

POMONA ECHO

BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43

FEBRUARY 2020

BERKS COUNTY GRANGE WEBSITE:

berkscountygrange.org

Contact person to add items to website:

Jennifer Beamon at: jennifermarie707@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Andrew Kieffer

I hope everyone got the message on the rescheduling of the Pomona Banquet due to the inclement weather. The new time is after the Pomona meeting in March. While you are not required to attend the meeting to eat, I do anticipate seeing a higher attendance than normal. This is also our youth meeting so come out and support them and meet some of the State royalty that will be there as well.

March is also when we begin nominations for Pomona officers with elections being held in June. While all offices are up for election we are definitely looking to fill President, Vice-president and Program coordinator. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in an officer position, feel free to contact myself or any other officer to find out the duties required. We need your help to continue to be a successful county grange.

We will see you in March at the Pomona meeting and/or banquet. Until then, stay warm and safe.

2019 APPRECIATION BANQUET

By Nettie A. Kauffman and Barbara Schroeder

The Appreciation Banquet scheduled for January 18 was cancelled and is rescheduled for 1 p.m., Saturday, March 7 (after the March Pomona meeting). The meal and price for tickets will remain the same. Please let your Subordinate Master or Junior Leader know if this changes your attendance. New counts from the Master and Leaders are needed to Schroeder's by February 22. Please note: This will be the only meal at Pomona and will take the place of the traditional luncheon. Everyone in attendance will be expected to have an appreciation banquet ticket in hand to partake of the luncheon.

The drawing for the Attendance Contest will be held at the luncheon. For those who qualify, you must have attended at least four events during 2019 to qualify for the drawing. Your Attendance Card will be accepted that day, but will not be punched or signed. It will be placed within the respective categories.

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Berks County Junior Grange News

Upcoming Junior Events

- March 7—Pomona Meeting at Virginville Grange — Test Review, Games, and Packing Easter Eggs
- March 14, 2020—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, only 300 tickets available
- April 4 - 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 and test review will occur at the March Pomona meeting.

Roadside USA

Game Night themed camp May 15-17 Save the dates!

Registration, costs, and other details will be e-mailed in mid-late

Anyone 5 years old at the time of camp can be a camper!

March. Please contact Gail with any questions

Attendance Contest

Congrats to our 13 juniors who received a \$5 gift card to Chick Fila for meeting the requirements for the 2019 attendance contest.

2020 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 7-8)
- ◇ Applebees Fundraiser (3/14, 7:30-10:30am)
- ◇ Camp-Let the Jr. Grange Games Begin (May 15-17)
- ◇ Knoebels (Tentative date Wednesday, June 10th)
- ◇ State Camp (June 28-July 4)
- ◇ Swimming (July 11, 6-9pm)
- ◇ Helping at ice cream/ice stand during the consignment sale (August)
- ◇ Fall Activity (September 26, 7:30pm, location TBD)
- ◇ Bowling (November 22, 1:30)

Good luck to our
Graduating Juniors:

Sarah Berger, Maya Bicksler Lucas
Blatt, Jayden Dennis, Zoe Merkel,
and Peter Rohrbach

Sleepover—February 7-8

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

Help is needed!

For our fundraiser at Applebees on 3/14/20 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.

Junior Grange Age

Following the PA State Junior Grange guidelines, we will no longer be doing the "age of January 1st". Once a child turns 5 they can participate in activities as a Junior Granger. Once they turn 15, they can join subordinate. Contact Gail for questions/concerns.

Next Jr. Team Meeting:

Our next team meeting is
Monday, April 6 at 7pm at
Ontelaunee!

CONSIGNMENT SALE

The Pomona Consignment Sale is scheduled for Saturday, August 22, 2020. So mark your calendar NOW to volunteer.

There will be a meeting Monday, March 2, 2020, at 7 p.m. at the Ontelaunee Grange hall to discuss this year's sale. In addition, other fundraiser options will be discussed this evening. We are encouraging EVERY GRANGE to have at least one representative at this meeting. We need your suggestions!

