



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc. Newsletter

Musically Yours

Entertaining at the
9th annual
Valentine's Gala,
Saturday, Feb. 11th



The Valentine's Gala, featuring a menu of sirloin and seafood, has become one of our Grange's most successful fund raisers to support many community service projects and on-going maintenance/utility costs. See Page 11 for more details and a reservation form. We are asking for donations of door prizes (*boxes of candy, bottles of wine, collections of homemade goodies, etc.*) plus plenty of volunteer helpers to make this event possible. As always, Grange members and friends who help with the event will receive a free meal and the opportunity to enjoy the evening's music. The Call Committee will be in touch with but you may also contact Doug Bonsall (921-1957) if you can volunteer your help and/or to donate door prize(s).

Other Important Upcoming Grange Events This Winter

January 1 – Annual **Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner** - 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Help and dessert donations needed! (see page 3)

January 6-14 – **PA Farm Show** in Harrisburg; Perry Valley volunteers help Valley Grange every day in their milk shake booth (see page 5)

January 13 – **Winter Night Out** at Bread of Life Restaurant, McAlisterville (see page 10)

January 21 – **Red Cross Blood Drive & Free Brunch** (see page 5)

February 3 – **Grange meeting** with packing of Valentine's Remembrances (see page 5)

My Wish List for the Grange

Now that Christmas is over, you probably thought you wouldn't hear much about "wish lists" for at least a few months (*that is, until the 2012 holiday shopping season gets started early next fall*). But.....your president 's wish list for Perry Valley Grange has not yet been met and I'm hoping our readers can do something about that!

My wish for Perry Valley Grange:

- *a growing membership of all ages and many interests*
- *members who want to meet and learn to know both long-time residents and new comers*
- *persons who are anxious to learn about the issues facing our community and world today*
- *leaders who will provide vision and direction*
- *members who will attend meetings regularly and help with all Grange functions*
- *kind and generous people who really want to help persons and causes in need*
- *members who are willing to give the time and energy needed to build the Grange into a stronger force in the community*
- *a community that truly appreciates the Grange for its role in serving rural America*

Notice how every one of the things on my wish list takes people. If the Grange has people, then the ideas, the money and the volunteers will follow. If we don't have people, then accomplishing any of these things will be very difficult.

For the first time in several decades, our Grange membership has dropped below 100 persons. Many in our present membership are long-time, faithful members who have given much service to the Grange but the advancing of years does not always allow them to maintain the same high level of involvement.

We're at a crossroads. If everyone accepts my challenge to invite at least one person to the next Grange function and follows up with an invitation to become a member, our ranks will grow and we'll be on the road to many more years of prosperity. If **YOU** fail to do your part, then our efforts will be diminished and our future success may not be as certain. **IT'S UP TO EACH & EVERY ONE TO MAKE THE FUTURE HAPPEN!**

Doug Bonsall, *President*

Update on Property Issues

After several brainstorming sessions and discussion meetings, 20 members were present at the November 2011 Grange meeting when two formal votes were taken:

1. ***Should Perry Valley Grange explore the possibility of selling the Grange Hall, with any action subject to final approval by the local membership and by the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State Grange?***

Vote in favor of adoption 15-5.

2. ***Should Perry Valley Grange consider making an offer to the Pennsylvania State Grange that would transfer ownership of the local Grange property to the State Grange for the purpose of becoming a State Headquarters and with a stipulation negotiated into the transfer granting Perry Valley Grange the right to continue meeting and to hold a designated number of activities annually in the facility?***

Vote in favor of adoption 17-1 with 2 abstentions.

The State Grange Executive Committee considered our Action #2 in December and declined to accept the gift of our property. However, the Committee reluctantly agreed to grant permission for Action #1 to proceed.

