

POMONA ECHO

BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43

FEBRUARY 2019

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Andrew Kieffer

I am pleased with the news that Shartlesville Grange has recently begun the process of reorganizing. This is especially good news because the first reorganization meeting was very poorly attended. State President Wayne Campbell and PR/ Membership Director Lizzie Bailey have put considerable effort into Shartlesville Grange and hopefully it is successful.

I would also like to congratulate the Berks members that were elected back in October as State Officers. Henry Seidel continues in his post as Treasurer while Jen Beamon and myself were elected to new offices. The newest members of the Berks delegation are Robert Kleckner III and Hannah Leibensperger. Also a job well done to recently retired officers Denise Clare and Michael Adams. Good Luck to all the officers.

Let us hope that 2019 is a positive year for the Granges of Berks County, and an inch or two drier. See you at the March meeting.

LEGISLATIVE BANQUET

WHEN: April 26, 2019

TIME: 6:45 P.M.

WHERE: Kutztown Grange Hall

COST: \$15.00

MEAL: Ham Dinner

Please plan to attend. A good meal for great people—come! Invite your local politicians.

PRE-QUARTERLY MEETING

The next Pre-Pomona meeting will be held on February 18, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. at Bernville Grange. Gouglersville Grange will be assisting. The assisting Grange is to contact the hosting Grange prior to the Pre-Pomona meeting. Please make sure this gets done.

Inside this Edition:

Agriculture Report—7
Berks Heim News—7
Calendar of Events—4
Community Service—9
Contest Corner—12
Did You Know? - 8
Family Activities—11
Junior Grange News—2, 4
Legislative Report—3
Pomona Highlights—8
President's Report—1
Program Coordinator—11
Youth & Young Marrieds—10

Special Points of Interest:

- ♦ 2018 Attendance Contest—8
- ♦ 2019 Farm Family Appreciation Celebration Registration Form—5
- ♦ 2021 State Session—7
- ♦ Appreciation Banquet Information—6
- ♦ Community Night Programs—10
- ♦ Consignment Sale—3
- ♦ Hamburg Grange News—3
- ♦ Haus/Game Night—3
- ♦ Legislative Banquet—1, 3
- ♦ Ontelaunee Grange Juniors Spaghetti Dinner—10
- ♦ Pomona Go-To-Church Sunday—7
- ♦ Pre-Quarterly Meeting—1
- ♦ Tour Information—9
- ♦ Virginville Grange News—8
- ♦ Wanted—8
- ♦ Wernersville State Hospital—10

Berks County Junior Grange News

Upcoming Junior Events

- * March 2—Pomona at Bernville - Activity—Roadside America.
More details to follow
- March 9, 2019—Applebees Flapjacks Fundraiser at Wyomissing Applebees 8-10am. Contact a junior for tickets. \$8 per ticket (all you can eat pancakes and sausage) Must have ticket to enter, limited tickets available.
- * April 13 - 5:30 pm - Walk-a-Thon fundraiser at Ontelaunee. Dinner (pizza) and snacks will be provided. The royalty test will also be taken this evening and a movie or games will follow after the WAT and test. — Study Guides to be distributed by the end of February
- May 17-19 Camp
- May 19, 2pm—Camp Coronation, Camp Swatara

Let the Junior Grange Games Begin!

Game Night themed camp May 17-19 Save the dates!

Registration, costs, and other details will be e-mailed in mid-late March. Please contact Gail with any questions

Attendance Contest

Congrats to our 9 juniors who received a \$5 gift card to Chick Fila for meeting the requirements for the 2018 attendance contest.

2019 Attendance Contest Rules:

In order to qualify, a junior member must participate in the Walk-a-Thon, enter at least one junior contest on the State level. juniors must attend 4 or more of the following events...

- ◇ Sleepover (February 1-2)
- ◇ Applebees Fundraiser (3/9, 7:30-10:30am)
- ◇ Camp-Let the Jr. Grange Games Begin (May 17-19)
- ◇ Knoebels (Tentative date coming soon)
- ◇ State Camp (June 30-July 6)
- ◇ Swimming (July 13, 6-9pm)
- ◇ Helping at ice cream/ice stand during the consignment sale (August 24)
- ◇ Fall Activity (September 21, 7pm)
- ◇ Bowling (November 24, 1:30)

Good luck to our
Graduating Juniors:
Elizabeth (Lizzie) Seidel
and
Tanner Davis

Sleepover—February 1-2

Thank you Fleetwood for the use of your hall, once again!

Help is needed!

