

# POMONA ECHO

BERKS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #43

NOVEMBER 2007

## MASTER'S REPORT

By Charles Seidel

We are now beginning a new year in the Grange. I hope each Grange is planning activities for 2008. On October 19th, the Berks County Commissioners and the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board celebrated 50,000 acres of Preserved Farmland in Berks County. The event was held at the Ben and Patricia Scheffler farm near Shartlesville. The farm community appreciates the support from county government to save our farmland.

In farming today, we are seeing higher prices for corn, soybeans, hay and milk. Higher demand for corn for ethanol production is driving the corn price. Soybean prices have moved up due to less acres planted in response to the demand for more corn. Hay prices have also moved up because of prolonged dry weather in many areas. Milk prices have surged due to extremely low inventories of dairy products and a slow down in production earlier this year. In fact, due to a declining U.S. dollar, there is now a strong demand for U.S. dairy products on the world market. There is a world shortage of milk at a time when the world economy is growing faster. World prices for dairy products are now higher than the subsidized prices here. Economists see this as a real opportunity for American farmers to export dairy products.

Until next time, thank you for your work in the Grange and God Bless.

## AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Feryl Treichler

I want to thank the Ag Committee for their support at our meetings and also for the resolutions presented at Pomona. We have a lot of discussion on various topics and eventually a resolution is produced.

At our November 5 meeting, we looked at the State Session resolutions. Also, I hope you voted!

Remember, you are always invited to attend any of our meetings. Contact Nettie Kauffman, 610-926-5389, to get on the mailing list. See you at the December Pomona meeting!

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# Berks County Junior Grange News

## Bowling Party

Juniors are having a bowling party at the Heister Bowling Alley on November 25, 2007 starting at 2 pm. The cost is \$6 to bowl 2 games and \$8 to bowl three games.

Come out to enjoy a fun day at Heister's Lanes.

## Hoss's

The next Hoss's fundraiser day/night will be December 10. Get your tickets at the December Pomona meeting! NOTE: You can also purchase a gift certificate for Christmas that evening and the juniors benefit.

Thank you for supporting the juniors!

**Thank-You** to everyone who enjoyed Italian Ice or Ice Cream on the balmy sale day in August. And thanks to all juniors and parents that helped sell the tasty treats!

## County Camp Royalty Selection Attendance Policy

### *Addendum to the previously published policy.*

The policy remains the same as published in the last Echo, but the attendance will be for the shortened year of September—April since the announcement came after camp. But in the subsequent years, the policy will run from May—April.

For all juniors that do not have an active Junior Grange, they must attend their subordinate grange functions such as meetings, bingos and banquets to show active grange support. This will be checked with the subordinate Secretary or Master.

## December Pomona Meeting

At the December Pomona meeting, the camp theme for 2008 will be announced and the children will be making crafts that will serve as the decorations for county camp. The juniors will also wrap the Salvation Army gifts that they purchased. And make cards for the children.

### Recycle Project

**EVERYONE...**Don't forget to bring along all soda tabs you have been recycling for the last several months. The juniors will collect all soda tabs at the December Pomona meeting. Remember the proceeds of this project benefit the Shriners!!!!

## **WANTED**

The juniors are in need of used or old CDs. If you receive any internet promotions in the mail, please save them for the juniors to use for crafts. Please bring them to the December meeting. If you aren't able to attend the meeting, please pass them onto a junior leader or someone attending the December meeting. Again...the juniors need old or used CDs.

**State Grange Session News...** Congratulations to the following talent winners at State Grange... Michelle Lengel—1st in Variety Acts, Meredith Lengel—1st in Instrumental and Ashley Mohn—2nd in Instrumental. Way to go girls!!

## HAMBURG GRANGE

### All You Can Eat Chicken Pot Pie Dinner

The Hamburg Grange is holding an "All You Can Eat Chicken Pot Pie Dinner" on Saturday, November 10, 2007 from 4-7 PM at the Hamburg Municipal Center, which is located on North Third Street across from the Post Office. Tickets are \$6.50 for Adults, \$4 for children 3-8, 2 and under Free. The meal includes Salad/Cole Slaw, Bread, and Drinks. Desserts will be available for purchase. Tickets are available at the door, from any Grange member, or you can call Michael Adams @ 610-562-5933.

### Cookbooks for Sale

The Hamburg Grange will also be selling cookbooks which consists of recipes from our members. The book is dedicated to Roy Heffner. They will be sold for \$8.00 and will be available from any member or you can contact Denise Clare @ 610-562-3876 or e-mail her at [dlc416@yahoo.com](mailto:dlc416@yahoo.com). They will make a great stocking stuffer for Christmas, a birthday gift, and we know that they are collectors.