So, our Grange is in the early stages of exploration to find a buyer for our property. We don't know how long this may take or even if a buyer can be found. So, in the meanwhile, we're continuing to hold public dinners and banquets to raise the funds needed for the Grange to operate. We continue to receive help from the Newport Masonic Lodge that meets in the Grange Hall.

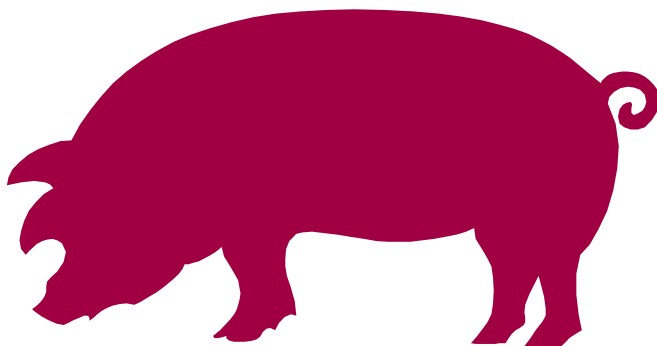
Please be assured that should the property eventually be sold, the Grange will continue to function. We'll be returning to the way of life our Grange knew for its first 50 years of existence – that of meeting in a rented facility or homes of its members.

If the Grange is no longer encumbered with the cost and responsibility for a large property, we can look forward to other benefits. This kind of arrangement might give us the time to enjoy our fellowship more and the energy to do additional, creative service projects.

New Year's Day Public Dinner

Roast Pork Loin & Homemade Sauerkraut

Sunday, Jan. 1, 2012



Menu

Roast pork loin
Homemade sauerkraut
Real mashed potatoes
Green peas
Applesauce; Homemade relishes
Rolls & butter
Beverages & assorted desserts

Perry Valley Grange Hall

2 Miles East of Millerstown

West Juniata Parkway & Owl Hollow Road

Serving from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM *(or while supply lasts)*

All you can eat with dessert included

Tickets sold at the door; Take outs available

Adults - \$9

Children (ages 6-12) - \$4.50

Children 5 & under – FREE

Details @ www.perryvalleygrange.org or 589-3369

Celebrating Special Days



January Birthdays

- 4 Bob Sheaffer
- 10 Mark Heisey
- 19 Joan Walker
- 24 Joan Bonsall
- 25 Catherine Morrison
- 30 Jim Hoffman, Jonathan Gantt

February Birthdays

- 3 Gerald Holman
- 5 Marge Earnest
- 7 Orpha Kreamer
- 24 Doug Bonsall
- 27 Reba Weimer

January Anniversary

- 10 Ralph & Edith Lesh

February Anniversary

- 17 Boyd & Shirley Delancey

The annual public PA Dutch Dinner in November was a sell-out.....with over 300 guests served and a nice profit realized. Thanks to all who helped with this and other banquets during the past few months. We especially appreciate the extra help provided by the Newport Lodge and the local FFA chapters.

On the enclosed **Calendar & Budget for 2012**, please notice we are still in need of chairperson(s) for three planned public dinners:

- **April 21st Ham & Dandelion**
- **Sept. 29th Turkey & Beef**
- **Nov. 10th PA Dutch**

We have not publicly announced the last two dinners, pending volunteers coming forward to provide the needed leadership. Obviously we need to hold these events to raise the funds needed to operate the Grange. Records and experienced persons are available to help with the planning; contact Doug Bonsall (921-1957) if you are interested in helping with these tasks.

A big THANK YOU to the financial officers of the Grange and the Joint Operating Committee.

The books of the Treasurers and Financial Secretary for the fiscal year ending 9/30/2011 were audited and found to be correct.

Holiday Outing

This Christmas season about a dozen Grange members and their guests enjoyed a Sunday afternoon excursion dinner at the Stoney Creek Inn in Dauphin (photo below), a tour of the extensively decorated Governor's Mansion in Harrisburg and a concert at Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill. Many had the opportunity to meet and speak with Governor and Mrs. Corbett!



