

GRANGE MEMBER APPRECIATION ISSUE!!!

GRANGE NEW

GRANGE NEWS

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> > GRANGE NEWS





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A Pennsylvania State

Cover photography by: 88 Dragon Design Studio (Heather Hiller) www.88dragon.com



"Mountain Frost", Lycoming County, PA

Mrs. Hiller is a 4th generation Granger at Allegheny Grange #1843









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Dear Fellow Grangers:

The Fall Season is upon us; the 145th Pennsylvania State Session held in Scranton is over, and the 151st National Grange Session held in Spokane, Washington is just around the corner. At our Pennsylvania State Grange Session we set what will be priorities for us over the next year. We also set priorities in our daily lives. Sometimes we plan them, other times they are determined by our daily living habits.

The upcoming holiday season is a great time to talk about priorities. What are our priorities? Do we give as much as last year

From the President's Desk

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

> The Grange is non-denominational; however, all of our degrees talk about how God provides and blesses us as caretakers of that bounty. We must help our fellow Brothers and Sisters not only in the Christmas Season, but all year long. The Christmas Season can be a good time to help others see the need that is all around us.

> My wife and I, many years ago were advisors for our Church Youth Group. We would work throughout the year raising money so that we would be able to help families who struggle financially during the holidays.

> Many times I would dress up like Santa Claus and select a few youth group members to travel along on Christmas Eve to deliver the presents to the families. We always asked prior to visiting so that



or do we give more? Do we give to charities, food banks, and disaster funds? Do we send Christmas cards to that long list or do we cut back? These are all questions that we will need to answer by discussing them with our spouses, friends or each other ~ but what about God? Shouldn't we be discussing these questions with him? Not only during the Christmas Season, but also all year long.

we did not offend or hurt a parent's feelings in any way.

One particular time had a profound effect on the Youth Group member's lives as well as Debbie's and mine was when we had already been to two places and arrived at our third and final stop. The lady came to the door and immediately started to cry when she *article continued on page 6*



Pennsylvania Grange News 20 Erford Road, Suite 216 Lemoyne, PA 17043 1-717-737-8855 www.pagrange.org

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2018 Deadlines January/February Issue November 3rd

> March/April Issue January 5th

May/June Issue March 2nd

July/August Issue May 4th

September/October Issue July 2nd

November/December Issue September 7th

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A portion of members' dues is paid as a subscription.

Title: Pennsylvania Grange News Issue: November/December 2017 Statement of frequency: Bi-monthly Authorized organization's name & address: Pennsylvania State Grange 20 Erford Road, Suite 216 Lemoyne, PA 17043

PGN Advertising Rates

(all rates are color. All rates are perissue. Quantity discount available)

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Inside	\$480
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Now that Halloween is a scary memory, we are fast approaching that time of the year when the days seem to pick up speed! Already the stores have been exhibiting Christmas trappings to say nothing of the Black Friday advertisements! But first, let us take a few moments to celebrate a National Holiday that realistically should be celebrated each and every day: THANKSGIV-ING!

We have so many blessings and gifts to be thankful for: food, family, friends, freedoms, health, homes, happy hearts, Granges to keep us connected and a God who loves us unconditionally and sent his only Son to die for our sins!! What more could we want?! May I suggest discipline to make time to appreciate what we have and to recognize areas where we can share our bounty with those who are less fortunate dollar wise or company wise!

There are many opportunities to provide a Happy Thanksgiving for others: We and/or our Granges can give food to the food banks, organize or help other organizations who provide free dinners, invite lonely neighbors or seniors to share your meals or deliver food to shut-ins. Then after you have assured a Happy Thanksgiving for others and enjoyed your own, it is then time to look forward to Christmas.

The Advent Season is a time

Chaplain's Corner Judy Pressler PA State Grange Chaplain

to prepare our hearts in anticipation for the great event, and I don't mean the visit from Santa Claus (although he will undoubtedly make his yearly appearance). Too often we get caught up in the hype of buy, buy, buy and forget that we should be focusing on the real reason for the season: the gift of the Christ Child who was born to set us free...the gift that keeps on giving and giving!

Granges can buy into the theme of giving by helping families with financial hardships, unemployed folks who keep searching for a job, and/or seniors who can't afford heating costs. We can identify individuals who find themselves far from their own families and homes who would enjoy sharing the atmosphere of a happy CHRISTMAS celebration whether it is at home or attending a church service with you.

And, take time within your own families to create happy memories. A favorite of my childhood was when we four kids would sit by the window on Christmas morning and wait for the barn lights to go off... that meant dad was on his way!

At the end of the year when we look back on these couple of months, it will be so rewarding to remember with thanksgiving the love and smiles that were exchanged rather than the hectic, hustle and bustle that left us frazzled and grumpy!!

The bottom line is...

CHRISTMAS is a time to give and receive LOVE...so my prayer is for a MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR ALL!

Prayerfully yours, Judy Pressler







Your Grange Hand-print...

When I was much younger I remember one rainy afternoon, sitting at my Gram's kitchen table. We were painting my hand pressing it onto paper to make a handprint craft. She turned my hand

over and I asked her about all the creases on the palm of my hand. She told me that some people think the lines tell things about your future. She her took finger and traced one of the creastelling es, it was me



very long. She smiled sharing, "That is a sign of a long life. Just as you left your hand-print on the paper, you can leave a hand-print with the things you do with your life."

