Donald A. Drake
In Memorium

Donald (Don) A. Drake, 81, of Roseboom, NY, passed away peacefully on January 23, 2019 at the Center in Cooperstown with his beloved wife Susan (Sue) by his side. Don was born on March 2, 1937 in Cooperstown, the son of Clifford S. Drake and Laura Laymon Drake.

Don married Susan Hugh on August 13, 1960. They have three sons: John (Lisa), Thomas (Laurie) and Michael (Beth) and five grandchildren: Jason, Adam, Emma, Miles and Elliot.

Don was very involved with Grange throughout his life. He was a member of Pierstown Grange #793, Otsego County Pomona Grange, New York State Grange, and National Grange. Don held many offic- es in Grange including Pierstown Grange Master; Otsego County Po- mona Grange Master and Treasurer; New York State Grange Youth Director, and Executive Committee member & Chairman. In addi- tion, Don and Sue were named National Grange Young Couple of the Year in 1971. Don felt that Grange friendships and activities were some of his best memories.

Don was President of the Glimmerglass Opera Guild and on the Board of Directors for many years. He and Sue enjoyed ushering, hosting opera staff and assisting with meal functions. Don was also active in the Roseboom Methodist Church, Otsego County Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Otsego County Fair Board.

Donations may be made to the Cherry Valley-Springfield Endow- ment Fund, PO Box 33, Cherry Valley, NY 13320 or to Pierstown Grange #793, Karen Dunlap, 303 County Highway 27, Richfield, NY 13439.

The Pioneer Central School FFA Chapter received NYS FFA Chapter of the Year honors for the second consecutive year at the 187th An- nual Meeting & Forum of the NYS Agricultural Society Janu- ary 9 in Syra- cuse, NY. The Chapter was recognized for the impact that FFA has on leadership development, personal growth and career success. Bottom row, L to R: Stephen Coye – NYS Grange (Sponsor), Commissioner Richard Ball – NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, KristiAnn Frank, Stephanie Fyock, Danielle Herrick, Taylor Rollins, Anna Bica, Elizabeth Claypoole – NYS Ag Society President. Top row, L to R: Peyton Fontaine, Dylan Owens, Cameron Murphy, Mitchell Ling, Ethan Billman, Patrick Coombe.

Pioneer Central School FFA, Yorkville, NY: With approximately 100 active members, Pioneer FFA is active in local, state and national events. Pioneer is one of the largest geographical school districts in NYS covering approximately 250 square miles in parts of Erie, Wyom- ing, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties.
 times. This packet also in- cludes allowing 16-17-year-olds to preregister to vote. This legislation has passed and is on his desk. By the time you read this article, he will have signed it.

The “Green New Deal” will require all of New York to be- come a clean state by 2040. This includes the banning of plastic shopping bags and in- vesting in renewable power sources, such as wind and solar power. It will be interesting to see how many of the shopping bags is presented as most grocery chains are not in favor of it. I guess what hap- pens with plastic bag shopping bags, do you have to pay for more bags or are we going to cut down more trees for pa- per bags? Interesting conun- drum to think about.

Although not included in the State of the Address, his budget presentation included a ban on after market stretch limousines. This results from the accident that occurred in Schoharie county at the end of last year. The question that comes to mind, should all lim- ouxine companies be punished for the unscrupulous practices of one.

I am sure that your local news media outlets have shared this information with you. Just some thoughts to get the dis- cussions started.

Laura Magrum

Happy New Year! What was your New Year’s resolu- tion this year? As the saying goes, “New Year, New You,” right? So the New You can en- ter the Talent Contest, Photo Contest, and/or Art Contest! That’s right on Saturday, April 27, 2019 the Lecturer’s and Family Life Department will be holding the annual Conference Day at Headquar- ters in Cortland. It will be a day full of fun and fellowship. We will have the Talent Con- tests mixed with the Public Speaking and Sign-a-Song Contests, in addition to the dis- play of your Art. Come on, come all, even invite your friends who may not be Grange members yet.

I hope that all are keeping warm this winter while plan- ning great things for your Grange. While we are on the subject of New Year’s Resolu- tions, have you reached out to your local FFA or 4H? They are taught great skills that are useful for building your Grange, but they will eventually age out of those organizations. You never know the power of just simply extending the invitation to your next Grange meeting or event until you do.

From the National Lecturer Chris Hamp, we will continue the Quilt Block contest. This year, the block pattern will be available at the Conference Day in April or you can contact me to send you one. All entries will be sent to Chris Hamp by Octo- ber 31, 2019, and you can give these to me at State Grange in October. A winner from New York’s Photography Contest will be sent for entry into the Photography Contest. The Tal- ent Contest winner for New York will have the opportunity to enter into the Evening of Ex- cellence at National Grange Convention in November. Also, another great way to get in- volved in your community is to be a partner with the National Weather Service. There are four opportunities to get involved and help build a weather-ready nation! Ask me how you can get involved today! Are you already a citizen scientist for the National Weather Service? Let us know what your experi- ence has been.