For our fundraiser at Applebees on 3/9/18 we need several volunteers to ensure this fundraiser is a success. No experience needed to assist in getting our guests drinks, serving them pancakes, seating guests, or cleaning off tables. All Juniors and Youth are especially encouraged to assist! Please let Gail know if you are able to help. Time 7:30-10:30, help however long you are able.

Hoss's

Thank you to all of the families who came out to Hoss's on 11/11 to support our Juniors. We were able to receive \$174.75

Next Jr. Team Meeting:

Our next team meeting is Monday, April 1 at 7pm at Ontelaunee! All are welcome!

LEGISLATION REPORT by Kenneth Schlegel

GOOD MEAL - FOR GREAT PEOPLE -----COME!

April 26, 2019 at 6:45 p.m. Legislative Banquet. Where - Kutztown Grange Hall. Tickets \$15.00 for a ham dinner.

We have been averaging between 90 and 100 people. That's not very good. We can do better! Every grange gets tickets. Some granges try their best to sell the tickets that they receive. Others, I don't know. If you have tickets to sell or not, plan on attending, ask a friend or two to come along. I have plenty of tickets, just call me. (Ken Schlegel 610-944-9161) Berks County Grange needs your support.

Our elected officials are invited for a reason. We need to hear their side of the story, and they need to know our concerns.

THE FENCE OR NO FENCE

Some years back the Democrats asked Congress for 26 billion dollars for border security. I assume that meant all borders. Republicans blocked the proposal. Now our President wants to build a wall for 5 - 6 billion. A wall would be a more permanent barrier and it may or may not work. It would sure make walking over the border a little bit harder. The Democrats say the wall is ineffective and too expensive. More and more people are starting to say Congress is too expensive and ineffective.

I've heard several younger people or let's put it this way, young adults say that Democrats and Republicans are destroying our Country! They say why vote - if you could get rid of lies and twisted truths, most candidates are saying nothing!! Over the years if you'd look at the billions of dollars spent by political elites, it would be hard to comprehend. The wall is a necessary monument to sovereignty in a nation clogged with billions of worthless political monuments! This wall is for our country and its people, not the political elites.

CONSIGNMENT SALE

By Ben Sonon

The Pomona Consignment Sale is scheduled for Saturday, August 24, 2019. So mark your calendar NOW to volunteer. Farmers—please check your unused tractors and equipment and get them ready to bring for the sale cause the field items are getting fewer and fewer each year.

There will be a brief meeting after the (Bernville Grange) Pomona meeting lunch (approximately 1 p.m.) to discuss the upcoming Consignment Sale.

We are in need of an overall chairperson!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

HAMBURG GRANGE CHICKEN POT PIE DINNER

Hamburg Grange will hold an "All You Can Eat" Chicken Pot Pie Dinner on Saturday, March 23, 2019, (snow date March 30th) from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Hamburg High School, Windsor Street. All proceeds will be donated to the Hamburg Branch of the Salvation Army. Dinner includes: chicken pot pie, corn, applesauce, pickles, lettuce with bacon dressing and a drink. There will be a bake sale and takeout is available (meals or quarts of pot pie).

Haus Tournament and Game Night

When: March 2, 2019

Where: Bernville Grange

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Cost: FREE

Everyone is invited to attend. If you don't play haus, bring your favorite game. Come out and enjoy a night of fun and fellowship.

HAMBURG GRANGE BLOOD DRIVE

Hamburg Grange has partnered with the Hamburg Lions Club to sponsor blood drives through Miller Keystone Blood Center in the Hamburg Area.

Dates are:

February 19th at the Hamburg Municipal Center

April 23rd at the Hamburg Middle School

June 18th at the Hamburg Municipal Center

August 20th at the Hamburg Middle School

October 15th at the Hamburg Municipal Center

December 10th at the Hamburg Municipal Center.

Contact Barbara Schroeder at pisces4410@aol.com to get added to the list.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February—May 2018