Financial Report

The Joint (Grange-Masons) Operating Account receives fund raising & rental receipts and pays for all fund raising supplies, utilities, insurance and property maintenance costs. The Grange account handles all other income and expenses.

JOINT OPERATING ACCOUNT

Checking Balance 10/1/2011..... \$ 5,313.56
PLUS: Receipts – Oct.-Dec. 2011..... + 10,961.27
LESS: Expenditures – Oct.-Dec. 2011 - 11,275.10
Checking Balance 12/31/2011..... \$ 4,999.73

GRANGE ACCOUNT

Checking Balance 10/1/2011..... \$7,838.55
PLUS: Receipts – Oct.-Dec.2011..... + 3,972.00
LESS: Expenditures – Oct.-Dec. 2011 . - 2,911.24
Checking Balance 12/31/2011..... \$8,899.31
Certificates of Deposit\$58,464.91

A Christmas Day in Millerstown

For quite a number of years, our Grange was very active in the annual "Christmas in Millerstown" celebration. We hosted a holiday reception and organized tours at the historic Cochran-Anspach House and provided financial support for the popular horse & carriage rides. However, this year Millerstown Community Success, Inc. (MCSI) did not sponsor a "Christmas in Millerstown" celebration. That organization, like so many others, was finding it difficult to maintain the necessary enthusiasm and volunteers for this large project.

A similar but scaled-down holiday event called "A Christmas Day in Millerstown" was sponsored by the Fire Company and the Grange once again responded with a contribution to help pay for the horse & carriage rides.



Horse & Carriage Ride

Milk Shakes at the Farm Show

Perry Valley will again provide volunteers to help our friends from Valley Grange in Lewisberry with their annual milk shake fund raiser at the PA Farm Show in early January. Last year we were pleasantly surprised to receive a nice donation to our Grange for all the help we provided as well as most volunteers be treated to a meal at their annual appreciation dinner in the spring.

Help is needed every day, Jan. 6-14. If you have not already signed up to help, please call Doug Bonsall at 921-1957. The work schedule is being coordinated that will enable carpooling to Harrisburg since we will have a limited number of passes for free parking in the exhibitors' lot at the Farm Show building.

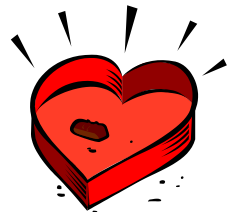
Planned Service Projects

Blood Drive - Jan. 21st - 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Grange and Boy Scouts are co-sponsoring this annual opportunity for you to give blood. As an added incentive, the Grange will provide a FREE brunch for all donors immediately after they have given blood. Appointments are not necessary, but advance reservations are encouraged to help us know how many meals to prepare. Please call Renee Hetrick at 589-3369 to donate blood and/or help with the brunch.

Valentine Remembrances

Again this year the Grange will be packing remembrance bags for community shut-ins prior to Valentine's Day. The bags will include personal care items provided by a local church group and non-perishable food items.



Each year we begin with a brand new list of shut-ins/needly who should receive a gift kit and a visit. There will be no carry-over of names from previous years. **If you place a name on the list, it will be expected that you will deliver the remembrance to this person/family on behalf of the Grange.**

We are asking all Grangers to bring individually packaged food items for this project to the Grange meeting on Feb. 3rd. After the meeting, we will pack the remembrance bags so they you can take them with you that evening for delivery at your convenience prior to Valentine's Day. Please contact Peg Bolton (589-3897) to:

- **Add shut-ins names to the remembrance list**
- **Donate non-perishable food items**
- **Help with assembly and delivery**

