The 146th Annual Session of the New York State Grange will soon become a reality. In spite of preparations throughout the entire year, there always seems to be a few loose ends, but we trust these will not be major items. Our special thanks go out to Otsego County for hosting the Session this year, and for the many hours of preparation that have been involved in the process. It is no small task. It is also fitting to recognize the important role the Chairman of the NYS Grange Executive Committee plays in the execution of the Session. Conventions such as ours, especially in relation to space and scheduling requirements are not all that common in the hotel business, and thus require a substantial investment in time and energy to find ample space for all of the activities, usually through at least a couple of hotel personnel changes. Again, no small task.

The State Grange Session is an important aspect of the total Grange program in every State. Delegates are charged to make the best decisions that can be made in relation to choosing officers, adopting a budget, and crafting the legislative platform for the coming year. As an aside, it is very important to remember that our legislative program is only as strong as our local Granges make it. If issues are not discussed on the local level, and resolutions thus developed, there will be no policy for us to pursue. Brilliant ideas can come from everyday folks just as much as they can come from high powered board rooms, it just needs our effort in that direction.

We would encourage any interested members to drop in on the Session at any time convenient for you, and witness what is being accomplished on your behalf. We would especially encourage you to come in on Saturday evening, witness the Sixth Degree, and hear the address of the National Grange Legislative Director Burton Eller. If there are a number of members of your Grange that have not received the Sixth Degree, why not get a car load together and take advantage of the opportunity. With the National Grange Session being in the Northeast this year, and thus the opportunity to take the Seventh Degree, the opportunity exists to complete the Degree Work of your Order without extensive travel.

As mentioned previously in this column, the State Grange Session is a bit like a commencement, as it marks an end as well as a beginning. Reports are given of the previous year’s activities, and from that is forged a path for the future. This year’s path, not unlike past years, must include a concentrated emphasis on membership development. I believe us to be on the cusp of a statewide membership gain, and with the concerted effort by our local Granges to increase their membership by just a couple of members that will happen, and the benefit to your local Grange could be significant. New faces bring new ideas and new energy, which we all need.

Our challenge for the Grange year ahead will be to conduct the affairs of our local Granges in such a manner as to foster enthusiasm and cooperation. The National Grange Convention will be very close to New York this year. It will be held in Stowe, Vermont in the very scenic mountain area. If you have never witnessed the 7th degree or it has bee some time since you did, this is a great opportunity to attend. Please consider making the trip to Vermont for the National Grange Convention.

Pictures above are of displays in the Grange Building at the New York State Fair. The Crew from left to right are: Allan Henderson, Eugene Ormsby and Amy Knowles, 2nd photo: Patriotic Display and third a Grange Informational Display.

In addition to the static displays the Grange provides entertainment throughout the fair. There is a wide range of talent that performs on the Grange Stage. Clog Dancing is one of the most popular entertainments. Several different groups from across the state travel to Syracuse to show their talents here. These dance groups always seem to pull in a good crowd.

On Grange day the talent winners are invited to attend and perform their individual musical or other skills for the audiences that attend our building.

If you are a fairgoer, you can always stop in to rest your tired feet with a little shade on a hot day. There are not too many places around the fair where this is possible without being expected to buy something.

If you have not attended the State Fair recently you will be startled by the changes that have taken place. Even though the Grange OX ROAST is in a different location, the food is still the best.
Legislative Column

Cindy Benson-Pollard

The colors of fall will be starting to show in the landscape. Then the raking and cleaning them up and getting things ready for the inevitable winter that is coming. Is your Grange getting ready for fall? Have you talked about our legislative policies? Did you write your resolutions?

Did you make it to our annual legislative conference? If you didn’t, why? This is an excellent opportunity to listen to presentations about different issues that the Grange is working on and from organizations that we work with. I want to thank Cayler Grange for serving a delicious lunch for us. I hope that you will plan on attending next year’s conference.

The resolution packets were handed out at the legislative conference. Thank you to all the counties who submitted resolutions for consideration at this year’s State Grange session. Delegates-at-large or a representative from 1 p.m. should have picked up your resolution packets. If no one was at legislative day, they were mailed to your delegate-at-large. I hope that you will take time to review all the resolutions so that you are prepared to discuss them at State Grange.

To the delegates who were gracious to accept the chairmanship of a session committee, a big thank you goes out to you. A reminder that we will meet on Friday at 1 PM to discuss the process for the session, hand out any last-minute resolutions and to answer any questions you may have. Should you have any questions in your preparations for session, please contact me as soon as possible.

