

POMONA ECHO

BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43

AUGUST 2020

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Andrew Kieffer

As everyone knows we are currently facing a constantly evolving set of rules and requirements regarding the covid-19 situation. I'm writing this article a couple days after Gov. Wolf has reimposed a restriction of 25 persons per indoor gathering. None of us know if this will still be in effect when we are scheduled to have our pre-quarterly and regular meetings. Therefore, all I can say at this point is we still plan to have these scheduled meetings if they meet the requirements at the time they are scheduled. We will also be requiring masks be worn during these meetings and if you are one who does not choose to wear a mask, we kindly ask that you stay home. We have several members that are higher risk and ask you to respect their health and safety.

Whenever our next Pomona meeting is held, we will also be installing Pomona and subordinate officers. This will be held at approximately 1:00 following the meal. The election of Pomona officers will be conducted during the morning portion of the meeting and we would enjoy having more candidates.

As my time as President ends, at the next election, I would like to thank you all for your support during my term and ask that you provide my successor with the same. Stay healthy and well.

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YOUTH REPORT

by Robert Beamon

PA State Youth camp was held virtually June 26-27. Events included trivia night and a scavenger hunt. Despite camp being held virtually it was great to see friends from around the state.

Upcoming events include, young adults weekend (ages 21-40ish are welcome) August 23-25 in Harrisburg. Registration can be found on the PA youth Facebook site. The PA youth is also planning to have picnic at the Kieffer farm September 26. This event is open to all youth and young adult aged members.

**FOR UPDATES
REGARDING EVENTS,
PLEASE CHECK THE
WEBSITE berkscounty-grange.org OR our
Facebook page—Berk
County Pomona
Grange #43.**

SPECIAL INTERST:

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Berks County Junior Grange News

No new royalty for 2020-2021

Due to the cancellation of camp and many other events that our royalty would attend, the team has made the decision to not name new royalty this year. We will be flexible with our graduating members and will iron out more details for upcoming years. We are trying to determine what is fair in a global situation which has not been fair to anyone.

2020 Junior Attendance Contest

In order to qualify, a junior member must participate in the Walk-a-Thon and/or Applebees Fundraiser, enter at least one junior contest on the State level. Contest rules may flex depending on how many activities are held.

- ◇ August Virtual Event (TBD, details to be e-mailed out)
- ◇ Fall Activity, September 26 (details to be announced soon)
- ◇ Bowling (**November 29** 1:30)

Hope to see you all at a lot of events!

Upcoming Junior Events

- * Virtual Junior Event (on in person if able) in August, details regarding date and activity will be posted on Facebook and e-mailed out to families.
- * NO September Pomona Activity
- * September 26- Fall Event in the evening, all are welcome. Details to be announced soon!
- * Bowling—November 29 at 1:30 at Heisters
- * NO December Pomona Activity

Fundraising

All 2021 fundraiser plans are currently on hold. We will determine if we are able to hold a Walk-a-Thon in 2021, do an Applebees Fundraiser, or both once we have more indication about what the future entails with COVID-19. As always, thank you for your unending support for our Juniors and the Junior program.

Community Service

During this time of uncertainty for everyone, I want to encourage our Junior Granges and Junior Grangers to complete service projects. We try to do about 4 different projects during our camp weekend but were unable to this year due to the cancellation of camp. From starting a food drive to creating baggies of treats for hospitals, to care packages for our troops... the options are limitless. The National Grange is awarding Juniors and Junior Granges that impact their community and I would love to see our juniors highlighted on the national level.

Next Junior Team Meeting: Our next team meeting is October 5, 7pm at on Zoom or at Ontelaunee. All are welcome!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST-NOVEMBER 11, 2020

Aug. 29 Kutztown Grange Hoagie & Ham Sandwich Sale*

Aug. 31 Pre-Quarterly Meeting @Pioneer Grange, 7 p.m.

Aug. 31 Pioneer Grange Ham & Cheese and Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sale^

Sept. 7 LABOR DAY

Sept. 12 County Meeting @Pioneer Grange, 9:30 a.m.