As I am remembering this conversation, it makes me think about what kind of Grange hand-print we can make in our communities. What is your Grange's purpose in your community? If you don't have a clear purpose, schedule a meeting to discuss and define the Membership News Lizzie Bailey PA State Grange Membership & PR Director

needs of your area. Is there a service or education platform you can offer? Are there issues that your Grange could assist by working on legislative initiatives? If you have a defined purpose how can you better promote your Grange? What other groups or organizations can you work with to accomplish your goals? Discuss ways to encourage new people to become members.

Contact your local representative to discuss possible issues in your area, ask how your Grange could assist?

> Attend your local borough or t o w n s h i p meeting to learn about things going on in your community.

Prepare a program that you can present to kids in your school district.

Brainstorm as a group and come up with many other ways to create programs, and promote your Grange. I look forward in hearing about what hand-prints you are leaving in your community!

Lizzie Bailey PR/Membership Director publicrelations@pagrange.org 717-737-8855 office 717-254-9550 cell



article continued from page 4

saw our delivery. We had presents for her as well as her three children, along with a complete meal of turkey and all the fixings. Her tears were because of the food. She thanked us, but asked us to give the food to someone else as she had no way to prepare it. She prepared all their food in a toaster oven. Imagine preparing meals for your family in one small toaster oven. It totally stunned us. We told her we would take care of it, so Debbie and I took the food home and prepared it. We delivered the meal fully cooked on Christmas Day. Her refrigerator worked so she could warm up small portions as needed for the leftovers. When we asked if we could help her get a new stove she told us the trailer was a rental property and she hoped to be able to move soon.

This event had a very emotional effect on all of us that night. Some of the Youth Group members left in tears. Well, I was talking about priorities. What will your priorities be not only in this Holiday season but the rest of your life? Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, and giving.

As we rejoice and celebrate this wonderful season of Christmas, let us not forget to thank Baby Jesus for coming into our lives. Let us together prepare ourselves to welcome him into our homes and our hearts.



Merry Christmas and a very blessed New Year from the Campbell family!

Fraternally,

Wayne Campbell Pennsylvania State Grange President





Good progress continues to be made by your State Grange History Committee on the various initiatives explained in previous issues. We are pleased to report:

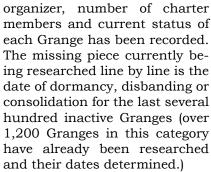
Recent Journals of Proceedings not included in those microfilmed by the State Archives some years ago and all State newsletters (Grange Grange News, Advocate, etc.) have been released to the microfilming contractor. Receipt of the completed microfilm for permanent records preservation and indexed PDF scanned documents to provide access to these publications on the State Grange website are expected later this fall.

History Committee Doug Bonsall PA State Grange History Committee Director

• Historical summaries of significant events and accomplishments during the term of each State Grange Master/President have been drafted and are currently in the editing stage. Both these historical highlights and the roster of Granges will be loaded on the State Grange website in the foreseeable future to provide easy access to the information.

• Investigation is being done with the current microfilm contractor about the possibility of active Pomona and Subordinate Granges which may wish to have their records microfilmed to be able to do so under the existing contract negotiated by the State Grange History Committee. More information will be announced as details are determined.

А roster spreadsheet of all 2,110 Grangchartered es in Pennsylvania from 1871 to the present has been mostly completed. The number. name. town or township location, county,





• Generous financial contributions continue to be received in response to the History Committee financial appeal issued early this summer. As

of 9/5/2017, donations totaling \$4,305 have been received from Pomona & Subordinate Granges and several individuals, approaching 50% of this year's goal. Received since the last report were funds given by (in the order received):

- Hookstown #1980, Beaver County
- Seipstown #1657, Lehigh County



- Harveys-Aleppo #1444, Greene County
- Sanatoga #25, Montgomery County
- Brandywine #60, Chester County
- Harmony #1201, Clearfield County
- London #1492, Mercer County
- Perry County Pomona #69
- Hamburg #2103, Berks County
- Kutztown #1836, Berks County
- Marshallton #1394, Chester County
- Past State Master Gordon Hiller
- Cochranton #2030, Crawford County
- Valley #1360, York County
- Laurel Point #915, Armstrong County
- Diane E. Marino in memory of mother A. Elaine Cooke from Brandywine #60, Chester County

Additional information about the ongoing work of the State Grange History Committee may be obtained from Doug Bonsall at douglas.b@verizon.net.



Hello everyone! With State Session behinds us for another year, and nationals right around the corner, and fall looking more like winter, I hope everyone got the new contest papers that were passed out at State Grange so everyone can work on all the contest through the winter months. I hope everyone got a chance to come into the contest room and look at all the beautiful things that were made by our great Granger's.



There was a lot of stuff to look at and taste. Hope everyone enjoyed making all the stuff we got to see, and will keep on working to fill up

our room next year. So I hope evervone has a really great Christmas and gets all your wishes for the New Year also. Hope to see All at the planning meeting in January 2018. So I will say see you later and ENJOY your Holidays. Peace and Pravers for the



New Year. Yours Truly,

Centre

Director

and

Melanie Melius Family Activities

Centre County Grange fair 2017

Grange #13 quilt raffle 2017 win-

ner was State Master's wife Debbie

Campbell (pictured here with her

two grandkids; Riley and Bryce)

County

Pomona



By the time you receive this State Session will be over and a new Grange year started. Now that cooler weather is upon us and outdoor chores for the season are over, now is the time to start on contest entries for 2018. There is something for everyone. Take time out from the busy holiday season to relax and get a jump start on entries. See the next issue for notes from Session.