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

By Laura Wike

The next Pre-Pomona meeting will be held at Bernville Grange, 8 p.m. Bernville is hosting with Hamburg Grange assisting.

I would like to say "thank you" for all your entries for County judging and congratulations to all winners at State Session. In addition, "thank you" to all who helped at the August consignment sale!

I wish everyone a "Happy Thanksgiving" and hope to see you at Bernville Grange. Remember to bring along your covered dish to share and we eat at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting follows at 7:30 p.m.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE

by Laura Wike

Please remember to bring your Angel Tree gifts, wrapped, with tag taped to the present to the December Pomona meeting. Kay, Salvation Army representative, will be present to receive the gifts.

The date for this year's "Relay for Life" is May 17 and 18. If you would like to join our team, please see Laura for an application. If you know of a cancer survivor, you may sign up to attend the reception on Friday evening in the cafeteria—no charge. Family Activities sponsored this last year.

This year the goal is 200 survivors (care takers may attend as well). You may also purchase a luminaria for \$5, each in honor of someone who is a survivor, fighting the battle or in memory of. If you would like to make a donation, you may contact any team member. Thank you for your continued support.

## YOUTH REPORT

By Derek Schroeder

### READING ROYALS

The Youth will be attending the Reading Royals game on Saturday, January 12th. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. against the Johnstown Chiefs. Tickets are **only \$10**, available at December Pomona or you can contact Derek, 610-698-3999. Only 30 tickets will be available—first come/first serve basis.

### YOUTH ADULTS CONFERENCE

Young Adults/Young Married Conference will be held March 14-16 in State College. More details to follow.

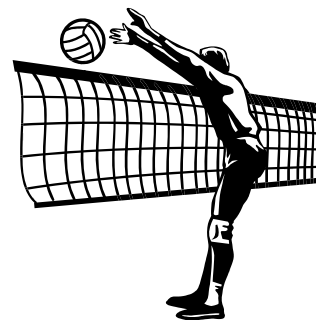
## DID YOU KNOW?

...The Grange Germany/USA reunion was held in Stockton, CA. It was attended by 6 from Germany and some new attendees from California. Others came from Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Minnesota, Texas, Colorado, Nevada, Florida, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania. California State Grange President (Randall Lewis) spoke on the history of CA granges and also joined us in Sacramento in the building where the National Grange convention took place. "At the 1949 National Grange Convention in Sacramento, CA, National Grange Master Albert Goss urged support of international farm youth exchange programs."

...Martha Bollinger, Jon Sattazahn, Andrew Keiffer, and Gail Switzer participated in the Youth closing of the PA State Grange at State Session on Saturday?

## VOLLEYBALL

Anyone interested in playing volleyball should contact Joel Graydus, 610-286-0128 by December 1st. The season will begin on Monday, January 7 and will run for several weeks. All matches will be held at the Berks County 4-H Center. Please contact Joel as a team or as an individual.



## SEPTEMBER 2007 POMONA MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Appeal from Valley Grange was supported, \$25
- \* PA Youth Department appeal was approved, \$250
- \* PA Deaf & Community Service appeal was approved, \$50
- \* Officer's Bond was approved
- \* Farm Family Appreciation support was approved, \$500
- \* Printing of the 2008 Pomona calendar was approved
- \* Membership with the Chamber of Commerce was defeated
- \* Quarterback Club for State winners to National Grange appeal was approved, \$25
- \* Appreciation/Recognition Banquet date is January 19, 2008
- \* Attendance: 27 brothers, 46 sisters, 22 juniors, 2 mini-juniors for a total of 97
- \* Gail Switzer, Marion Grange, was crowned PA Female Youth Ambassador at Family Festival events
- \* Pomona purchased 10 angel tree names
- \* Sale statistics were announced. Gross sales a little over \$230,000 (about \$50,000 more than last year)
- \* Next consignment sale date is August 23, 2008
- \* Marie Switzer is the new Pomona representative for Berks Heim (thank you Irene Blatt for your many years of service!)
- \* Newsletter contest corner winner was Jacob Mengel (I guess a 5th grader is better than an adult!)
- \* Membership stands at 1,491
- \* Action alerts from National Grange (via email) were received—members are asked to contact US Senators and US Representatives:
  - Regarding passage of Kinship Caregiver Support Act
  - Co-sponsor proposed amendment to US Constitution to Prohibit the Physical Desecration of the US flag
  - Oppose S 1300 which imposes unfair New User Fees for Rural Airports and General Aviation
  - Co-Sponsor and support H.R. 872, New ERA Act, providing funding for Bio-Energy Workforce Education
  - Support National Grange Four Point Program on Rural Broadband Access
  - Co-sponsor H.R. 1649, Postponing Farm Service Agency Office closings
  - Support Constructive Immigration Reform
  - Farm Bill Analysis and National Grange Policy
- \* Received thank you from Brett Sattazahn for sponsoring him to Don Hartman Conservation Leadership School
- \* Installed Kevin Sattazahn, Executive Committee and Charles Lauck, Finance Committee
- \* Contributed \$150 to 4-H Livestock and 4-H Dairy banquets
- \* Resolution on Improvements to Route 222 was approved, as amended
- \* 43 Juniors attended the Wolfgang/Dream Wrights Day trip
- \* Laura Wike made new Junior sashes for the county royalty
- \* Brittany Haag was crowned new PA Junior Princess
- \* Tom Wike was the winner of the "School Days" guessing game
- \* A short presentation of the Farm Family, Mr. & Mrs. Neil Merkel, operation was shown to the members