Is it time to submit a resolution? Resolutions to be included in the packet were due to me by September 1st. However, if you have a resolution that you would like to have considered, that can still happen. Please have your delegate-at-large or a delegate bring (30) copies with them to session. Resolutions should be handed in to me prior to the start of the committee chairperson meeting at 1 PM. This cut off must be enforced to give the committees time to fully consider the resolution.

Should you have any questions, please let me know. See you in October!

Laura Magrum

State Lecturer

We are wrapping up another Grange year, and I hope everyone enjoyed the summer! It sure flew by. I want to give a huge THANK YOU to those that helped on Grange Day at the New York State Fair. We were able to put on a program for all to enjoy. Katie Fallon, NY Outstanding Young Patron; Tessa Taft, National Youth Ambassador; Jenn Nauss (PA), National Outstanding Young Patron presented about the Young/Adult Young Program in the Grange and their experiences. The Patrons of Harmony: Ryan Orton, Matt Shoop, Emily Shoop, Evelyn Lawton, Shannon Russo, and Teresa Thomas, shared their musical talents. Gracie Schell, Talent Contest Best of Show sang her winning solo. We hope to see you all next year to enjoy the program in the Grange building on Grange Day!

At State Session in Oneonta we will be celebrating “Our Great Country” at the Banquet on Friday night. Looking forward to National Session in Stowe, VT we will have the Evening of Excellence where Gracie Schell will be performing her solo. This takes place on Friday, November 16th at the Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center. Show your support by attending or tune in live online!

Also, a huge THANK YOU to the Lecturers who have submitted their annual reports by the deadline of September 15th!

2018 National Grange Convention Coordinator
Laura Magrum

Any donations of food/snack items are appreciated. Please contact the Hospitality Coordinators Roland and Joanne Shea for details.

If you have any items to include in a New York products themed basket for a raffle at National Session, please bring these items to State Session in October! The proceeds go toward fundraising efforts for the expenses of hosting.

I still have shirts in the larger sizes still available. Short sleeve shirts are $10 each and long sleeved shirts are $15 each. I will have these available for sale at State Session.

If you have any questions, I can be contacted by phone at (585) 813-8238 or email at le noble88@aol.com.

We’re in the homestretch... and it’s just days away from the 146th annual session of the New York State Grange, convening this year in Oneonta, hosted by Otsego County.

Just a few miscellaneous points about the Session:

- The former Holiday Inn, now the Quality Inn, is located 5206 State Highway 23, Oneonta, 13820. The telephone number is 607-433-2250.
- There will be services of a college fraternity to help our members with luggage if assigned to a second-floor room.
- All delegates should attend their assigned committee for a 2 o’clock meeting when consideration of resolutions begins. Chairpersons and Standing Co-Chairs meet with the Legislative Director for a briefing at 1 p.m. We understand that lodging rooms may not be ready until 3 p.m., depending on the usage the evening before.

The hotel will do all that it can to assist members getting into their rooms as soon as possible.
- Grange registration table will be ready to welcome you at 10 a.m. on Friday.
- Sixth degree conferral is Saturday evening. The Sixth Degree password is taken (or if you previously gave the word at registration). All candidates must have purchased a ticket ($10 one time fee) and have the stub available for admission that evening (they will be available for purchase Saturday afternoon and evening before the conferral).
- Those needing the Fifth Degree need to be present when the State Youth team provides it at 11 a.m. Saturday morning.
- A reminder that Pomon Granges Albany through Livingston County are invited to donate an item for the silent auction. We thank these Pomon Granges for helping the cause this year.
- Any Fourth Degree member may attend any part, any few hours that one would like to witness the workings of the State Grange Session. The full program is included elsewhere in this edition so you can zero in on the areas that appeal to you most.
- Also in this edition is a
NEW YORK STATE GRANGE
2018 Calendar of Events, Activities, & Dues Dates

September 29
State Officer Practice HQ 10:30 AM—3:30 PM

September 30
Subordinate Dues to State Secretary

October 19-23
State Grange Annual Session – Holiday Inn, Oneonta

October 23
Executive Committee Meeting, Holiday Inn, Oneonta

November 3
NYS Grange Museum Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Museum

November 13-17
National Grange Session, Stonewake Resort, Stowe, VT

November 15
Empire State Granger Copy Due

December 30
Subordinate Dues to State Secretary

Family Activities
Brenda Noble

I hope everyone had a good summer. We are now starting a busy fall. I will take the Coffee Cakes on Saturday morning at State Session. Make sure they are in disposable pans because they will be sold. Also, attach the name of the name of the entrant, Grange, and recipe in an envelope to the bottom of the pan. Be sure to clearly label it regular or diabetic, so that they are judged in the correct category.

