



# Plumsteadville Grange #1738

A good patron places FAITH in God, nurtures HOPE,  
dispenses CHARITY, and is noted for FIDELITY



Box 335, 5901 Easton Road (Rte 611), Plumsteadville, PA 18949 – [www.plumsteadvillegrange.org](http://www.plumsteadvillegrange.org)

## GRANGE MEETINGS

### November 13, 2013 – Plumsteadville Grange

- Monthly Meeting – 7:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall
- Program – Shawn Sampari a new Grange member who has recently bought a farm on Rte 611 North of the Grange will talk about his plans for the farm. He is a new vendor selling eggs at our market.

### December 4, 2013 – Bucks Co. Pomona Grange

- Pot luck dinner at 6:30 pm followed by quarterly business meeting

### FRIDAY December 6, 2013 – Plumsteadville Grange

- Annual Christmas Celebration
- Potluck Dinner at 6:30 pm & Entertainment
- No Monthly Meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

## FARM MARKET – THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Farm Market closed for the year on Saturday October 26th after another successful season. Halloween was celebrated on the last day with vendors and children dressed in colorful and imaginative costumes. The children enjoyed pumpkin painting, apple bobbing and face painting by Natalie Carabetta, and a fun time was had by all.



*Some of the participants in the costume contest*



Meg Lomax would like to thank all this year's vendors who displayed and sold a variety of produce and crafts each week. The Farm Market has become a central part of

the local community each Saturday morning and draws local customers and many from further afield. Meg would also like to thank Don Moss and Jim Lomax for picking up and selling Trauger's fresh produce each week and helping to set up and close the Market each week; Karen Moss for organizing her very popular 4H knitting club each week; Gloria Kosco for her pottery workshops; and also other helpers, Lorraine Broomhall, Scott Guiser, Tony Townsend. They are a great team to work with.



## WANTED TO BORROW

Does anyone have a medium sized (3–4 ft high) Nativity set (Mary, Joseph, a manger) which the drama group could borrow for the Christmas play? It can be returned by December 7th. Please contact Meg Lomax 215 766 9801 if you can help.

## 2013 QUILT RAFFLE

The raffle was drawn for the quilt at the Market on Saturday, October 26. The lucky winner was Mark Shuntic of Edgely, PA. He bought his ticket at the Farm Market during the summer.

The raffle raised \$649. Plumsteadville Grange Quilters meet and quilt every Wednesday at the Grange and they request that this money will be used for the ongoing renovations and upkeep of the Barn Annex for the Farm Market.

## GRANGE BROCHURE

Please pass the brochure included in this newsletter on to a friend who may be interested in our organization. If you need more copies, contact Jane Birk at 610-657-7668 or [jdbirk\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jdbirk_2000@yahoo.com)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Pennsylvanians are enjoying great pumpkins grown in PA. Last year producers raised 103 million pounds of the gourds, worth nearly \$19 million, for decoration and dining.

### ***FISH FRY DINNERS – THANK YOU***

Thanks to all who helped make our fish fry dinners a success in raising funds for our programs for the deaf. This year we were able to raise over \$1,000 for this worthy cause.



We plan to continue this fund-raising effort in 2014 – Look for dates in coming issues of this newsletter and on our face book pages.

### ***FROM THE DESK OF MARGUERITE QUINN***

*STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 143RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT*

#### **Preserving Pennsylvania's Prized Farmland**

Visitors come from all corners of the world to see Pennsylvania's farms for themselves. Our farms are famously beautiful and bountiful. The Commonwealth leads the nation in the number of farms and acres permanently preserved for agricultural production. Farmland preservation guarantees a future food supply, contributing to a healthier population and healthier economy. It also promises that a way of life Pennsylvanians cherish will continue for generations to come. Preservation programs typically involve a partnership between all levels of government and non-profit organizations – with a common goal of saving prime farmland.

The Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program was developed to strengthen Pennsylvania's agricultural economy and to protect prime farmland. This program enables state and county governments to purchase conservation easements from farmers. The program was approved in 1988 and the first easement was purchased in December of 1989. Now, more than 4,100 farms in

Pennsylvania have been approved for easement purchases totaling more than 450,000 acres.

Guidelines for farmland preservation require that easements be purchased on farms of at least 50 acres in size, or 35 acres if the county program elects. Here in Bucks County, the minimum area criterion is 50 acres. Parcels as small as 10 acres may be preserved if they are adjacent to existing preserved farmland, in addition at least half of the tract must be harvested cropland, pasture or grazing land, and contain 50 percent land capability.