Feb. 16 Ontelaunee Junior Grange Spaghetti Dinner (see enclosed article)
Feb. 18 Pre-Quarterly Meeting @Bernville, 7 p.m.
Feb. 18 PRESIDENT'S DAY
Feb. 19 Hamburg Grange Blood Drive (see enclosed article)
Feb. 27 Legislative-Agricultural Meeting @Ag Center, 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 2 Pre-Auction Meeting @Bernville Grange, 1 p.m. (immediately following the Pomona meeting)
Mar. 2 Haus/Game Night @Bernville Grange, 7:30 p.m. (see article elsewhere)
Mar. 2 Pomona Meeting @Bernville Grange, 9:30 a.m. Juniors will be going to Roadside America during the meeting time.
Mar. 4 Pioneer Grange Italian Hoagie Sale (see below for details)
Mar. 9 Juniors Flapjacks Fundraiser at Wyomissing Applebees 8 a.m.—10:00 a.m. (see Junior article for further details)
TICKET REQUIRED
Mar. 10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
Mar. 16 2019 Farm Family Appreciation Banquet @Hamburg Field House (registration form enclosed in this newsletter)
Mar. 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Mar. 20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING
Mar. 23 Hamburg Grange "All You Can Eat" Chicken Pot Pie Dinner (see article in newsletter for details)
Mar. 24 Pomona Go-To-Church Sunday, 10:30 a.m. (see article elsewhere in newsletter)
Mar. 24 Virginville Grange Benefit Bingo, 1:00 p.m. (see article elsewhere in newsletter)
Apr. 1 Junior Team Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m.
Apr. 1 Pioneer Grange Ham & Cheese/Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sale (see below for details)
Apr. 13 Junior WALK-A-THON, Royalty Test, and more fun @Ontelaunee Grange, 5:30 p.m.
Apr. 14 PALM SUNDAY
Apr. 18 ECHO deadline
Apr. 19 Pioneer Grange PA Dutch Potato Filling Sale (see below for details)
Apr. 21 EASTER
Apr. 23 Hamburg Grange Blood Drive (see enclosed article)
Apr. 26 Legislative Banquet @Kutztown, 6:45 p.m.
Apr. 27 Tri-County Visitation @Kutztown Grange, 7:30 p.m.
Apr. 29 Pioneer Grange Longaberger Basket Bingo (see below for details)
May 2 Legislative-Agricultural Meeting @Ag Center, 7:30 p.m.
May 6 Collate ECHO @Ontelaunee, 3:15 p.m. (Hamburg/Virginville asked to assist)
May 6 Pioneer Grange Italian Hoagie Sale (see below for details)
May 12 MOTHER'S DAY
May 12 Virginville Grange Mother's Day Dinner, 11 a.m. till 3 p.m.*
May 17-19 Berks County Junior Camp @Camp Swatara. Coronation May 19 at 2 p.m.

*Virginville Grange Mother's Day Dinner, 11 a.m.—3 p.m. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children (ages 5-10) and under 5, free. This cost includes gratuity and sales tax. This is our 61st year!!!

March 4 Pioneer Grange: Order deadline is Feb. 24 Pickup at the Grange hall, 3—5 p.m. Call orders to Tammy at 610-463-7213

April 1 Pioneer Grange: \$3.50 Order deadline is March 24 Pickup at the Grange hall from 3—5 p.m. Call Tammy to order, 610-463-7213

April 19 Pioneer Grange: 1.5 lbs for \$; 2.5 lbs for \$6. Pickup at the Grange hall, 2—4 p.m. Deadline to order is April 11. Call Tammy to order, 610-463-7213

April 29 Pioneer Grange: 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for 25 games, hot dog, drink, and door prize. Special games are extra. For tickets call Cindy at 610-641-0070 or Tammy at 610-463-7213.

May 6 Pioneer Grange: \$5. Order deadline is April 28 Pickup at the Grange hall, 3—5 p.m. Call orders to Tammy, 610-463-7213.

JUNIOR ATTENDANCE CONTEST WINNERS

The 2019 Appreciation Banquet was cancelled due to weather. Therefore, the Subordinate Attendance winners will be drawn at the March Pomona Meeting. However, the Juniors winners are: Justin Dusko, Lillian Dusko, Brayden Heckman, Ava Jenkins, Ellie Schroeder, Jacob Schroeder, Emma Seidel, Cadence Tempel and Grace Tempel. Congratulations Juniors!

2019 Farm Family Appreciation Celebration!

Sponsored in part by various religious, social and financial organizations

What: Catered hot buffet meal, square dancing and line dancing to show appreciation for Farm Families in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton, and Schuylkill Counties, and the surrounding areas. Build community among Farm Families and citizens.

When: **Saturday, March 16, 2019**

Doors open at 6:15 PM, but no earlier

Dinner buffet - 7:00 to 8:00 PM (Tables will be held for families that work late.)

Square Dance, Classic and Modern Country music by "The Majestics" with line dance music
between sets - 8:00 to 11:00 PM

Where: Hamburg Field House, Hamburg, PA - Exit #30 off I-78

Who: Everyone is invited...farm families and farm family supporters!! Children are welcome!!

Note: No political or other solicitations. No alcoholic beverages permitted.



Our 2019 theme is sports. Feel free to support your favorite team by wearing their colors.

