

POMONA ECHO

BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43

MAY 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Andrew Kieffer

I hope those that attended the Legislative Banquet had an informative evening. I was not able to attend or provide the welcoming as I was driving to Williamsport at that time for the State Grange Young Adults Weekend. I have heard that attendance continues to decline. We may have to review if this is an event that should be continued in its current form.

We will be having election of officers at the June meeting. All offices are up for election. Remember that nominations are open until the ballots are cast. We do not currently have a nominee for Lecturer (Program Coordinator). The Family Activities Coordinator position is still open as well. Please consider filling any role, especially these two.

I have done my best to attend all open houses. I have had to miss 2 due to scheduling conflicts and Ontelaunee had to cancel theirs due to snow. I enjoy learning what all the Granges have done in the past year and the variety of entertainment. Winning a door prize tends to be a positive as well. Keep up with all the good Grange work.

As a final note I would ask that you change my address on your Berks County Grange Calendar. It can be found both on the front and in Marion Grange contacts. Tulpehocken Township has renumbered our section of road for emergency services. My address is now **5374 Four Point Rd.** Have an excellent spring and see you at the Jr Camp coronation.

CONSIGNMENT SALE—August 25, 2018 50TH YEAR!!!!!!

Berks County Pomona Grange will be holding its 50th Annual Consignment Sale this year—August 25, 2018. The committee was wondering if the members would like to celebrate this occasion in any manner.

Do we want to order 50th Anniversary tee-shirts to sell?

Do we want to order 50th Anniversary pens?

Do we want to have a large cake and give everyone in attendance a slice?

Do we want to put buyer numbers and lot numbers in a container and draw and number from each container and give them a \$50 gift certificate of some kind?

We are looking for your suggestions. We need to hear from you by Pomona, June 2, 2018, so we have time to work on the suggestion(s)—in case we need to order anything for the sale.

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Berks County Junior Grange News

County Camp

Thank you to the Pomona Grange for sponsoring our t-shirts again this year with the \$500 voted on at the March meeting.

Camp is May 18-20. Our theme is "Surfin' with the Junior Grange" and we will be having beach/Hawaiian themed activities.

Coronation will be held at Camp Swatara on the 20th. We will begin promptly at 2pm.

Thanks to all that supported the Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser to help make camp possible for our Juniors!

Jr. Team Meeting

Our Next team meeting is July 9, 7pm at Ontelaunee Grange. Please feel free to join our meetings.

Upcoming Announcements

There will be NO junior activity at the June or December Pomona meetings this year. Stay tuned for a fun event for September Pomona

Walk-a-Thon

The juniors participated in their Walk-a-Thon at Fleetwood Grange on March 3 during the Pomona meeting. The winners of laps will be announced at camp coronation. The 29 juniors in attendance completed 472 laps! Juniors that were unable to attend will be walking at camp!



Hoss's

Our next fundraiser at Hoss's will be June 10. Please reach out to Gail for the e-mail or to Gail/Jenn Berger for a ticket. Thank you in advance!

2018 Junior Attendance Contest

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

- ◇ Camp-Surfin' with the Jr. Grange (May 18-20)
- ◇ Knoebels (June 14)
- ◇ State Camp (July 1- 7)
- ◇ Swimming (July 14, 6-9pm)
- ◇ Helping at ice cream/ice stand during the consignment sale (August 25)
- ◇ Fall Activity (September 23, 1:30)
- ◇ Bowling (November 25, 1:30)

Hope to see you all at a lot of events!

State Camp News!

State camp is July 1st through July 7th. There are many juniors, youth, and adults that attend from Berks County. Please consider sending your 7 year old (by January 1, 2018). Contact Gail if you would like to be on a carpool list.

Knoebels will be on June 14. As soon as more information becomes available, it will be posted on Facebook and discussed at upcoming events (camp coronation and Pomona)

CONSIGNMENT SALE by Ben Sonon and Fern Kulp

(go onto website for flyer and further information)

The Pomona Sale is coming up fast. It is scheduled for August 25, 2018, at the Leesport Farmer's Market. If you have not helped at this sale, we encourage you to do so this year, even if it is only for two hours! Without the volunteers that help at the annual sale in August, we cannot have the sale. So, PLEASE come out and help.

