



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc. Newsletter

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

Grange Reaches 100 Year Milestone This Month

A century ago, National Geographic showed a world at war, and a proclamation from the president urging all Americans to put their country first. During this time, 38% of the workforce lived on farms where life was tough with long hours and back breaking labor, but this was essential to survival of the community. The farmers in Perry Valley endured the same tough life as the rest of the country, but put their country and county first. However, they too needed somewhere to connect and unite in order to have collective bargaining power. No doubt, one day members of the Sarver, Bonsall or Cameron family suggested inviting someone from the Grange to come meet with them. So on July 19, 1919, a group of persons met at Beaver's School in Perry Valley to organize a local chapter of the Grange. There were eighty-six persons- 49 men and 37 women present and thus Perry Valley Grange #1804 was born.



We owe a lot to our forefathers for having the foresight to invest their time, talent and energy in this wonderful organization. I am also so proud of the current Grange members who work tirelessly to keep Perry Valley Grange viable in the community. The poster/essay contest, 4th grade ag day, summer concerts, food packing event and our educational programs do not just happen. A lot of time and effort is put into the events which make Perry Valley Grange great.

Sometimes as your President, I feel like a failure when so much time and effort is put into events and educational programs and only a handful of grangers attend. Many times I ask my officers, what am I doing wrong. I don't have the answer.

As the 20th century closed and a new millennium began, Perry Valley Grange just like farming experienced massive changes. For example, the secrecy is gone and the title Master has been replaced by the title President to name just a few. We no longer are an organization focused solely on farmers but reach out to the community in so many different ways. The one thing that has not changed and hopefully will never change is that the Grange is all about people, faithful members who selflessly continue to serve others. This will need to continue if we are to survive another hundred years in a world which is so competitive for our time.

To paraphrase Woodrow Wilson, "***The supreme test of the Grange has come. We must all speak, act, and serve together!***" Together we can keep Perry Valley Grange active for another century.

Together **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore - **Go Team!**

President Linda Byers

Good Programs at Grange Meetings



During a program at our June Grange meeting, Millerstown historian Dave Patton (right) and Grange member Carl Landis show a replica of the historical mural recently painted and installed on the firehouse in the town square.

Membership Milestones

Congratulations to these long-time members for many years of continuous Grange membership. According to our records, these milestones will be reached in 2019:

69 years	Bill Cameron
67 years	*Andrea Cameron
59 years	Robert Cameron
57 years	Gerald Holman
56 years	Edgar Byers
54 years	*Carol Rhoades, Olga Brookhart Marguerite Gochenaur
52 years	Lloyd Byers
50 years	Douglas Bonsall, SueAnn Byers
48 years	Linda Byers
47 years	Bob Sheaffer
45 years .	Glenn Cauffman, Boyd & Shirley Delancey
44 years	Tim Albright, Ken & Peg Bolton Barbara Sheaffer
41 years	Don Brightbill, Scott Delancey
38 years	Ken Bonsall, Bonnie Cameron
35 years	Carol Gantt
34 years	Dean Cauffman
31 years	Bob Yohn
30 years	Marge Earnest
27 years	Krista Pontius, John Gothel
25 years	Dolores Guyer

** Indicates some years of membership in Grange(s) other than Perry Valley*

Recognition is given at 5-year intervals so those names highlighted above will be honored later this year.

Celebrating Special Days

July Birthdays

5	John Ramp, Carol Wierzbicki
11	Carl Landis
12	Donald Brightbill
19	Krista Pontius
22	Bethany Comp
27	Tim Albright

July Anniversaries

5	Rodney & Carol Rhoades
8	Lloyd & SueAnn Byers

August Birthdays

2	Ken Bonsall
5	Ken Bolton
6	Andrea Cameron
26	Robert Cameron
29	Natalie Fritz

August Anniversaries

4	Robert & Andrea Cameron
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If your special day(s) do not appear on this list or there is an error, please call Doug Bonsall (921-1957) with the information.

High School Awards

Receiving \$100 student awards each this spring from Perry Valley Grange were the following:

- Greenwood FFA – Jayden Busfield
- Greenwood Vo-Tech – Damien Stoneberger
- Newport FFA – Charles Ebling
- Newport Vo-Tech – Cynthia Auxt

Summer Reading

Continuing a long-time commitment to the youth of our community, the Grange recently gave \$500 for the purchase of books distributed in the summer reading program at the Newport Public Library. Children who complete the library's planned activities will receive a book of their own through the Grange's generosity.