Registration Forms due by March 1, 2019 (Limited to 900)

PRINT Name of Attendee(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Telephone _____

Mail to: Farm Family Appreciation
Penn State Extension-Berks County
1238 County Rd., Suite 110
Leesport PA 19533

Farm family (NO CHARGE), FREE WILL DONATION AT THE DOOR.

_____ Adults
_____ Children (ages 3-10)
_____ Children (2 and under), Booster seats are not available.

Farm family supporter (Make check payable to: NEPS, ELCA)

_____ Adults - \$18.00 per person \$ _____
_____ Children (ages 3-10) - \$10.00 per person \$ _____
_____ Children (2 and under) - No charge. Booster seats not available.
Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Tickets and directions will be mailed out by March 8, 2019.

Questions? Call 610-378-1327 and ask for Lisa or go to www.godslove.org/calendar
Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED AT OUR ANNUAL COUNTY GRANGE SALE

Bernville -

Irene Blatt
Grace Reber
Paul Zerbe

Fleetwood -

Glenn Berger
Heidi Berger
Rebecca Berger
Sarah Berger
Carl Heck
Sharon Heck
Ethel Heffner
Ruth Heffner
Heather Mengel
Jacob Mengel
Josh Mengel
Beth Rohrbach
Peter Rohrbach

Geigertown -

Sandy Smale
Paul Zerr

Gouglersville -

Linda Ernst
Walter Ernst
Janice Stricker
Joan Stoner
Greg Weitzel
Marian Weitzel
Melissa Weitzel
Emily Werner
Jim Werner

Hamburg -

Jane Adams
Michael Adams
Jennifer Beamon
Robert Beamon
Savannah Beamon
Denise Clare
Barbara Schroeder
Charles Stewart
Linda Stewart

Kutztown -

Irene Kern
Lee Kern

Marion -

Heidi Eisenhower
Julie Eisenhower
Logan Eisenhower
Vicki Eisenhower
Andrew Kieffer
Debra Kieffer
Ann Riegel
Sarah Riegel
Travis Riegel
Larry Rittle
Susan Rittle
Danelle Samsel
Lila Samsel
Tabitha Samsel

Robert Sattazahn
Sherri Sattazahn
Alexis Servin
Connor Servin
Marie Switzer
Terry Troutman

Ontelaunee -

Edna Blatt
Hailey Blatt
Isaiah Blatt
Rebecca Blatt
Tammy Blatt
Tina Blatt
Alexa Davis
Angie Davis
Mikayla Davis
Mike Davis
Samantha Davis
Ray Davis
Doris Evans
Donald Kauffman
Irvin Kauffman
Nettie Kauffman
Scott Kauffman
Wyatt Koller
Fern Kulp
Anna Marie Loose
Dan Loose
Dennis Savage
Ken Snyder
Avery Tworowski
Victoria Wagner

Pioneer -

Barbara Grim
Willard Grim
Cindy Leibensperger
Daisy Pensinger
Robert Pensinger
Tammy Schaeffer

Shartlesville -

Fay Daub
Connor Kunkle
Dennis Kunkle
Desira Kunkle
Donna Kunkle
Dustin Kunkle

Virginville -

Ed Adam
Jenn Berger
Eric Blatt
Alice Bollinger
Roger Bollinger
Shirley Burkhart
Dustin Dengler
Gavin Dengler
Ernie Dengler
Martha Dengler
Courtney Gougler
Mackenzie Gougler
Zachary Gougler
Brayden Heckman

Faye Heckman
Carl Hollenbach
Lloyd Kehl
Kim Kehs
Richard Kieffer
Kimberly Merkel
Cathlene Moatz
Judy Moyer
Merrill Moyer
Amy Parsons
Ryan Parsons
Jane Reppert
Marie Schaeffer
Richard Schaeffer
Derek Schroeder
Ellie Schroeder
Jacob Schroeder
Lindsay Schroeder
Monte Schroeder
Emma Seidel
Henry Seidel
Jaxon Seidel
Leslie Seidel
Lizzie Seidel
Madeline Seidel
Ben Sonon
David Sonon
Fern Sonon
Owen Stemko
David Sunday
Beverly Treichler
Beverly Wagner
Carolyn Wagner
Dennis Wagner
Anna Mae Weiss
Kris Werley

Auctioneers

Leesport Farmer's Market

Daniel & Cindy Weist



SINCE THE
APPRECIATION
BANQUET WAS NOT HELD
AND I HAD ROOM IN THIS
NEWSLETTER, I DECIDED
TO INCLUDE THIS
INFORMATION.