LEGISLATIVE REPORT by Kenneth Schlegel

Politics is a strange business. Oklahoma is the only state that Obama did not win even one county in the last election. An update from Oklahoma:

Oklahoma passed an amendment to place the Ten Commandments on the front entrance to the state capitol. The feds in D.C., along with the ACLU, said it would be a mistake. Hey this is a conservative state, based on Christian values. Guess what.....Oklahoma did it anyway.

Oklahoma recently passed a law to incarcerate all illegal immigrants, and ship them back to where they came from unless they want to get a green card and become an American citizen. Recently they also passed a law to include DNA samples from any and all illegals to the Oklahoma data base, for criminal investigations. Pelosi said it was unconstitutional.....guess what, they did it anyway.

The federal government has made bold steps to take away our guns. Oklahoma passed a law confirming people have the right to bear arms and transport them in their vehicles. I'm sure that was a setback for the criminals.. Guess what.....Oklahoma did it anyway.

Just this month, the state passed a law that ALL driver's license exams will be printed in only English. They have been called racist for doing this, but the fact is that ALL of the road signs are only in English.

And finally, the photosynthesis of America's 100 million acres corn crop, at its peak, produces 40% more oxygen than the Amazon rain forest. THANK YOU FARMERS!

Haus Tournament and Game Night

When: March 7, 2020

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.

VIRGINVILLE GRANGE COMMUNITY SERVICE

At our benefit bingo in November, we were able to help Nancy Dietrich who is battling cancer for the second time. We were able to present Nancy with a check at our December meeting. Thank you to all who came out to play, helped with the Bingo, or made baked goods to sell. Additionally, over 450 canned goods were collected and delivered to the "Keystone Military Families" in Shoemakersville.

In December, members of our grange rang the Salvation Army's red kettle bell at the Redner's in Hamburg. Over the 2 days we were able to raise over \$750 to help the community. Thank you to everyone that gave their time during the holiday season!

A new year means another opportunity for the community service committee to help others in need in the community. We invite you to come out for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at our annual bingo on Sunday, March 22nd, 2020. A recipient has yet to be determined. Packages are \$20 each with upgrades and special games available. Come early for lunch as doors open at 11:30 a.m. Games will begin at 1:00 p.m. Prizes include Thirty-One bags and cash. Keep an eye out in your email or mailbox for a flyer! If you are interested in playing, please contact Denise Clare at 610-562-3876 to reserve your seat today.

As always, we are looking for the names of individuals or groups that could benefit from our help. Please do not hesitate to contact any committee member with suggestions of individuals or groups.

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. Our next committee meeting will be April 2020 at the Valley Forge Convention Center. Once we have a date, a letter will be sent to all participating 6 Pomona and 33 Community Granges. I am asking that each Grange have at least 1 representative attend so that every Grange is represented.

I want to Thank the Berks Granges that have sent their contribution of \$250 so far. If you haven't, please try to do this or let me and Henry Seidel know so that we can meet our financial commitment. **REMEMBER, it's very important so that we have enough funding so that we can host the session properly.** If granges can't meet this goal, please look for donations from your members or a sponsor.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February—May 2020