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS NOVEMBER 2007—FEBRUARY 2008

- November 10 Dance @Fleetwood Grange, 7:30—10:30 p.m. Music by Majestics. \$7 admission (under 12 free)
- November 10 Hamburg Grange "All You can Eat Chicken Pot Pie Dinner", 4 to 7 p.m.
- November 11 Shartlesville Grange breakfast, 8-1
- November 12 Audit Books, 7:30 p.m., Henry Seidel's home
- November 18 Basket Bingo @Fleetwood Grange, 1:30 p.m. Call 610-756-6001 for tickets. Advance tickets \$20; otherwise \$25
- November 19 Pre-Quarterly meeting, 8 p.m., Bernville Grange
- November 19 Basket Bingo @Kutztown Grange, 6:45 p.m. Call 610-683-7975 or 610-395-3889 for tickets—\$20 for 25 games
- November 24 Square Dance, 7:30 p.m.—10:30 p.m. @Virginville Grange Hall, Music by "The Majestics"
- November 25 Junior Grange Bowling @Heister's, 2 p.m.—5 p.m.
- December 1 Pomona meeting, Bernville Grange hall 6:30 p.m., covered dish; 7:30 p.m. meeting starts—bring Angel Tree gifts!
- December 2 Ontelaunee Grange breakfast, 8—1
- December 9 Shartlesville Grange breakfast, 8—1
- January 6 Ontelaunee Grange breakfast, 8—1
- January 12 Reading Royals game —contact youth for tickets
- January 19 Appreciation/Recognition banquet @Leesport Farmer's Market Doors open at 6:30/ Buffet, 6:45 p.m.
- February 3 Ontelaunee Grange breakfast, 8—1
- February 10 Deadline for ECHO articles

## BERKS COUNTY JUNIOR GRANGE PRINCE

We would like you to know a little about the 2007-08 Junior Grange Prince.

Hello, my name is Robert Wike and I live in Birdsboro with my little brother, Ricky (junior grange mini-prince); my mother, Laura; and my father, Tom. I am a member of the Fleetwood Junior Grange and am 12 years old.

I'm in the 7th grade at Exeter Junior High School and participate in the school band. My hobbies include: bowling, baseball, shooting and horse back riding.

I am involved in the Boy Scouts, shooting team, bowling league and the head chorister of the church Junior choir.

I am personally looking forward to being invited to different events and Open Houses. Going to various Granges allows me to see how Granges differ in the running of their meeting and activities. It's interesting to see how some of them differ dramatically. Anyway, I'm looking forward to a year of fun and laughs.



## BERKS HEIM, by Irene Blatt

The Heim Fest on September 8 was another success. The halls at the Heim were filled with smiling faces, laughter, and fun. Good food and entertainment seemed to be everywhere. A big "thank you" to Alleghenyville, Bernville and Fleetwood for supplying the delicious shoo-fly pies. They were all sold by 1:30 p.m. Perhaps we should increase the number of shoo-fly pies another year.

Another big "thank you" to everyone who helped to sell the quilt raffle tickets and to those of you who bought them. The Berks County Granges did an OUTSTANDING job selling those tickets. Also, congratulations to Betty Yeager, one of our prize winners. No, she didn't receive the quilt, but she did win one of the State Farm road atlases and Teddy Bear.

As I announced at the Pomona Grange meeting in September, I am stepping down as your representative to Berks Heim. I had been looking for a replacement for a few years and now Marie Switzer has agreed to accept this position. I hope you'll give her the same help and cooperation that you gave to me.

