40 and in one instance 200 percent in a two-year period. Larger districts in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading and York showed a decline. Those with increased valuations received less aid while those districts with a decline received more aid.
- Sound legislation that would have been beneficial to agricultural or rural PA, was bottled up in committee as ordered by the administration or killed on the floor by combined efforts of both political parties from metropolitan areas.
- Grange goals accomplished by the eventual passage of the following bills:
 - The abolishment of the \$5.00 license fee, required on the use of bulk milk dispensers in eating places.
 - Water testing in the state laboratories for the sum of \$1.00 per each sample was made available to individual property owners.
 - License fee on bulk milk tanks was eliminated.
 - The pure seed law was extended to cover packages of seeds containing less than ten pounds.
 - The removal of landowners liability in cases where hunters and fishermen were injured while using his land.
- More non-farmers decided rural issues such as setting the type and millage of taxes to be levied and how the money was to be spent. Also set farm policies, deciding what types of roads, schools, and other public services to be built and becoming involved with soil and water problems and marketing. These issues struck rural homes and pocketbooks.
- 1960 – Seriousness of income situation in agriculture was more obvious than ever were being impacted by the recession.
- Department of Labor and Industry figures showed 343,000 people unemployed in PA and US census of 1960 showed 30,000 less workers on farms in PA than there were in 1954.
- There were 39,081 farm operators employed off their farms 100 days or more per year.
- Thousands of farms in PA were able to operate only because the operators and their wives worked unreasonable hours because they could not afford to hire help.
- PA Department of Highways asked for legislation to enable it to purchase entire farms when taking a right of way. Grange opposed this legislation but the bill was not defeated until 1961.
- Grange secured an audience with Department of Labor & Industry early in the year and curtailed the passing of additions to the minimum wage law that would have affected farm employees or members of the farm family.
- 1961 – During J. Collins McSparran’s administration legislative dinners sponsored by Pomona Granges across the State was one of the finest features of the total legislative effort.
- Progress made in the field of publicity noted by the numbers of editorials written about the Grange.
- Highway Land Grab bill defeated which would have empowered Secretary of Highways to seize property under right of eminent domain.
- Governor David Lawrence failed to include additional funds for public education in the budget. He stated his failure to do so was the lack of a report from the Committee on Education. Tax revenues increased by more than \$100 million and the new and expanded programs presented paralleled spending with every cent of increase used.

- Attorney General made efforts to secure new taxes to finance additional school aid by a two cent increase in gas tax. Only tax program that advanced was a 2% tax on certain types of investment income.
- Act 561 passed and provided for mandatory reorganization of school districts and killed home rule of school administration by replacing it with an appointed agency of government which had the sole right to make decisions.
- 1962 – Summer was a severe drought in PA. Farmers forced to feed short supply of hay in the summer months and purchase major part of the winter’s supply.
- Cooperation from Grange League Foundation, Farm Bureau Cooperative and Eastern States Farmer’s Exchange, the tight feed supply was alleviated and prices stabilized at a more realistic level.
- Eastern states railroads voluntarily reduced their rates on hauling hay by 25% and extended the rate to March 31, 1963.
- The legislation passed in 1962 was more desirable than the trends in 1958.
- Cost and price squeeze more acute than ever in agriculture. Sound legislation to solve long-range needs of agriculture was still non-existent.

Membership 1956-1962:

- 1956-1957 – membership declined by 1,297 members
- 1957 – 689 Granges and membership of 75,252
- 1960 – A net gain in membership for the first time in eight years: 5,939 new members; 5,119 lost with a net gain of 820 and total membership of 73,554. Eighty-two candidates initiated by Fleetwood Grange, Berks County, and a net gain of 96 members in Pleasant Valley Grange, Fayette County.
- 1961 – 789 member loss. At the close of McSparran’s administration there were 689 Granges with 70,489 members.

