



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

Newsletter

Meeting Location:

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

Fellowship Dinner and "Future of PA Agriculture" Friday, November 10th

Dave Swartz, Penn State Director for Dairy and Animal Science, will discuss the current climate of the agriculture industry at the fall fellowship dinner of Perry Valley Grange on Friday, November 10, 2017. Meat, beverage and place settings will be provided and those attending are asked to bring a favorite casserole, salad or dessert to share.

Mr. Swartz has served Perry County for nearly 30 years as an extension agent, extension director and has recently stepped up into a state-wide position. His outlook on the future of Pennsylvania agriculture will include an explanation of the recent expansion of the Port of Philadelphia and how this may change the face of our Commonwealth's number one industry.

Long time Grange members will also be recognized during the program for continuous membership:

- Andrea Cameron (65 years)
- Gerald Holman (55 years)
- Lloyd Byers (50 years)
- Robert Sheaffer (45 years)
- John Gothel & Krista Pontius (25 years).

Member dues for 2018 may be paid at this meeting. to Carol Rhoades, Financial Secretary. Dues remain at these rates:

- Adults - \$50.
- Youth - \$15
- Family/Household - \$100
- Business Sponsor - \$60

150th Anniversary Banquet Monday, December 4th

The place was Washington, D.C. and the date was December 4, 1867. Seven men gathered in the office of Williams Saunders, Superintendent of the Propagating Gardens of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to form a fraternal society to aid farmers in the turbulent days following the Civil War. That fraternity would come to be known the Grange or the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

Perry County Granges are marking this occasion with an anniversary celebration banquet exactly 150 years to the day of the order's founding. A buffet dinner will be enjoyed followed by entertainment and historical highlights of the Grange's century and a half of service.

- **Date:** Monday, December 4, 2017
- **Location:** Perry Mennonite Reception Center, 350 Green Park Road, Ellittsburg, PA
- **Time:** Doors open 6 p.m.; meal served 6:30 p.m.
- **Cost - \$14.50/person***

*Perry Valley Grange will pay the cost of the dinner for its members in good standing; guests must pay for their own ticket. Advance reservations with payment of any guests tickets must be made with Linda Byers no later than 11/15/2017. "No shows" with a paid reservation will forfeit the ticket price and any Granger with a complimentary reservation who fails to attend will be billed \$14.50.

Perry Valley will attend this banquet in lieu of our regular December meeting or holiday event.

Grange Continues Service to Community: *Contributes Substantial Dollars to Many Civic Causes*

Since selling our hall in 2014, Perry Valley Grange has continued its active service to the community. Recently, more than \$15,000 has been contributed by the Grange to support various charitable and civic causes in the area. The largest project for 2017 was the awarding of a major grant to Fort Hunter Park to underwrite the installation of eight permanent outdoor educational signs in the recently developed section of the park.



Linda Byers, president of Perry Valley Grange, visits one of the new signs recently installed in a newly developed section of Fort Hunter Park near Harrisburg through an \$8,050 grant given by the Grange. A total of eight permanent outdoor educational signs were installed with the grant to help visitors learn more about the geology of the Susquehanna River, the history of Fort Hunter and local Native Americans, stories of river commerce and the Rockville Bridge in bygone days and information about fish and birds of the Susquehanna basin. The signs may be viewed any day from dawn to dusk in the park area along the Susquehanna River between Heckton Church and the boat launch.

A second major project was the sponsorship of the Environ-Go Day in May for elementary students from Greenwood and Newport School Districts. The event, held at the Millerstown Community Park, was a day filled with educational activities for the children on various environmental topics. Other recent Grange donations purchased books and supplies for the Newport Public Library summer reading program; assisted Perry County Children & Youth to underwrite the purchase, training and maintenance of a courthouse advocacy dog; sponsored a free community concert with refreshments at the Millerstown Community Park; financed vocational education and FFA awards in two local high schools; provided emergency help for needy children and supported the work of fighting childhood hunger through the Perry County BackPack Program.

The Perry County Children K-9 Fund recently received \$750 from Perry Valley Grange to assist with the purchase, training and maintenance of a "courthouse dog" which will serve as an ambassador for child welfare in the court system. The dog will provide comfort and advocacy to children who have been physically or sexually abused when they may be called upon to testify in various legal or custody proceedings.

Kristie Gantt (left), Administrator of Perry County Children & Youth Services, spoke at a recent Grange meeting and received the contribution from Grange president Linda Byers.



Celebrating Special Days

November Anniversaries

8	Dennis & Lori Comp
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December Birthdays

5	Shirley Delancey
10	Boyd Delancey
29	Barbara McMillen

December Anniversaries

7	Ken & Peg Bolton
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Financial Report

Checking Balance 9/1/2017 \$11,736.95
PLUS: Receipts – Sept.-Oct. + 1,190.56
LESS: Expenses – Sept.-Oct. - 3,454.28
Checking Balance 10/31/2017..... \$ 9,473.23
Certificates of Deposit \$98,583.08

Our fraternal circle has again been broken with the recent passing of Sister **Joan Bonsall**, a member for 36 years.



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Coming Events

November 2017

10	Fellowship Dinner/Program <i>(see details on Page 1)</i> 6:30 p.m. - Millerstown Park Building Social Chair – Carol Rhoades <i>Meat, beverages, and place settings provided; everyone bring a dish to share.</i> Speaker – Dave Swartz from Penn State Extension – The Future of PA Agriculture Presentation of Membership Awards
20	Executive Committee Meeting
28	Pomona Grange Fellowship Dinner & Planning Meeting at Madison Grange, Loysville

December 2017

1	150th Anniversary Banquet <i>(see details on Page 1)</i>
9	Grange serves Miller Family Christmas dinner
18	Executive Committee Meeting

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January 5-13 - PA Farm Show

Volunteers are needed to help our friends at Valley Grange in the milk shake stand for any the three shifts each day of the show: 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; 1.-5:30 p.m. and 5:00-9:15 p.m. Contact Doug Bonsall at 921-1957 by 11/15/2017.

Gift Idea for Christmas

Grange Cookbooks

Five editions available for purchase. Contact Doug Bonsall (921-1957) to get your copies.



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.



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

November-December 2017 Newsletter