Feb. 7-8 Junior Grange Sleepover @Fleetwood Grange
 Feb. 12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY
 Feb. 14 VALENTINE'S DAY
 Feb. 15 Ontelaunee Junior Grange Spaghetti Dinner (see article)
 Feb. 17 PRESIDENT'S DAY
 Feb. 22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
 Feb. 24 Pre-Quarterly Meeting @Virginville, 7 p.m. (Geigertown Grange assisting)
 Feb. 26 ASH WEDNESDAY
 Mar. 2 Consignment Sale Meeting @Ontelaunee Grange, 7 p.m.
 Mar. 2 Pioneer Grange Ham & Cheese/Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sale (see below for details)
 Mar. 7 County Meeting @Virginville, 9:30 a.m.
 Mar. 8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS
 Mar. 9 Kutztown Grange Basket Bingo (see details below)
 Mar. 14 Junior Fundraiser @Applebee's, Wyomissing, 8 a.m.—10 a.m.
 Mar. 14 Old Plow Boys Toy Show @Kutztown Grange Hall
 Mar. 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
 Mar. 19 FIRST DAY OF SPRING
 Mar. 20-22 Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference, New Jersey
 Mar. 21 Farm Family Appreciation Banquet @Hamburg Field House, 7 p.m.
 Mar. 21 Hamburg Grange "All You Can Eat" Chicken Pot Pie Dinner (see article for details)
 Mar. 22 Virginville Grange Benefit Bingo, 1:00 p.m. (see article for details)
 Mar. 28 Kutztown Grange AYCE Pot Pie Dinner, 4—7 p.m. Adults \$10
 Apr. 1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY
 Apr. 4 Junior Walk-A-Thon @Ontelaunee Grange, 5:30 p.m.
 Apr. 5 PALM SUNDAY
 Apr. 6 Junior Team Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m.
 Apr. 10 GOOD FRIDAY
 Apr. 10 Pioneer Grange PA Dutch Potato Filling Sale (see below for details)
 Apr. 10 Kutztown Grange Potato Filling and bacon dressing sale (see below for details)
 Apr. 12 EASTER
 Apr. 17 Legislative Banquet @Fleetwood, 6:45 p.m.
 Apr. 17 ECHO deadline
 Apr. 17-19 Young Adult Weekend, Harrisburg
 Apr. 22 EARTH DAY
 Apr. 28 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
 Apr. 29 Legislative/Agricultural Meeting @Ag Center, 7:30 p.m.
 May 4 Collate ECHO @Ontelaunee, 3:15 p.m. (Fleetwood assists)
 May 4 Pioneer Grange Italian Hoagie Sale (see below for details)
 May 6 Virginville Grange's 100th Jubilee (see article for details)
 May 10 MOTHER'S DAY Dinner at Virginville Grange Hall, "All You Can Eat Ham & Turkey Dinners" (see below for details)
 May 11 County Officers & Departmental Chair Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m.
 May 11 Kutztown Grange Basket Bingo (see below for details)



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 62nd year!!! Includes homemade pies and cakes.

March 2 Pioneer Grange: \$3.50 Order deadline is Feb. 23 Pickup at the Grange hall, 3—5 p.m. Call orders to Tammy at 610-463-7213

May 4 Pioneer Grange: \$5.00 Order deadline is April 26 Pickup at the Grange hall from 3—5 p.m. Call Tammy to order, 610-463-7213

April 10 Pioneer Grange: 1.5 lbs for \$4; 2.5 lbs for \$6. Pickup at the Grange hall, 2—4 p.m. Deadline to order is April 2. Call Tammy to order, 610-463-7213

March 9 & May 11 Kutztown Grange: 6:45 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets \$20 for 25 games, includes hot dog, soda, door prize. Call 610-683-7975 for tickets

April 10 Kutztown Grange: Pick up 2—6 p.m. Must order by April 1 Call 610-683-7975 to order

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S DEPARTMENT

By Nettie A. Kauffman

The up-coming months ahead will have our various Subordinate Granges holding their annual Community Night/Open House programs. One of the important issues connected with this event is some publicity of your program to your local community. Be sure to advertise your program in advance and publish information after your program. I realize that our local newspaper has cut back on a lot of information since a new company took over the Reading Eagle, but you can still promote your Grange in some of the local community newspapers.

Coming up in March will be the Mid-Atlantic Leaders Conference. This will be held in Camden, New Jersey. At the time of this writing, I did not receive any information on the specifics of the conference. Use the PA State Grange web-site to seek further information.