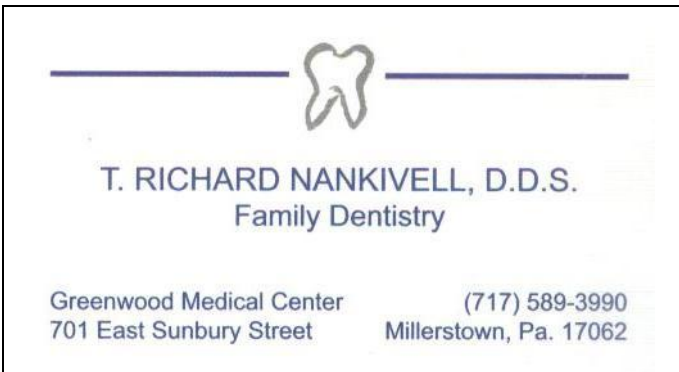
Essay and Poster Contests

Every winter the fourth and fifth grade students in the Newport and Greenwood Elementary Schools are encouraged to participate in this project sponsored by our Grange. Safety, health and the understanding of disabilities are frequent topics.

The contest period will be January 15-March 15, 2012. Again this year the awards and \$400 in cash prizes will be given to students during educational assembly programs in each school in the spring. Doug Bonsall is handling the arrangements.

Thank you to our Grange Business Sponsors

The annual recruitment of **Business Sponsor Supporters** began in November and is now in full swing. As of 12/26/2011, we have received 25 Business Sponsorships for 2012 including one brand new Business Sponsor. We extend a warm welcome to **Dr. T. Richard Nankivell, DDS.**



That means we are exactly half-way to our 2012 goal of 50 Business Sponsors. Membership Chair Bill Cameron is continuing to follow-up with other local businesses asking them to renew or become a new Business Sponsor. The annual contribution for each Business Sponsor is \$60 and free advertising is provided on the Grange bulletin board, in this newsletter and on the website.

But.....Bill can't do it alone and we need your help. If you own a business or know someone who does, we ask that you encourage becoming a Business Sponsor of Perry Valley Grange.

This year the annual Business Sponsor Fellowship Dinner will be combined with our Open House-Community Night program on Friday, April 13, 2012.

Please see the advertisements from all the businesses supporting the work of our Grange on **pages 7-9** of this newsletter. We ask that readers patronize these businesses.

Have You Paid Your 2012 Grange Dues Yet?

Grange member annual dues support the local, state and national levels of our organization and enables the Grange to maintain a presence the local community and in our state/national capitals. Dues for 2012 are now payable and remain at the same amounts - \$40 for adults and \$12 for youth.

Dues support all levels of the Grange structure. A significant amount of Grange work done at the state and national levels is in legislation, representing our interests and concerns. For adult members, \$5 of your dues supports the local Grange.

From time to time members and friends of the Grange contribute gifts above and beyond annual dues to give a special boost to the Grange or one of its projects. Especially for those members who are unable to help in other ways, making a donation enables you to support the Grange. ***We thank those who have already made a contribution!***

Please complete and submit the form printed below to pay your 2012 dues and/or make an additional donation.

Name(s)	_____
2012 Dues @ \$40 per adult	\$ _____
2012 Dues @ \$12 per youth	\$ _____
Additional Contribution	\$ _____
Total enclosed.....	\$ _____
Please make check payable to: Perry Valley Grange	
Mail to: Carol Gantt, Secretary 1692 Keystone Way, Newport, PA 17074	

WELCOME to new member Carol Wierzbicki. Sister Wierzbicki lives in Reading, PA and has been attending our meetings regularly for some time.

Support our Business Sponsor Supporters

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Winter Events Coming Up at Perry Valley Grange

During these winter months we are sometimes faced with inclement weather conditions. If you have a question about any Grange activity, you may call Doug Bonsall (921-1957) for the latest news when the weather is bad.