If you would like to receive more details about this program or become part of Pennsylvania's nation-leading farmland preservation program you can contact the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Farmland Preservation at 717-783-3167. In our area you can receive information from the Bucks County Open Space Program at (215)-345-3400, Heritage Conservancy at (215) 345-7020, Bedminster Land Conservancy at (215) 795-2352, or Tinicum Conservancy at (610) 294-1077. Please reach out to my district office for more information on this, or any other state-related topic. We are located at 1032 N Easton Rd in Doylestown, and can be reached at 215-489-2126. I also encourage you to visit RepQuinn.net or Facebook.com/RepQuinn.

### ***WELCOME NEW MEMBERS***

We welcome our newest brothers and sisters who have recently joined: Shawn Samperi, Christine & Edward Loch, Matt Bobiak

### ***FROM THE MASTER'S DESK***

*JAMES E. DIAMOND, MASTER, PLUMSTEADVILLE GRANGE # 1738*

#### **Grange Members Can Vote Without An ID**

In November at the general election, you need not worry if you don't have photo identification when arriving at your polling place. The state's **voter identification law is currently on hold** while the courts determine whether or not it is constitutional. You may still be asked for your ID but will not be denied the opportunity to vote. As long as you are registered, but don't have a photo ID with you, **YOU CAN VOTE.**

### **KEYSTONE GRANGE FARM-CITY DINNER**

*GENE ZVARICK, KEYSTONE GRANGE, MONTGOMERY CO.*

Our annual Farm-City Dinner will take place on Friday November 22 at 6:45 pm. The location will be St. Luke's Church next to the Grange Hall. I am pleased to announce that our keynote speaker will be the 2013-2014 Montgomery County Dairy Princess Erin Wismer.

This year's menu will include the choices of Carved Roast Beef, Chicken Florentine or Baked Ziti. Sides will be fresh steamed vegetables, garlic mashed potatoes and garden salad. Dessert will be apple brown betty. You may bring a basket or gift for door prize.

The costs will be \$20 per person, \$16 per person for groups of 5 or more and children 12 and under are \$12. All proceeds go to the Keystone Grange Porch Fund. We need to raise money to fix our front porch and install an "easy access" ramp.

You may reserve your spot at the dinner by making a check out to Keystone Grange and mailing it to: Keystone Grange Farm-City Dinner, 74 East 5th Avenue, Apartment J302, Colledgeville, PA 19426

### **NEW & REORGANIZED GRANGES**

**Green Grove Grange No. 242**, Scott Township, PA, was newly re-organized in September. Scott Township is located in Lackawanna County and has a population of about 5,000. Originally one of Lackawanna County's farming communities, Scott Township has experienced a rapid growth of residential building and commercial expansion, which is closely related to the activities in adjacent municipalities. In recent years, it has become one of the fastest growing areas in Lackawanna County.

**Hawk Mountain Grange #2109** officially received its charter at the PA State Grange session in October. This is the first NEW grange organized in PA in quite some time.

**Penn State Grange** has been reorganized and officially recognized as a PSU student organization due primarily to the efforts of PSU student Cassidy Cheddar - Congrats!

**South West Louisiana Grange** Sulphur, LA, was chartered on October 22, 2013 - the first Grange in Louisiana since the early 1900s.

### **PLUMSTEADVILLE GRANGE MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes for the October 2013 meeting of the Plumsteadville Grange as recorded by Karen Moss, Secretary, are included in their entirety.

Plumsteadville Grange #1738 met Wednesday, October 9th at 7:30 pm. Present Men - 7 Women - 8, Youth - 0 Total - 15

**OPENING:** The Grange opening ceremony was led by Master Jim Diamond, followed by the roll call of officers and committee members. Minutes of the previous meeting of September 2013 were mailed/emailed with the monthly newsletter.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** Present, Master Jim Diamond, Overseer Donald Steeley, Lecturer Darlene Quiring, Assistant Steward Don Moss, Chaplain Tony Townsend, Treasurer Jim Lomax, Secretary Karen Moss, Pomona Toni Kellers, Flora Jane Birk.

**GUESTS:** Matt Bobiak, who became a member at the meeting.

**PROGRAM:** Miaka Spenser, founder of Roots to River CSA on N. Sугan Road in Solebury gave a presentation on her



CSA. Miaka grew up in Yardley, PA, went to college at Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass and then interned on organic CSAs in the United States and Equator before returning to Bucks County. Further information on her CSA can be found at <http://rootstoriverfarm.com/>. Winter shares are available now.