STATE GRANGE FIRST PLACE WINNERS

Donna Dries, Fleetwood
Isaac Mengel, Fleetwood
Janice Stricker, Gouglersville
Jane Adams, Hamburg
Jennifer Beamon, Hamburg
Nancy Sattazahn, Kutztown
Rebecca Berger, Fleetwood
Elijah Bicksler, Marion
Maya Bicksler, Marion
Ashley Mohn, Marion
Karen Mohn, Marion
Lila Samsel, Marion
Tabby Samsel, Marion
Alexis Servin, Marion
Tanner Davis, Ontelaunee
Mikayla Davis, Ontelaunee
Nettie Kauffman, Ontelaunee
Holly Allen, Pioneer
Ava Jenkins, Pioneer

Tammy Schaeffer, Pioneer
Grace Tempel, Pioneer
Melinda Tercha, Pioneer
Nancy Dusko, Virginville
Jacob Fegler, Virginville
Sandra Hill, Virginville
Nicole Rubenacker, Virginville
Derek Schroeder, Virginville
Jacob Schroeder, Virginville
Lindsay Schroeder, Virginville
Madeline Seidel, Virginville

2021 State Session

If you haven't heard, Berks County along with Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and Montgomery counties will be hosting the 2021 State Session. A letter will be sent to all participating 6 Pomona and 33 Community Granges. Our next committee meeting will be Sunday, March 10, 2019 at the Gouglersville Grange at 2PM. I am asking that each Grange have at least 1 representative attend so that every Grange is represented. The 2021 State Grange session will be at the Clarion Hotel in Exton, PA.

It was decided at our last meeting, that we are asking for \$500 from each grange within the hosting region. It was suggested that each Pomona figure a way to raise the amount that will be needed. Berks County needs to raise \$5500 total. It was suggested that our Pomona will provide \$2750 to start, and each Grange is being requested to donate \$1/member or more at this time. Once we see what each Grange will provide, we will be looking for suggestions to do fundraisers as a Pomona Grange.

We will be asking for members to get involved on various committees and we will be asking for donations, monetary and other items from all of the Granges that are listed above. I know that Berks County will be actively supporting and encouraging their members to be involved to make 2021 a GREAT session! If you have any questions, suggestions, or want more info, please contact Michael Adams at 610-562-5933 or mjadams141@gmail.com.

AGRICULTURE REPORT by Doug Sattazahn

This week I attended a listening session with other Grangers and representatives of the State Budget and Finance Committee. You may remember our own Judy Schwank commissioned a study to look into problems facing the PA dairy industry, and these folks came to the Grange to get input from farmers. I was impressed by their understanding of the complexity of milk pricing and other issues like regulation, product innovation, and supply/demand. Although there are no quick fixes, I am optimistic that we can improve what we have.

Some key takeaways from our meeting:

- The milk marketing board is a benefit to the state's small processors since they get a level of price assurance as well.
- You won't see milk getting gouged at 99 cents a gallon in PA as long as our pricing decisions are made in Harrisburg and not Bentonville, Arkansas.
- Product innovation/diversification is necessary to drive consumption but we need to make sure there's a market for specific products first.
- Special thanks to Matt Espenshade and Art and Dina Zug for their input and to Wayne Campbell for inviting me to this meeting.

BERKS HEIM by Doris Evans, 610-488-6360

Welcome 2019. Berks Heim continues to be a shining jewel in Berks County. Thank You to the many Grangers who help with the transportation of residents to the Sunday services.

With regret, the Volunteer Service Board accepted the resignation of Paul and Dorothy Miller to the Board. They have served in SO MANY ways over SO MANY years that they will be hard to replace. With grateful hearts we thank them. With that in mind, we hope that Virginville Grange will possibly assign someone to represent them in the future. Please contact me regarding this request.

Also, unfortunately Gouglersville Grange has decided to not participate in transporting residents in the future mostly due to medical issues. I have deleted them from the schedule and have a lot of open Sundays where help is needed. Hopefully many Granges will look at the schedule and help with this valuable service.

February 3—Geigertown	February 10—Geigertown
February 17—Geigertown	February 24—Geigertown
March 3—Bernville	March 10—Hamburg
March 17—Virginville	March 24—OPEN
March 31—Fleetwood	April 7—Virginville
April 14—Ontelaunee	April 21—EASTER
April 28—Bernville	May 5—Kutztown
May 12—MOTHER'S DAY	May 19—Hamburg
May 26—OPEN	

Looking ahead, the annual Heim Fest is scheduled to be held on September 14, 2019. Save the date!

The annual Volunteer Luncheon is tentatively slated for April 12. We usually have an invitation to include for 4 people from the Pomona transport schedule. If you regularly assist with this service and would like to attend, please contact me. First come, first accepted.

Again, representing the many residents and staff at Berks Heim, I say WE APPRECIATE YOUR SERVICE.