## DELEGATE REPORT

I want to personally thank the Berks County Pomona Grange for sending me as a delegate to The Pennsylvania State Grange 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Session which was held in Williamsport, PA from October 6-8, 2007. It was an honor and a privilege to attend and represent all of you.

I am not going to give you a lot of details, there will be more info coming out in the next Advocate. Berks County was well represented with 4 State Officers being present, they included, Nettie Kauffman, Henry Seidel, Tammy Schaeffer, and Derek Schroeder. I didn't get an exact count of all the contest entries, but I'm sure there were quite a few from Berks. We had contestants in the Public Speaking and the Adult and Junior Talent contest. Heather Mengel directed the officers for the conferral of the 6<sup>th</sup> degree and Berks performed the Pomona Drill. Irene Blatt won the Family Activities quilt drawing.

Berks submitted 14 resolutions for discussion, 2 were adopted, 7 were adopted, but amended, and 5 were present policy. If you have any questions on these, feel free to ask me or any other delegates that were there. The delegates had some discussion on a few of the 42 resolutions that were submitted, but things were kept civil.

The only disappointment was that there were about 100 less people present and not all of the Granges from Berks had delegates, this may have been due to the weekend change.

Betsy Huber, the State Master, is going to really push an agenda this year concerning the family; she is making plans to have Grange picnics across the state and to make things FUN!!

Fraternally Yours,  
Michael Adams

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With Marie working with Paul and Dorothy Miller on the Volunteer Service Board, our Pomona Grange will be well represented at Berks Heim. Thanks, Marie, and good luck!

Our Sunday afternoon project at the Heim will continue until March when our current schedule expires. At that time, Marie can decide if she wants to continue the project or perhaps try a new and different project.

It was an honor for me to serve as your representative for the last 15 years. During that time I learned so much about the Heim and met so many wonderful people who work or volunteer there. I'll still volunteer at the Heim when the Bernville Grange is scheduled to help or for special projects.

Thanks, again, for all your cooperation during these past years and keep supporting Berks Heim.

## SENIOR GRANGER HIGHLIGHTED

This quarter we are featuring

**Name:** Paul Miller, a member of Virginville Grange for the past 63 years.

**Age:** 77

**Juvenile Grange member?** No, Didn't have any

**How did you get to be a member?** Family tradition

**What offices did you hold?** Overseer, Steward, Assistant Steward, Chaplain, Gatekeeper, Executive Committee and presently Master/President

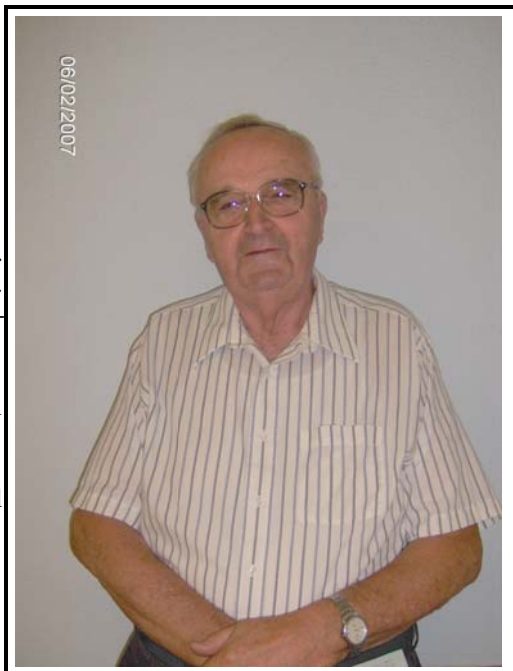
**Participated in what activities of the Grange?** Youth Drill team in the 40's. Served on several building committees Help with our fundraisers. Made several cabinets and shelving for our Grange Hall and our Kutztown buildings. Presently am Custodian of our hall.

**What is some kind of activity then that is no longer held (that maybe we should again have)?** Degree Work

**What is the Grange (in your own words):** Family organization, serving others, reaching out to those in need and interest in legislative affairs.

**Your hobbies:** mostly woodworking

**Children/ grandchildren, etc.:** Children—James P., Dawn M. Dietrich, Brenda E. Lengel. Grandchildren—Jaime O. Miller; Emily B., Andrew M., Anson P. Dietrich; Meredith A., Ian P., Michelle B. Lengel



**Highlights of your Grange life:** 1) Had part in a PA German 3-act play entitled, "So Gaed's Evva", 2) Was chosen as the 1988 Granger of the Year for Virginville, and 3) Involved in a new addition and renovations to our hall recently.