In the field area, we are planning to have a drive through sale ring for riding mowers, compact tractors, full size tractors and titled vehicles. For more information on this, you can contact me at 610-618-0131. Also we are in need of more items for out in the field—building products, small farm related items, 3 pt. equipment for compact and full size tractors, and equipment. SO, if you have items sitting around that you don't use, bring them out and let us sell them for you.

If you know of anyone bringing items to the sale, let us know so we can get the items advertised in the papers. The more people know what will be sold, the more likely we will have more people at the sale to buy!

If you would like to have items advertised FREE, please call Henry Seidel, 610-223-1082, or any of the other contact names by August 3, 2018. Remember, if you have a worthwhile item and would like to get buyers to bid on it, ***PLEASE LET US KNOW SO WE CAN ADVERTISE IT—FREE!*** The following are just a list of possible things that could be advertised:

Longaberger basket collection, milk bottles, grandfather's clock, dinette set, power tools, push mowers, chain saws, riding mowers, bicycles, shrubbery, tractors, lumber, fencing, titled vehicles, etc., etc.



Throughout the day, the Berks County Pomona Grange will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets.

The Grange will keep 50% of the receipts; the other 50% will be awarded in 4 equal prizes at 3 P.M. that day. Winners need not be present to win. Winners will receive a phone call that day and then a check will be mailed to them the following week. The winners names will be posted in the office from 3 p.m. until the committee leaves August 25, 2018, and then on this website the following week.

Tickets are: \$1 per ticket OR 6 tickets for \$5

Wondering where you could possibly help:

Need volunteers Thursday, Friday, Saturday and for after sale with clean up

Volunteers to help hold up items at time of the sale for the auctioneers

Volunteers to help in the office – give out buyer numbers, put tickets into correct buyer slot, collect monies

We are in need of soda flats for consignors to use when setting up their display of wares Thursday and Friday*

Family Activities food stand is always in need of help

Youth – help sell at French fry stand

Juniors – help sell at ice cream stand

Volunteers to clerk on Saturday

Runners to bring sheets from auctioneers into the office area on Saturday

Volunteers to help sell the 50/50 raffle tickets (Thursday, Friday and Saturday)

Volunteers in the lawn/garden and tractor/field area – to load and unload items

If you would like to know more information about any of the above help areas, please contact Eric Blatt, 610-562-9680 or Ben Sonon, 610-618-0131 or Fern Kulp (to help with the sale of 50/50 raffle tickets), 610-401-6458.

*If you have access to them prior and do not have storage area, you can contact Henry Seidel, 610-223-1082, and he might be able to store them for you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS MAY—JULY 2018

May 13 Mother's Day Dinner @Virginville Grange, 11 a.m. till 3 p.m.*

May 14 County Officer, Department, Chair Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m.

May 14 Kutztown Grange Basket Bingo @6:45 p.m. Doors open @5:30 p.m. **

May 18-20 Berks County Junior Camp @Camp Swatara Coronation @2 p.m. Sunday

May 19 Armed Forces Day

May 21 Pre-Quarterly Meeting @Pioneer, 7 p.m.

May 28 Memorial Day Observed

June 2 Pre-Auction Work Session @Pioneer Grange, 8 a.m.

June 2 County Meeting @Pioneer Grange, 9:30 a.m.

June 3 Virginville Grange annual Kauffman's Chicken Barbeque Dinner @Leesport Market, 10—2 p.m. (see their community service article for further details)

June 10 Hoss's fundraiser. Contact Gail Switzer or Jenn Berger for a ticket

June 14 Flag Day

June 14 Knoebels (see article for details)

June 17 Father's Day

June 17 All Granger Picnic @Edenberg Park, 1:00 P.M.

June 21 First day of summer

June 29—July 1 PA State Grange Youth Camp @Camp Sylvan Hills, Howard, PA

June 30—July 8 Kutztown Folk Festival

July 1-7 PA State Grange Junior Camp @Camp Sylvan Hills, Howard, PA

July 4 Independence Day

July 9 Junior Team Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m.

July 13 EC HO deadline

July 14 Swim Party @Shoemakersville Pool, 6—9 p.m.

July 19-22 PA Grange Family Festival @Centre County Fairgrounds, Centre Hall, PA

July 21 State Grange Talent Contest @7:30 p.m. (at PA Grange Family Festival)

July 29—Aug 4 Schuylkill County Fair

July 30 Collate ECHO @Ontelaunee, 3:15 p.m. (Kutztown Grange members to assist)

Aug 5—11 Reading Fair

*Virginville's 60th year annual Mother's Day Dinner. All you can eat ham & turkey dinner. Cost is \$15 and \$7.50 for children (ages 5 to 10). This includes the sales tax.