### **OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Treasurer Report:** 9/1/2013 to 9/31/2013 we had income of \$2398.75 and expenses of \$4,086.43 with our largest expense being for the fair snack bar of \$1,947.80.

**Deaf Activities:** The final Fish Fry for 2013 will be held this Friday, October 11, 2013. There will be live

music and a demonstration of donut frying by Nancy Young at the end of the dinner. Tasters needed! Jim Lomax requested desserts for the Fish Fry.

**Farm Market:** The last market of 2013 is October 26<sup>th</sup>. Come in costume. Goodie bags will be available for children, and there will be pumpkin painting and apple bobbing.

**Building and Maintenance & Grounds:** As both the lawn mower and weed whacker are out of commission, Steve Byrne's son Brandon (who owns and runs his own landscaping business) will cut and treat the grass for the remainder of this year. Don Steeley reminded us that some of the outside light bulbs need replacing. Don Moss has retired from managing the grange building, grounds and apartments. A replacement for him will need to be found.

**Contra Dance:** Meg Lomax reported that the first Contra Dance was a success and made a \$40 profit after paying the musicians. The next dance will be held in 2014.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Motion by Don Moss was made, seconded and approved to hold the Christmas dinner and party on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be no December meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Darlene Quiring had members sign up for refreshment assignments for our 2014 meetings. Contact her at 215-795-0550 to add your name.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Moss, Secretary.

**"LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK** – We welcome members, friends and market vendors to post your comments.



Search for "Plumsteadville Grange" or "Plumsteadville Grange Farm Market"

### **MUSICIAN WANTED**

If any member is able to play the piano (or another suitable instrument) for our meetings, please let us know.



### **MEMBERS SICK OR IN DISTRESS**

Anna Mary Keeler remains in Manor Care, but hopes to soon return to join her husband Harold Keeler at Independence Court in Quakertown.

### **GRANGE HALL RENTAL**

If you know of someone who wishes to use the Grange Hall please contact Meg Lomax at 215-766-9801 or [meglomax@verizon.net](mailto:meglomax@verizon.net)

### **NEWSLETTER**

If you have something to share in the newsletter, or to get it via email, please contact Jane Birk at 610-657-7668 or [jdbirk\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jdbirk_2000@yahoo.com).

### **GRANGE STORE TEMPORARILY CLOSED**

The National Grange Store is temporarily closed and will re-open on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Sales, Benefits, and Programs Director at [sjohnson@nationalgrange.org](mailto:sjohnson@nationalgrange.org).

### **NEW STATE GRANGE PUBLIC RELATIONS / MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR NAMED**

Bryan Marchefsky has been named as the new PA State Grange Public Relations/Membership Director. He is a member of the newly organized Hawk Mountain Grange, and has worked with the National Grange office in Washington DC. He has some new ideas for revitalizing the PA State Grange website and the Advocate, and hopes to visit our Grange in the coming months. Welcome, Bryan!

### **WILLY THE SHEEP – NATIONAL MASCOT**

"Willy the Sheep" has friended Plumsteadville Grange on face book – he is currently "on tour" with National Public Relations Director Amanda Brozana as she attends Grange events across the country and spreads the word about our organization. Friend "Willy the Sheep" on face book to keep informed on his travels.





# Plumsteadville Grange

Invites you to the



## Annual Pot Luck Christmas Party

Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 pm

Pot Luck Dinner 6.30 pm

Visit from Santa Claus 7:30pm

Followed by entertainment with

Danboro 4H Drama club and Grange Members in

**'To Drive Cold Winter Away'**

RSVP Meg Lomax 215 766 9801 [meglomax@verizon.net](mailto:meglomax@verizon.net)

with numbers and names and ages of children by November 30th



### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS EVENTS

**Living Nativity** - Living Hope Community Church, Dublin, PA. For info, visit [www.livinghopepa.org](http://www.livinghopepa.org)

December 19<sup>th</sup> - 6:15 & 7:30 pm

December 20<sup>th</sup> - 5, 6:15.7:30 & 8:45 pm

December 21<sup>st</sup> - 5, 6:15.7:30 & 8:45 pm

December 22<sup>nd</sup> - 5, 6:15.7:30 pm

**Celtic Christmas Concert** featuring Charlie Zahm - December 14, 2013, 7:00 pm - Solomon's UCC Church, Bedminster, PA - For more info visit

<http://www.solomonsucc.org> or

<http://www.charliezahm.com/schedule.html>



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Box 335, 5901 Easton Rd.

Plumsteadville, PA 18949

[WWW.PLUMSTEADVILLEGRANGE.ORG](http://WWW.PLUMSTEADVILLEGRANGE.ORG)