POMONA GO-TO-CHURCH SUNDAY

Where: Mohrsville Church of the Brethren, 1542 Shoey Road, Mohrsville, PA 19541
When: March 24, 2019
Time: 9:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
Time: 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE
(This counts toward the 2019 Attendance Contest)

DID YOU KNOW?

...Virginville Grange has 11 90+ year old members—Beatrice Bennecoff, Betty Dreibelbis, Edith Dreibelbis, Ernest Heckman, Valerie Hoy, Gladys Kieffer, May LaFaver, Norman Merkel, Carl Miller, Dorothy Nester and Fred Williams. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

...Pioneer Grange: April 11 is their community Night where they will celebrate 100 years in the community. Entertainment will be provided by singer/musician Steve Walker. Program begins at 7:30 p.m.

POMONA HIGHLIGHTS

December 8, 2018

The following highlights are from the December 8, 2018, Pomona meeting held at Gouglersville Grange. Remember, we would rather have you in attendance to hear the news first hand and to give your input.

- ◆ 100 Angel Tree gifts were presented to the Salvation Army
- ◆ \$100,000 bonding coverage for 2019 was approved
- ◆ \$600 to Ontelaunee Grange for using their hall for 2016-2018, approved
- ◆ Continue attendance contest in 2019 (same guidelines and events as 2018), approved
- ◆ Keep Lecturer's budget at \$250, approved
- ◆ Monetary support for Nettie Kauffman to attend Mid-Atlantic Leaders Conference, March, Gettysburg, approved
- ◆ Attendance: 13 brothers, 23 sisters, 1 junior, 2 mini-juniors Total of 39
- ◆ Audit of the books was completed in November. Report was given and approved.
- ◆ Membership in the County stands at 1, 063
- ◆ Donated \$500 to the Farm Family Appreciation Celebration to be held March, 2019. Two complimentary tickets were given as door prizes
- ◆ Ray Davis is to check on dates for the Grange to help at the Oley Fair. They are looking for help with the food stand. Grange would receive \$500 for 4 hours of 6 people working. Fair is Sept. 19-21, 2019.
- ◆ Lady Assistant Steward nominations: Linda Stewart and Donna Kunkle. Special election at March Pomona meeting.
- ◆ Election Campaign resolution approved
- ◆ Door prizes were awarded

WANTED!!!!

- ◆ Someone to oversee the Consignment Sale—Eric Blatt has resigned.
- ◆ Someone to take over the Family Activities Chairperson position.

2018 ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Since the Appreciation Banquet was cancelled, the drawing for the Subordinate winners will be held at the March Pomona meeting. You may hand in your card, but they will not be punched for missed 2018 events.

VIRGINVILLE GRANGE NEWS

At our Benefit Bingo in November we were able to give checks to both Kim Merkel and Sandra Masters to help with their medical bills. Both were very grateful for the help. Thank you to all who came out to play, helped with the bingo, or made baked goods to sell. Additionally, 400 canned goods were collected and delivered to the Northern Berks Food Pantry.

In December, the Grange rang the Salvation Army's red kettle bell at the Hamburg Redner's. Over the 2 days, we were able to raise \$500 to help the community. Thank you to everyone that gave their time during the holiday season!

On Sunday, March 24, 2019, a Benefit Bingo will be held (recipient to be determined). \$20/package with upgrades available. Doors open at 11 a.m. and games begin at 1 p.m. Cash prizes and Thirty-One bags!

We are always looking for the names of individuals or groups that could use help. Please do not hesitate to contact any committee member with any suggestions (Courtney Gougler, 610-914-5242).

Looking further, Sunday, June 2nd our Benefit Chicken BBQ will be held at the Leesport Farmer's Market. More details in the May ECHO.

IT'S OFF TO THE NEW ENGLAND AREA

Tour Committee –Nettie & Irvin Kauffman; Marie & Richard Schaeffer; Doris Evans & Ray Davis
610-926-5389 484-256-0496 610-488-6360

Many of you have been asking, “Where is the trip going to be in 2019?” We have the answer for you – the New England states area. Details are below:

DATES: **July 7 – 12, 2019 (6 days – 5 nights)**

WHERE: Vermont, New Hampshire & Maine

COST: \$1,100 per person (double occupancy)

