



# THE DIAMOND STATE GRANGER

A Family Fraternity Supporting Agriculture, Education and Community Betterment

Volume: 2021 No 3 Published Bi-Monthly by the Delaware State Grange P of H Sept/Oct 2021

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10AM to 2 PM

## The Coming of Fall!



## **President, Jim Correll:**

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all who came and helped at the Delaware State Grange Food Booth. Thanks to the dedication and hard work by all the volunteers, the food booth was successful at the 2021 State Fair.

The weather was nice for all ten days except for two days when temperatures reached into the high nineties.

It was a really nice thing to hear our loyal customers say they were glad we were back and how much they enjoyed eating our delicious food.

We had some non-member volunteers who came and worked several days. We thank them for all their help.

**Picnic:** The Delaware State Grange Picnic was held at Bill and Donna O'Day's farm in Sussex County. The food was good, the weather was good, and a good crowd of Grangers enjoyed a day of fellowship and fun. A big thank you to Sussex Pomona and the O'Day's for another great picnic.

**Membership:** Every time we go to the fair, we notice that a few less people are there to work because of an aging population and therefore every one of us must work on membership. If we do not grow our membership, we will one day cease to exist. So please, ask someone to join our ranks!

## **From the Patron's Chain:**

Summertime, Grange, and local fairs all seem to go hand in hand. It is exciting to see Granges have been setting up displays this year across the country. Many of them have very positive "we are back" themes welcoming fairgoers back. What an opportunity to showcase what your Grange is doing in the community (free advertising). I have seen where several Junior

Granges have also put-up displays featuring their activities and projects.

I think back to my days helping Fenwick Grange set up our booth at the Salem County Fair and the "friendly" competition between the Granges in the county. It was a good time between picking the theme, making the backdrop, collecting items to display and trying to remember how the display actually fit together the first time. Then listening to the comments from the fairgoers about all the displays and how they looked forward to seeing them each year. Of course, bragging rights if your Grange won.

This year Granges are including more information on what they are doing in the community. This is a wonderful way, after the past year, to show we are still an active viable organization in the area. Think of the number of people who walk by the fair booth each day--truth be told, probably more than just once. Are we taking advantage of this opportunity to brag about ourselves? Is there information about your Grange available for them to pick up and take with them? Granges are doing amazing projects and you need to let the world know.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing what Granges do next.

## **State Lecturer, June Unruh:**

Did You Know Facts about Delaware State Grange?

1. In 1900, Grange Patrons were urged to cooperate with the Farm Census. A Woman's Committee was appointed, and the renewal of Grange picnics was recommended to spread interest in the Grange. There were 19 active granges, with West Brandywine and Fruitland granges the strongest in the state.
2. In 1901, Governor John Hunn appointed a State Board of Agriculture, and all members were Grangers. The Agriculture Committee addressed many resolutions protesting impure seeds sold to farmers by supporting a

- bill in Congress and a state bill to fund inspection of all seed sold in Delaware by the Board of Agriculture.
3. In 1901, the Agricultural Committee reported that corn was 50 cents a bushel and yields were at an "all time high" of 26.5 /26.0 bushels per acre. Wheat was 75 cents a bushel. By 1908/1909, wheat reached \$1.00 a bushel. Corn remained about 50 cents a bushel.
  4. In 1912, New Castle County agriculture showed that apples and pears were prevalent. Commercial egg production started in Milford and truck crops of all kinds were grown, with a noted increase of melons. Sussex County was known as the top strawberry county in the U.S.!! Strawberry prices to the grower were 7 to 10 cents a quart.
  5. In 1913, Sussex County led the way with growing both white potatoes and sweet potatoes. The Agriculture Committee praised "Farmer's Day" at the University of Delaware and mentioned a Holstein cow had produced 16,000 lbs. of milk in 9 months, equivalent to 700 lbs. of butter!
  6. In 1914, following severe dry weather, The Grange asked the College Experimental Station to conduct irrigation experiments with modern systems of overhead and underground pipes. Also, more interest in conservation of soil and resources was apparent. Grangers had always urged these methods, such as: green cover crops, legumes to supply nitrogen. ditching where necessary and use of fertilizer. Grangers were pleased with the passing of the Smith-Lever Act which provided for an Agricultural Extension Service. Delaware received \$10,000 at first to employ a county agricultural agent in all three (3) counties. In 1914, Delaware was host to National Grange in Wilmington.
  7. By 1915, agriculture students in The Agriculture College of the University of Delaware outnumbered all of the other departments combined. Master Bancroft was the first State Master to serve on the University of Delaware Board of Trustees.
  8. Farm labor was scarce, even though the US was not actually at war. Overseer, Horace Dilworth, reported the use of prisoners. The Workhouse made men available for cutting and husking corn. "The men enjoyed the work, and the farmers had the corn crop harvested".
  9. The Agricultural Extension Service started Boys Clubs, Girls Clubs, and Women's Home Study Clubs. The Grange was still the main rural and small-town organization other than the church.
  10. The Executive Committee announced contracts for fertilizers, insecticides, and lime, arrangements with other merchants for Grange discounts on clothing and seed.