Sept. 13 GRANDPARENT'S DAY

Sept. 14 Kutztown Grange Basket Bingo**

Sept. 22 FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN

Sept. 26 Kutztown Grange Turkey Pot Pie Sale***

Sept. 26 Junior Fall Event in the evening, Details to be announced soon.

Oct. 5 Junior Team Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m. or on Zoom

Oct. 5 Pioneer Grange Italian Hoagie Sale^^

Oct. 12 County Officer, Department Chair Meeting @Ontelaunee, 7 p.m.

Oct. 12 COLUMBUS DAY

Oct 16 ECHO deadline

Oct. 16-18 PA State Session, Erie, PA (see changes to convention article)

Oct. 28 Legislative/Agricultural Meeting @Ag Center, 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 31 HALLOWEEN

Nov. 1 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Nov. 2 Collate ECHO @Ontelaunee Grange, 3:15 p.m. (Kutztown grangers assist)

Nov. 2 Pomona Books Audited, 7 p.m., location TBD

Nov. 2 Pioneer Grange Ham & Cheese and Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Sale^^^

Nov. 3 ELECTION DAY

Nov. 11 VETERANS DAY

*Kutztown Grange: \$4.00 each, order by August 22 to Darlene, 610-683-7975. Curb side pick up at hall 9—10 a.m. Exact cash please

**Kutztown Grange: Starts at 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 or 610-395-3889

***Kutztown Grange: Take out only by quart, \$8. Curb side pick up at hall, 3—6 p.m. Exact cash please. Order by Sept. 19. Call Darlene 610-63-7975 or Nancy 610-763-3063

^Pioneer Grange: Orders due to Tammy, 610-463-7213, by August 23, \$3.50 each. Pickup at the Grange hall from 3—5 p.m.

^^Pioneer Grange: Orders due to Tammy, 610-463-7213 by Sept. 27, \$5 each. Pickup at the Grange hall from 3—5 p.m.

^^^Pioneer Grange: Orders due to Tammy, 610-463-7213, by Oct. 25, \$3.50 each. Pickup at the Grange hall from 3—5 p.m.



ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS!

VIRGINVILLE GRANGE NEWS

The Virginville Grange Community Service Committee was excited to have the opportunity to help and give back to the community during the COVID pandemic. Instead of doing our annual Kauffman's Chicken BBQ dinner as we always did we decided to thank the first responders working so hard during the pandemic and also help as many in the community as we could. On Saturday, May 16th, we held a drive-thru chicken bbq give away at the Virginville Grange Hall. From 10 a.m.-1 p.m. , we gave away 864 chicken dinners to local first responders and members of the local community. Each dinner included a 1/2 chicken, baked potato, apple-sauce, and water. Free will donations were accepted and the support of the community was overwhelming. As a result, of your generous donations, we were able to give back to the community once again. We were able to donate \$400 each to the Northern Berks Food Pantry, Manna (Kutztown), the Salvation Army, and the Virginville Fire Company. We can't thank the community enough for your support of our chicken bbq!!

Our next benefit bingo will be held Sunday, November 8th, 2020, for Joyce Dietrich, a Virginville Grange member with ongoing medical concerns. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. and games will begin at 1:00 p.m. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Keep an eye out in your mailbox or your inbox for the flyer in the fall with all of the details. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or want to confirm your email address please contact Denise Clare at 610- 562-3876. We look forward to seeing you for an afternoon of food, fun, and fellowship.

2021 STATE SESSION UPDATE

I want to thank the Granges within Berks County that have donated to the 2021 state session. If you haven't donated yet, please let Henry Seidel or Michael Adams know what you plan to do, so that we can figure out how we will make our commitment.

The 2021 committee will start meeting again in September with the 2nd Sunday of the month thru 2021, except October and December 2020 at the Gouglersville Grange. Once we get things rolling, we can probably skip some meetings here and there or change dates as needed.

SUGGESTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2020-2022

President—Denise Clare

Program Coordinator—Deanna Schrawder

Ass't Steward—Richard Kieffer

Chaplain—Mikayla Davis

Secretary—Jen Beamon

Pomona—Lindsay Schroeder

Flora—Erica Berger

Fin. Comm.—Henry Seidel

LEGISLATIVE REPORT, by Kenneth Schlegel

Why not tell it the right way?