RESERVATIONS: \$100 deposit with reservation. Final payment due May 22, 2019

PACKAGE INCLUDES: 5 night lodging
5 Breakfasts
Luncheon at the Trapp Family Lodge
4 Dinners, including a lobster bake & turkey dinner aboard train.
Touring with local guides
Rock of Ages Granite Quarries & Manufacturing Plant
Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Factory Tour
Woodstock & Sugarbush Farms
Quechee Gorge
Loon Mountain Gondola Ride
Pemi Valley Moose Tour
Castle in the Clouds
Moultonboro Country Store or Loon Center
Winnepesaukee Scenic Railroad Ride
Kennebunkport Tour & Dock Square
Lighthouse Lovers Cruise with View of Portland Head Light
Luggage Handling
Taxes, Meal Gratuities, Driver Tip, and Guide Tip
Motor coach Transportation



This trip needs 40 paying passengers to make it a success. The committee hopes that our members (and if you know of non-members) will make this trip a success. We can accommodate up to 50 passengers. Please contact one of the committee members to sign up and send in your reservation. (Information above)

18. You can seek this information from them.

A COPY OF THE FLYER FROM THE TOUR AGENCY IS ON THE GRANGE WEBSITE: berkscountygrange.org

COMMUNITY SERVICE by Carlene Kleckner

Hi everyone. Hope you all had a great Christmas and New year. Thank you to all that did the Angle Tree tags. This year we did 100 tags.

We are still doing the diaper bank project this year so please keep bringing diapers to the meetings. Last meeting we donated 602 diapers to the bank.

For the March meeting we are supporting the Hope Rescue Mission. Here is a list of items they need: men socks, men's t-shirts, men's underwear, can and box foods, men soaps and shampoos, sheets and blankets, and towels.

If you forget to bring anything to meeting you can also give money. Hope to see you all at meeting.



ONTELAUNEE JUNIOR GRANGE 9TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

The Ontelaunee Grange juniors will be holding an "All You Can Eat" Spaghetti Dinner at the Ontelaunee Grange hall on Saturday, February 16, 2019.

It will be held 5 p.m. till 8 p.m. and the proceeds will benefit the Ontelaunee Junior Grange.

Adults, 13 and over — \$8.00
Children, ages 3 through 12 — \$5.00
Children, ages 2 and under — FREE

The price includes dessert.



COMMUNITY NIGHT PROGRAMS 2017

March 19—Ontelaunee Grange, 7:30 p.m.

April 4—Kutztown Grange, 7:30 p.m.

April 11—Pioneer Grange, 7:30 p.m.

April 16—CANCELLED Gouglersville Grange

April 25—Fleetwood Grange **

May 1—Virgenville Grange, 7:30 p.m.

**Refreshments at 6:30 p.m./7:30 program

YOUTH REPORT by Robert Beamon

The Berks County youth attended a Reading Royals game January 4th. There were almost 30 friends or family of youth members in attendance.

Upcoming, the youth will be filling in as officers for the March Pomona meeting. Any youth interested in filling an office please contact Robert or Jennifer Beamon. Also, upcoming is the Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference held in Gettysburg, PA, March 15-17. Registration is required for this event and is open to all people.

Lastly, the youth department will no longer be running a French fry stand at the Consignment sale. If another department is interested in running the stand and needs any information contact Robert Beamon.



Wernersville State Hospital Project 2018

By Robert and Jennifer Beamon on behalf of the Berks County Youth

Thank you to all of the Granges and committees within the County Granges who donated money to purchase Christmas gifts for this project. The total amount of money spent at the VF Outlets and Wal-Mart was **\$1,034.55**, which was a slight increase from last year. These gifts were presented to Wernersville Hospital for their residents in November 2018. Katherine Ellett, the Volunteer Resources Coordinator, expressed how much they appreciate the donations from the Berks County Grange. They receive other smaller donations during their Christmas collection, but with the Grange's very large contribution they are able to reach out to several residents and for that they are extremely thankful.

Items purchased for the Wernersville State Hospital Project included: activity books, alarm clocks, belts, body sprays, body wash, brushes, button-down shirts, Chapstick, combs, conditioner, deodorant, dress pants, flannel shirts, gloves, hair ties, jeans, long-sleeved shirts, lotion, nightgowns, pajamas sets, shampoo, slippers, socks, suspenders, sweaters, sweatpants, sweatshirts, thermal shirts, toiletry bags, t-shirts, underwear, watches, and winter hats.

Thank you again to all involved with this worthy cause.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR – Nettie A. Kauffman

We are into a new year – a new Grange Year – a new State Program Coordinator/Lecturer and, hopefully, a new year for you to become involved with the programs and contests within the Program Coordinator/Lecturer area of your Grange.