The talent contest was held at Family Festival in July. The results

Program Director Denise Clare PA State Grange Program Director

are as follows:

Vocal: 1st place Tina Reich, Valley Grange #1360 York/Adams County Variety: 1st place Lurae Benzio, Fairview Grange #1351 Beaver County Instrumental: 1st place Jennifer Nauss, Valley Grange #1360 York/Adams County

2nd place Michael Adams, Kutztown Grange #1836/Hamburg Grange #2103 Berks County

Jennifer Nauss will represent PA State Grange at National Session in Spokane, WA in November. Congratulations!

Program Ideas

November

3rd: National Sandwich Day: Have a dinner meeting where everyone brings something and have a buffet where sandwiches are the main course! 5th: Daytime Savings Time ends. Why do we "fall back"? 11th: National Sundae Day-sundaes for refreshments 19th-National Play Monopoly Day

December

4th: National Sock Day-Everyone wears socks and have prizes for the funniest, oddest, most colorful, etc.

8th: National Brownie Day- refreshments

15th: National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day-Everyone can participate, give out prizes

25th: Christmas of course but did you know it is also National Pumpkin Pie Day?

There are lots of ideas out there, try something new!

Happy Holidays!! Until next time... Denise Clare PA State Lecturer



Youth News!!!

Greetings from the Youth Department!

The Youth and Young Adults have much to be excited about. This fall we were honored to have on our Pennsylvania State Grange Youth Officer Team the following outstanding youth and young patrons:

- **Master:** Andrew Kieffer / Berks
- **Overseer:** Denae Zvarick / Montgomery
- Lecturer: Lexus Johnson / Beaver
- **Steward**: Phillip Vonada / Centre
- Asst Steward: Jacob Mengel / Berks
- Lady Asst Steward: Grace Wadsworth / Chester
- **Secretary**: Sara Benzio / Beaver
- **Treasurer**: Owen Stemko / Berks
- **Chaplain**: Lindsay Schroeder / Berks
- **Gatekeeper**: Isaac Mengel / Berks
- Ceres: Cassidy Cheddar / Lancaster
- **Pomona**: Jennifer Nauss / York-Adams
- Flora: Mikayla Davis / Berks
- **Exec Comm:** Anna Benzio / Beaver
- Exec Comm: Joshua Mengel / Berks
- **Exec Comm:** Derek Snyder / York-Adams

A full report of the youth activities at the PA State Session will be in the next issue of the PGN.

Pennsylvania will also be well represented at the National Grange Convention in Spokane, Washington in November. The 2016-2017 Outstanding Young Patrons, Jennifer Nauss and Philip Vonada will be competing at the national level for Outstanding Young Patron, and Sara Benzio, the 2016-2017 Female Youth Ambassador will be competing for National Youth Ambassador. Jennifer Nauss will also be presenting her 1st place public speaking speech and her 1st place piano solo during the Evening of Excellence. In addition, Jennifer Nauss and Cassidy Cheddar will be representing PA and the Eastern Region in the Grange Jeopardy competition. We are hopeful to have a few other youth involved at the National Grange Convention activities but they have not



been announced at this time. We wish best of luck to all of our outstanding youth and young adults! Great job!

Keep watching the Youth Corner for more updates of exciting events planned for 2018!

- Ellen Wadsworth (Youth Director)



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Government Matter's Vince Phillips PA State Grange Lobbyist in this state. They carried a total insurance at that time of \$12,041,417.96.

The great growth in amount of insurance shows the popularity of these companies."

THE AGRARIAN (GRANGE) HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA INSURANCE

Author's Note: The basis of this article came from a report prepared for the PA Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (PAMIC) by the author. Pennsylvania Grange News appreciates their permission to use parts of it in this publication.

The history of Pennsylvania's Mutual Insurance Companies is like a flowing tapestry covering the span of Pennsylvania's rich agricultural and Grange heritage. Many of PA's present-day property/casualty Mutual Insurance companies trace their beginnings to farmers who, in the 1800s, realized that they needed some kind of risk management mechanism to protect themselves in case of catastrophic loss.

First, a little History 101 with which some readers may be somewhat familiar. In 1752, Ben Franklin founded America's first true insurance company, The Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses From Loss by Fire. The term 'Contributionship" comes from Sheridan's 1793 dictionary which defined 'contribution' as "that which is given to several hands for a common purpose." The Mutual Insurance model was pioneered by The Philadelphia Contributionship and provided the United States with a template from which the Insurance Industry would grow.

Original history aside, most Mutual Insurance companies trace their genesis from agriculture. As an agrarian society, Pennsylvania's farmers and farm families looked to take care of each other. An iconic image is that of neighbors working to rebuild a barn destroyed by lightning or fire. But sometimes a more formal recovery mechanism is needed. In the decade after the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry was established in 1867, spurred by the Panic (Depression) of 1873, corresponding falling prices and higher railroad shipping costs, local Grange fraternal societies organized in communities where people could pool their resources and meet losses carried by individual members.

A 1923 manuscript ("History of the Grange in Pennsylvania" by William Free Hill – Library of PA State College School of Agriculture & Experiment Station) described the first 50 years of the Grange in Pennsylvania and pointed out the growth of insurance as a necessary resource for farmers.

"In looking after the wants of its membership there have been developed a number of agencies that are proving their worth. Among them are our Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Companies now numbering over twenty and carrying insurance on property of members to the amount of \$80,000,000.

In 1897 there were eight Grange insurance companies

It is no coincidence that many Insurance Companies Mutual trace their roots directly back to Granges. In 1874, Briar Creek Mutual Insurance began selling insurance to Grange members. Some companies have kept the Grange name such as Bedford Grange Mutual Insurance Company (founded in 1909), Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company in Troy, (founded in 1877), and Clearfield County Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company (founded in 1911).

A statement from Bedford Grange Mutual Insurance Company's website points to the reason many of these companies were founded.