The Community Service project for National Session in Vermont is personal care items for the Military. Please do not send mouthwash or hand sanitizer, as these items contain alcohol. Some items that can be donated include: bar soap, body wash, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, razors, comb, denture tablets, feminine hygiene products, incontinence pads, tissues, and lip balm. I will collect them at State Session to take to National Session.

Youth
Paula Turner

NYS Grange youth were busy preparing for youth activities at State Grange during the Fall Youth Leadership Weekend at Colonel Harper Grange, Delaware County, on September 21-23rd. We also did some hiking/touring in addition to various practices for State Grange.

Any youth members 13 ½ – 35 are welcome to join us at State Grange in Oneonta Friday night through Sunday. We will be putting on the Fifth degree this year as there is a space reserved for this late on Saturday morning. All youth please bring some money for meals, as some scheduling details like that are not yet finalized. Contact Elaine or Paula with any questions about youth officers at State Session and youth housing that weekend.

Looking ahead to National Grange we are pleased to announce that Matthew Horton, Steuben County Granger and our State Grange Assistant Steward, will be overseeing the National Grange Youth Opening on Friday morning, November 16th. Kathleen Fallon, our NYS Young Adult Ambassador will be competing for “Outstanding Young Person”. As stated in the last edition, Kathleen will also be showcased at the “Evening of Excellence” Friday evening with her prepared speech, along with Tessa Taft in Sign-A-Song. Tessa will also be helping everywhere in youth activities as she finishes her reign as “National Grange Youth Ambassador.” Christian Taft will be competing in “Grange Jeopardy” on Saturday morning; not Friday as previously published.

New York is also going to have a Parli-Pro team competing on Saturday. Good luck to all and we are very proud of each of you!

(Continued from page 1) Master

Community Involvement
Sherrri Taft

Thank you to all the Grangers that submitted Community Service Reports. It is always exciting to see what Granges across the state are doing to better their communities. The results of the Community Service Reports will be shared at the State Grange Convention in Oneonta. The ‘C’ bills that have been collected this year will be donated to the Bassett Cancer Institute in Oneonta. Please turn the ‘C’ bills to State Secretary.

As stated in the last edition, life insurance policies are collected during the evening of State Session so the bills can be counted and an accurate total can be given to the Bassett Cancer Institute.

This year we will be collecting food for a couple of school districts near Oneonta and their Backpack Programs. The food that they are looking to collect are:

- individual oatmeal packets
- cereal
- breakfast bars
- fruit
- fruit snacks
- Mac n Cheese
- soup
- crackers
- canned goods (vegetables, chili, pork and beans, Chef Boyardee, etc.)
- peanut butter
- jelly

The items that are sent home with the students are foods that they would be able to easily prepare if they needed to. Thank you in advance for helping to make the students’ lives a little better.

Sports
Carl Bullock

As this year’s sports program has come to a close, I would like to thank everyone in attendance of our sports programs. I think everyone had a lot of fun and I look forward to seeing everyone next year. I would appreciate it if you would talk with your fellow grangers about participating in next year’s programs! See you next year!

Hospitality Room
Roland C. Shea Sr
4672 Bear Path Road
Munnsville, New York 13409
Phone 315 - 495 - 6791

June 30, 2018
Local and Pomona Master

National Grange Session will be held in Stone Wall Mountain Conference Center Resort & Spa. Stowe, Vermont November 13th thru 17th. It’s time for New York to again step up and host National Grange Hospitality Room for one day, Thursday November 15 and be open for 14 hours.

We need things for Breakfast, Lunch, Supper and Snacks. We hope many of you can donate some snack food from your area. Some suggestions are: cheese, fruit, juice, punch, raw vegetables, and cookies. Cash donation are welcome. An estimated amount of $700.00 per day is needed to host the Hospitality Room.

We will have a refrigerator, sink hot & cold water. We hope everyone will join in the fun and support your hospitality room.

Please discuss this at your next meeting and let us know your plans ASAP.

All letters and donations should be sent to us at the above address thank you.

Joanne & Roland C. Shea Sr.
Hospitality Room Chairman

(Continued on page 4) Master

New York State 5th grade curriculum included poetry unit. Many students favorite style was called acrostic poems because they didn’t need to rhyme. If a paragraph was a vertical wound they would have to come up with other words starting with the letters of their chosen word

Barton Sneedaker

This edition’s column is written to be interactive.

New York State’s 5th grade curriculum included poetry unit. Many students favorite style was called acrostic poems because they didn’t need to rhyme. If a paragraph was a vertical wound they would have to come up with other words starting with the letters of their chosen word

(Continued on page 4)
complete listing of the commit-tees and what Grange members are on them, as of September 15.