This year the PA State Grange is offering Regional Conferences across Pennsylvania in the spring of 2020. These conferences will aim to provide meaningful leadership training to ALL Grange leaders and members and improve information-sharing between the State Grange and Subordinate and Pomona Granges. The conference scheduled for Berks County is slated for Saturday, May 2 at the Kutztown Grange Hall. Workshops will be offered from the various departments and committees of the PA State Grange – Lecturer's, Youth, Juniors, Community Service, History Committee, and more. The conference will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude by 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. A registration fee of \$10 is being implemented to help cover costs for lunch and materials to be distributed. A registration form is included at the end of my article for the May 2 date; you can use this form OR copy and mail to the appropriate individual. I do hope we have a large number of Berks County members attending this conference. It has been stated that we need more contact and information from our State Grange.....so here is the opportunity for our members to come out and gain your information. If you have any questions, you may contact Jenn Nauss at (717) 512-1261 or jnauss89@gmail.com for more information.

March program will have the Youth/Young Adult Department conducting the meeting and presenting a program for the membership.



REGIONAL CONFERENCE – Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Kutztown Grange

Registration Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ **Email:** _____

Grange: _____ **County:** _____ **BERKS**

Please return registration form and \$10.00 registration fee to:

Jenn Nauss
10 West Schoolside Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Make check payable to: Pennsylvania State Grange

REGISTER BY: April 11, 2020

AGRICULTURE REPORT by Doug Sattazahn

Plant-based meat seems to be all the rage these days. Companies like Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods are getting extensive media coverage and many restaurants are serving up meatless options. But is there any merit to the supposed benefits of plant-based meat?

These products are obviously highly processed. Ingredients like titanium dioxide and methylcellulose are common. No advantage over real meat there. Better for the environment? Studies by both the USDA and UC-Davis have shown that US animal agriculture accounts for 3 to 4% of greenhouse gas emissions, not the 20% that climate activists claim.

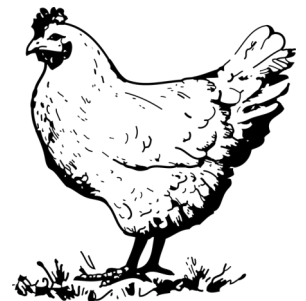
This is a far cry from the output of transportation and energy sources. In fact, if every American went vegan, our greenhouse gas emissions would only drop 2.6%. Eating meat is not putting us on the fast track to climate disaster.

Clearly we have lots of choices when it comes to food, but as for me, I'll stick to the real thing.

HAMBURG GRANGE CHICKEN POT PIE DINNER

Hamburg Grange will hold an "All You Can Eat" Chicken Pot Pie Dinner on Saturday, March 21, 2020, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Hamburg High School, Windsor Street. All proceeds will be donated to the Miller Keystone Blood Center for the new blood-mobile that they are purchasing.

Dinner includes: chicken pot pie, corn, applesauce, pickles, lettuce with bacon dressing and a drink. There will be a bake sale and take-out is available (meals or quarts of pot pie).



POMONA HIGHLIGHTS

December 14, 2019

The following highlights are from the December 14, 2019, Pomona meeting held at Ontelaunee Grange. Remember, we would rather have you in attendance to hear the news first hand and to give your input.