"The members of the Grange, in common with other owners of farm property, had resented the high rates charged for farm insurance by stock companies. Worse still, the old line stock companies were loathe to insure farm properties at all. Out of this dilemma, the Grange mutual fire insurance companies were born. When organized, the Grange companies invariably restricted their policies to Grange members, but during the depression years and later, many Grange insurance companies opened their services to non-Grangers."

Other companies reference farming in their name and may

or may not have Grange origins – Farmers & Mechanics Mutual Insurance Company, Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company/ Marble, Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Western PA (Mc-Candless Township), and Millers Mutual Group. Given leadership by Grange members in their communities, it is likely that Grangers were involved in some of these other insurance endeavors.

Some farm insurance Mutual Insurance companies changed their names as their business model expanded. The Nazareth Mutual Insurance Company started out in 1845 (pre-Grange era) as the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Founded in 1919 by the Pennsylvania Farmers and Threshermen's Mutual Protective Association, Penn National in Harrisburg was originally the PA Threshermen's and Farmers Mutual Insurance Company. It was formed to provide Workers' Compensation insurance for farm worker who operated steam-driven threshing machines. Now, it offers many property/casualty insurance options and has expanded to at least nine other states. Another example is the Farmers & Mechanics Home Mutual Insurance Company of Sullivan County chartered in 1877 in Forksville, PA. In 1983, it shortened its name to Farmers & Mechanics Mutual Insurance Company and in 1999 became affiliated with Lititz Mutual Insurance Company. Of course, Lititz Mutual Insurance Company has its own rich history.

Lititz Mutual Insurance Company was founded in 1888 by 25 Lancaster County citizens who met to create the Agricultural Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Lancaster County. And leaders from Lititz Mutual have been an integral part of the movement to promote Mutual Insurance Companies since the creation of the Pennsylvania Association of Mutual Insurance Companies in 1907. Some other Mutual Insurance company early birds still offering insurance are:

- Hannahstown Mutual (Butler County) 1860 – merged with Allegany Insurance Group in 2016
- Reamstown Mutual Insurance Company (Lancaster County) 1865
- Millville (Columbia County) 1875
- Patrons Mutual (Indiana County) 1878
- Centre County Mutual Insurance Company 1895

What this means is that Mutual Insurance Companies were founded for good reason. Thev continue to meet a wide range of insurance needs for individuals, businesses, and farmers. Mutual Insurance Companies learned how to insure risks such as farms, hunting cabins, flat roof houses and many others because they have spent decades if not centuries to gain this expertise. Granges and Grange members have a proud history of contributing to this legacy.

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 717-737-8855 or legislation@pagrange.org

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• Business Card rates are \$375 for the entire year (only \$62.50 per issue)!





Appetizer: CHRISTMAS PARTY PINWHEELS

Yield: 15-20 servings
2 (8 oz) pkgs softened cream cheese
1/2 C minced sweet red pepper
1/2 C minced celery
1/2 C sliced green onions
1/4 C sliced stuffed olives
3 to 4 (10") flour tortillas
1 (4 oz) pkg ranch salad dressing mix

In a mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and dressing mix until smooth. Add red peppers, celery, onions and olives; mix well. Spread about 3/4 C of mixture on each tortilla. Roll up tightly; wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours to set. Remove plastic wrap and slice each roll into 1/2" pieces before serving.

(Betty Lou Williams, Vernon #936 & Beverly J. Truscott, Hillcrest #1674)



Beverage: WASSAIL 1 Gallon cider or apple juice 1/2 C lemon juice 2 C sugar 10 cinnamon sticks 2 Tbs whole allspice

A Pennsylvania State

Happy Thanksgiving, and a very blessed Christmas to everyone! I thought I'd submit a couple fun articles, myself, for this issue... getting into the wonderful Holiday spirit. I'd like to get everyone in the Holiday mood by, hopefully, inspiring everyone to dig out those fantastic Grange Cookbooks...and trying some new recipes. This is the time of year to enjoy the gift of family and breaking bread together over joyously prepared meals. Lets wait for New Years before starting those diets, shall we?!

Combine all ingredients in a large saucepan. Bring to a boil and then simmer about 10 minutes. Pour through a cheesecloth or fine strainer before serving. Good warm and chilled. (Pearle Malone, Mendon #855)



Bread: CRANBERRY NUT BREAD Yield: 1-2 loaves 1/2 C butter, softened 3/4 C sugar 1 egg 2 1/2 C flour 1 Tbs baking powder 1 tsp salt 2/3 C orange juice 1/3 C milk 3/4 C chopped fresh or frozen cranberries 1 tsp grated orange peel 1/2 C chapped walnuts

Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in egg. Stir together flour, baking powder and salt. Combine orange juice and milk. Alternately mix in dry ingredients and wet ingredients to creamed mix. Fold in cranberries, orange peel and half of the nuts. Grease $1 - 8-1/2^{\circ} \ge 4^{\circ} \le 2-1/2^{\circ}$ or $2 - 7-1/2^{\circ} \ge 3-1/2^{\circ} \ge 2^{\circ}$ loaf pans. Pour batter into pans. Sprinkle top of loaves with balance of the nuts. Bake at 350° for 60 minutes (small pans - 45 minutes).