- Finally, remember to bring those “C” and “G” dollar bills that you have been collecting all year. Please turn them in to me by the conclusion of Saturday evening at the latest so a total accounting can be made as the “C” dollar donations will be presented to a local cancer treatment center on Sunday. A check covering the total of the “C” or “G” bills would be much appreciated to minimize counting of the as-sumed volumes that will be turned in. Thanks for your con-sideration—and your participation!

- We look forward to seeing many Grangers in One-onta in a few weeks. May your travels be safe and some pre pared for a wonderful Grange experience!

NEW YORK STATE GRANGE 2018 SESSION COMMITTEES

* Chairperson

As of September 15, 2018

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT
(17)
Standing Co-Chairs: Ron Schmidt and Diane Adams

Frank Stanton -Albany
Susan George -Allegany
Anna Green -Cattaraugus
Roger Conner -Cayuga
Alan Gearing -Columbia
Virginia Dethner -Cortland
Heidi Boman -Dutchess
Earl Hare -Fulton
Geraldine Brass -Jefferson
Richard Noble *-Livingston
Christian Taff -Onondaga
Diane Adams -Ontario
Carol MacLain -Otsego
Edward Bonicave -Steuben
Richard Simmons -St. Lawrence
Patricia Van Lare -Wayne
Carolyn Kay Bailey -Wayne

EDUCATION (15)
Standing Co-Chairs: Leslie Rathbun and Caroline Os trander

Carolyn Ostrander -Cayuga
Barbara Lawton -Chenango
Marilyn Van Denburg -Cortland
Deborah Smith -Dutchess
Shirley Rockhill -Franklin
Sue Schmidt *-Genesee
Barbara Cronk -Jefferson
Deborah Hendrickson -Monroe
Eileen Breed -Oneida
Frances Hulse -Onondaga
Robert Evans -Otsego
Jean Barry -Otsego
Martha Babbitt -Rensselaer
Joan Haddock -St. Lawrence
Carol Bailey -Wayne

FEDERAL ISSUES (15)
Standing Co-Chairs: Carl Bullock and Mary Ann Morgan

Josh Ormsby - Allegany
Lois Kesby -Chautauqua
Teresa Lawton -Chenango
Theodore Secor -Dutchess
Karen Wilcox *-Jefferson
Ralph Williams -Lewis
Joanne Shea -Oneida
John Horner -Onondaga
Beverly Martin -Oran/Sullivan
Karen Buck -Otsego
David Schmidt -Rensselaer
Mary Ann Morgan -Saratoga
Noel Clawson -Seneca
Hand Carl -Steuben
Irene Gleason -Tompkins

GRANGE ISSUES (17)

Jo Downey -Albany
Norma Polanowski -Allegany
Sandra Green -Cattaraugus
Opal Spargale -Chautauqua
Bruce Delneri -Cortland
Richard Faulkner -Dutchess
Kathy Miller -Genesee
Norris Handschuh -Jefferson
John Cartella -Oneida
Kenneth Livermore -Ontario
Barton Snedaker *-Otsego
Betty Ogbon -Otsego
Maureen Sublette -Rensselaer
Frances Hahn -Schenectady
Philip Stannard -Seneca
Viola Horton -Steuben
Fannie Mallette -Wayne

HEALTH (16)
Standing Co-Chairs: Barbara Lavier and Emilie Sisson

Megan Kirchner -Albany
Mallory Ormsby -Allegany
Betty Wakefield -Chautauqua
Mary Jones -Cortland
Margaret Faulkner -Dutchess
Lance Smith *-Dutchess
Georgianna Boyce-Franklin
Adriana Carbone -Franklin
Helen Markham -Genesee
Shirley Handschuh -Jefferson
Peg French -Ontario
Maryann Campbell -Otsego
Caren Kelsey -Otsego
Shirey L. Harris -Steuben
Mary Simmons -St. Lawrence
Linda Pile -Wyoming

STATE ISSUES (15)
Standing Co-Chairs: Cindy Bullock and Dorothy Rathbun

Vernon Starr -Albany
Stanley Davis -Chenango
Laurinda Gearing -Columbia
Marcy Bolo -Dutchess
Sylvia Fahsel -Jefferson
Cindy Williams -Lewis
Kimberly Marvin -Monroe
Valorie Woolley -Onondaga
Irving French -Ontario
Dawn Gage -Otsego
Rose Rowland -Saratoga
Harold Hahn *-Schenectady
Philip Warner -Steuben
Thomas Fuchs -Wayne
Lynn Pile -Wyoming

TAXATION & FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY (12)
Standing Co-Chairs: Bruce Croucher and Rosanna Clark

Marjorie Davis -Chenango
Ashley Boltol -Dutchess
Rosanna Clark -Franklin
Earl Roth -Genesee
Valerie Griffin -Livingston
Grace Schell -Oneida
Alma Heidenreich -Onondaga
Donald Gage -Otsego

Would your Grange appreciate having any of the following items?