Lecturer’s Department:

- 1956 – Mrs. O. Walker (Mary) Shannon became Lecturer.
- December 1956 a new Lecturer’s Handbook was introduced replacing bulletins.
- Additional aids printed in the PA Grange News, bulletins were mailed from the National Lecturer and a Stunt and Skit book were made available. The Skit book was compiled by Lecturer Shannon and contained original skits written by Subordinate and Pomona Lecturers.
- 1957 – 48 of 56 Pomona Lecturers attended one of three Regional Conferences held in Pottsville, Phillipsburg and Kittanning. W. R. Gordon, PA State University Rural Sociologist, conducted classes on program building at each meeting.

Leadership Schools:

- April 4-6, 1957 – Mid-Atlantic Lecturers’ Conference held at Frederick, MD
- June 26-28, 1957 – Annual PA State Grange Leaders’ Conference held at PA State University. Guest speakers were J. K. Stern, President of American Institute of Cooperation; Roy Battles, Assistant to National Master; Ed Holter, National Lecturer and J. Collins McSparran, State Master.
- Close relationship established with Pa State University and in the following years Leadership School became a summer conference held at the University. Gave the opportunity to attend and benefit from

the trainings to Lecturers and Juvenile Matrons who may not have been able to attend in the winter or spring. Granges urged to send delegates who would be serving as officers during the next year.

- Home Economics Committee invited to join Leadership School in 1961 and have continued to be a vital part of the Conference.
- Large number of PA Lecturers attended Mid-Atlantic Lecturers' Conference in Wilmington, DE in 1958, Atlantic City, NJ in 1958, PA State University in 1960; Elmira, NY in 1961 and Frederick, MD in 1962.

A First:

- 1957 – Mrs. Shannon's idea of a Lecturer's Advisory Committee was fulfilled. She urged every Grange to appoint a Committee and developed a plan of work for the Committee. Committee made up of Pomona Lecturers appointed by Master McSparran. Concept of Lecturer's Advisory Committee was one of Mrs. Shannon's greatest contributions to the PA State Grange.
- Held luncheons at State Sessions, presented next year's program, arranged displays, planned Leadership Schools, and held training sessions for Lecturers in their Districts.
- New in 1958 PA State Grange talent festival began in 1958 and was another first, a cooperative effort between the Lecturer and Youth Committees. Festival placed emphasis on participation rather than winning. Categories were vocal, instrumental, square dance, and other acts. Subordinate Granges competed first on a Pomona level and the Pomona could send a representative to District Festival in each category. Each of the four Districts sent their winners to compete on the state level.
- Pomona Masters' Association contributed toward the awards each year making it possible to give all entries a cash award for competing on the state level.
- Winners in the first Festival: Vocal – Big Knob, Beaver County; Instrument – Spring Hill, Bradford County; Square Dance – Big Knob, Beaver County; Other Acts – Franklin, Fayette County.
- Talent Festival adopted by the National Grange Lecturer's Department. Rules changed during the years and contest enlarged.
- Awards – 1958 – Paris Grange, Washington County, received second place in National Safety Contest.
- Barbara Maros, Rostraver Grange, Westmoreland County, placed first at State level and received a \$100.00 Savings Bond as a regional winner in the Highway Safety Essay Contest.
- Big Horn Grange, Elk County, quartet placed second at the 93rd Annual Session of the National Grange, Long Beach, CA.
- Art Contest – 1960 was a new project. Sophia Rayser, Lyndell Grange, Chester County, placed first in the National Grange Poster Contest.
- Walter T. Smith, Oliver Grange, Perry County, placed third in the color photo and black and white photo categories.

Appreciation:

- Mary Shannon was a firm believer in Grange principles and not one to maintain the status quo. She believed Grange should broaden their programs to better meet the needs of their members, communities and develop stronger rural leadership.
- Master McSparran, in a Master's address stated, "Mary Shannon has done a splendid job in advancing ideas, methods of presentation, sources of material, and other helps for Pomona and Subordinate Lecturers."