(Trudy Wigton, Pleasant Hill #1505)



PISTACHIO SALAD 1 box pistachio instant pudding 1 (20 oz) can crushed pineapple 1 C miniature marshmallows 1 small bottle maraschino cherries, drained 1/2 C chopped nuts 1 (9 oz) container Cool Whip Mix, do not beat. Pour into cake

pan and refrigerate. (Dortha Hewitt, Aleppo #2054)

Vegetable: HOLIDAY CAULIFLOWER

Yield: 8-10 servings
1 large head cauliflower
1/4 C diced green peppers
1/3 C flour
1 tsp salt
2 Tbs chopped pimento
1 (12 oz) can sliced mushrooms
1/4 C butter
2 C milk

1 C shredded Swiss cheese

Break the cauliflower into medium sized florets; cook in boiling water

Granger Christmas



until tender and crisp (apx 10 minutes). Drain well and set aside. In 2 quart casserole saucepan, saute green peppers in the butter until tender. Add mushrooms. Gradually blend in flour. Stir in milk. Cook, stirring constantly over medium heat, until mixture is thick. Stir in the salt, cheese and pimento. Place half the cauliflower in a buttered 2 quart casserole dish. Cover with half the sauce, then add remaining cauliflower. Top with remaining sauce. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes. (Viola E. Anderson, Unity #2002)



SCALLOPED POTATOES Yield: 3-5 servings 4 C potatoes, sliced 1 1/2 Tbs butter 1 1/2 Tbs AP flour 1 1/2 C hot milk 1/2 tsp salt 1/8 tsp white pepper 4 thin slices of bacon, diced 3 Tbs onion, chopped Pare potatoes and slice very thin, parboil. Fry bacon and blot dry. Melt butter; add flour and blend well. Add hot milk and stir until slightly thickened. Add seasoning. Put half of potatoes in greased 1-1/2 quart casserole dish. Add half the sauce, bacon and onions. Add remaining potatoes, white sauce, bacon and onions. Cover and bake at 350° for 1 hour. Uncover and continue to bake until brown crust forms on the top. (Helen M. Mayer, Allegheny #1843)

Stuffing STUFFING BALLS

Yield: 8 servings 1 1/2 loaves bread (king size) 1 medium onion 2 stalks celery 1 C margarine 1/4 tsp pepper 1/2 tsp parsley 1/2 C water 2 cans cream of mushroom soup 1 tsp salt

Chop celery and onion. Melt margarine; add celery and onion. Heat until softened. Cut bread into small pieces; add celery and onion. Mix. Add 1/2can of soup (undiluted). pepper and parsley. Make into balls, and place the balls into baking dish. Mix 1 1/2 cans of soup with 1/2 cup water. Pour over the balls. Cover. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes/ Uncover and bake at 325° for an additional 15 minutes. (Barbara Dixson, Brady #1218)







Dessert: HOLIDAY WREATH Yield: 1 wreath 30 marshmallows 1/2 C butter 1 tsp vanilla 2 tsp green food coloring 3 1/2 C cornflakes

Combine marshmallows, butter, vanilla and food coloring in top pan of a double broiler. Heat over water until marshmallows and butter are melted, stirring frequently. Gradually stir in cornflakes. Drop from spoon onto maxed paper; shape into 9" wreath. Decorate with red and green M&M's or red hot candies, etc. (Desire Kunkle, Shartlearille #1512)

(Desira Kunkle, Shartlesville #1512)

I didn't include any ham or turkey recipes...however, there are dozens of delicious recipes for both in all of the Pennsylvania Grange Cookbooks! Merry Christmas everyone!

- Heather Hiller



Scrubgrass Grange has been a center where kids have learned to use the sewing machine for nigh onto 70 years. Scrubgrass Grange members have been Clothing and Textile 4-H leaders/teachers for as long as anyone can remember. In the early years kids learned



to read patterns and construct clothing items for themselves, but in the past few years the 4-H Club has added Quilting as a popular project.

To introduce the kids to using the sewing machine and making simple items, the Scrubgrass Grange and Scrubgrass Stitcher's Quilt Guild have joined forces for the past 6 years to hold a free "Make and Take" Day every November for 6 to 16 year olds. Up to 25 kids (girls and boys) meet from 9 am to 1 pm and make three different items – two on the sewing machine and one hand stitched item. About 20 Grangers and Guild members set up stations and the kids rotate between the three activities. The machine stations are much more popular than the hand stitching, but we feel all kids need to know how to use a needle and thread! Items we have made in past are pillow cases, rice bags, fleece hats, book marks, 10 minute table runner, etc. We try to choose projects that the kids can then go home and duplicate and make on their own.

As a result of the "Make and Take" Day several kids have joined the Emlenton Echoes 4-H Club which meets at the Scrubgrass Grange. The Quilt Group had 12 kids this year that made anything from pot holders to purses, wall hangings, tote bags, pillows and a twin size quilt. The kids are taught to select the pattern, prepare the fabric and to follow the pattern instructions. They are taught to use modern day methods such as using a rotary cutter and long arm quilt machine. Because of safety issues the kids must be at least 12 years of age before they use the rotary cutter - up until that point the fabrics are cut out by the leader. Each year a new quilt block is introduced and each member of the Club w i 1 1 make a block resulting a "Club Quilt" which will be donated the to 4-H program for



the 4-H Auction. The Club Quilt is quilted on the Long Arm Quilting Machine with each member doing a portion of the quilting.

As a result of this ongoing activity, the Quilting on the Bayfront Quilt Show in Erie invited the Scrubgrass Grange and the Scrubgrass Stitchers Quilt Guild to do a 20' display of items which kids have made. It is a three day show with several thousand people in attendance. The Leaders and teachers man the booth and talk about passing on the art of sewing and quilting to our next generation. Patterns which have been used with the "Make and Take " day are available by sending a request to kidssewandquilt@ gmail.com.

Both Grangers and Guild members have enjoyed working with the kids; however this same program could be presented for adults in your community who want to learn to use the sewing machine. For further information on duplicating this project contact Barbara Warden at barbarawarden@embarqmail.com or 724-867-9381 or Barbara Gross at berglen@verizon. net or 814-385-6567.