**Kutztown Grange Basket Bingo is 25 games for \$20—includes hot dog, soda and door prize. Special and raffle are extra. Call Darlene for tickets @610-683-7975.

AGRICULTURE REPORT

By Doug Sattazahn

Some dairy farms in Pennsylvania unexpectedly lost their milk market recently. Couple that with prolonged low prices and a cold, wet spring, times are challenging to say the least for dairy farmers.

The good news for these farmers is that several other processors stepped up to take the displaced milk. This prevented the farms from having to sell their cows or possibly even their farms. The bad news is that uncertainty remains when it comes to milk prices and just about everything else in the dairy industry.

One bright spot is that the MPP-Dairy program is letting farms re-enroll for 2018 with better coverage options. Coverage can be even be purchased retroactive to the first 3 months of this year, meaning producers are guaranteed a payment for these months.

Talk to your county FSA office for more details.

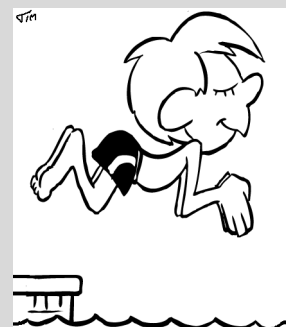
SWIM PARTY—FOR EVERYONE!!!!!!!!!!

The annual Swim Party will be held on Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 6:00-9:00 PM at the newly renovated Shoemakersville Pool. Hot Dogs/Drinks will be provided. We ask that each family bring a side dish and/or dessert to share with everyone. We plan to eat around 6:30 PM.

While this activity is being hosted/organized by the Juniors, EVERYONE is invited!

Please RSVP to Madeline Seidel at maddel24@aol.com; call (610) 678-6366; or reply on the Facebook invitation with the total number in your party. We need to give an exact head-count to the pool for staffing of lifeguards (even if you will not be swimming).

Reservation deadline is July 8.



VIRGINVILLE GRANGE COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Virginville Grange #1832 Community Service Committee, would like to THANK, the Pomona granges that participated in the recent Benefit Bingo for "The Historic Dreibelbis Farm" of Virginville, on March 11, 2018. We are happy to say we had a good attendance, as well as, raised a significant amount to help the farm.

Our next fund raiser, will be our annual Kauffman's Chicken Barbecue Dinner on Sunday, June 3rd. at the Leesport Market. from 10 AM to 2 PM, or until we're "sold out". For your \$8.50 donation, you will get: 1/2 a chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll & butter, and a Clover Farms drink of your choice. Additionally, you can purchase: "home-made" pepper cabbage and a variety of desserts. We are located in the "Small Meeting Room" (middle building) and you have the option to eat in or take out. Contact David or Dianne Geschwindt at 610-562-7421 for tickets, or more information.

Again, THANK YOU Berks County Pomona Grangers.

DID YOU KNOW?

...A visit to Ontelaunee Grange will be detoured due to the Leesport bridge's reconstruction on Wall Street (located at post office). Please use other traveling directions to get to Ontelaunee Grange. This will be about a two year project!

...Route 143 South of Virginville will be closed through June 2018. They are replacing a bridge at the Route 662 R143 intersection. Please check for alternative routes if you have been using Rte 662 and Rte 143 to come to the Grange.

POMONA SALE – FOOD STAND

Since Spring has just begun, you're probably not thinking about summer and the Pomona Sale, but mark your calendar for Saturday, August 25. The food stand starts in the early morning with egg sandwiches and cakes for breakfast and then switches over to hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, soup, and drinks for the rest of the day. We will need help all day in the food stand! Set up will be Friday, August 24. Call Marie Schaeffer at 484-256-0496 if you can help with set up on Friday or anytime on Saturday.

If each Grange could provide 4 cakes, that would be greatly appreciated. Please do not bring anything that needs to be refrigerated. Thank you in advance for your help! We look forward to seeing you at the Sale!

CONSIGNMENT SALE—Work Session

We are not holding a "work session" evening this year. This year we will hold a "Pre-Pomona work session" prior to the June 2, 2018, Pomona meeting at Pioneer Grange. We are asking for volunteers to come to the Pioneer Grange hall at 8 a.m. on June 2, 2018. Pomona will begin at 9:30 a.m. The few items that need to be completed can be completed in this time frame if we have enough volunteers.