Home Economics Department:

- Set aside proceeds from sale of 5,000 PA State Grange cookbooks published in 1951 as a start of a building fund making the initial payment available for the headquarters when purchased. In addition to monetary support, they spent many hours furnishing and decorating the new headquarters giving it “the woman’s touch” and creating a “home-like atmosphere”.
- Mrs. W. Arthur (Clara) Willetts, Pine Run Grange, Lycoming County, Chairman had many worthwhile programs. The most outstanding project was the CARE sewing machine project. PA provided five sewing machines. Three counties each contributed \$90.00, the price of one machine. They were Allegheny, Washington, and Lycoming.
- PA contest winners at National Grange:
 - Dorothy H. Rits, Gouglersville Grange, Berks County, placed third with a hooked rug.
 - Myrna Long, age 17, Harrold Grange, Westmoreland County, received first place in the “summer coordinates” sewing contest.
 - Betty Derbyshire, age 9, Charleston Valley Juvenile Grange, Tioga County, received third place in the doll quilt class.
- 1958 - \$50,000 sewing contest first announced in the National Grange monthly. Prizes included all expense trip for two to Paris, a foreign car, wardrobe for a woman, fur stole, set of sterling silverware. A portable slant-needle Singer sewing machine was offered for the Best Dress in each state.
- June 2, 1958 – “Open House” held at Headquarters was the climax of the first sponsored sewing contest. Grange members and friends from 34 of 56 Pomona Granges attended. The quota set for PA was 4,735 garments. Response yielded 5,788 entries. Entered in the State final contest were 55 adults, 52 youth, and 46 junior dresses. Best of Show went to Mrs. Richard Wilson in the adult class and was sponsored by Mrs. Lee Wilson, Tioga Valley Grange, Tioga County. Nancy Steputis, Lock Haven, sponsored by Mrs. Gladys Steputis, Lamar Grange, Clinton County, received first place in the youth class. The Junior class first place winner was Sandra Martin, Winfield Grange, Butler County and also received first place in the National contest.
- 1958 – Helen Rice, Thomson Grange, Susquehanna County, received first place with a hooked rug entry in the “florals and scrolls” class at the National level.
- 1959 – Project done by Subordinate Granges included “Go To Church Sunday”, placing flowers in churches on Rural Life Sunday, observing June as dairy month, and doing something for those of golden age.
- National winners of contests were:
 - Mrs. Raymond Kessler, Westmoreland County, received second place in crocheted tablecloth.
 - Mrs. Lois Moag, Fayette County, first place in crocheted household accessories.
 - Mrs. J. A. Jackson, Beaver County, first award of whirlpool range in the yeast breads division of baking contest. She was flown to Long Beach, CA, a complimentary round trip flight, for the bake-off.
- State Grange session at Bedford had a display of canned and frozen fruits, vegetables and meats. Sponsored by the Hazel-Atlas Division of Continental Can Company.
- 1960 – Cooperated with Lecturer Shannon’s program on cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, cancer and other health topics.
- New contest of floral arrangements – fresh and dried centerpieces and corsages. First place winners – Mrs. William Robinson, East Lynn Grange, Chester County; Mrs. Stanley Twining, Middletown Grange, Bucks County; Mrs. Paul Dyer, Fordham Grange, Butler County.

