



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc. Newsletter

West Juniata Parkway & Owl Hollow Road, Millerstown, PA 17062

Picnic Cruise on the Susquehanna – Friday, July 13th

The Millersburg Ferry is listed on the National Register of Historic Places...right here in our own back yard!



Undaunted by the severe thunderstorms last July that forced our “Picnic on the River” into the Grange Hall, we’ve scheduled another picnic cruise on the river this year. We are hoping that Friday, the 13th brings good luck – clear, cool weather and a good showing of Grange members and friends.

[Here’s the tentative schedule](#)

- **6:00 p.m.** – Gather at Ferryboat Campsites just south of Liverpool for boarding
- **6:15 p.m.** – Ferry will leave promptly for a cruise to the middle of the Susquehanna River.
- **7:00 p.m.** – After our captain anchors mid-river, we’ll enjoy a relaxed picnic dinner
- **8:30 p.m.** – The boat will return to the dock

Regular Meeting/Game Night Friday, August 3rd

Please note change of date to avoid conflict with the Millerstown Firemen’s Carnival.

We’ll gather at the Grange Hall for a dessert reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. Our regular meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and include the election of officers for 2013-2014 and draping of the charter in loving memory of **Brother Richard “Dick” Pennay**.

Bring along your favorite card or table game to enjoy among the company of your Grange friends as our program for the evening.

[Checklist of things to bring along:](#)

- a lawn chair or pillow for your personal seating
- a casserole, salad or dessert to share for the meal

There is no cost for anyone to attend this event. The Grange will underwrite the cost of the boat rental and will provide meat, beverage and place settings. Since space is limited, please make your reservation(s) by calling Peg Bolton at 589-3897.

Although we hate to even think of this possibility, the picnic will be moved to the Conference Room of the Grange Hall at 7:00 p.m. if it is raining, the weather is stormy or for any other reason the ferry cannot sail (e.g. mechanical issues or low water levels). If in doubt, please call Peg’s cell phone 599-6382 or Doug Bonsall at 460-0723 to find out where the event will be held before leaving your home.

Community Service

Children's Books

Again this summer Perry Valley Grange has provided \$250 to buy books for the children's reading program at the Newport Public Library. Through the Grange donation, each participating child receives a book of their very own to encourage the development of lifelong good reading habits. A nameplate placed in the front of each book notes that it was donated by the Grange.

Student Awards

Perry Valley continued its long tradition to recognize the achievements of local students by giving awards in both Greenwood and Newport High Schools this spring for the outstanding FFA and Vo-Tech students. The recognition included a \$100 cash gift to each of the four recipients:

- Greenwood FFA.....Kara Donaldson
- Newport FFA..... Hannah Jones
- Greenwood Vo-Tech..... Kyle Johnson
- Newport Vo-TechSamantha Trego

Congratulations to all recipients and best wishes for your future education/career endeavors.

Perry Village Picnic

Wednesday, July 11th @ noon



Returning to our schedule of service projects after a one year absence is a picnic lunch and entertainment for residents of the Perry Village nursing

home in New Bloomfield. This year the Grange will provide individual box lunches to the residents and any visitors who help with this event.

Volunteers will meet at the Grange Hall at 10 a.m. (July 11th) to make the box lunches and then transport them to Perry Village. The meal will be served (outdoors on the patio if weather permits) at 12 noon. Then local musicians Autumn & Canyon Moore will entertainment. You may remember these two young fiddle players that played and sang last summer for our Grange picnic.

If you plan to help and/or attend, please call Carol Rhoades (567-6844) prior to July 8th so that adequate food preparations can be made.

Greenwood Recycling



Saturday, July 28th - Volunteers are invited to help the Grange operate the Greenwood Area Recycling Project at the Millerstown Community Park on West Juniata Parkway, just east of town. Collection starts at 8 AM and ends promptly at 10 AM. Afterward breakfast will be served at the Grange to all helpers.

This service activity we've done each July for many years helps in some small way to keep our land a cleaner place by recycling glass, metals and paper. Contact Linda Byers (589-7889) to volunteer or for more details. Peg Bolton is in charge of preparing breakfast.



Fair Time

Lodge Concession - The Newport Lodge that meets at the Grange Hall will operate a steak dinner stand at the Perry County Fair, August 21-25. The last couple years the Grange baked pies for this meal, but the Lodge has decided to eliminate the dessert because many people were unable to finish their pie after eating a big meal. If you want to help our Lodge friends with this fund raising event, feel free to volunteer to Terry Elliott (636-0604).