Therefore, are you willing to be at Pioneer Grange on June 2 at 8 a.m.? If so, please contact Fern Kulp, 610-401-6458, and let her know. We will need 6-8 people to get the paperwork completed. So, thank you, in advance, for volunteering.

ALL-GRANGER PICNIC

It's that time of year again – time for the All-Granger Picnic. The picnic will again be held at Edenberg Park on Sunday June 17th - beginning with lunch at 1:00pm. (Please note new start time. An evening meal will not be served.) For lunch we ask that you please bring a covered dish or two to share with fellow grangers. There will be children's games, softball, basketball and of course Bingo. Come out for a day of great food, fun and fellowship with fellow grangers. Hope to see you all on June 17th.



YOUTH REPORT by Robert Beamon

The members of the Berks County Youth served as officers for the March Pomona meeting. The youth opened the meeting and performed an opening and exiting drill. A few weeks later, members of the youth travelled to Westminster, MD to attend the Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference. At the conference, the youth competed in various competitions including sign a song, public speaking and drill exhibition. Workshops were attended by all covering a variety of topics. Next up, was Young Adults Weekend held in Williamsport, PA. During this weekend we attended a musical Into the Woods, created string art, and discussed Wills among other things.

The Pennsylvania State Youth camp will be held June 30- July 2 at Camp Sylvan Hills in Howard, PA. Ages 14 - 35 are welcome to attend. This year's theme is Country Fair. Please encourage your youth aged members to attend this action packed weekend. Following camp is Family Festival where the youth help prepare dinner Friday evening and members aged 21 -35 can compete for the title of Pennsylvania Outstanding Young Patron.



YOUTH OFFICERS

FRONT ROW: Mikayla Davis (Ontelaunee), Secretary; Kayla Schlegel (Fleetwood), Flora; Owen Stemko, (Virginville), Steward; Veronica Heckman (Virginville), Ceres; Autumn Tworkoski (Hamburg), Chaplain

SECOND ROW: Grace Wadsworth (Goshen Grange, Chester Co.), L.A.S.; Ashley Mohn (Marion), Program Coordinator; Samantha Haag (Ontelaunee), Pomona.

THIRD ROW: Jake Mengel (Fleetwood), Asst. Steward; Isaac Mengel (Fleetwood), Gatekeeper; Andrew Kieffer (Marion), President; Josh Mengel (Fleetwood), Treasurer

LEGISLATIVE REPORT by Kenneth Schlegel

Washington D.C. - what a soap opera, or maybe a sex scandal, or mystery novel, or a leadership debacle!!

It seems our government, no matter what level, has been a story of another kind. The headline of today "46 Republicans have announced their retirement from congress in some way or another. Why? I guess there could be 46 different reasons.

President Trump has made for a bumpy ride down Pennsylvania Avenue! His social media presence is a big problem. It sure upsets the fruit basket. But a bigger problem is his style of leadership. He has spent years making right and wrong decisions. You get some education and you move on! If an object gets in your way, you make adjustments and move on. When it comes to politics it doesn't work that way. You have channels, committees, other politicians from the opposite party. Leadership in today's world is a rare commodity. In the political world it's whoever is standing next in line. I guess you can call that leadership!

Let's look at the so called trade war with China. The Chinese have been raising tariffs for many decades and having some laughs about it. It took a real leader to say let's play some catch up. What's right for one is right for the other. Leaders in our great America have gotten crossed up in the many channels that they must follow. Because of this, change usually never happens!

President Trump has stepped on many people's toes, mainly because in business you get things done and move on!

It even looks like we found a way to clean house in D.C.

BERKS HEIM by Doris Evans

Following is the Sunday transport schedule for May, June and July. Unfortunately there are a lot of open dates with no one scheduled. If you are able PLEASE help our residents get to church.

May 6—Virginville Grange	May 13—Open	May 20—Hamburg Grange
May 27—Gouglersville Grange	June 3—Open	June 10—Pioneer Grange
June 17—Open	June 24—Virginville Grange	July 1—Open
July 8—Open	July 15—Hamburg Grange	July 22—Open
July 29—Bernville Grange		

It would be good to call Berks Heim the Saturday or Sunday morning before your scheduled date to be sure that there will be a church service, 610-376-4841. Due to sickness many activities are cancelled for the protection of the residents.