(Pictures are from the 2016 year)







creativity, ideas, talents, humor, organization, positive influences and most of all his friendship. Thank you Philip for being on "my team" and helping me to become a better Granger and Junior Director.

Greetings Fellow Grangers and Junior Grangers!

By the time you read this, our State Session will be in the history books and we will all be looking forward to the upcoming holidays. Some Pennsylvania Grangers will be heading out to Spokane, Washington for National Session and I wish the Youth members attending much luck in the Youth officer drill and work as well as the Youth Ambassador contest. We have some strong youth leaders in our state and I am very proud of them all. Most of the Youth were once Junior Grangers and it makes me happy to know that they are leading our youngest members through their Grange journey and helping to give them a great start! THANK YOU YOUTH MEMBERS!

I am sad to announce that I am losing one of my Committee members. I asked Philip Vonada to come on board when I was

asked to be the Junior Director a few years ago. I wanted to have some men on my committee and Philip was at the top of my list. He had "re-newed" his Grange ac-

tivity level and was the perfect choice for the committee. His absolute LOVE for the Juniors, the program and the Grange itself was (and is) one of the best I've seen from a Granger. He has great memories and experience to share from his younger days as a Junior Granger all the way through the Youth program and now as a Young Adult Grange member. Philip has drive and determination and he is going to make things happen in our organization. I appreciated his help,



I want to share the results of the Junior Grange Talent Winners that happened at Family Festival back in mid July. Here are the results: Age 5-9 Vocal = Ruby Revburn; Age 5-9 Instrumental = Ava Jenkins; Age 5-9 Other Act = Ava Jenkins, Gretchen, Ruby Reyburn ; Age 10-14 Vocal = Isabella Boone; Age 10-14 Instrumental = Kay Revburn; Age 10-14 Other Act = Elizabeth Reich. Congrats to all of the winners and thank you to all of the Junior Participants! I am happy that we have so many Juniors sharing their talents with the rest of us!

I want to wish all of you a very Blessed and Happy Christmas Season. However you spend this time of year - be sure to create memories, share laughter and give to others. I am looking forward to 2018 and having a terrific Junior Grange year!

~Lurae



MEMBERS GET MØRE



Farm Transition Workshops

Set for Wexford, PA & Chambersburg, PA

PA Farm Link, in partnership with AgChoice Farm Credit will hold Farm Succession and Transition Programs in Wexford, PA and Chambersburg, PA.

- Wexford, PA November 14, 2017 at Soergel Orchards McIntosh Hall
- Chambersburg, PA March 8, 2018 at Chambersburg Mennonite Church

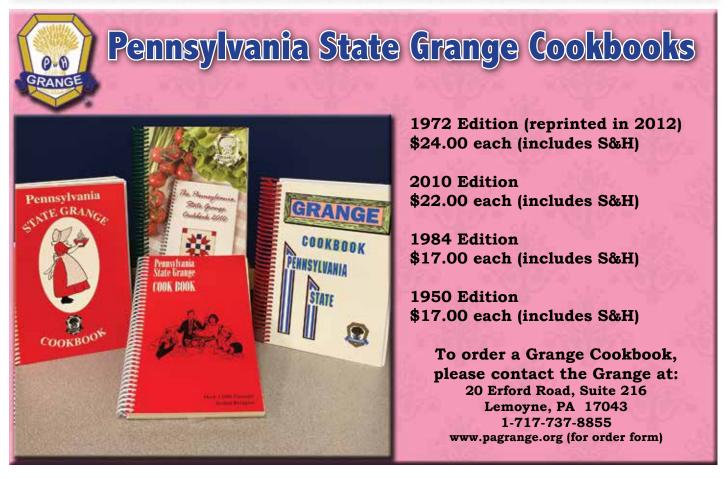
Professionals in the agricultural industry will be providing valuable information to farm business owners who want to ensure the farm is transitioned to the next



The workshop is presented by PA Farm Link. PA Farm Link, a non-profit dedicated to "Linking Farmers to the Future", will provide information on various aspects of creating a Farm Business Succession/Transition plan. Often farm families discuss passing the farm business to the next generation, but get "stuck" on how to proceed. These workshops will help work through some of the myths and stumbling blocks of moving forward with a farm succession and transition plan.

Wexford speakers & topics include: Planning for Successful Management Transition & Financial Considerations, Phil Taylor, AgChoice Farm Credit, Ag Business Consultant; Legal, Business and Tax Considerations, Attorney Bob Clark, New Wilmington, PA; Farm Family Communication & What If's, Darlene Livingston, PA Farm Link Executive Director.

article continued on page 19





ATLANTIC GRANGE #344

Atlantic Grange #344 was Awarded FIRST place for their display at the Crawford County Fair, Aug 19-26, 2017. Our display was



also seen at the Jamestown Community Fair. Sept 5-9, 2017

MAHONING VALLEY GRANGE #1732

Mahoning Valley Grange member Martha Shannon, age 100, stirring apple butter for our Pomona Grange at the Lawrence County



18 November/December 2017



Fair in August.

RUSSELLVILLE GRANGE #91

Russellville recently honored members for their years of service in the Grange. Those honored for 70 years were Doris Worth (left),



Charles Harris (right) and Jean Yarnall (not pictured). Also, honored was Paulette Ash for 25 years (not pictured).