- ♦ Salvation Army came to accept our donations to the angel Tree Tag project.
- ♦ Barb Schroeder was elected to the PA State Grange Executive Committee
- ♦ Andrew is looking for members to serve on a “suggestions for officers” committee
- ♦ No 2020 Attendance Contest will be held. In addition, Pomona will not sponsor a Junior Grange Attendance Contest; however, they may hold their own contest at their expense, if desired.
- ♦ It was decided that we would hold the Consignment Sale at least one more year. We are looking for alternative ways to earn money for Pomona. Suggestions are greatly appreciated!
- ♦ Guessing game—how many grams of cookies—Barb Schroeder was the winner.
- ♦ Attendance: 21 Brothers; 31 Sisters, 1 Junior; 2 mini-juniors Total: 55
- ♦ Go-To-Church Sunday, May 31, will be held at Schuylkill Bible Chapel, 10:15 a.m., 693 Irish Creek Road, Mohrsville 1941
- ♦ Audit Report was presented and approved
- ♦ The Youth spent almost \$1,000 on items for the Wernersville State Hospital (Xmas)
- ♦ Lindsay Schroeder participated in the Grange Baseball and was a Senior Fellow and Official Photographer—National Grange
- ♦ Robert Beamon was elected as President of the GROW Club (national session)
- ♦ Jen Beamon won “Best of Show” for the Vocal category at the Evening of Excellence (national session)
- ♦ Thank you to all who donated to the GROW Club appeal
- ♦ Family Activities collected socks, mittens, hat and gloves for local schools and others in need
- ♦ Family Activities (and the Pomona Community Service) will be collecting canned food for the Hamburg Food Pantry. For every 3 cans brought, your name will be entered into the drawing for four \$25 gift cards. Even if you send your items to Pomona with another person, your name can still be put into the drawing!
- ♦ Nettie Kauffman was thanked for handling Family Activities and helping Jane Reppert to take over
- ♦ Received a “thank you” from Mary’s Shelter for all the diapers!
- ♦ Pomona received \$910 from Oley Fair for our participation with their fair. Looking for someone to take charge of coordinating the Pomona Grange volunteers for the Oley Fair 2020. Contact Doris Evans or Andrew Kieffer.
- ♦ Ray Davis was elected as President of the Berks County Fair (Reading Fair name change). March 1 they will have a bingo at the Leesport Market grounds
- ♦ If you are interested in touring the hotel for the 2021 State Session, contact Michael Adams for date and time (April ?)
- ♦ County membership, as of 12/7/19: 1, 041
- ♦ Donated \$500 to the Farm Family Appreciation Banquet
- ♦ Donated \$35 to the Berks County 4-H banquet. Steve Mohn will use the complimentary ticket
- ♦ State Grange will no longer offer Lifetime Memberships. Those who have lifetime membership, those will still be honored.
- ♦ Christmas traditions from around the world were shared; played a Christmas song lyrics game; door prizes awarded.

YOUTH REPORT by Robert Beamon

The youth will be serving as youth officers for the March Pomona meeting, scheduled for March 7, 2020, at Virginville. The meeting is scheduled for 9:30 AM. If you are interested in filling an office please let Robert or Jennifer Beamon know.

Youth members participated at State Session as youth officers. Josh Mengel wrote opening drill and it was well received by the delegate body. Following State Session, our eyes were focused on Bloomington, MN. Lindsay Schroeder was the official photographer of the convention. She also was part of the winning team in Grange baseball. Jen Beamon participated in the Evening of Excellence and won “Best of Show”.

Upcoming events include the Mid-Atlantic Leadership Conference in New Jersey, March 20-22 and then the Young Adults Weekend April 17-19 in the Harrisburg area.

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 18th at the Hamburg Municipal Center
April 21st at the Hamburg Middle School
June 16th at the Hamburg Municipal Center
August 11th at the Hamburg Middle School
October 13th at the Hamburg Municipal Center
December 8th at the Hamburg Municipal Center.

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



2020 POMONA GRANGE TRIP

Royal Caribbean Cruise
New England and Canada
September 17 – 26, 2020



Our trip for 2020 will find us sailing on the Royal Caribbean Cruise ship – Grandeur of the Seas. It is a smaller ship than some of the bigger ones we have cruised on previously. The committee is providing you with as much detail on expenditures for this cruise as possible.

Departure will be from Baltimore, MD. The ports of call will be Portland, ME; Boston, MA; Bar Harbor, ME; Saint John, NB/Bay of Fundy; and Halifax, Nova Scotia. (See chart below) Since this cruise will be going into the Canadian territory, a VALID PASSPORT is required. When you make your reservations, the exact name that appears on your passport will be required. We have also scheduled the group for the 5:30 p.m. dining seating time.

White Star Tours will be handling all the cruise reservations. Payment may be made with either check or credit card. If paying by credit card, Mr. Mike White of White Star Tours is handling our account for this cruise, but you can call White Star Tours (610-775-5000) and anyone will take your information as long as you mention the Berks County Grange cruise for September (Escort name is Nettie Kauffman). This is being done since Pomona Grange is not set up to take credit card transactions. Payment by check should include the information at the bottom of the flyer (distributed to all Subordinate Presidents in early January).

If you receive a flyer from your Subordinate President for completion, at bottom of the information needed is a DINING selection of Early, Late or Open. We have made the decision to have our group sit at the EARLY dining time. Hopefully, this will be accommodated by the cruise line. By doing this, we get to see members of our group at least once a day to enjoy a meal with the group.

We have reserved 12 Inside Cabins @ cost of \$939 per person; 12 Outside Cabins @ cost of \$1,149 per person; and 8 Balcony Cabins @ cost of \$1,859 per person. **Reservations should be made by March 13, or before with down deposit of \$450 per person.** Final payment must be paid by June 1. (I'm sure if you don't reserve by March 13, and you still would like to be able to take this cruise, you would have to contact White Star Tours.)

Cruises have their own set-up for gratuities and these will be charged onto your credit card account for the cruise. Currently it is \$14.50 per person per day, or \$130.50 total per person. This amount is always subject to change by the cruise line.

Travel insurance is available and information can be obtained from Nettie Kauffman (610-926-5389). There is a specific company White Star deals with and a specific Tour Operator Location number is required; which Nettie can provide to you.

Bus transportation TO and FROM Baltimore port will be determined at a later time. We need to know how many people will be taking this cruise in order to properly have the right size bus for transportation.

Flyers have been distributed to all Subordinate Presidents. You can contact them for this information, or you can contact any one of the committee members by calling Nettie/Irvin Kauffman (610-926-5389), Marie/Richard Schaeffer (484-256-0496) or Doris Evans (484-332-1136)/Ray Davis (610-413-7943).

The committee is looking forward to our membership to make this cruise a success!

<u>DAY</u>	<u>PORT OF CALL</u>	<u>ARRIVE</u>	<u>DEPART</u>
1	Baltimore, MD		4:00
2	Cruising		pm.
3	Portland, ME	10:00 am	
4	Boston, MA	9:00 am	6:00 pm
5	Bar Harbor, ME	9:00 am	9:00 pm
6	Saint John, NB/Bay of Fundy	7:00 am	6:00 pm
7	Halifax, Nova Scotia	10:30 am	3:30 pm
8 & 9	Cruising		7:00 pm
10	Baltimore, MD	7:00 am	



ONTELAUNEE JUNIOR GRANGE 10TH 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 15, 2020.

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 2020

Mar. 17—Ontelaunee Grange, 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 1—Kutztown Grange, 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 16—Pioneer Grange, 7:30 p.m.

Apr. 30—Fleetwood Grange
6:30 - Light Lunch
7:30 - Program

May 6—Virginville Grange, 7:30 p.m.

Wernersville State Hospital Project 2019

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

Thank you to all of the Granges and committees within the County Grange who donated money to purchase Christmas gifts for this project. The total amount of money spent at the VF Outlets and Wal-Mart was \$945.30. These gifts were presented to Wernersville Hospital for their residents in October 2019. 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: belts, body wash, brushes, button-down shirts, canvas bags, combs, conditioner, deodorant, flannel shirts, jeans, long-sleeved shirts, lotions, nightgowns, boxer briefs, chap stick, hair ties, scrunchies, socks, underwear, slipper socks, slippers, pajamas, shampoo, sweatpants, sweatshirts, thermals, toiletry bags, T-shirts with pockets, winter hats, winter hats.

Thank you again to all involved with this worthy cause.

BERKS HEIM NEWS by Doris Evans

All the Christmas events at Berks Heim were enjoyed by the residents, staff, volunteers and families. Thank you to Pomona Grange and several individual Granges for supporting the holiday events.

Save the date: September 12, 2020, for the next annual Heim Fest.