ONTELAUNEE GRANGE NEWS

Correction on the calendar information for the Ontelaunee Grange location address – ***the new address is 1076 Grange Road, Leesport, PA 19533.*** Please remember, this is LOCATION only and not a post office address. The Grange does not have a mail box at its location.

LOTTERY CALENDAR SALE by Michael Adams

I want to Thank everyone that sold and bought lottery calendars for the Pomona Grange fundraiser, especially Fern Kulp. She personally sold 192, that's more than any Grange sold. All 500 were sold and by the time you receive your copy of the Echo, the winners were paid for the months of March and April. We will have a profit report at the June Pomona meeting.

MARCH POMONA MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following are highlights from the March 2018 Pomona meeting held at Fleetwood Grange. Remember, we encourage you to be in attendance so you can hear the news first hand and have a say in what Pomona can/should do.

- ◆ A representative from “Easy Does It” was present to receive our donations and spoke on its purpose. Pomona also presented them with a \$100 donation.
- ◆ Youth Officers filled the chairs for the day’s meeting
- ◆ Ken Schlegel, president of Fleetwood Grange, had his grandchildren give the Welcome Remarks—very nicely done!
- ◆ Approved the sponsorship of \$1,500 to the Reading Fair
- ◆ Approved the sponsorship of \$1,000 to the Kutztown Fair
- ◆ Approved “to provide tickets to the Pomona Grange Appreciation Banquet to non-Grange members who help with the Sale at the same cost (if any) as Grange members”
- ◆ Approved \$120 to have Nettie Kauffman attend the Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference
- ◆ Attendance—approximately 65
- ◆ County membership as of February 24, 2018—1,112
- ◆ Donated \$150 to the Dairy Princess Pageant
- ◆ Donated \$500 to the National Grange replace “chiller” appeal
- ◆ Donated to the PA State Grange Junior and Youth appeals
- ◆ Robert Beamon will be attending the Mid-Atlantic Leader Conference for the Youth and the Youth will reimburse his expenses
- ◆ Ellen Wadsworth, PA State Youth Director, was introduced
- ◆ The juniors held their annual Walk-A-thon today.
- ◆ Approved sponsoring the Junior Camp T-Shirts at the amount of \$500
- ◆ Michael Adams reported a profit of approximately \$3,400 from the Lottery Calendar fundraiser
- ◆ Renew membership to BARN
- ◆ Approved the purchase of a ticket for the President to attend the Bountiful Berks banquet to be held in October
- ◆ The following Grangers received 5th degree: Autumn and Connie Tworkoski (Hamburg Grange), Kayla Schlegel (Fleetwood Grange) and Owen Stemko and Veronica Heckman (Virginville Grange)
- ◆ Bigger Truck Trailers resolution approved
- ◆ Expediting Agriculture D.E.P. Permitting resolution approved
- ◆ Need for Revision of State Pension Funds resolution approved
- ◆ Taxpayer Funds Used to Pay for Sexual Harassment Cases resolution approved
- ◆ PA State Youth Ambassadors Grace Wadsworth and Jake Mengel played some active games for the day’s program
- ◆ Suggestion of Officers (list elsewhere in this ECHO) was held

SUGGESTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2018-2020

President—Andrew Kieffer
Vice President—Denise Clare
Program Coordinator—Open
Steward—Owen Stemko
Ass't Steward—Richard Kieffer
Lady Ass't Steward—Desira Kunkle
Chaplain—Mikayla Davis
Treasurer—Henry Seidel
Secretary—Jennifer Beamon
Gatekeeper—Robert Kleckner, III
Pomona—Lindsay Schroeder
Ceres—Autumn Tworowski
Flora—Samantha Haag
Ex. Committee—Richard Schaeffer
Fin. Committee—Grace Reber

ALL OFFICES ARE STILL OPEN FOR SUGGESTIONS!

Election will be held at the June Pomona meeting.

NOTE: No one was suggested for Program Coordinator (Lecturer). If you are willing to fill this position, (or any other position) please let Andrew Kieffer know or have someone suggest your name at the June Pomona meeting.

ONTELAUNEE JUNIOR GRANGE

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Ontelaunee Junior Grange Spaghetti dinner. We served about 150 people. We appreciate your support!

HAMBURG GRANGE NEWS by Barbara Schroeder

Free Movie

May 11, 2018, at 12:30 p.m.