### **Chaplain, Anna Seuberth:**

And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, "I need a caretaker"

-- so **G**od made a **F**armer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board"

-- so **G**od made a **F**armer.

"I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon -- and mean it"

-- so **G**od made a **F**armer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt, and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps, who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, and then pain'n from tractor back, put in another seventy-two hours"

-- so **G**od made a **F**armer.

God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds, and yet stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place

-- so **G**od made a **F**armer.

God said, "I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bails, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark."

It had to be somebody who'd plow deep and straight and not cut corners; somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc and plow and plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week's work with a five-mile drive to church; somebody who would bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh, and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life "doing what dad does"

-- so **G**od made a **F**armer.

### **Scout Victory Garden Education Coordinator, Michael McGrath**

Gardening is an all-seasons sport if you know how to play all phases of the game! But there is no doubt that summer is the height of the "competition" (against weather, bugs, disease,

temperatures). I've been serving as the Education Coordinator for the Scout Victory Garden at the Akridge Scout Reservation near Camden, Delaware (Kent County). The garden began last year as a concrete response to the COVID-19 pandemic built on the Scout Motto – "Be Prepared." It has been rewarding to see over twenty families, organizations, Troops and Packs growing vegetables, flowers and helping themselves, their families, friends, and neighbors live better, happier, and healthier! Thanks to the generous support of Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Delaware, we can use a terrific heavy-duty tiller, hand gardening tools, and even provide seeds, plants, and fertilizer. Each participant has 10 feet by twenty feet plot of soil and it's amazing the crops that can be grown. The Akridge Scout Reservation is being built on what was the Kesselring family farm near Dover. The soil is amazing and so productive. Check out the accompanying photo with the current production of my 10'X20' "demo" plot. Some tomatoes (and did you notice the unique white tomato?), yellow squash, a burpless cucumber, onions, and a Jenny Lind cantaloupe (an old-time variety grown from "saved" seeds!). And let's not forget to grow a little "beauty" too, like those sunflowers! But Fall is just around the corner.

Now is the time to prepare some more area for fall crops. I will soon be planting some lettuce, cooking greens (like kale, mustard, and turnips for greens), and radishes. I may even try to "sneak" in another planting of squash! Double cropping, like these fall plantings, is an excellent way to maximize the production of your small garden plot. It also allows removal of plants hit with disease and keep the plot neat and tidy. Even a little later we can plant cover crops to protect soil, and some can feed us! Like turnips and beets that will yield produce through the cold months.

Well, I hope your garden is producing an abundance. If you haven't had a vegetable garden, remember, it doesn't take much space to

provide some real, fresh treats. Maybe a few lettuces or radishes among the flowers could be a start. Next year could be your year to “step up to the plate” and “take a swing” at the gardening game!

### **State Secretary, Sally Bowman:**

Put your car keys beside your bed at night!

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night, and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar/rapist won't stick around. After a few seconds, all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that.

And **remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot.** The alarm can work the same way there. This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.

P.S. I am sending this to everyone I know because I think it is fantastic. Would also be useful for any emergency, such as a heart attack, where you can't reach a phone. My Mom has suggested to my Dad that he carry his car keys with him in case he falls outside, and she doesn't hear him..... He can activate the car alarm and then she'll know there's a problem.

## **Art & Photo Contest 2021, June**

### **Unruh:**

The Art and Photo Contest will be held at the Delaware State Grange State Session on Friday, December 3, 2021. The contest is open to all Grangers and Friends who are not professional Photographers or Artists.

All photos or drawings must have been done during 2021 and can only be entered in 1 category. Photos should not exceed 8x12 and paintings or drawings should not exceed 24x36.

Categories:

- A. Nature Scenes
- B. Animals
- C. Farm Scene
- D. Holiday Scene
- E. Granger
- F. American Flag

Paintings can be in oil, acrylic, or watercolor

Drawings can be in pencil, charcoal, ink, or magic marker.

Categories:

- Fish
- Farm Animals
- Birds
- Holiday Scene
- Flowers
- Butterly

All entries must be received prior to 9:15 am on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> in the downstairs area to be considered.