Grange volunteers will read to students at the library on the final day of the summer reading program - Tuesday, July 30th. If you can volunteer to help for an hour that afternoon, contact Doug Bonsall (921-1957). The library is located at 316 N. Fourth Street, Newport.



Yes, Elvis was spotted in Millerstown on June 18th! Shown above, Elvis (aka Denny Heckard) performed at the first of two free summer concerts sponsored by the Grange at the Millerstown Community Park. About 120 persons enjoyed his Elvis Tribute show.



Free refreshments at the concert were provided by the Perry County Pomona Grange. Volunteers who served that evening were (left to right): Wayne Campbell, Ruth Britcher, Deb Campbell and Martha Ebersole

2019 Community Citizen Award

Rev. Gary Bellis (right) of Newport accepted the 2019 Perry Valley Grange "Community Citizen Award" from President Linda Byers on behalf of the Bread of Life Outreach (BOLO) Ministry of the Newport Assembly of God Church. For 26 years BOLO has received and distributed food, cleaning supplies, health and beauty products, diapers, formula, non-prescription medicines, medical supplies and equipment, school supplies, housekeeping items, used furniture and appliances to those in need within the community.



Community Volunteer Challenge

As part of the 100th anniversary of its founding, Perry Valley Grange has adopted a **Community Volunteer Challenge** program. Any local citizen who provides 100 or more hours of unpaid, volunteer services between 3/1/2019-2/29/2020 to non-profit civic, school (educational), religious, fraternal or veteran organizations in the Millerstown-Liverpool-Newport communities will be recognized as a Grange Centennial Volunteer and an organization designed by the award recipient will receive a \$100 grant from Perry Valley Grange. To date, seven individuals have already qualified for the award and the first to be recognized



publicly is Marlene Landis (right) of Liverpool. Ms. Landis, who volunteered with several different organizations and named the Greenwood FFA to receive the grant related to her service, is shown with Grange president Linda Byers (left) and received recognition during a recent free concert sponsored by the Grange in the Millerstown Community Park. Anyone who wishes more information about the Volunteer program may get more details at: <http://www.perryvalleygrange.org/>.

2019 Elementary Student Ag Day at Millerstown Park

A joint educational project of Perry Valley Grange & Greenwood FFA



Grange volunteers, including State President Wayne Campbell (left), prepared and served mid-morning snack and noon lunches to about 200 students, teachers, parents and helpers at the May 23rd field day for fourth grade students from Newport and Greenwood Elementary Schools.



The butterfly tent was a popular learning station. Preparing for this required purchase of and caring for butterfly cocoons until the butterflies emerged.



Retired teacher Sam Ritzman each year gives an interesting presentation at Ag Day on various animals. Students can examine such things as bones, teeth, hides, etc.



This station emphasized the importance of the dairy industry, complete with a young calf. At other stations, students had the opportunity to interact with animals including chickens and rabbits.

2019 Fourth Grade Essay & Poster Contests

Theme – “Farm to Fork: From Where Do I Get My Food?”

The awards ceremony for this annual contest was part of the Ag Day field day held on May 23, 2019 at the Millerstown Community Park.



2019 Greenwood Essays – 18 entries

(Left to right) First – Mason Morgan; Second – Case Barkley; Third – Marek Polcha



2019 Greenwood Posters – 38 entries

(Left to right) First – Maddy Weller; Second – Dylan Shipp; Third – Kevin Fogleman; Honorable Mention – Sylvia Gantt & Carli Ryberg



2019 Newport Essays – 79 entries

(Left to right) First – Jordana Steffen; Second – Elexus Dishman; Third – Zadoc Atwood; Honorable Mention – Gracie Crawford



2019 Newport Posters – 19 entries

(Left to right) First – Katie Lawlor; Second – Harlow Huff; Third – Henry Barlup; Honorable Mention – Nolan Vela

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YOUR Business could be listed here, too!

For just \$60 per year, your business partners with the Grange to serve the larger community...and receives publicity in our newsletter and website

Call Carol Rhoades @ 717-567-6844

Summer “Concert in the Park”

Millerstown Community Park, 110 West Juniata Parkway

Tuesday, July 30, 2019 - 7 p.m.

Enjoy a relaxing summer evening of free musical entertainment in the park amphitheater. Bring a lawn chair. Free refreshments after the concert provided by Pfoutz Valley United Methodist Church.



True Heart Music

**“Our sound is
country... our
message is
Jesus!”**

If it is raining at 5 p.m., the concert will be moved to the Greenwood High School Auditorium, 405 East Sunbury Street in Millerstown.



Concerts sponsored as a community service by Perry Valley Grange with financial support from the following businesses:

The Agronomy Center, Thompsontown
Bark of the Town, Millerstown
Barnes Body Shop, Thompsontown
Bratton Insurance, Millerstown
Graybill Transportation, Millerstown
Hengst Family Dental, Newport
Hunters Valley Inc., Liverpool

Juniata Valley Bank, various locations

Millerstown Veterinary Associates
Mutzabaugh's Family Market, Duncannon
Myers Furniture Store, Newport
Myers Funeral Home, Newport
Pennian Bank, various locations
Perry County Land & Cattle Co., Newport
J.P. Russell & Son, Millerstown

On the Grange Calendar this Summer

Get Involved and Enjoy the Fellowship

July 2019

19	“Evening at the Winery” (see Page 10) A kick-off for the celebration of Perry Valley Grange’s 100 th anniversary
22	Executive Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
30	Grange provides adult “readers” @ Newport Public Library summer reading program
30	Free “Concert in the Park” – 7 p.m. Millerstown Community Park (see Page 8) True Heart Country Gospel Music

August 2019

2	Grange Family Picnic (see Page 10) <i>Rain or shine</i> – Home of Tom & Carol Eckenrode, Seven Stars (15003 Rt. 235, Millerstown)
11	Enter Grange exhibit at Perry County Fair <i>(the fair runs all week through August 17th)</i>
14	Perry Valley helps in Pomona food stand
18	Remove fair exhibit
19	Executive Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
30	Enter exhibit at Juniata County Fair

Looking Ahead – The Grange’s 100th anniversary is a good time to let the community hear more about the work done for the past century and plans for the future. On **Friday, October 18th**, State Grange President Wayne Campbell will be at Perry Valley to conduct a Town Hall meeting. This format has been used throughout the state to tell the Grange story and has been successful in recruiting new members. Watch for more details.

Financially Speaking....

Checking Balance 5/1/2019	\$ 15,596.48
PLUS: Receipts –May-June 2019	+ 7,085.77
Transfer from Trust Fund	+ 13,240.00
LESS: Expenses –May-June 2019.....	- 2,679.97
Checking Balance 6/30/2019	\$ 33,242.28*
Certificates of Deposit	\$101,142.75

**Balance Includes 2019 annual release of funds from the Grange Hall sale trust designated for this year’s community service work. The released funds are earmarked for specific projects and will be disbursed by the end of the year.*

Fair Exhibits Coming Up

Every year since 1954, Perry Valley Grange has entered exhibits in one or more fairs to help promote agriculture. First it was just the Juniata County Fair and later elaborate displays of agricultural and home economic products were taken to the Gratz and Bloomsburg Fairs. Since the Perry County Fair was re-organized in the early 1970’s, Perry Valley has been there with an educational exhibit.

This year’s theme is **Fairs Feature Agriculture**. It’s always a challenge to incorporate an educational component following the theme. A small committee met in June to get started on the project and have come up with a design for the exhibit, but there is still much to be done before it is ready to go to the fair. If you would like to volunteer to assist with this project, please contact Renee Hetrick (589-3369) or Linda Byers (589-7889).

New Address for Former Member

We’ve recently been notified by her daughter that one of our former members who served as an officer and was a faithful kitchen worker, has a new address and would love to hear from her Grange friends:

Virginia Shotzberger
McBride Building – 4th Floor
Spring Creek Rehabilitation Center
1205 S. 28th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

c/o Douglas A. Bonsall

300 Swatara Street, PO Box 765

Dauphin, PA 17018-0765



JULY-AUGUST 2019 NEWSLETTER

Summer Outings Scheduled; Come Enjoy the Fellowship

Both begin at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, July 19th

Kick-Off for the Grange's 100th Anniversary

***Bucks Valley Winery
333 Meadow Grove Road
Newport, PA***

Gather at 6:30 p.m. for appetizers and wine tasting; pizza, salad and birthday cake provided by the Grange; karaoke available

Seating limited to 30 persons; Advance reservations required; Call 717-921-1957

As of 7/8/2019, 21 reservations have been made so only 9 more are still available.

First received, first accepted.

Friday, August 2nd

Note date change from usual 2nd Friday

***Home of Tom & Carol Eckenrode
15003 Rt. 235, Millerstown, PA***

Annual Family picnic with meat, beverages, and paper products provided. Please bring a favorite casserole, salad or dessert to share.

After enjoying our meal, everyone is invited to join in the fun with a novel activity called "breakout box" led by our program chair Krista Pontius. This is an immersive, physical game where people work together to find clues to solve various puzzles to open a locked box, similar to an escape room. All Breakout games require critical thinking, collaboration and communication all while having a fun experience solving the various puzzles!