Hamburg Strand Movie Theater

Beauty & The Beast (live version)

STATE SESSION 2021 by Michael Adams

If you haven't heard, Berks County along with Bucks, Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, and Montgomery counties will be hosting the 2021 State Session. I will be the liaison to keep our Pomona informed concerning the 2021 State Grange session.

We have checked out several possible locations, not 100% sure, but it will probably be in Exton, PA.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, June 10, 2018, at the Gouglersville Grange at 2:30PM. 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.

JUNIOR GRANGE KNOEBEL'S DAY

JUNE 14, 2018

PARK IS OPEN 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

PAVILION H (same as last year)

Meals will be served at 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

As of right now there are no specials for the day (like last year's BOGO deal) in regards to rides.

Coupons are available in the KidStuff books for \$5 off the hand stamp (can be used for up to four hand stamps) and vouchers for discounted books of tickets are available at WEIS. We will update with more options as we find them and any additional information will be posted on the Junior Grange Facebook page.

Food Contributions:

Finger Desserts: Fleetwood, Pioneer & Hamburg

Snacks: Marion Grange

Fruits & Veggies: Ontelaunee Grange

Side Dishes: Virginville Grange

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S CORNER

By Nettie A. Kauffman

First and foremost, I would like to thank Berks County Grange for allowing me to attend the Mid-Atlantic Leader's Conference in Westminster, Maryland. The conference was quite different this year than in past years for the "Lecturer's Conference."

Leaders from all areas of the Grange, Junior, Youth/Young Adults, Program Coordinator, President/Master and any other interested Granger were in attendance. The participants who were competing in the Sign-A-Song, Public Speaking and Drill Teams were also present.

While attending the main workshop on Friday evening, I gained some insight into various new programs being offered from the National Grange for its membership. These will be shared with the county Program Coordinators.

My time was cut short with some of the presentations as I had an incident that made a trip to a hospital in the ER area. I happened to get my thumb crunched in a car door and a bad cut on my thumb, thank goodness no broken bone. I needed four stitches to close the gap and some cold compresses helped to eliminate the swelling. I need to thank Lorena Baughman and Denise Clare for being my nurses for this incident. Today the thumb is healed, but there is still some stiffness.

The Photography program on the National level will be different from years past. Only the Best of Show from each state will be sent to National Grange. It will be up to each State to set up the rules for their photography contest. There will be no Junior Grange photography category at the National level.

The Lecturer Department at National has a quilt block contest and is seeking entries. There are specific colors and a design associated with this block. An individual can enter as many blocks as they desire, but you must choose one specific block for the contest. Information is available on the National Grange web-site for this contest.

Information was presented on Junior and Youth Department areas. I'm sure you will find some information from the Youth Department on the Regional Speaking and Sign-A-Song contests elsewhere in the newsletter. In the Junior Department we learned that there will be changes with the Merit Badge program. Information will be distributed sometime in May/June.

At this time I encourage Program Coordinators to encourage your members to participate in the State Grange contests under the Program Coordinators area. Let's see a quantity of entries for our State Session in October. Remember, only the Photography contest must have a Subordinate and Junior level of judging and the first-place winners would advance to the State judging.

The program for our June meeting is not quite finalized. I have contacted a speaker who will talk on one of the following topics – Preserving Your Legacy OR Protecting Your Family. He is a lawyer and will talk about Powers of Attorney, Living Wills, Estate Planning OR 10 Legal Mistakes and Actions to Protect Your Loved Ones. I do hope we have a good turnout for the speaker who is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. presentation. He does have time for a question and answer period after his talk.



FAMILY ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT

The Family Activities Department is still seeking a chairperson. If you know of anyone interested in leading this group, please contact our President/Master Andrew Kieffer (717-933-5462). In the meantime, information is being presented regarding various activities within the Family Activities area. Up-coming events that need each Subordinate Granges attention are follows:

Pre-Quarterly meeting – May 21 at Pioneer Grange – 7:00 p.m.

Assisting this Pre-Quarterly will be Virginville Grange.

Looking forward to judging of the F.A. Department contests are:

Baking Contest (Chocolate Cake, single layer; Lemon Bar Cookies; Peanut Brittle)

Please follow rules on the State Contest Guide. All 1st place Subordinate winners come to County judging.

Needlework Contest – to be held at the September county meeting – September 8 at Kutztown Grange. Please have all Subordinate entries there by 9:30 so judging can begin promptly at 9:45 a.m. Remember, there is no Subordinate judging (unless your Grange does this).