I like to watch the nightly news. I believe it's important that people know what is going on in our world. Someone at Grange one night asked if I remembered Walter Cronkite. I said I sure do, why? He said, well he always reported the news as it was. When he was done he always said, "And that was tonight's news." Personally I used to like to listen to Paul Harvey, also!

The word today seems to be fake news. All sides are using the word "fake". So what is fake news? If you listen very closely and pay attention and then compare to other broadcasters, sometimes you can pick it up! Each anchor has a team writing his or her script. It seems that we have Liberal and Conservative stations, why? The team has the responsibility to make sure that the news fits their station! They leave out a word or two or they drop a phrase and then the story takes a whole different direction.

It seems actions taken by much of the media tries to create that divide! A divide that creates hatred! I think we saw some of those issues in the riots recently. The bad guys become heroes and the good guys are kind of lost in the dust!

Vice President—Robert Kleckner, III

Steward—OPEN

Lady Ass't Steward—Linda Stewart

Treasurer—Jake Mengel

Gatekeeper—Robert Beamon

Ceres—Autumn Tworkoski

Ex. Comm.—Andrew Kieffer

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S DEPARTMENT

By Nettie A. Kauffman

So much has happened in this past quarter! As we start to come out of our "cocoons" and get back into the swing of activities again, let's not forget the issues we still need to complete in the Program Coordinator's department.

Because of the "stay at home" policy we needed to follow, many things have changed in the P.C. Department. Contests/reports in this department were changed to reflect the happenings associated with the coronavirus that cancelled our community night/open house programs and conferences.

New reports were implemented by the State Program Coordinator for the Community Night/Open House report. Your Program Coordinator (Lecturer Report) was also changed to reflect the happenings of the coronavirus situation -- the Talent Contest went virtual; some new classes in the Photography Contest were added. To all the Program Coordinators/Lecturers in the Subordinate Granges, your Secretary received all up-dated information and reports in June. **PLEASE contact your Secretary for your packet of information.** To the members, please contact your P.C./Lecturer to find out the specific details on these changed contests.

Also, the State P.C./Lecturer would like to put together a comprehensive Lecturer's Email Contact List as a means of communication (NOT to replace the mailing). If you would like your email address, or another member's address added to this list, please let her know by sending your information to her. You can send to her via email/text/phone. Her email is jnauss89@gmail.com and her phone is 717-512-1261. Please stay abreast of your P.C. Department information!

I would also like to say this is my last article to the membership of Berks County Grange as your P.C./Lecturer. I do hope you will provide support to our in-coming P.C./Lecturer as this individual will take the office in September.

A THANK YOU to everyone who has supported and helped me with my programs throughout my six years your P.C./Lecturer.

2020 POMONA GRANGE TRIP

Cruise to New England and Canada

If you read the ECHO for the past quarter (which was on-line on the Berks County web-site) you would have seen the information regarding the trip for September was a "wait and see" situation. In May, it was decided by the committee that this cruise trip would be canceled. All 32 participants were informed and would receive their funds credited back to their accounts.

The committee at this time has not planned anything for the future. It will be a "wait and see" situation for what the future holds for traveling. At this time, we are taking precautions with our membership so as not to have anyone become ill through traveling.

So what will the future hold? Good question!

Committee members: Ray Davis, Doris Evans, Irvin & Nettie Kauffman and Richard & Marie Schaeffer

DID YOU KNOW?

....There will be NO Berks Heim Fest this year due to the virus. Berks Heim is still NOT allowing visitors.

....We did not mail the May 2020 ECHO newsletter due to the coronavirus. If you still want to read it, go to berkscountygrange.org (website).

FAMILY ACTIVITIES by Jane Reppert

As Pennsylvania is beginning to open up a little, I know many activities over the past several months have been cancelled or changed in some ways. There are things in the next several months that are also being cancelled or changed. So things will be done a little different.

You may have heard that State Grange in October is going to be a little different this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Only the State officers and grange delegates will be attending the session this year. So, there will be no judging of the contests at the State Grange level. However, we will still be holding the judging for the baking contest (Red Velvet Cake, Sugar cookies rolled, and Cereal Candy) at the Pomona Grange level on August 31, at the per-Pomona Meeting. The needlework and other contests for the Family Activities will be judged at our quarterly meeting on September 12. Both meetings are at Pioneer Grange. We were asking members to work on the contest during the winter months and also the stay at home period, so it is not more than right to hold the judging, because some of the classes are not on the 2021 contest. If for some reason we will not be holding either of these meeting, I will be in touch with your grange Family Activities chairperson or grange secretary and let them know and how the judging will be done.

The State Grange Family Activities will still be holding the raffle drawing that they do each year. Hopefully, you will be able to purchase a ticket or two for the drawing at a Subordinate grange meeting. or I will have some at the September Pomona meeting. Tickets are \$1.00 each. The drawing of the winner will be done before State Grange and winner will be notified after State Grange.

The State Family Activities community service project for this year was to purchase items for the Veterans Home in Holli-dayburg and VA Hospital. The items were to be taken to the Family Fest in July. However, since the Family fest was cancelled, they are to be given to a local Veterans Hospital. We would like members to bring items to the September Pomona meeting. We will be giving our items collected to the Veteran Home in Spring City (Limerick). Someone from there will be coming to the meeting so we can present the items to them. A complete list of items that can be purchased is listed in the May/June 2020 Pennsylvania Grange News. Here are a few items from that list, if you don't have the PA Grange News: Unopened puzzles, Board Games, Suspenders, Umbrellas, Postage Stamps, wristwatches, toothpaste, batteries (AA, AAA, C, & D), slippers (all sizes), Sweatpants (Men's & Women's). In talking to the lady from Spring City, she gave me some addition items that they have on a list: Games Scrabble & Connect Four, enlarged 25 piece puzzles. Non-toxic paints (kids), paint brushes, packs of pens, Dollar Store Craft kits (simple), white board markers & erasers, Cake mixes, brownie mixes, cookie mixes, cupcake liners, Women's small coin bags, small gardening tools.

Calling all cooks: Pa State Grange is looking for your favorite recipes. They are preparing to publish a "150th Anniversary Grange Cookbook." Recipes are to be submitted by October 31, 2020, to the committee. There are specific directions on how to submitted the recipes. I will have copies of the form and directions at the September Pomona meeting.

If you have any questions about anything, please call me at 610-562-2647. If I am not at home, just leave a message and I will get back to you.

MAJOR CHANGES TO THE 2020 PA STATE GRANGE CONVENTION

*Only delegates, officers and minimal staffing will be allowed to attend

*No guests, Grange or otherwise, will be able to attend session

*All resolution work will be completed by the committees via ZOOM meetings prior to the convention

*A single committee representative will be at session to present resolution recommendations

*NO: displays, presentation of 6th Degree, Banquets, Benefit Auction, Youth activities, Junior activities

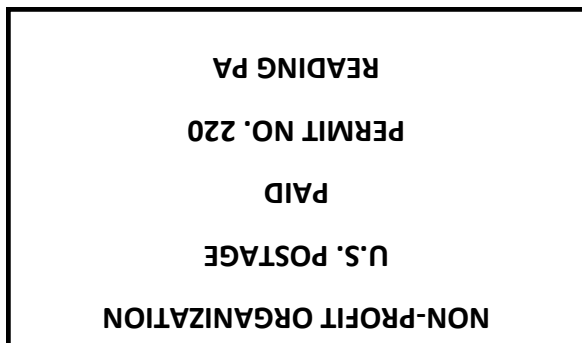
CONTEST CORNER

NAME _____ GRANGE _____

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

Cars and More Care – you can find a car in the strangest places! For example, a car wandering around on four legs in the tundra of the far north (caribou) or inside another car (carburetor). Identify the cars defined below.

- A car in a candy assortment _____
- A car in a newspaper _____
- A car in a gun shop _____
- A car in a flower garden _____
- A car in a clothing store _____
- A car in a salad _____
- A car in a ship's hold _____
- A car in a construction crew _____
- A car in a wooden sculpture _____
- A car in a soda _____



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