Junior Grange collars
Junior Grange staves
Junior Grange rug
Junior Grange manuals
Junior Grange songbooks
Subordinate Grange rug

Officer station scarves
Newest Grange Songbook, 1983 (brown)
Staves (S, AS, LAS, and G) and stave holders
Implement Boxes (complete with all implements andAggie)

If any Grange would like any of these items, please notify State Grange Secretary, Roger Halbert before October 10 and she will have the items to be picked up at State Session in Oneonta. All items listed above are in very good to excellent condition.

(Co)(continued from page 3) Leadership to describe the word they had chosen. The most famous of this type is probably - M is for the many things she gave me. O is for...I’m sure you’ve seen it, or heard it, or heard it more the once in your lifetime. Words are important and have meaning. I love authors who use descriptive words that give you, as the reader, further insight into a character or event.

Our word for the day is LEADERSHIP - Now choose a word from the list provided for each letter that best identifies the qualities or traits you think are important descriptors of leaders. I have limited the list to ten words for each letter although I found many more for some letters. NOTE: there are twenty choices for the letter E as there are two in the word. I’m not sure our finished products will be considered poetry, but...

L = loyal, local, level-headed, li-cud, laudable, liberal, likeable, listener, lively, logical
E = educated, eageer, effective, ear-nest, earthy, easygoing, embodiment, expert, emergent em- pathic, enterprising, efficient, empowering, effective, egalitarian, energetic, economical, edier, eligible, eloquent

A = advancement, active, altruistic, able, animated, articulate, adapta- ble, adept, accountable admirable
D = dedicated, delegating, democ-ratic, dutiful, distinctive, decisive, dependable dynamic, diligent, disciplined
R = responsible, resourceful, rational, reasonable, ready, realistic, recep-tive, reflective, refreshing, relia- ble
S = systematic, sharing, shepherding, sport, spontaneous, skilful, serv- ice-minded, sincere, sustaining, secure
H = Hopeful, helpful, hardworking, helper, hale, happy, har-monious, heroic, honorable
P = Industrious, involved, inspiring, intentional, interested, idealist, imaginative, impartial, improvisational

(Co)(continued from page 6) Secretary

September/October 2018
We are finally getting some nice fall weather, a sign that apples are ready to be picked and that State Session will be coming soon. I hope to see you all at State Session in Oneonta. Crafts can be registered on Friday afternoon. Send me a list of what YOU AS LEADER CAN'T COME, SEND YOUR CRAFTS WITH THE COUNTY DELEGATE OR OTHER GRANGE MEMBER. Crafts must be labeled with name, Age, Junior Grange and County on each entry. If you need the 2 part labels, let me know. Remember we have an OJAY (older Juniors and Youth) category – Youth through age 18, you may enter this craft! Each JG can enter 15 crafts; one craft per age group. Also all 1+ members can enter. I can’t wait to see all the crafts and ideas our Juniors have. The crafts will be on display after judging Saturday morning and be picked up for the Junior program on Sunday. Please come and join us for the Junior program beginning 1 pm Sunday. The donations taken prior to the program go toward the cash prizes with the rosettes for the crafts.

Leaders, if you have not sent me your annual report, found in the National handbook, send it now. Also remember in our State hand- book was a membership/dues report which should have been mailed. This includes +1 members too. It is important that we know how many Junior members we have! All dues must be current before craft judging at State Session. Any National craft, creative writing or crea- tive Art should be sent directly to the National Junior Director, Samantha Wilkins in Texas. Please send a list of items you send to her for her records and so I can follow-up on them at National Session in November in Stowe VT.

If you have any pictures of your displays or activities, send me some! I am in the process of making a picture display from New York State Juniors for the Big-E and also one for State Session. Have fun and keep on learning new ideas to share.

A recent e-mail from the National Director, Samantha states there are many new and exciting changes coming for the Junior Program in November. The passport program which replaces the badges seems to be quite popular!

The Senate finally took a recess the last week of August instead of their traditional full month. House members recessed the full month. The Senate and House conference committee whose charge is to re- solve farm bill differences between the Senate and House versions will convene September 5 as Congress returns to Washington. Chair- men and ranking members of the Senate and House Agriculture committees and their staffs have been engaged in negotiations behind the scenes throughout August. Lab grown meat has become a high profile issue creating a regulatory battle pitting traditional animal agriculture against alternative protein products. The opioid and addiction crisis is on the front burner at the National Grange as we and numer- ous state Granges engage with state and local coalitions to raise awareness and advocate recovery steps. Support for rural broadband expansion continues to build almost everywhere around Washington. The challenge will be funding and breaking down federal, state and local barriers to efficient and cost-effective methods. Waters of the U.S. raises its ugly head again in a court decision. The U.S. and Mex- ico have reached agreement in NAFTA trade negotiations andatten- tion now turns to Canada. The USDA unveiled its $12 billion Market Facilitation Program trade aid package for agriculture.