WESLEY GRANGE #1675

On August 16 Wesley Grange #1675 hosted a program about drug abuse. It was presented by Trooper Michelle McGee, community service officer with the Pennsylvania State Police and Christina M. Rugh, Venango County Coroner. Topics included how to help communities respond to prescription/over the counter medication abuse, what can be done to increase awareness and security in the home, and what to watch for regarding prescription medication. Drug take back programs, Narcan availability, and the overall trends with opioid abuse were also discussed. Attending the program in addition to Wesley and Scrubgrass Grange members were Senator Scott Hutchinson, Becky Hedglin-Constituent Outreach Specialist to Representative R. Lee James, and other local community members.

CENTRE COUNTY POMONA #13

• The Centre County Pomona Grange #13 holds its main fundraiser during the annual Centre County Grange Encampment and Fair every August. Each year we raffle off an Amish made Quilt. This year the winner was the Pennsylvania State Granges' own member,



(Pictured: Suzanne Davidson, who serves as the Centre County Pomona Grange #13 Secretary and her husband Bob who serves as the Bald Eagle Grange #151 Master.)

Secretary Debbie Campbell. This fund raiser is the only one that the



(Left to right- Becky Hedglin, Anita Fuchs (Wesley Grange member), Trooper Michelle McGee, Coroner Christina Rugh, Senator Scott Hutchinson.)

Pomona does during the year. Thev raised over Forty Five Hundred Dollars. Some of the things that they donated to are the purchase of ten (10) FFA jackets that are presented to Freshmen FFA members at the Winter Convention during Farm Show in January. They

present five (5) Senior Scholarships at the five school districts in Centre County in the amount of \$150.00 each. They also donated to the Centre Crest Nursing Home in Bellefonte, and to the Veterans Home in Hollidaysburg, give \$400.00 to the Grange Fair Queen contest along with donations to the annual PA State Junior Grange Camp every summer. These are just a few.

• Centre County Pomona Grange Membership Chair, Dorothy Houtz set-up and worked at



the membership table at the Centre County Grange Encampment and Fair in August. Mrs. Houtz has been a 50+ member at Logan Grange #109. This year visitors were given special Pomona Grange fans and 2018 magnetic calendars. If you know someone who might like joining a Grange have them contact your Membership Director in you county.

• Centre County Pomona Grange Members held their Community Night picnic in June at the Centre County Grange Park in Centre Hall. Approximately 45 people attended the evening which included Pennsylvania Master/ President Wayne Campbell and his wife Debbie. In the photo you will



see President Campbell speaking to the attending members.

• At the Community night picnic for Centre County Pomona Grange you could find the future of Grange. In the audience you

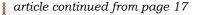


could find several young members like Catie Furman, the daughter of former Pennsylvania Grange Pomona and Centre County Grange #13 Pomona Master. The night provided something for everyone.

• On July 12, 2017, Baileyville Grange #1991, Centre County Pomona Grange #13, the Pennsylvania State Grange and National Grange lost a good and faithful sister. Laura Homan of Centre Hall, PA passed away unexpectedly. Many member will remember her as being the lady in charge and dancing with the Centre County Pomona Flora Drill Ladies. For



many years Laura put together a team of dances to dance the Flora Drill at State Grange and this fall she took them to National Grange. Laura will be sadly missed by all those that knew her personally or knew of her. Please take a moment to say a quite Thank You to Laura for all the hours she spent doing something for the Granges she loved. God Bless You Laura Homan. Laura is located center of the photo.





Chambersburg speakers & topics include: Planning for Successful Management Transition & Financial Considerations, Matt Meals, AgChoice Farm Credit, Ag Business Consultant; Legal, Business and Tax Considerations, Attorney Jennifer Denchak Wetzel, Mette, Evans & Woodside, Harrisburg, PA; Farm Family Communication & What If's, Darlene Livingston, PA Farm Link Executive Director & Michelle Kirk, PA Farm Link Eastern PA Representative.

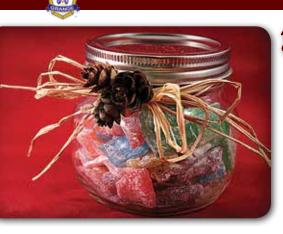
Speakers will answer participant's questions, plan next steps and breakout sessions will be held.

A copy of: "Planning the Future of Your Farm" Pennsylvania Edition (a \$10.60 value) and lunch will be provided for all registrants.

Registration is required and may be completed online at www.pafarmlink.org or by calling (717) 705-2121. A discount is provided for 2 or more people registering from a farm.

The material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2015-49200-24225.





This time of year is always tough on most sun-loving people... the days get shorter, temperatures drop below short-sleeve tolerance, instead of enjoying a day out in the garden...we're stuck shoveling endless mountains of cold, wet snow. Lets face it...unless you're a snow-bunny...winter really can blow! That being said...I've got a couple suggestions on ways to brighten up those snowy days (kids not needed...but encouraged!)

SNOW MAPLE CANDY/TAFFY

Make real maple syrup snow candy in your own backyard just like Laura from Little House in the Prairie.

Making homemade candy on the snow is a great winter-time activity for the family. All you need are two things: real maple syrup and clean, fresh snow!

First, what IS maple syrup snow candy? Maple syrup candy is candy in its simplest form. It's made by pouring boiling maple syrup on a clean, fresh bed of snow. The snow instantly stops the cooking, and cools the syrup to a taffy-like consistency.

The process is quick (only 3 steps) and simple, and it's a lot of fun. This would be a great weekend activity to do with your family after a fresh snowfall or with a group of students in the school yard. As long as you have a FRESH, CLEAN snow on hand, you're good to go.

Back to the Land: Fun Winter Candy Recipes

Break out of the norm and try some REALLY old-fashioned recipes...sure to make both kids and "kids-at-heart" have a blast!

