

Myths Debunked

Isn't the Grange just a bunch of old farmers sitting around on hay bales swapping tractor stories?

That's a colorful image, but it's certainly not accurate! While it's true that the Perry Valley Grange started as a farmers' group back in 1919, it has evolved from a purely agricultural organization into a focal point for community events of all kinds. The membership is now made up of local residents from all walks of life and the main focus is community service.



Isn't the Grange one of those "secret societies"?

It used to be, but Perry Valley Grange has changed with the times. No secret password or handshakes are used in our Grange. Meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. An open Bible and the American flag are a part of every meeting.

Aren't Grange meetings long and boring?

No way! An Executive Committee handles much of the Grange's routine business, so the monthly "meetings" take many different forms but none last longer than 2 hours. Some meetings consist of a fellowship dinner followed by a program or some special event like presenting the annual *Community Citizen Award*. Other meetings include a short business session, a program, refreshments and perhaps the reception of new members. Sometimes we schedule an outing to tour a historical site or enjoy a meal together at a favorite local restaurant. Grange is for the whole family.



Supporting the Grange

Can I join the Grange?

Of course! Anyone can become a member – individuals as well as businesses. A membership application can be found inside this brochure. There are lots of ways to get involved, and the best way to find out about them is to join the Grange and get involved in its activities.

When are the meetings?

Perry Valley Grange usually meets at 6:30 PM on the second Friday of the month. Occasionally, meetings must be moved to other dates but members are always informed of any change in the bimonthly newsletter. Another way to stay informed is to visit our website www.perryvalleygrange.org.

What if I can't make the meetings?

You don't have to attend meetings to be a member. There are many other Grange activities every month in addition to the meetings in which you can become involved as your time and interests permit.

What are the benefits of membership?

In addition to the personal satisfaction provided when you help the Grange serve its community, members also have access to a variety of services and programs provided by the State and National Granges including input into legislative efforts at various levels of government.

What if I don't want to join, but still want to help?

Whether or not you become a Grange member, opportunities abound for sharing your time, energy, and skills in our many different projects. Monetary contributions to help the Grange finance projects are also very much appreciated.



Everything you ever wanted to know about



(but were too shy to ask)

Perry Valley Grange

Meeting Location

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

Website: www.perryvalleygrange.org

About the Grange

So what is the Grange anyway?

Grange is a nation-wide rural service organization with strong ties to the agricultural community. There are hundreds of local Granges in communities across the nation. The Grange was formed in 1867 to unite farmers in improving their economic and social position after the devastation of the Civil War. It has since evolved to include non-farm rural families.

What is the purpose of the Grange today?

Our local *Vision Statement* expresses that Grange today is about people growing together to improve themselves and to serve the community. We improve ourselves through various educational or recreational programs and we serve the community with projects every month.

The Vision of Perry Valley Grange

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

Can you tell me more about Perry Valley Grange?

Our local community Grange is made up of your friends and neighbors who enjoy one another's fellowship while working together for good causes. We formerly maintained a Grange owned community hall near Millerstown built in 1988. In 2014, that property was sold so that more of the Grange's time, energy and financial resources could be devoted to community service work.



Now the home of Perry Valley Grange is the Millerstown Community Park Building located at 110 West Juniata Parkway, Millerstown, PA.

Why should I care about Perry Valley Grange?

The Grange is a uniquely valuable community resource to everyone who lives here. Our Grange is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the local rural communities around Liverpool, Millerstown and Newport. Every year the Grange hosts, sponsors, or supports dozens of worthwhile events and projects. We help school students, honor senior citizens, give charitable donations, provide holiday meals and make our facilities available to the community. If you want to continue having a vibrant rural life, you should care about the Grange.



PERRY VALLEY GRANGE APPLICATION

Individual Membership: Annual Membership Dues - \$50 (adults); \$12 (youth)

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

I am at least 12 years old and hereby apply for membership in Perry Valley Grange #1804. I desire to unite with others in elevating and advancing the interests of community life and family values. I understand the Grange is non-denominational and non-partisan. I pledge on my honor to abide by the laws of my state and nation and the rules and regulations of the Grange.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Business Sponsor Supporter: Annual Fee - \$60

Business Name _____ Type of Business _____

Our business wishes to become a Business Sponsor Supporter of Perry Valley Grange #1804. I understand that supporting the Grange as a Business Sponsor entitles our business to free advertising in the Grange newsletter and on the website, to receive Grange publications, to participate in Grange services and to attend Grange functions but without vote on business matters.

Contact Person's Signature _____ Date _____

All Applicants: Phone _____ E-mail (optional) _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail completed application and dues to: **Carol Rhoades, 1436 Turkey Bird Road, Newport, PA 17074**