The 2019 Guide to Contest & Programs has been forwarded to each Subordinate and Pomona Secretary. I do hope you will seek information from your secretary on what is in the P.C./Lecturer area and start to work on projects for the 2019 annual State Session. You can also retrieve the information on the PA State Grange web-site (www.pagrange.org) under the P.C./Lecturer area. Specific contests within the P.C./Lecturer area consist of the following: Container Pot Decorating, Tissue Box Covers, Craft Stick Art, Wreaths, and My Favorite Anything, Pen in Hand, Art and Photography. A number of the contests have both Junior and Subordinate divisions. The only areas that will need subordinate judging is the photography contest categories. You can also contact me for further information.

The Mid-Atlantic Leader's Conference (which includes P.C./Lecturers) will take place on March 15-16-17, 2019 in the Gettysburg area. More information will be posted on the PA State Grange website in the near future. I do hope Berks County will have representation at this conference. In fact, this conference is not only for P.C./Lecturers, it is for all leaders in the Grange, or anyone else who would desire to learn about the activities and leadership in the Grange program. Please check the PA State Grange web-site for information (www.pagrange.org)

The Youth Department within our Grange organization will be providing the program, and conducting the meeting, for the March 2 meeting. I do hope our membership will come out to the meeting at Bernville Grange to witness their involvement in our Grange program.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT – Substitute, Nettie A. Kauffman

As with many of the various departments throughout the Grange program, the Family Activities department is starting with some new programs and projects in this department. Information on the contests and projects on the PA State Grange level were distributed to the various Subordinate Granges who attended the pre-quarterly meeting in November. If you have not heard anything about these contests, please contact your F.A. chairperson, or you can contact your Secretary who has received the complete booklet on all contests for the 2019 Grange year. Another way to seek this information is to go to the PA State Grange web-site (www.pagrange.org) and click on the Family Activities department to seek this information.

Three new contests have been added to the F.A. area for 2019. Table Centerpieces is one area with Class 19 being with a candle; Class 20 is made with coffee/soup mug; and Class 21 will be Holiday of your choice. Maximum size is 8" x 8", any shape is acceptable. The second new contest is Mosaic Artwork – Class 22 is any medium (glass beads, small tile, etc. Maximum size is 12" x 12". No kits are allowed. The third contest is a Shadow Box. The categories in this area are: Class 23 Vacation; Class 24 Holiday; Class 25 Sports and Class 26 Other. Maximum size is 15" long x 12" wide x 2" deep. Any shape is acceptable, within maximum size. No kits are allowed. You must first create and make your shadow box and then put items on the shelves to depict one of the categories. I spoke with the State F.A. Director and she indicated the particular items in each category must be included when judging. They should be placed in a plastic bag with a diagram of how the placements should appear at time of judging. The items will be placed in the appropriate spaces at time of judging by the committees involved with F.A. department. A cellophane covering will be placed over the shadow box at the state level of judging to protect your items from little fingers!

Please consider doing some of the F.A. projects which are basically the same in the quilt, and needlework areas as in previous years. The Baking contest will be: Class 10 – Cherry Pie (whole pie, 9" pan/tin); Class 11 – Chocolate Chip Cookies (6 cookies on a paper plate); and Class 13 Haystack Candy (6 pieces on a paper plate). All first place entries judged at the Subordinate level will advance to the county level of judging. Judging on the county level for baking will be held on August 19. Needlework judging will be held September 7 at the regular county meeting.

The Quilt Block contest diagrams have also been provided to the Subordinate F.A. directors. The title of the Block is "Kelly's Colors." One would use the colors that coincide with the various entities within the Grange (Royal Blue print for Subordinate; Dark Green solid for Pomona; Pink solid for State; and Gold Yellow solid for National). If you need a pattern to follow, please contact your Subordinate F.A. Director; or you can contact me at 610-926-5389.



It would be great to see a large quantity of entries in both the Baking area and Needlework/creative project areas. Remember, the Berks County F.A. Department provides monetary prizes of 1st - \$15, 2nd - \$12, and 3rd - \$10.



CONTEST CORNER

NAME _____ **GRANGE** _____

Complete and bring along to the March Pomona meeting. Must be present to win.

FLOWER WORD UNSCRAMBLE

1. fodfliad _____
2. wlousnefr _____
3. tluos _____
4. ihrocd _____
5. olevti _____
6. nagrdeyah _____
7. utpil _____
8. ppyop _____

Answers from last issue: 1) Uncle Billy; 2) Angel; 3) Jimmy Stewart; 4) the banister cap; 5) he jumped off the bridge first; 6) Bert & Ernie; 7) an angel gets its wings; and 8) Bedford Falls. Congrats to winner—Steve Mohn, Virginville Grange.

Return Service Requested

BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43
c/o FERN E. KULP
11 Gilmore Road
Kutztown PA 19530

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 220
READING PA