Ingredients:

- 1-2 cups of PURE maple syrup
- Craft/Popsicle sticks
- CLEAN/FRESH snow
- If you're making your candy indoors, you'll also need a baking sheet
- Sauce pan/small pot
- Candy thermometer

Preparing your snow:

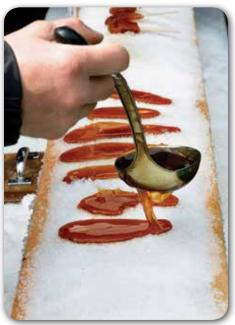
If you'll be making your candy outdoors, pack down an area of snow. You want this area to be nice and firm so it holds the hot syrup. Alternatively, you could fill a platter or a baking sheet with a layer of packed down snow.

Making Snow Maple Candy in 3 Steps:

1. Pour your syrup into a small pot and heat it until boiling. Once boiling, the syrup will really start to bubble. Using a candy thermometer to gauge the temperature, continue to boil the syrup until it reaches the "soft ball" stage (235-240 degrees Fahrenheit). If you pass the soft ball stage, don't worry. Your candy will just be more crunchy than chewy.

2. Remove the pot from the heat,





and pour your syrup in lines on the snow. BE CAREFUL. The syrup is VERY hot.

3. Press a craft/Popsicle stick into



the syrup and then as the syrup is cooling, roll it up around the stick.

Thats it! As an extra treat, you can also roll the cooling candy through a variety of toppings: sea salt, crispy rice cereal, crumbled bacon, etc.



SNOW ICE CREAM

(http://www.theprairiehomestead.com/)

Yield: Approximately four servings

Snow ice cream is a fun way to make memories, and the kids (or grandkids) will get a huge kick out of it.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup cream
- 1/2 cup real maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon real vanilla extract
- Pinch of sea salt
- 8 cups of CLEAN/FRESH snow

1. In a small bowl, whisk together the cream, maple syrup, vanilla, and salt.

2. Quickly pour this mixture over the snow, and mix thoroughly.

3. Eat immediately, as snow ice



cream melts fast. It also doesn't refreeze well, so you'll want to eat the entire batch in one sitting.

If you want to be really wild and crazy, top your freshly-made snow ice cream with sprinkles, fresh fruit, peanut butter or homemade caramel sauce.

HARD TAC CANDY

I grew up making Hard Tac Candy every early winter with my grandmother; Elizabeth Anstadt. It was one of our traditions... even once I left Pennsylvania and would fly in from California for the Christmas Holiday...we always broke out the Lorann Oils and got cracking on making batches of colorful

Hard Tac. I'm sure there are many recipes out there for Hard Tac... but this is the recipe we used.



Ingredients:

- 3 3/4 C Sugar
- 1 1/2 C Light Corn Syrup
- 1 C Water
- 2 Drams Lorann Flavoring
- Variety of food coloring
- Powdered sugar
- Greased (w/ real butter)Cookie sheets
- Pizza cutter or sharp knife for scoring
- Candy thermometer
- Large saucepan

1. Mix first 3 ingredients in a large saucepan, until sugar dissolves.

2. Boil, without stirring, until temperature reaches 310 degrees (or until drops of syrup form hard, brittle threads in cold water)

3. Remove from heat.

4. After boiling has ceased, stir in the flavoring of your choice and a number of drops of food coloring of your choice.



5. Pour mixture onto lightly greased cookie sheets and fold the substance onto its self for a minute to help it cool and start to "set".

6. Allow it to cool, somewhat and then sprinkle with a light coating of powdered sugar.

7. Score with the pizza cutter or knife. Allow to cool completely... occasionally re-score, to make sure its scored all the way through the candy.

8. Break & then store in an air-tight jar.

Makes wonderfully tasty and colorful Christmas gifts!

- Heather Hiller



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2017 CALENDAR				Observances
January 6-14th: Farm Show (Harrisburg) 12th: (10AM) Legislative meeting @ Farm Show (Delaware Room) (Harrisburg) 27-28th: Grange Planning Meeting (State College)	February	March	April National Grange Month	Jan 01 New Year's Day Jan 16 Marin Luther King C Jan 28 Chinese New Year Feb 12 Lincoln's Birthday Feb 14 Valentine's Day Mar 01 Ash Wednesday Mar 12 Daylight Saving (bes Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day Mar 20 Vernal equinox Apr 01 April Fool's Day Apr 11 Passover
мау 2324	June Dairy Month 30-July 2nd: Youth Camp (Howard)	July 2-8th: Junior Camp (Howard) 20-23rd: Family Festival (Centre Hall)	August 15-17: Ag Progress Days. (Pennsylvania Furnace)	Apr 16 Easter Apr 26 Admin Assistants Day May 14 Mother's Day May 27 Ramadan begins May 29 Memorial Day Jun 04 Pentecost Jun 14 Flag Day Jun 16 Father's Day Jun 16 Father's Day Jun 21 June Solutice Jul 04 Independence Day
September	October	November	December	Sep 04 Labor Day Sep 21 Rosh Hashanah
37 20	19-22nd: State Grange Session (Scranton) Radison Hotel, Lackawanna Station (800) 333-3333	7-11: National Grange Session Red Lion Hotel, Spokane, WA (509) 777-6300	5 12	Sep 22 Autumnal equinox Oct 09 Columbus Day Oct 31 Hallowein Nov 05 Daylight Saxing (end) Nov 11 Veterans Day Nov 23 Thanksghing Dec 12 Hanukkah begins Dec 24 December Sotsice Dec 25 Christmas Day Dec 26 Kwanzaa begins Dec 21 New Yark Eve

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