- National Grange contest winners were Mrs. Ada M. Weldy, sponsored by Gladys Hollenbeck, Iona Grange, Bradford County, who received second place with a knitted baby set, and first place won by Mrs. Robert L. Stockholm, Lawsville Grange, Susquehanna County, in the socks, mittens, gloves class.
- 1961 – Mrs. Eldred Hileman succeeded Mrs. Clara Willetts as Chairman.
- June 27-29, Home Economics Department, invited to join the State Grange Leadership School at PA State University for the first time. There were 66 Subordinate and Pomona Chairmen in attendance. State Master McSparran spoke on “The Grange Halls”, and “A Grange Home”. Dr. Harold Bixby, and Mrs. Arthur Brusco showed slides and talked on “CARE” in the Philippines.
- Grange CARE project was a person to person and family to family effort to help the less fortunate help themselves. PA led all other participating states with contributions totaling \$2,104.43.
- “Women’s Welfare Service of Japan” utilized discarded nylon stockings that were collected and sent for relief of needy Japanese women and children. A total of 308 lbs. of nylons were sent from PA.
- Seventeen Pomona Granges exhibited projects at the 89th session held at Washington, PA.
- The fourth Annual National Grange Sewing Contest had 1,526 entries in PA. There were 122 dresses judged on the state level. The Best of Show was won by Mrs. Dale Panthamus, Pine Run Grange, Lycoming County.
- The National Bake-off contest had 744 entries. PA Power & Light testing kitchen hosted the contest in Harrisburg. The state winners were Mrs. Clifton Erway, Ulysses Grange, Potter County with a Danish Krueger, and Mrs. Norma Pflugh, Armstrong County for a yellow cake with caramel filling. Both competed with 16 other District winners in the National Bake-off at Worcester, MA. Mrs. Pflugh received third place and won an RCA Whirlpool Range.
- Needlework contest had 334 entries in the state with 131 judged at the state level. Laura Swayne, Chester County, received first place at the National level.
- Over 700 pairs of used eye glasses were sent to “Eyes for the Needy” at Short Hills, NJ.
- 1962 – Change of pace for the Home Economics Department with a book reading project. Contestants were required to read six books and write a 50 word report on each book. There were 147 Grangers entered.
- Also a house plant project grown between October 1, 1962 and September 1, 1963 – a philodendron or a blue African violet. First place philodendron was won by Mrs. George Moore and for the African Violet Mrs. John Snyder, both of Berks County.
- Added Pomona and Subordinate scrapbooks competition for 1962, “CARE in the Philippines Project reported 225 Granges contributing \$1,579.08 and there was continued interest in the “Eyes for the Needy” project.
- PA had 1,186 entries in the National Sewing Contest. Mrs. Jesse French, Mifflin County, received Best of Show and also won second place in the National Grange competition. Her prize was a 17 jewel wristwatch, a Singer Glide vacuum cleaner, and a Tappan 400 gas range.
- Mrs. J. D. Townsend, Washington County was the regional winner in the banking contest with a Swedish tea ring in the yeast bread division.
- There were 100 entries judged in the needlework contest.
- Mrs. Eldred Hileman retired as Chairman after serving two years.

Grange Youth Department:

- Phyllis Homan became the Chairman of the committee in 1957. Charles F. Ross, a member of the State Youth Committee, also served on the National Youth Committee.
- The Youth Committee met quarterly, circulated five newsletters annually, and continued to write “Youth News” for the PA Grange News. They also held Pomona level meetings and luncheons to promote the 1957 youth program.
- The Fifth Annual Youth Leadership Training was held at Camp Mizpeh near Newton Hamilton August 16-17, 1957 with 227 persons in attendance. Kenneth and Kevin Sherper, of the Farm-Peace Team of Minneapolis, conducted workshops.
- Sue Ann Fye, Clearfield County, elected Princess of Springtime and Ronald Langley, Fayette County elected Knight of Harvest.
- Four youth participated in the Grange Interstate Youth Exchange (GISYE) program – Lorene Courtney, Mercer County; Dottie Hartle, Centre County; Isabelle Smay and Marion Westover, both of Clearfield County.
- Robert Steese, Mercer County, was the National Scholarship winner and a member of the State Youth Committee, represented PA at the National Grange Youth and Juvenile Conference in Kansas City, MO. Bill Cameron, Perry County, represented PA at the National Session at Colorado Springs, CO and served on the Executive Committee as a National Youth Officer. Walter Smith, also of Perry County, served as High Priest of Demeter.
- Big Knob Grange, Beaver County, won the Youth Degree Team Contest and Ann Roberts, Valley Grange, Somerset County, won the top honors in the “Youth Speaks” competition.
- Ginger Hill Grange, Washington County, placed first at the State and National levels with their Subordinate Youth Report, as they did the previous year.
- 1958 – There were 177 youth who attended the Sixth Annual Leadership “get together” at Camp Mizpeh, Newton Hamilton August 1-3. Workshops were conducted by State and National leaders.
- Dottie Hartle of Logan Grange, Centre County, elected Princess of Springtime and George Gregg of London Grange, Mercer County, Knight of Harvest.
- The GISYE program had eight PA youth participating. Nancy Heilman, Montgomery County; Mary-Lee Hobbs, Beaver County; Margaret Rush, Montgomery County; Joyce Hoover, Centre County; Donna M. Knarr, Clearfield County; Kathryn Rea, Crawford County; Janet McFadden, Clearfield County; and Rita Perry, Elk County.
- Official delegate to the National Youth and Juvenile Conference in Atlantic City, NJ was Doris Metzger, Lehigh County. Phyllis Homan, State Youth Chairman, also attended.
- Lois Stringer represented PA and served as Chaperone for the Youth Officers at the National Session held at Grand Rapids, MI.
- “Youth Speaks” contest won by Bill Hammond, South Beaver Grange, Beaver County, was the winner in Division 1 and Elda Burk, Wills Grange, Somerset County, was the winner in Division 2.
- 1959 – Theme “Working Together for Better Living”.
- The new Chairman was Miss Mildred Shultz, Somerset Grange, Somerset County.
- Allen Farquahar, Fayette County, continued editing the PA Grange News Youth page. He also represented PA in the Ten-State Grange Conference in Washington, DC.