VIRGINIA BEACH/NORFOLK TRIP

Committee - Ray Davis, Doris Evans, Irvin & Nettie Kauffman, Richard & Marie Schaeffer

Our trip to Virginia took place after the deadline date form submission of the ECHO articles. One can only hope that the trip was pleasant, sunny, enjoyable and fun.

The group which traveled to Virginia to the areas of Virginia Beach and Norfolk area consisted of 41 passengers. Our points of interest were the International Tattoo Show (a show featuring music show and other acts), Norfolk Naval Base tour, MacArthur Memorial, Parade of Nations, NATO fest displays, Chrysler Museum of Art, a dinner cruise, and those who desired, they could take a dip in the Atlantic Ocean, which was three minutes from our hotel.

The committee would like to thank those Grangers and non-Grangers who helped to make this trip possible.

COMMUNITY SERVICE by Carlene Kleckner

Hi everyone. Hope you all are had a good Easter and hopefully that it warms up. Thanks to all that donated for the last meeting.

We kicked off a year-long community service project in March. We will be donating diapers to the Berks County Diaper Bank. Please bring at least one pack of diapers to the remaining 2018 meetings so we can help the families in need throughout the 2018 year. At the March meeting, we donated 1,300 diapers to the diaper bank thanks to a donation from the Pomona Grange.

For the June meeting we are supporting the Keystone Military Families. Here is a wish list of what they need and what you can bring to the meeting:

ground or instant coffee	coffee creamer	sugar packets	hot chocolate packets	power bars	cereal bars	
trail mix	granola bars	healthy snacks	slim Jims	beef or turkey jerky	sunflower seeds	nuts
individual snacks like crackers, cookies, cheese/cracker kits			Peanut Butter & Jelly – only small size plastic jars		small sewing kits	
small manicure kits	Sunscreen and insect repellent		Chap Stick with sunscreen	Blistex		
Aspirin, Tylenol and cold meds in small packages		5 Hour Energy and similar products	Vitamins	Odor Eaters (for boots)		
Dr. Scholl's foot pads, blister pads	Thermal gloves or glove liners	Hand Sanitizer – small size bottles to carry with them				
Mens and Ladies calf high socks or boot socks in black or white		Hand and foot warmers				
CDs and DVDs – New or used are fine. Current releases are appreciated.						

If you forget to bring anything you can always give a money donation. All the stuff that I listed is for care packages that get send to the troops over sea. So please bring at least one item and a package of diapers to the meeting. Thank you.



CONTEST CORNER

Please bring your completed contest form to the June Pomona meeting. You must be present to win!

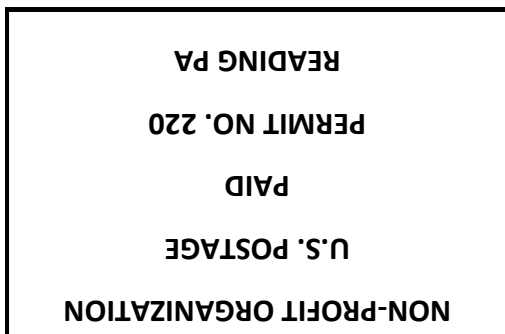
NAME _____ GRANGE _____

The 40th Annual Superman Celebration will be held on June 7-10, 2018 in Metropolis, IL.

Let's see how well you know the "Man of Steel" and other DC/Marvel comic superheroes 'alter egos'.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| _____ 1. Batman | A. Peter Parker |
| _____ 2. Wonder Woman | B. Clark Kent |
| _____ 3. Aquaman | C. Hal Jordan |
| _____ 4. The Flash | D. Tony Stark |
| _____ 5. Superman | E. Diana Prince |
| _____ 6. Green Lantern | F. Barry Allen |
| _____ 7. Spiderman | G. Bruce Banner |
| _____ 8. Captain America | H. Bruce Wayne |
| _____ 9. Iron Man | I. Arthur Curry |
| _____ 10. Hulk | J. Steve Rogers |

Answers from last issue: 1) Who; 2) Theodor Geisel; 3) Two; 4) Sally; 5) Pale blue; 6) No; 7) Sam-I-Am; and 8) Fun. Congratulations to the winner: Tammy Schaeffer, Pioneer Grange.



BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43
c/o Fern E Kulp
11 Gilmore Road
Kutztown PA 19530
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED