



# Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc. Newsletter

Meeting Location ..... Millerstown Community Park Building  
110 West Juniata Parkway, Millerstown, PA 17062

## Annual Open House Community Night Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Our annual Open House Community Night Fellowship Dinner is a perfect way to kick off spring. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for the evening that begins with a fellowship dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Millerstown Community Park Building, 110 West Juniata Parkway, Millerstown. The Grange will provide meat, beverage, table cover and place settings; please bring a favorite casserole, salad or dessert to share.

John Kiner from the Perry County Food Bank will speak about the process of organizing and sustaining a community based children's back pack food program. The Grange is seeking to spearhead this program which provides nutrition to children on weekends and holiday breaks when school meal programs are not available to help those in need. Local churches which have supported hunger work in the community have received special invitations to attend.

Also during the program, the 2015 Business Sponsors will be recognized and introduced.

**The purpose of our annual Open House Community Night is to introduce the Grange to your family, friends and neighbors. Extend an invitation to them to come with you to the Grange for an evening of good food, fellowship and an outstanding program.**

## Outing to Wild Flower Nursery Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

As spring finally arrives, our thoughts turn to gardening. Join us this evening for a visit to a nearby greenhouse owned by our Amish neighbors. You'll have the opportunity to plant a container garden for your patio, deck or window.

### Here's the schedule for this outing:

- 6:00 p.m. Form carpools @ Newport Park & Ride lot
- 6:15 p.m. Pick-up stop at Lowe's Restaurant in Liverpool
- 6:30 p.m. Arrive at Wild Flower Nursery on Chapman Road, Port Treverton; Tour greenhouses, purchase plants and receive helpful hints to plant your container
- 7:30 p.m. Leave for return trip; ice cream stop

### Here's what you have to do:

- Bring your own planting container
- Notify Natalie Fritz (567-6105) by April 24<sup>th</sup> if you plan to participate so the greenhouse can be notified in advance of the expected number and she can get in touch with you about alternate plans in case of rain.

There will be no regular Grange meeting at the Park Building this month.

## Stop Hunger Now" Meal Packing Event - February 3, 2015

Several members of Perry Valley Grange traveled to the State Farm Show building to help DFFA members from Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties pack 23,000 meals in just over two hours to help feed the hungry. This meal packing event was an immensely fun, hands-on and rewarding experience that provided life-saving food to needy people around the world. *Stop Hunger Now* meals are nutritiously sound. Every dehydrated/soy meal is fortified with 23 essential vitamins and nutrients. Research has shown that one in three people in developing countries are adversely affected by vitamin and mineral deficiency. The Grange contributed \$250 to help the FFA chapters fund this project.



Grange volunteers wore colorful aprons that identified Perry Valley Grange as a supporter of Stop Hunger Now"

## Celebrating Special Days

### April Birthdays

- 5 Susan Tressler
- 19 Arthur "Ray" Fisher
- 22 Alice Kirchner, Linda Byers
- 24 Rodney Rhoades
- 29 John Shotzberger
- 30 Clarice Kerstetter

### May Birthdays

- 1 Kyle Kauffman
- 7 Dorothy Yohn
- 21 Barbara Sheaffer, Charles Tressler
- 22 Bonnie Cameron
- 24 Ezra Grubb



Wyatt Anderson (center), one of the FFA members that have recently affiliated with the Grange, received the new member obligation in March.

## School Essay-Poster Contest

"Eat Smart, Play Smart" is the theme of this year's elementary school essay and poster contest sponsored by Perry Valley Grange.

Students in the fourth and fifth grades of Newport and Greenwood School can describe in their essay or show in a poster the essential lessons learned from the adults in their lives about the importance that exercise and nutritious eating plays in a healthy lifestyle. Krista Pontius, with help from Greenwood FFA students, is chairing this year's project. Entries are due by 4/24/2015. The annual school assemblies sponsored by the Grange to conclude the contests will be held on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – 9 a.m. at Newport; 1 p.m. at Greenwood.

Margaret Slyman, Community Nutrition Educator and better known as "Margie," will present a special "kid-friendly" program at both schools. She has been in the field of nutrition and fitness since 1994 and, for the past 20 years she has been serving PinnacleHealth and the community facilitating programs for all ages establishing healthy lifestyle habits with nutrition & physical activity. She believes that everyone is capable of making modifications into habits one small step at a time for a longer, healthier, and happier life.

Grange volunteers are needed to help with the assembly programs at both schools. At Greenwood, Perry Valley will also be distributing dictionaries purchased by the Pomona Grange to third grade students as part of the annual "Words for Thirds" project. Contact Krista for more details if you can help.

### May Anniversaries

- 23 Jason & Krista Pontius
- 25 Charles & Susan Tressler
- 31 Lee & Catherine Morrison

*If your special day(s) do not appear on this list or there is an error in the date, please call Doug Bonsall (921-1957) with the information.*

## Another Wildly Successful Hunger Banquet

Perry Valley Grange partnered with the Greenwood High School FFA Chapter on February 6, 2015, to host a "Hunger Banquet" at the Greenwood Elementary School. When the 100 or so guests arrived at this event, they were randomly assigned to a high-, middle-, or low-income tier based on the latest statistics of people living in poverty around the world and given envelopes of "money" corresponding to the financial resources typical of each income tier.



**Guests Received Random Amounts of "Money" to Purchase Food**

The Grange and various churches of the community provided a variety of food items that could be "purchased" by each individual using their available "money".



**Perry Valley Grange offered a full course meal of ham loaf, scalloped potatoes and corn**

The high-income group had plenty of money to buy whatever they wanted to eat. Many chose a plate featuring ham loaf, scalloped potatoes and corn and added a fresh salad and/or tasty dessert to their meal for the night. Those in the middle

income group likely settled for a less bountiful meal featuring potpie, still delicious but much less costly to prepare and serve.



**Attendees Await Their Turn to Eat**

Finally, those in the low-income group may have had only enough money to purchase a rather bland mixture of rice and beans, which incidentally is a major food staple for much of the world's population. As hoped, many tables of guests pooled their funds so that everyone could have enough resources to be fed.



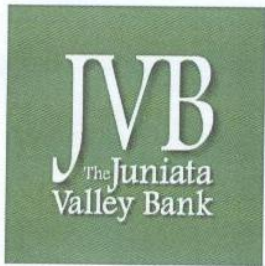
**The Low Income Meal of Rice & Beans**

When the meal finished, guests discussed hunger issues and received information to inform, enlighten and inspire. A representative of the United States Department of Agriculture was the main speaker on hunger and poverty issues at the local, national and international levels.

Although not all participants left with full stomachs, they possessed a greater understanding of hunger and poverty issues in Perry County, Pennsylvania, the United States and beyond. Voluntary contributions totaling \$2,702.94 were accepted to benefit the Perry County Food Bank.



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 the larger  
 community.....

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# Thank You to Our Grange Business Sponsors

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For just \$60 per year, your business partners with the Grange to serve the larger community.....

**For details, call 717-567-6844**

# Coming Events at Perry Valley Grange

## April 2015

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 10 | <p><b>Open House Community Night</b><br/>(see Page 1 for more details)<br/><b>Fellowship Dinner @ 6:30 p.m.</b><br/><b>Social Committee</b> – Peg Bolton (chair)</p> <p>Meat, beverages, rolls, table cover and place settings provided; <b>everyone please bring a non-member guest</b> plus a casserole, salad or dessert to share</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business Sponsor Recognition</b></li> <li>• <b>Program - Children's Back Pack Food Project</b></li> </ul> |
| 20 | Executive Committee meeting – 6:30 p.m.  |
| 28 | <p>Pomona meeting at Oliver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Fellowship Dinner</i></li> <li>• <i>Public Servant Award Presentation</i></li> </ul>   |

## May 2015

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | <b>Grange Outing</b> (see Page 1)                                   |
| 3  | Grange caters lunches at Fort Hunter event                          |
| 15 | Grange caters banquet – Greenwood FFA                               |
| 17 | Pomona Grange Church/Memorial Service<br>(location to be announced) |
| 18 | Executive Committee Meeting - 6:30 p.m.                             |

## Financially Speaking...



Checking Balance 2/1/2015.....\$ 20,159.44  
**PLUS: Receipts** – Feb-March 2015..... + 4,147.34  
**LESS: Expenses** – Feb-March 2015..... - 1,479.96  
 Checking Balance 3/31/2015..... \$22,826.82

## Inside This Newsletter

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### A good Grange member:

- Places faith in God,
- Looks forward to the future
- Helps those in need, and
- Is loyal to family, community & nation

### Perry Valley Grange Vision

*Foster an atmosphere where individuals can grow spiritually, intellectually and socially and, through that growth, improve themselves, their families, communities and the nation.*

FFA students and Grange members recently presented 2015 Hunger Banquet proceeds of \$2,702.94 to the Perry County Food Bank to aid in fighting hunger in the local community.



See Page 3 for more pictures and information about this big community service project.

**Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.**  
*c/o Douglas A. Bonsall*  
300 Swatara Street, PO Box 765  
Dauphin, PA 17018-0765



**APRIL-MAY 2015  
NEWSLETTER**