



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

Newsletter

Meeting Location:

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

An Opinion from Doug Bonsall

It's Time to Think Positive

Earlier this week new officers were installed for the Perry County Pomona and Oliver Granges in a joint installation ceremony. Four members from Perry Valley – Linda Byers, Renee Hetrick, Carol Gantt and yours truly – were among those stepping forward to serve in Pomona offices. The atmosphere of the whole evening was one of enthusiasm and a positive attitude looking forward to the future.

During an activity called "Voting with Our Feet" led by Pomona president Nancy Walker, it was absolutely refreshing to hear comments from some of Oliver's newer members. These Grangers expressed their appreciation for the work of the Grange and the opportunity to be part of serving the community. One of the most poignant remarks "I don't expect to get anything for myself from the Grange because I'm here to do what I can for others." Several of us expressed hopes for the Granges of the county to enter into a new phase of cooperation and mutual support, not competition.

As another year draws to a close, I find myself as one of Perry Valley's longest tenured members having graduated from the Junior Grange in 1969. In the 50+ years since then, I've missed very, very few of our local Grange meetings and have served in many positions of leadership largely because of the encouragement I received from the very beginning. Looking back, the older members who mentored me were overwhelmingly positive in their attitude about their beloved order.

Those members worked hard to buy the first Grange owned meeting place on Mountain Road in the early 1970's and build an addition to the former school building. I look back now with real appreciation for their willingness to try new things and allow younger, newer members to run with their ideas. For the next 40+ years, Perry Valley Grange was a real force for good in this community serving many banquets, receptions and public dinners annually to raise the funds needed to have as many as 25 major service projects in a single year (*look back at some of the community service scrapbooks for documentation of this statement*). Even the disastrous fire of 1988 could not dampen the Grange's enthusiasm or its positive outlook for the future.

My question to everyone reading this article – **Do we have the same positive attitude now, eagerly looking forward to what new and exciting things the Grange can do in 2022 and beyond?** Sure, we may be older and may have to adapt our activities to today's reality. But, taking a lesson from the older members who encouraged me years ago, our own attitudes are the single most important factor in the Grange's on-going success or failure. If we think and act with positive friendly actions, those positive vibes will create the kind of atmosphere where others will want to be part of the Grange. Negative complaining is certain to discourage people from wanting to get involved. Let's all resolve to talk in more positive terms about our Grange; I challenge each one of us to step forward to invite someone new to join us at upcoming projects and activities.

Grange Helping Local Charities



A group of Grange members and friends gathered on October 1 to help with apple schnitzing at St. John (Barner's) Lutheran Church near Liverpool for the annual apple butter boil; all proceeds support local charities. Afterward, our volunteers enjoyed pizza together.



The Grange made and donated 150 apple dumplings for the Oct. 16th "Farm to Fork" dinner and auction held at the Perry County Fairgrounds for the benefit of the FFA.

Two Opportunities to Fellowship

Dinner Outing – Nov. 12th

We're gathering for dinner together this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Ranch House Restaurant, 3456 Susquehanna Trail (Routes 11-15), Duncannon. Grange members will be honored for membership milestones and Libby Baker-Mikesell of Hunter's Valley Winery will lead a program on viticulture and wine tasting. We will learn about grapes, the winemaking process, and Pennsylvania wines!

Libby is a graduate of Greenwood High School and Pennsylvania State University, a past president of Pennsylvania FFA and is currently studying for the ministry at United Lutheran Seminary.

The buffet-style meal includes roast turkey/filling, baked ham/pineapple glaze, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, green beans, beverage, rolls and assorted homemade desserts. Perry Valley members will receive a complimentary dinner; the cost for non-members and guests is \$25 (including tax and gratuity).

Advance reservations are required for all attendees and must be made no later than Nov. 4th with Carol Rhoades (rudylee@pa.net or 717-567-6844).

November 2021 Calendar

No meeting this month at Community Park

12	"Night Out" Dinner at the Ranch House Restaurant, 3456 Susquehanna Trail, Duncannon – 6:30 P.M. (see details above)
22	Executive Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Location to be announced
30	Pomona Grange potluck dinner & planning meeting at Shermanata – 6:30 p.m.

Financial Report

Checking Balance 9/1/2021..... \$ 30,297.31
PLUS: Receipts – Sept.-Oct. + 754.39
LESS: Transfer to savings..... 10,000.00
LESS: Expenses – Sept.-Oct..... - 1,601.32
 Checking Balance 10/31/2021..... \$ 19,450.38
 Certificates of Deposit \$113,869.11

Holiday Potluck – Dec. 10th

Back by popular demand is a holiday potluck dinner and party at 6:30 p.m. in the home of Doug Bonsall & Craig Staller, 300 Swatara Street, Dauphin. Meat, beverage and place settings will be provided and everyone attending is asked to bring a favorite casserole, salad or dessert to share.

Also please bring a \$10 wrapped gift suitable for men or women for another one of Craig's crazy exchange games. Laughs are guaranteed!

December 2021 Calendar

No meeting this month at Community Park

10	Holiday Potluck at home of Doug Bonsall & Craig Staller, 300 Swatara Street, Dauphin - 6:30 p.m. (see details above)
27	Executive Committee Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Home of Peg Bolton

STATE GRANGE - The 149th annual session was held October 14-17 at the Valley Forge Casino Resort at King of Prussia. About 250 persons were present, including Doug Bonsall who served as Perry Valley's voting delegate and as chair of the History/150th Anniversary Committee.

Perry Valley received second place honors and a \$75 cash award for its community service report. Delegates considered 26 resolutions on many concerns, including a vote favoring the sale of the National Grange Headquarters Building in Washington, DC. Delegates at the National Grange convention in Kansas in mid-November will wrestle with the headquarters question.

November Anniversaries

Dennis & Lori Comp

December Birthdays

Shirley Delancey

Boyd Delancey, Janette Wtimer

Barbara McMillen

December Anniversaries

Ken & Peg Bolton

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Grange Dues for 2022

Please help our Financial Secretary and save postage for the Grange by paying dues in person at the next meeting. Dues remain at: adults - \$50, youth - \$15, family/household - \$100, Business Sponsor - \$60. Dues provide member families with the bimonthly *PA Grange News* and helps maintain a legislative presence in Harrisburg and Washington. Dues may also be mailed to: **Carol Rhoades, 1436 Turkey Bird Rd., Newport, PA 17074** (phone 717-567-6844).



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Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

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November-December 2021 Newsletter

The new State Grange 150th anniversary cookbook featuring more than 900 recipes from Grange members and friends has arrived and immediately became a hot sales item!

Perry Valley purchased three cases (45 books) at a special pre-sale price allowing them to be sold at \$20 each. When this supply is gone or 12/31/2021 (whichever comes first) the price increases to \$25 each. If books must be shipped, there will be an additional \$5/book charge to cover packaging and postage. Books are available from Peg Bolton (717-599-6382) or Doug Bonsall (717-921-1957).

Pennsylvania State Grange Cookbook



1873-2023



*Celebrating 150 Years of Service,
Fellowship, and Timeless Recipes*