

Dear Hamburg Grange Members,

I hope that you all had a Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year! I want to personally thank all of you for a successful 18<sup>th</sup> year and I hope that there are many, many more for the Hamburg Grange! Thanks to Michael Adams and Denise Clare for representing us as delegates at the PA State Grange 150th Session in Morgantown.

We are sponsoring a bus trip to the 108<sup>th</sup> PA Farm Show on Saturday, January 6, 2024, for \$22/person. The bus will leave from the west end of the Hamburg High School parking lot at 8AM and return at 6:30PM. Please contact Anna Heffner @ 610-207-9755 for a reservation! This is open to anyone, not just Grangers.

We held a successful Trunk or Treat in October, where we had 10 vendors and 120 children participate. A big Thank You to Barb Schroeder for chairing the event. We also had a successful September Pot Pie Dinner where we served 429 people and gave 41 veterans and active military a free meal.

Two of our newest projects involved 1-donating books to the kindergarten students at the Perry and Tilden Elementary schools in the Hamburg School District. The book for 2022 was "Click Clack Moo Cows" and 2023 was "Dragons Love Tacos". 2-We started working with the TREX company to produce benches made from recycled plastics by collecting 1,000 pounds of plastics/bench, which will be placed somewhere around the Hamburg Borough for anyone to enjoy. If you are interested in supporting the TREX bench program, please contact Michael Adams for more info.

We will be holding an AYCE Chicken Pot Pie Dinner on Saturday, March 23. We will need help 12PM-8PM. The proceeds from the pot pie dinner have been donated to individuals or other organizations within the Hamburg Community, if you have a suggestion, please let us know. We are looking for some new ideas for fundraisers so that we can continue to support our community. Please contact me and let me know what you are thinking!

Please check our activities and mark them on your calendar. We normally meet the second Saturday @ 4PM and the fourth Thursday of the month @ 7PM at the Hamburg Borough Hall.

**HAMBURG GRANGE will be turning 19!** We have done GREAT things and we have had a GREAT team for 18 years, but for this to continue, **we need new members and more of our current members to get involved.** We want the Grange to become the organization that people will come to for help and to become the organization to join.

We are assisting at Berks Heim again with transporting the residents to and from the church service held there Sunday afternoons. Our dates for helping in 2024 are as follows: January 21, March 3, May 5, July 21, September 15, and November 3 and the time is 2-4PM.

Remember the dues for 2024 will be \$44 and Barb Schroeder will be sending out notices. They are due as soon as possible. If you pre-sell any tickets/quarts for the pot pie dinners, help at the pot pie dinners, or help with Berks Heim, you can receive credits towards your dues.

Finally, we have 2024 Pomona Grange activity calendars available for everyone. Let me know if you would like one. Please check the Schedule of Events for all our activities and all other Grange activities. (The list follows.) Please note that they might change in the future. I will try to keep you informed. With regards to the meetings, Anna Heffner oversees the refreshments. If you would like to sign up to take care of a meeting, please pick one and let her know. If you have any questions or suggestions about our programs, do not be afraid to call and ask. We would like everyone to attend, as you feel comfortable.

Every member should be receiving the Pomona Echo and the Pennsylvania Grange News, if you are not, please let Barb Schroeder or Michael Adams know. Also, you can find information by going to berkscountygrange.org or pagrange.org.

Fraternally Yours,

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Hamburg Grange #2103

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at the Hamburg Municipal Center

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (subject to change)

## January 1 – HAPPY NEW YEARS DAY!

- 2 Junior Team Meeting via Zoom @ 7PM
- 6 PA 108th Farm Show Bus, leave 8AM, west end of HAHS, return 6:30PM
- 13 Grange Meeting @ 4PM, Soup, Hot Tea, and Game Night- call Anna to sign up and bring your favorite soup and hot tea bags for refreshments.
- 19 Pomona ECHO submission deadline
- 21 Hamburg Grange assisting at Berks Heim 2-4PM
- 25 Grange Meeting @ 7PM, Dr. Mark Mehalko, Physical Therapist, and Dr. Robert Budinetz, MD from St. Luke's Hamburg Family Practice
- February 6 Collate Pomona Echo @ Ontelaunee @ 3:15PM
  - 9-10 Berks County Junior Grange Sleepover @ Fleetwood Grange
  - 10 Grange Meeting @ 4PM, PA State/National Grange Junior Royalty

## 22 – Grange Meeting @ 7PM, Resolution Workshop

- March 2 Pomona Meeting @ Marion Grange hosting @ Trinity United Church of Christ Rehrersburg @ 9:30AM
  - 3 Hamburg Grange assisting at Berks Heim 2-4PM
  - 9 Eastern State Grange Regional Conference @ Eagle Grange @ 10AM-3PM
  - 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins, Spring forward!
  - 16 Grange Meeting @ 4PM, EASTER Program
  - 16 Berks County Junior Grange Fundraiser; Line Dancing at Virginville Grange 6-8PM
  - 17 St. Patrick's Day
  - 19 Ontelaunee Grange Community Night @ 7:30PM
  - 23 Hamburg Grange Pot Pie Dinner from 4-7PM @ the Hamburg High School, need help 12PM-8PM
  - $24 Palm \ Sunday$
  - 27 Ag/Legislative Meeting @ Ontelaunee Grange @ 730PM
  - 31 Easter

April

- 1 Junior Team Meeting via Zoom @ 7PM
- 19 Pomona ECHO submission deadline
  - 13 Grange Meeting @ 4PM, Norman Houser, PA State Grange Membership Director
  - 21 Pomona Go-To-Church Sunday @ Zion's Moselem Lutheran Church, 340 Moselem Church Road, Kutztown @ 9:30AM
  - 25 Fleetwood Community Night @ 630PM

Future Meeting Dates – May 11 & 23, June 8 & 27, July 13 & 25, August 10 & 22, September 14 & 26, October 12 & 24, November 9, and December 14

Work on new PA State Grange contests for the 2024 year, see the PA State Grange website for details, pagrange.org