### **Web News, Andrew Adams:**

First off, I would like to thank everyone who helped me out at my first ever fair, well working at the fair booth, I had no problems eating in the past! It was a pleasure seeing everyone without being covered by masks and muffled voices. As for the website, there is some exciting news on that front as well! I have finally gotten the online applications up and running, so if you know anyone who is looking to join the Grange,



you can direct them to [www.grange.org/delawarestate/](http://www.grange.org/delawarestate/) and click on the "Want to Join?" button at the top of the page. On that same page, there is also a printout version of the application flyers, so anyone with a computer can print a few out for those in need, instead of trying to track down a pamphlet! From what I am told by some Folks in the National Grange, we are one of the first in the country to get this online application up and running, so I hope we are opening ourselves up to more people and our reach can get to more and more potential Grangers. As always, if you have any suggestions for the website, please contact me on my email: [andrewadams119@gmail.com](mailto:andrewadams119@gmail.com) or my phone at 302-464-9045.

### **From the Editor, Debbie Edwards:**

This was my first "10-day adventure" at the Delaware State Fair. Everyone worked so hard and seemed to be moving non-stop. But every once in a while....we just rested....



### **Grange News:**

**Pencader Grange, David Z. Correll,  
President:**

Pencader Grange #60 met for the first time back on June 8th for the first time since the pandemic started. We had 8 members attend plus 10

guests join us for a total of 18 Grangers for a meeting and an evening of fellowship. We had several members work at the food booth at the state fair where they enjoyed working alongside the many Grangers that come together to support the Delaware State Grange. Pencader continues to support Harmony Grange in getting their hall back up and running. Sister Marge Sample is doing well with her cancer treatments, and I know she appreciates all the support we all give her in journey to recovery. I have completed my chemotherapy and I am now doing immunotherapy every three weeks at Penn. I am happy to report that my treatments are doing very well, and my tumor has shrunk by probably 70%. I did visit the food booth for one day and thoroughly enjoyed seeing everyone. I was overwhelmed by the reception I received from everyone. Pencader will meet again September 14th at Harmony Grange at 6:30 pm and we will open IN FORM. We don't expect perfection, but we expect everyone to have a good time and have fun learning about opening and closing the Grange. This will be a new experience for some and bring back some good memories for some of us older Grangers. Please feel free to join us. No covered dish but refreshments after words. Of course, we will only meet if we feel we can gather safely.

### **Capital Grange, Iva Hazlett, Secretary:**

Have you seen the parking lot? Great work one and all! And now it has newly painted lines for all the parking spaces.

### **Smyrna Grange, DJ Kiessling:**

Typical of most granges, we do not meet in July and August. Members helped at both Food Booth workdays, Capital's parking lot project, and the renovations for Harmony's grange hall. We had 14 members work at the State Grange food booth during the State Fair. Four members attended the State Picnic at the O'Day's farm and enjoyed wonderful weather, fellowship, and

food. We thank Bill and Donna O'Day for their gracious hospitality. Our annual picnic, also shared with Kent Pomona and Pencader, was held on Sunday, August 22 at 2:00 PM at the Correll Farm in Clayton and was open to all grangers.

In September, we resume our monthly meetings in person on the second Friday starting at 7PM at Jim and Becky Correll's farm. At our meetings we are taking time to briefly review the first Four Degrees and the life principles they teach. We will be reviewing the Third Degree in September and October and the Fourth Degree in November, December, and January. We will also continue our discussions on having a brief mission statement for our Smyrna Grange that we can use for marketing and education. Anyone is welcome to join us!

**Temple Grange, Mervin Richard, President:**

Temple Grange does not have much to report. We had to cancel the Spring Rummage Sale again. We have had a couple informal meetings and are hoping to have a regular Grange meeting in September, the date and time have not be set. Betty and I were not able to work the Grange Food Booth this year, but I know that there were Temple Grangers that were able to help. I hope that all went well. We are hoping that this Virus situation gets cleared up so we can schedule the Fall Rummage Sales.

**In Memoriam:**

Lou and Teresa Dempsey – Union Grange

Louise Pierce – Centre Grange

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**Upcoming Events/Meetings:**

Sept 6	LABOR DAY	Oct 15	Granger Articles due!
Sept 11	PATRIOT DAY	Oct 31	HALLOWEEN
Sept 12	2:30 pm Worship Together – Kent Host – St. Peters, Smyrna	Nov 6	2pm Kent Pomona
Sept 12	GRANDPARENT'S DAY	Nov 25	THANKSGIVING
Sept 26	DAYLIGHTS SAVINGS TIME	Dec 3	9am State Session Day 1
Sept 28	7 pm Food Booth Committee Mtg.		6pm Banquet – Modern Maturity
Sept 30	Community Svc Reports Due to Ron Martin	Dec 4	9am State Session Day 2
Oct 11	COLUMBUS DAY	Dec 15	Granger Articles due!
Oct 12	6:30pm NCC Pomona at Harmony Grange, Hosted by Centre Grange	Dec 25	CHRISTMAS
Oct 14	6:30 pm New Castle Pomona - Harmony Grange		

**The Delaware State Grange**

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