??? Educational Exhibit ??? - This should be the 59th consecutive year that exhibits have been entered by our Grange in one or more local fairs, **but we're still looking for volunteers to head up this project.** We need help with planning, set-up, and take-down at both the Perry County and Juniata County Fairs. The exhibit is a public relations effort to tell the community about the Grange, not a fund raiser. If you're willing to step forward, please call Doug Bonsall (921-1957 or 460-0723).

Pomona Concession - At press time we had no specific details about Perry Valley's duties in the Pomona Grange concession stand near the race track/animal barns at the Perry Co. Fair.

All of us are Part of the Problem & Part of the Solution

These are challenging times at Perry Valley Grange.....and from what I hear, for most volunteer organizations. It seems that nearly all groups struggle to recruit members who are really interested in their purpose and who are willing to work to achieve goals.

There's lots of lip service lauding praise for the many good works done by groups in the community and plenty of requests for these groups to contribute (financially and with volunteers) to all kinds of causes. All too frequently the initial enthusiasm for someone's pet project fades when that goal is accomplished.

If you are at all interested in the Grange, you know for the past two years we have been very proactive in addressing the realities we face. We've shared the issues and invited people to share their thoughts. We've challenged ourselves to "think outside the box" to find ways that our Grange can continue to serve others with the people resources we have.

In 1968, the following was written by Sister Marguerite Christman in her final report made as Lecturer of the PA State Grange announcing the failure to reach a state membership goal:

Harsh as these words might sound, it is nevertheless true that apathy, selfishness and lukewarm love of our Order are the reasons for this failure.

- ***Apathy – "Oh, I can't be bothered, let the other fellow do it."***
- ***Selfishness – In not wanting to ask others to become members and thus sharing with them the joy and fellowship of the family fraternity.***
- ***Lack of pride in this rural family fraternity – By failing to speak for it, by my making it secondary to interests far less worthwhile.***

The Grange deserves only the best and we, its members, will cause its light to grow or to dim.

Strong words, huh?.....but as true today as they were 44 years ago. And, unfortunately, those words from one of our state's most respected leaders did not change the continued decline of membership, leadership and influence of the Grange across the state.

As much as I regret to say so, no words that I write are likely to make much difference in the value you place on the Grange. We've appealed to individual conscience, coaxed people to share responsibility and tried all kinds of gimmicks to get more involvement. If we members of the Grange are guilty of apathy, selfishness and lack of pride that makes us part of the problems we face.

But over and over throughout history challenges can be met by a dedicated, determined group of people who want to change things for the better. **YOU** can be part of the solution! Step forward today to make a difference!

Doug Bonsall, President

Property Issues

A small but energetic crew did a great deal of outside work in early June around the Grange property – cleaning the pavilion for summer use, powerwashing the building exteriors, and doing routine landscaping maintenance. Thanks to all who helped.

We have now engaged the services of a pest control company that will do periodic spraying around the exteriors of the Grange Hall and pavilion to keep the spider problem under control.

One (of the four) air conditioning units in the hall is not cooling properly and will almost certainly require replacement. This is the last of the original compressors installed in 1988 so it has provided good service for many years.

A local church has shown some interest in a possible purchase of the Grange property and has agreed to inform us with their intent by August 1st. The Executive Committee outlined a number of provisions, including the fact that any sale must allow all activities scheduled through the end of 2012 to be held in the hall. The proposal made to the church included a provision for "life tenancy" by the Grange, allowing our organization to hold a specified number of meetings and fund raising events in the facility each year.



In Loving Memory.....Since our last newsletter, our fraternal circle has been broken twice. We regret to report the deaths of:

- **Helen Cox** - a Grange member for 59 years
- **Richard Pennay** – recipient of our second annual Community Citizen Award in 1979 and later became a Grange member; he served as our Legislative Chair and as a member of the State Grange Agriculture Committee

The charter was draped in Helen's memory in May and will be draped for Richard on August 3rd.

Sympathies are extended to the families of each.

Well done, good and faithful servants.....