The 2018 Farm Bill
We may just get a farm bill through Congress by the end of Septem- ber which has not been accomplished with several recent farm bills. The joint Senate- House conference committee plans to begin work September 5 to resolve differences between the two versions. Unlike recent farm bills, crop insurance, many conservation provisions, com- modity payments, disaster protection, origins, credit, trade promo- tion, specialty crops, horticulture, forestry, research and more are largely noncontroversial this time around. Reconciling the conserva- tion title around combining the popular Environmental Quality In- centives Programs (EQIP) undertaken with Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) will be a challenge. The huge stumbling block between the Senate and House farm bill versions will be whether or not to increase work requirements to be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other food support programs.

The National Grange joined over 150 farm, commodity, food, wildlife, conservation, equipment manufacturer, energy and rural groups on a letter to Senate and House agriculture committees lead- ership urging them to quickly resolve the bills’ differences and pass a conference report so a five-year farm bill can be enacted into law by September 30 when much of the current law expires. The Na- tional Grange also asked the committees to continue funding the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research at $200 million per year. This is in line with the Senate and House seeking part of the funding for $400 million for Agriculture research, a high priority for the Na- tional Grange.

Lab-Cultured Meat
Several start-up ventures have been successful in growing a meat product in the laboratory from a single animal cell. The Good Food Institute, one of leading organizations promoting lab-grown meat says, “Just as modern automobiles replaced the horse and buggy, better alternatives will replace conventional animal agriculture.” The Institute refers to their lab product as “clean meat” which raises the hackles of farmers and ranchers. Both FDA and USDA claim regulatory jurisdiction over the new lab food. Both agencies have statutory authority to regulate different aspects of a cell-grown product. The North American Meat Institute which represents meat processors teamed up with California’s Mem-phis Meats, a major cultured protein developer, on a letter to the White House suggesting both FDA and USDA should regulate cell- based meat analogues in the same way. The two organizations requested a meeting between the White House, USDA, FDA, and both conventional and cell-based meat and poultry industry stakeholders.

Dairy Revenue Insurance
USDA’s Risk Management Agency has approved the first reve- nue protection insurance policy for dairy producers. The Dairy Rev- enue Protection Policy, developed by the American Farm Bureau Insurance Services, will provide indemnities to dairymen when milk prices fall and actual revenue is below a revenue guarantee. Premi- ums will be categorized similar to existing crop insurance products for corn, soybeans and other commodities. Sign up will start on Oct- ober 9.

The Government Buys Fluid Milk
USDA will purchase up to $50 million worth of fluid milk in an effort to bring financial relief to the dairy industry. USDA will use its authority under Section 32 of the Agriculture Adjustment Act of 1935 to make the purchases for food distribution and feeding pro- grams such as School Lunch. Section 32 funds come from custom- duties for disaster payments and the purchase of surplus commodi- ties.

The Environment
Waters of the United States is back from the dead for landowners in 26 states not covered by stays issued by two other judges. In mid- August, a South Carolina judge, acting on a motion from environ- mental groups, struck down the Trump Administration's suspension of the rule until 2020 so the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers could finish drafting a replacement. The South Carolina ruling will almost certainly be appealed.

The Opioid Crisis
In 2016, more than 64,000 Americans died of drug overdose. A significant majority were the result of the misuse of opioids. How do we address user stigma, treatment, recovery and cure? Evidence so far indicates that individual connection with community is a key to prevention as well as treatment and recovery. The National Grange and 10 state Granges have joined with the Rx Abuse Lead- ership Initiative (RALI) to form an American Farm Bureau request for information on addiction, help, treatment, recovery, drug disposal and prevention to local communities. Johns Hopkins University found that 90% of surgery patients with unused opioids do not properly dispose of them. RALI coalition members hand out safe drug disposal kits which have proven to be an extremely popular item at the local level. Drugs can safely be disposed in the trash with the kit to prevent flushing down the toilet and the stigma of appearing at a drug collection point.