- Youth Camp attendance was 189. Workshops conducted by State Master J. Collins and Ella McSparran, Walker and Mary Shannon, George Steele, and Sandy Powell. Isabel Jodeen, Centre County, elected Princess of Springtime and Ed Stimmel, Fayette County, Knight of Harvest.
- A new photo contest was instituted in the Youth Department.
- Seven degree teams received Better Ritual awards.
- Four people participated in the GISYE program – Jane Cotton, Erie County; Kathy Schultze, Erie County; John Courtney, Mercer County, and Harold Manbeck, Berks County.
- Bill Cameron, Perry County, represented PA youth at Long Beach, CA, as Priest Analyst with the National Youth Officers.
- Special Committee of William Miller, Mercer County; Phyllis Homan, Centre County; Harold Yoder, Bucks County; and E. Clinton Stitt, Armstrong County appointed to investigate feasibility of purchasing a youth camp site. They recommended that no purchase be made.
- 1960 – State Lecturer Mary Shannon’s workshop at the 1959 camp aided in adding some new ideas into the youth program.
- A flip chart was used to present the 1960 youth schedule. Additional classes were added to the photo contest, renewed interest and participation in the scrapbook contest and an expanded “4-H Club of the Year” contest.
- Youth Camp was held August 12-14 held at Camp Mizpeh had 105 registered. Workshops conducted by State Master McSparran, State Overseer George Steele, State Lecturer Mary Shannon and others. Marlene Kuntz, Indiana County, selected Princess of Springtime and Blair Minnick, Lehigh County, Knight of Harvest.
- GISYE participants were George Steele, Chester County and Frances Mills, Fayette County.
- Allen Farquahar, Fayette County continued to edit the youth page in the PA Grange News. Youth Chairman Mildred Shultz wrote an illustrated pageant called “Youth Builds”, which were sent to all Youth Chairmen.
- Fayette County youth team won the Ritual Contest of opening and closing the Grange and opened the Wednesday morning session in Harrisburg.
- Jerry Byers, Fayette County and Beverly Riddle, Venango County were chosen for the 1960 National Convention Scholarships.
- 1961 – Youth Camp held August 11-13 had 164 in attendance. Wib Justi, National Youth Activities Director, joined previous presenters in conducting workshops.
- Rita Drake, Beaver County, selected Princess of Springtime and Harold Burkett, Indiana County, Knight of Harvest.
- Fayette’s Youth team repeated as winners of the youth ritual contest and again opened the Wednesday morning of State Session in Washington, PA.
- Mary-Lee Hobbs, Frankfort Springs Grange, Beaver County and student at PA State University qualified for the Gyger Award.
- 1962 – National Grange travel scholarship winners were Wanda McFeaters, Adams County, second alternate for PA State Grange Youth Conference; Harold Burkett, Indiana County, first alternate for the WI State Grange Youth Conference, and Beverly Riddle, Venango County, winner in the American Institute of Cooperation, Columbus, OH.
- PA State Grange youth camp selected to receive a National Scholarship winner from the New England States as a guest. David Cuscuna, Essex County, MA was the National winner.