January 2012	
1	New Year's Pork & Homemade Sauerkraut Public Dinner <i>(poster on Page 12)</i> Help needed at 8:00 AM; serving 11 AM-??
6-14	PA Farm Show, Harrisburg – Perry Valley helps in milk shake booth (more information on Page 11)
8	Lodge Rehearsal
10	Lodge Meeting
12	Lodge Meeting
13	Winter Night Out Bread of Life Restaurant, McAlisterville – 6:30 p.m.
15	Essay/Poster Contest sponsored by Grange begins in local elementary schools
15	Lodge Rehearsal
18	Chapter Rehearsal
20	Chapter meeting
21	Community Blood Drive (see page 5)
28	Rental - Hetrick

Doug Bonsall (921-1957) will be handling hall and banquet reservations during January, February & March while Carol Rhoades is wintering in Florida.

Winter Night Out

In lieu of a regular Grange meeting in January at the Hall, we'll be traveling to the nearby Bread of Life Restaurant in McAlisterville for a shared meal together. We don't have a program planned for the evening, but we hope you'll bring your family and friends for some relaxed fellowship. If you want to bring along a card or board game, that would be a great way to spend the evening until closing time.

Everyone will order from the menu and we'll request separate checks. To help the restaurant prepare sufficient seating for our group, please call Renee Hetrick (589-3369) by Jan. 10th if you plan to attend.

February 2012	
3	Grange Meeting – 7 PM Dessert Reception & Business Meeting Social Committee – Peg Bolton (chair), Edie Lesh, Ron Makibbin Packing of Valentine Bags Bring non-perishable food items for this Valentine Remembrance project <i>(see Page 4 for details)</i>
5	Lodge Rehearsal
6	Grange Executive Committee meeting
7	Deadline for Valentine's Gala reservations
9	Lodge Meeting
10	Work Night for Valentine's Gala
11	Public Valentine's Gala "Sirloin & Seafood" Buffet (snow date is Feb. 18th) <i>Help needed from 10 AM</i> <i>Serving 5:00 p.m. by advance reservation</i> <i>(see Pages 1 & 11 for details)</i> Entertainment – Musically Yours
12	Lodge rehearsal
14	Lodge meeting
15	Chapter rehearsal
16	Chapter meeting
22	Brunch & Luncheon meeting – Mifflintown 1 st National Bank
25	Luncheon – Perry County Twp Supervisors @ Greenwood Elementary School
28	Pomona Grange Birthday Dinner at Madison – Perry Valley responsible for June-July-August table decorations

If you know of a Grange member who is ill, in the hospital or grieving the loss of a loved one, please call Peg Bolton @ 589-3897 so a card can be sent from the Grange.

Sirloin & Seafood

Valentine's Gala Buffet & Entertainment

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012 – 5 p.m.

(Snow Date – Saturday, February 18, 2012)

Perry Valley Grange Hall

2 miles east of Millerstown, Corner of W. Juniata Pkwy & Owl Hollow Rd

Menu featuring: *Gourmet Salad with the Grange's special house dressing, Seafood Corn Chowder, Roast Beef Sirloin, Steamed Shrimp, Crab Imperial, Party Mashed Potatoes, Honey Glazed Baby Carrots, Green Beans Almondine, Assorted Breads, Beverages, Homemade Mints & Chocolates, Cherry Pie & Ice Cream*

Musical Entertainment by "Musically Yours" Followed by Awarding of Door Prizes

Advance reservations required; no tickets available at door on day of event.
Reservations Deadline – Feb. 7th or capacity, whichever comes first

Call 589-3897 for more information.

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Number of reservations @ \$25 each _____ Payment enclosed \$ _____

Return order form & with full payment to: Peg Bolton
680 Mountain Rd
Millerstown, PA 17062

Please make checks payable to: Joint Operating Account and include a self-addressed stamped letter-size envelope for return of tickets and details.

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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.

Perry Valley Grange Ideals

A good Grange member:

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

Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

*c/o Douglas A. Bonsall
300 Swatara Street, PO Box 765
Dauphin, PA 17018-0765*



**JANUARY-FEBRUARY
2012 NEWSLETTER**