Telehealth
The Federal Communications Commission is working on a “Connected Care Pilot Program” to promote connecting telehealth services to low-income citizens and veterans, particularly those in rural areas. Brotto referred to “ميركل" medicines as such as remote patient monitoring and mobile treatment facilities will be delivered outside the scope of traditional medical locations. The FCC pro- posal will provide $100 million to approximately 20 pilot projects. The National Grange's Betsy Huber urged the FCC to proceed with (Continued on page 6)
Protect Medicare Advantage

The National Grange joined patient groups and doctors on a letter to Senate and House leadership expressing concern about a new policy at the Department of Health and Human Services which allows Medicare Advantage to implement step therapy to manage Part B drugs. Step therapy dictates that older cheaper drugs be prescribed first for a condition; if they don’t work then a newer more effective drug may be prescribed. That decision should be the made by the doctor, not the insurance company.

Immigration/Ag Work Force

Agriculture producers continue to be hampered by the lack of a dependable legal ag workforce everywhere in the country. Efforts to get a House vote on an agriculture-specific immigration bill in July before the August recess were not successful. Another attempt may be possible in September. An op-ed "What Agriculture Needs Now is Labor" by the Grange’s Burton Eller was featured in Washington’s The Hill in support of bringing the ag worker bill to the floor.

NAFTA

A breakthrough on North American Trade Agreement (NAFTA) renegotiations with Mexico was announced by the President and Secretary Perdue August 27. The agriculture community welcomed the announcement with relief. The U.S. exported around $35 million worth of corn to Mexico in 1993, the year before NAFTA went into effect. In 2016, the U.S. sold Mexico corn worth $2.6 billion. Soybeans, beef, pork and dairy have similar histories. In an effort to bring more corn production back to the U.S. from Mexico, the revised deal also makes significant revisions in automobile manufacturing along with the requirement to use more local steel, aluminum and auto parts. This agreement between Mexico and the U.S. could clear the way for Canada to return to the negotiating table for a new three-way agreement.

Trade Aid for Agriculture

Also on August 27, the USDA announced details of its long-awaited $12 billion Market Facilitation Program trade aid package to agriculture producers hurt by trade disputes with China, Mexico, the E.U., Turkey and to a small extent, Brazil. Initially, USDA will distribute about $4.7 billion to producers of soybeans, corn, wheat, cotton, sorghum, dairy and pork. Another roughly $1.2 billion will go to purchase apples, pears, apricots, blueberries, beef and other commodities for public food assistance and child nutrition programs. Included as well is $200 million to help expand and create new foreign markets for U.S. commodities. The Farm Service Agency will administer the Market Facilitation Program. Payments begin September 4 based upon production. While generally appreciative, producers say they would much prefer trade to aid. Allocation of the remainder of the $12 billion will be announced at a later date.

Perspective

"A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people. " Mahatma Gandhi

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots." generation instead of the next election, it might be better for the United States and the world." Marcus Garvey

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Executive Committee: Richard Church, Chair, Stephen Coye, Master, Roger Halbert, Grange Secretary, Patrick Pilc, Overseer, Bruce Croucher, Executive Committee Secretary, Alice Grimesley, Shannon Russo.

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Photos from top to bottom are: Carol Bailey Grange historian speaking on women in the Grange, A lady speaking on the history of Tupperware, A 10 year old doing a Irish dance (she was a daughter of a vendor in the tent), These were all taken I the Grange Family Tent at Empire Farm Days

(Continued from page 5) National News
At the September meeting of Fairport Grange # 467, Worthy High Priest of Demeter, Bruce Croucher was our honored guest. He presented membership awards to several of our members. The total years of Grange service for the awards presented totaled 390 years. Front row: Beverly Marvin, Master; Esther Hendrickson (65 yrs); Letitia Pickering (50 yrs) Middle row: Bruce Croucher, High Priest of Demeter; Deborah Hendrickson (50 yrs); Cindy Muxworthy (60 yrs); Joan Goosen (25 yrs); Charles McCarthy (60 yrs) Back row: Thomas Hendrickson (50 yrs) Those not present were: David Priest (55 yrs) and Carol LaValle (60yrs).


At the September/October 2018 meeting of Fairport Grange # 467, Worthy High Priest of Demeter, Bruce Croucher was our honored guest. He presented membership awards to several of our members. The total years of Grange service for the awards presented totaled 390 years. Front row: Beverly Marvin, Master; Esther Hendrickson (65 yrs); Letitia Pickering (50 yrs). Middle row: Bruce Croucher, High Priest of Demeter; Deborah Hendrickson (50 yrs); Cindy Muxworthy (60 yrs); Joan Goosen (25 yrs); Charles McCarthy (60 yrs). Back row: Thomas Hendrickson (50 yrs). Those not present were: David Priest (55 yrs) and Carol LaValle (60yrs).
New York State Grange
146th Annual Session

Oneonta Quality Inn
October 19 - 23, 2018
Hosted by Otsego County Program of Events

General Session
The 146th General Session of the New York State Grange will be held in the Empire/Monarch Rooms in the Holiday Inn.