The transport schedule for February—May 3 is:

February 2—Geigertown Grange
February 9—Geigertown Grange
February 16—Geigertown Grange
February 23—Geigertown Grange
March 1—Bernville Grange
March 8—Hamburg Grange
March 15—Virginville Grange

March 22—Marion Grange
March 29—Fleetwood Grange
April 5—Virginville Grange
April 12—EASTER
April 19—Ontelaunee Grange
April 26—Bernville Grange
May 3—Kutztown Grange



This service is REALLY appreciated by the residents and staff. I have instructed the staff to notify the specific Grange that is scheduled if church is cancelled. This could be due to weather or if there are flu restrictions. If in doubt, call the operator at Berks Heim, 610-376-4841.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES by Jane Reppert, 610-562-2647

We still might have some cold weather where you cannot do anything outside, so why not work on the Family Activities contests for 2020. The contests are the same as late year except for the baking and the quilt block. For the complete contests and rules, you can contact your Subordinate Grange Family Activities chairperson or go on the PA State Grange website under Documents-2020-2021 Guide To Contest & Programs or you can contact me.

I am challenging each Subordinate Grange to have some entries in the contest or increase your grange entries from last year. We had 44 entries in the Needlework and craft classes. So let's increase that number and maybe have an entry in each class. There is something for everyone: men, women & junior members.

The judging for the Pomona 2020 contests are:

Baking Contest – August 31, 2020, at the Pre-Pomona meeting at Pioneer Grange

Needlework & Family Activities contest – September 12, 2020, at Pioneer Grange

I want to thank everyone who entered the needlework contest in 2019. We had 18 entries at the State Session in October, with 15 entries that placed (9 first, 4 second, and 2 third). Congratulations to everyone on their achievements.

I would like to thank every grange and members who donated socks for the homeless and hats & gloves for children in local schools to our December meeting. Also, I would like to thank the people who took the hats & gloves to the schools and Nettie Kauffman for delivering the socks.

The Pomona Family Activities has a special project for our March meeting. We are collecting canned goods for local food bank where we will be meeting (Hamburg). The Pomona Family Activities Department is going to provide four (4) \$25.00 gift cards in a drawing. For every three (3) canned goods you donate, you will be receiving one ticket for the drawing. So, if you bring 12 cans, you will get 4 tickets. You do not have to be present at the meeting. You can give the cans to your Subordinate grange chairperson or master to take to the Pomona meeting and your name put in the drawing. (PLEASE NO OUT-DATED ITEMS) Hope everyone will help support this community service project.

I hope everyone has a Healthy New Year for 2020.



PRE-QUARTERLY MEETING

The next Pre-Pomona meeting will be held on February 24, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. at the Virginville Grange hall. Geigertown 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.

LEGISLATIVE BANQUET

WHEN: April 17, 2020

TIME: 6:45 P.M.

WHERE: Fleetwood Grange

COST: \$15.00

Bring a friend or give a ticket to a supervisor or borough council, or school board member. Call Ken Schlegel, 610-944-9161, or see your Grange President for tickets.

Ask questions to our representatives, county row officers and/or county commissioners.



COMMUNITY SERVICE by Carlene Kleckner

Hi everybody I hope everyone had a good holiday. Thanks to the Grangers who participated in the Angel Tree project. We did a 100 tags this year.

For the March Pomona meeting, we are doing a canned food drive along with the Family Activities. So please bring any non-perishable food items like canned goods or box foods. Please make sure you do not bring any expired food. If you bring 3 items, you will get a ticket for a special drawing.

Hope to see everyone at meeting.

CONTEST CORNER

NAME _____ **GRANGE** _____

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

Green-Themed Trivia Quiz – each answer has the word GREEN in it.

NFL football based in Wisconsin _____

A natural skill for gardening _____

To be resentful, bitter, or jealous _____

Spiderman's nemesis _____

Vermont's nickname _____

60's sitcom starring Eddie Albert _____

Vegetable related to a scallion or leek _____

U.S. Army special forces soldier _____

Answers from last issue: 1) Candy Cane; 2) Rudolph; 3) Sleigh; 4) Presents; 5) Wreath; 6) Frosty; 7) Mistletoe; 8) Jesus; 9) Ornament; and 10) Santa Clause. Congratulations to the winner: Jane Adams, Hamburg Grange.

Return Service Requested

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