## LECTURER'S NOTES

By Faye Heckman

I'm going to try something new this year. Each Pomona meeting will have a decade's theme starting with the 1950's. To get us into the mood, I would like if you would bring a picture of yourself or your family from the 1950's. However, if you are like me, you were not born yet! You can then bring a picture of your family members from the 1950's. You can dress "1950's" for Pomona!

The Lecturer's will meet at the pre-quarterly meeting to discuss the new programs and contests for 2008. The visitation schedule for 2008 is below. Please make your arrangements

### VISITATION SCHEDULE 2007-2008

**Alleghenyville to Ontelaunee  
Bernville to Pioneer  
Fleetwood to Shartlesville  
Geigertown to Virginville  
Gouglersville to Alleghenyville  
Hamburg to Bernville  
Kutztown to Fleetwood  
Marion to Geigertown  
Ontelaunee to Gouglersville  
Pioneer to Hamburg  
Shartlesville to Kutztown  
Virginville to Marion**

### RECOGNITION/ APPRECIATION BANQUET

January 19, 2008  
Leesport Farmers Market Hall

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
Buffet beginning at 6:45 p.m.

## STATE SESSION – 2007

The annual State Grange Session was held at the Genetti Hotel in Williamsport, PA from October 6 - 8, 2007. During this time period, there were 52 Grangers from Berks County represented during this session.

Some of the statistics from the session were:

- as of June 30, 2007
  - 280 Subordinate Granges with 12,682 members
  - 28 Junior Granges with 312 members
  - Lifetime membership is 1,455 members
- Credentials Committee's report indicated on Monday there was 174 Subordinate Grange delegates, 61 Pomona delegates and 125 guests for a total of 360 in attendance.
- there were 42 resolutions to discuss and debate. Of these 42, 14 were presented from Berks County. Nine were adopted and five are present policies.

One resolution which concerned a number of members was an increase in National Grange dues. This resolution was debated heavily and some clarification was given by the National Grange representative attending our session. In the end, the delegates voted to not have the \$2 dues increase on the National level. Please keep in mind that we as a state voted not to have the increase. This resolution is still on the table to be voted upon at the National Grange session in November. We will only have to wait and see how the National Grange delegates deal with this issue.

There were several resolutions to, once again, change the length and time of the session. Again, after much debate and discussion, the 2009 session will be changed back to a three-day session and held on the third weekend of October. It was noted that the 2008 session will be held for four days in Lancaster County area and the 2009 session will be in Johnstown in Cambria County.

The various contests and winners in the Junior, Youth, Lecturers, Family Activities, Community Service departments were announced. Berks County can be proud of their accomplishments, since a number of the memberships had won first, second, or third places in these areas. I will only provide you with some of the outstanding ones, since it would take too much space to name all the winners (you can check the next Advocate for a complete listing). Doing the honors this year of having Best of Show items forwarded to National for the "Best of Show" display during that session was Donald Kauffman of Ontelaunee Grange with a wooden craft in My Favorite Anything Contest. The other two articles going to National are a quilt and a crocheted doily from members in other counties. It is to be noted that Kutztown Grange received a first place with their Community Service Report for membership more than 75, and Ontelaunee Grange received a first place for their Community Night program. Hamburg and Ontelaunee were two Granges in the county who received Gold Star status by completing a form and submitting it to the State office. Our talent contest participants, did excellent presentations. Dawn Dietrich who participated in the Vocal and Instrumental categories won first place in the Instrumental category and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Vocal. She also was named first runner-up for Best of Show. The Juniors did an excellent job as well. Michele Lengel placed first in Variety Acts, Meredith Lengel placed first in Instrumental and Ashley Mohn placed second in the same category.

Berks County can be proud of its representation in all areas at the State Session.



# CONTEST CORNER

## CHRISTMAS SONG TRIVIA - (Fill in the blanks – answers all pertain to Christmas songs.)

Complete and then bring it along to the December 1 Pomona meeting at Bernville Grange. You must be present to win.

Name the two reindeer whose name begins with a “C”? \_\_\_\_\_

What carol demands figgy pudding? \_\_\_\_\_

What song was originally titled “One Horse Open Sleigh”? \_\_\_\_\_

On every street corner you hear what song? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was Mommy when she was kissing Santa Claus? \_\_\_\_\_

Elvis Presley recorded what sad song in the fifties? \_\_\_\_\_

What song contains the line, “Although, it’s been said, many times, many ways”?

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers from last issue: (1) Purple; (2) Sun; (3) September 22; (4) Noun; (5) four; and (6) one mile. Congratulations to the winner, Jacob Mengel (who is currently in 5<sup>th</sup> grade).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRANGE \_\_\_\_\_

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