Session Committee room assignments will be given on arrival. Committees and group meetings will be announced. NO meetings will take place while guest speakers are giving presentations.

Session Pianist ~ Irene Fassett

Friday, October 19
10:30am-5:00pm Registration – Lobby
3:00pm - Hotel check-in (earlier as rooms are available)
1:00pm NEW delegates meeting-Executive Conference Room

Session Committee Chairs – Glimmerglass Room
2:00pm Junior Projects check-in Glimmerglass Room
2:00pm Session Committee Meetings-Delegates should attend their assigned Committees only. Room assignments will be given on arrival.

5:15pm Maple Punch Reception
6:00pm Annual Banquet

NYS Dairy Princess – Hailey Piper
NYS FFA President – Kristi Ann Frank

Keynote speaker – Leslie Bernard -Professor of Photography, SUNY Oneonta

9:15pm Lecturer’s Program - Laura Magrum, Lecturer

Saturday, October 20
7:00am Pomona Lecturer’s Association-Breakfast – Pub
8:00am Registration
State Officer’s Practice
8:30 Baking Entries - Pub
9:00am Opening of the 146th Annual Session of the NYS Grange in the Sixth Degree

Squire Ballroom
Lower to Fourth Degree
Recognition of Past Masters and First Ladies, Honored Guests and Officials

Quorum Call
Report of the State Master
Stephen C. Coye
Five Minute reports
~ Roger Halbert, Secretary
~ Kenneth Smith, Treasurer
~ Richard Church, Chair Executive Committee
~ Virginia Dehner, Chair Audit Committee

9:30am Junior Project judging
11:00am Recess
Session Committee meetings
11:15am 5th Degree
Glimmerglass Room
Rehearsal for Sixth Degree

Ballroom
1:00pm Session Committee Meetings
(Locations as listed at end )
3:00pm Reconvene General Session
Committee meetings
3:10pm Five Minute Reports of Departmental, Project and Program Chairs
~ Laura Magrum, Lecturer
~ Cindy Benson-Pollard, Legislative Director
~ Sherri Taft, Community Involvement/Service
~ Brenda Noble, Family Activities
~ Barton Snedaker, Leadership/Membership

~ Roland Shea

Museum Corp Board President
~ Amy Knowles, State Fair Director
~ Letitia Pickering, Fund Raising Chair
~ Jim and Cindy Pollard, Ox Roast Co-Chairs
~ Roland Shea, Headquarters Task Force

~ Carol Bailey, Historian
~ Laura Magrum, NY Coordinator
2018 National Convention

5:30pm Closing in the Fourth Degree
7:30pm Seating of State Officers
Speaker: Burton Eiler
National Grange Legislative Director
Conferring the Sixth Degree
Closing in the Fourth Degree
After closing - Youth Officer Rehearsal

Sunday, October 21
8:15am Memorial Service
Virginia Conner, Chaplain
9:00am Gerald Eastman Award
Youth Officers Open in the Fourth Degree
Youth Department Annual Report

Elaine Smith and Paula Turner, Co-Directors
Earlandt Award Presentation
Committee Reports - Action
11:30am Recess
1:00pm Reconvene –Junior Grange Officers to Open Session
Junior Department Annual Report

Gail Chamberlain, Director Committee Reports – Action by delegates
2:15pm ‘$1.00 ‘C’ bill presentation
2:30pm Presentation – Nathan Luil

Glimmerglass Room
Butternut Valley Grange
3:00pm Committee Reports – Action by delegates

4:30pm Closing in the Fourth Degree

5:15pm Museum Board Dinner
7:00pm Ice Cream Social and Idea Fair hosted by Session Hosting Comm. Courtyard
8:00pm Delegate-At-Large Mtg. Emerson Room

Monday, October 22
8:30am Opening in the Fourth Degree
Appointment of Election Committee
Election of Executive Committee Member and Museum Directors
11:00am Speaker – Richard A. Ball
NYS Commissioner of Agriculture & Markets

12:00 Noon Recess
1:45pm Reconvene Committee Reports - Action
5:15pm Recess
7:00pm Reconvene Committee reports - Action
9:30pm Closing in the Fourth Degree

Tuesday, October 23
9:00am Opening - Fourth Degree
2017-2018 Budget Approval
Committee Reports - Action
Installation of Executive Committee Member
Conclusion of Business
Closing the 146th State Session of the New York State Grange.

COMMITTEE ROOMS
Agriculture - Our Town Cafe
Education – Room 110
Federal Issues – Pub Room
Grange Issues - Guest Room (TBA at sign in)
Health - Monarch Room
State Issues – Empire Room
Taxation – Guest Room (TBA at sign in)

Press Room – Executive Conference Room