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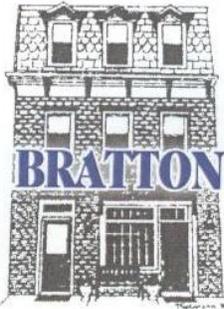
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Summer Events for Your Enjoyment

July 2012

7	Banquet – DeCesaris family
11	Picnic/entertainment for guests of Perry Village
13	Ferryboat Picnic on the River <i>Gathering at 6:00 p.m. at Ferryboat Campsites, south of Liverpool (see details on Page 1)</i> Social Committee – Peg Bolton (chair), Renee Hetrick, Bruce & Paula Fleming, Marge Earnest, Chuck & Susan Tressler
16	Grange Executive Committee meeting – 7 p.m. *Note change of date
28	Grange provides volunteers for Greenwood Recycling – 8 AM @ Millerstown Park
29	Masonic Pig Roast in the pavilion – Advance reservations are required; Grange members and friends invited to attend
31	Pomona Grange meets at Perry Valley – 7 PM Election of officers

August 2012

3	Grange Meeting/Game Night <i>Starting with dessert at 6:30 p.m. in the Grange Hall (see details on Page 1)</i> Social Committee – Lee & Cathy Morrison (chairs) Sue Byers, Sue Zettlemyer, Shirley Delancey, Andrea Cameron Election of Officers/draping of the charter
19	Set-up Perry County Fair Exhibit
21-25	Perry County Fair, Newport
26	Remove Perry County Fair Exhibit
27	Joint Operating Committee meeting – 7 p.m.

***The Executive Committee meeting is being held earlier than originally scheduled to prepare for the election of officers and to discuss fair issues.**



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 4/30/2012..... \$ 13,123.70
PLUS: Receipts
May-June 2012..... + 7,835.35
LESS: Expenditures
May-June 2012..... - 7,802.24
Checking Balance 6/30/2012..... \$ 13,156.81

GRANGE ACCOUNT

Checking Balance 4/30/2012..... \$ 11,190.25
PLUS: Receipts
May-June 2012..... + 3,453.67
LESS: Expenditures
May-June 2012..... - 2,819.73
Checking Balance 6/30/2012..... \$ 11,824.19
Certificates of Deposit..... \$58,477.66

Celebrating Special Days

July Birthdays

2	Virginia Shotzberger	11	Samantha Barrick-Poust
3	Elizabeth Wright	12	Donald Brightbill
5	John Ramp	19	Krista Pontius
7	Harry Schreiber	27	Tim Albright
10	Henry Newlin	29	Sue Zettlemyer

July Anniversaries

5	Rodney & Carol Rhoades
8	Lloyd & SueAnn Byers

August Birthdays

2	Ken Bonsall	16	Dale Cox
2	Viola Byers	24	Bernadette Hudson
3	Frank McDermond	26	Harriet Walker
5	Ken Bolton	26	Robert Cameron
6	Andrea Cameron	29	Natalie Fritz

August Anniversaries

4	Robert & Andrea Cameron
30	Ron & Bernice Makibbin

Inside this Newsletter, you'll find news about....

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.....August 3rd Grange Meeting/Game Night

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..... Property Issues; Deceased Members

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Page 9..... July-August Dates; Financial Report
..... Birthdays/Anniversaries

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 Vision

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

Charity Benefit Raffle Tickets - Enclosed inside you will find an un-numbered page with details about the prizes in this year's raffle jointly sponsored by the Grange and the Masonic Lodge to raise funds for two important charitable causes.

Underneath the listing of the 15 prizes, you'll find 6 stubs - \$2/each of \$5/for three, \$10 for all six. Either buy them yourself or sell them to others knowing that just \$10 from everyone receiving this newsletter will go a long way to support our young people. The top two prizes will be a butchered hog purchased from a FFA/4-H student at the Perry County Fair Livestock Sale, another long-standing Grange service project.

The Grange half of the proceeds will support the work of the Newport and Greenwood High School FFA Chapters while the Masons are raising funds for a children's toy give-away at Christmas.

If you are receiving this newsletter electronically and do not have means to print the stubs, please contact Renee Hetrick (589-3369) for paper tickets to be mailed to you. Likewise, contact Renee if you need more tickets to sell to family and friends.

The drawing will take place at our next public dinner on Saturday, September 22nd.

Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

*c/o Douglas A. Bonsall
300 Swatara Street, PO Box 765
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**July-August
2012 Newsletter**