- The tenth year of youth camp was held at Camp Mizpeh August 10-12 with 110 in attendance. Workshops were conducted by State Lecturer Mary Shannon, State Secretary O. W. Rittenhouse, State Master McSparran, and wife Ella, Wallace Caulk, Lecturer of DE State Grange, and wife; and John W. Scott.
- Kathy McNees, Allegheny County, selected as Princess of Springtime and Paul Eckhart, Carbon County, Knight of Harvest.
- Edward Murphy instituted a flag raising and lowering ceremony as part of camp.
- Exchangees were Bonnie Brewster, Tioga County and John McCormick, Fayette County.
- Berks County won first place in the Ritual contest at Reading earning the honor opening the Wednesday morning session of State Grange.
- Harold Burkett, Indiana County, served as pianist for the National Youth Officers at Worcester, MA.
- 1962 ended the McSparran administration and Youth Director Mildred Shultz thanked Master McSparran for challenging her “to the biggest piece of work she had ever done in the Grange.” She would always treasure the pleasant days spent with the PA State Grange youth.

Juvenile Grange 1957 – 1962:

- July 28, 1957, was the tenth year since the first camp was held at Camp Brule`.
- Mrs. W. D. (Mildred) Hutchison, Juvenile Superintendent, welcomed 148 boys and girls and staff of 14 to Camp Kanesatake. Workshops were conducted by Mildred Shultz, Somerset County Pomona Lecturer, Mrs. J. Collins McSparran, Kenenth and Keither Sherper, “Farmers & World Affairs” exchanges from MN, Miss Marjorie Slick, Blair County.
- 1958 Camp workshops led by Mr. & Mrs. O. W. Rittenhouse, Reverend Elden Ehrhart, Mr. Carroll Howell of PA State University Extension Service.
- Mrs. Hutchison in a State Report described the Juvenile Grange as “truly a school out of school geared to develop responsible, efficient men and women of the future.”
- Many contests were held to test the imagination and ingenuity of the young people. They were also kept busy with projects at State and National levels.
- 1959 Juvenile schedule included “The New for the Needy”, teaching the principle of sharing and stimulating interest in sewing and creating toys; “Understand Uncle Sam”, citizenship project; and “The Glean for the Italian Team”, a self-help program by an American in Lower Italy. Juvenile Granges committed to contribute \$1.00 per Grange and the money earned through “special efforts” or denials” to aid the worker in projects he had selected to help needy people. PA Juvenile Granges raised \$220.51. A parallel to this project was “the Greek Team” project with donations of \$173.23.
- In 1960 the JG Achievement based on activities of the Juvenile Grange as a whole and the JG merit award, an individual project that required knowledge of the Grange Ritual, an acceptable attendance record, participation in JG activities, and dependability were stressed.
- From 1957-1962 there were 51 new Juvenile Granges organized and a net gain of membership of 344 members. The largest number of Juvenile Granges in the state’s history was reported in 195 with 255 Granges with a combined membership of 5,661 members.
- In 1957 at the 91st National Session held at Colorado Springs, CO, Kay Rusmisl, Washington County, placed first in the nut character contest, and Janet Stewart, Lawrence County, received third place in the JG scrapbook contest, both in the 10-14 age group.
- In 1960 at the 94th National session held at Winston-Salem, NC, Virginville Grange, Berks County, placed second in colored slide contest; David Frank Finney, Mercer County, placed third in the cone

craft, age 5-9 class, and Gladys McCall, Unionville Grange, Butler County, placed second in cone craft age 10-14 class.

- In 1961 at the 95th National session held at Worcester, MA, Barbara Stitzel, Berks County received Honorable Mention in the fly swatter contest.

The value of the Juvenile Grange was best expressed by Mrs. W. D. Hutchison at the close of her 1959 report of the Juvenile Grange at the State Session –

“Time spent in the Juvenile Grange,
Is time that is never lost.
For the rich reward that it brings
Is so well worth the cost.
It takes one’s time and talents too
To help in some small way
To make the world a better place\
For children every day.”