In July, come join Grangers from across the country for Grange Revival in Ozark, Ar- kansas. The event will take place July 23-28, 2019 and reg- istration is open now. Get ready for the biggest camping trip with fun and fellowship of Grangers. Everyone is invited, even non-members. You can find the registration online at www.grangerrevival.com. We hope to see YOU there! See you on April 27th at Headquarters, but remember to send your photo entries and Art Photo Contests to Headquarters by April 15, 2019. The Talent entry forms will need to be mailed to my home address by April 15, 2019. Any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Laura Magrum

SCI RITUAL IN RITUAL

As the years of my Grange member- ship increase, I have noticed how much the Founders of our Order included scripture verses from God’s Word in our ritual. There are either verses or snip-its of verses in the

Grange officer charges of the various ceremonies of our Order. Especially in the Degrees, you can find scripture included. For example, the Chaplain’s charge in the Sixth Degree talks about darkness and light which follows closely verses one and two in Psalm 139.

Over the years as I have memo- rized or read different officer charges in the installation cere- mony or any of the Degrees, I’ll think that it will sound like scripture from God’s Word. So I pick up my Bible and dive in to locate the verse in the Bible and sure enough there it is! So I’ve deducted that our Found- ers of the Order must have had a solid knowledge of the Bible in order to have included so many verses in our ritual.

My challenge to you during the cold, snowy northeast winter days is to ask permission to borrow a manual from your Grange and look for scripture verses. Make a list of what you find. Hint to Lecturers: it might be an interesting program. Please keep the following words in mind to use in your prayers: Robert Mullen, Genesee Co. and Bill Elkins, Schuyler Co. Both were active in State Grange.

While it took a while into the season before winter was seen and felt, we can now say it is offi- cially here, writing this article a day after 12” of “new white stuff” and temperatures nearing 15 degrees below zero! This weather suggests “inside” activi- ties, a chance to check our “to do” lists and a time next to the fire- place or woodstove to contempl- ate planning for future Grange events when the weather will be inviting us to venture out. Since the last writing for ESG, the 2019 Pomona password has been sent to Pomona Secretaries, also the 2019 Subordinate pass- word is returned to Subordinate Secretaries with the March quar- terly report forms... that means that the 2018 December quarterly report must be received at the State Secretary’s office for the 2019 password to be given to that Grange. Again, to the Secretaries of both Pomona and Subordinate Granges, the annual EIN report form to give State Grange per- mission to report to IRS on your
### NEW YORK STATE GRANGE 2019 Calendar of Events, Activities, & Dues Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>Junior Grange Annual Dues Report due.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>NYS Agricultural Society Meeting – Syracuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>Empire State CAO Meeting – Syracuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>Empire State Granger Copy Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 18-20</td>
<td>Youth Winter Weekend, Ravenna Grange 1457: Albany Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>NYS Grange Museum Executive Comm. Meet ing, 10:00 a.m. Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting, HDQ, 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31 – Feb. 2</td>
<td>Western NY Farm Show – Erie Co. Fair grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>CAO Lobby Day, State Capitol, Albany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21-23</td>
<td>Central NY Farm Show – State Fair Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Executive State Granger Copy Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Executive Committee – HDQ – 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29-30</td>
<td>Northeast Leaders Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Subordinate Dues to State Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1-30</td>
<td>GRANGE MONTH – Plan a special public activity/event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Art/Photo Entries due at HDQ for Judging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Talent Entry Report Sheets due to the State Lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Woodworking, Quilting, &amp; Needlework due at HDQ for Judging</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>NYS Grange Museum Full Board Meeting – 10:00 a.m. Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting, HDQ, 12:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26-28</td>
<td>Spring Youth Weekend - Cortland</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Lecturer/FAC Conference – HDQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Regional Legislative Conference – Genesee Co. – place TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>State Dart Ball Tournament – HDQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2-4</td>
<td>NYS FFA Convention – Syracuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Empire State Granger Copy Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>NYS Grange Museum Cleanup Day, 10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28-31</td>
<td>State Grange Motor Coach Tour – Massachu setts Shore</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2</td>
<td>State Bowling Tournament – Cortlanes Bowling Alley, Cortland</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting, Watertown, 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Regional Legislative Conference – Albany Co. – place TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Subordinate Dues to State Secretary (Include Membership/Leadership Report)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Junior Grange Membership &amp; Dues Report Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 8</td>
<td>State Golf Tournament – place TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12-14</td>
<td>NE Youth Conference – Connecticut – Tent at Martial</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Empire State Granger Copy Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>NYS Grange Museum Full Board Meeting &amp; Picnic, Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting, HDQ, 10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 6-8</td>
<td>Empire Farm Days, Seneca Falls</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 21 – Sept. 2</td>
<td>New York State Fair – Syracuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>Grange Day at the NYS Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Community Service Reports due to Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>National JG Report due</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Empire State Granger Copy Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Lecturer’s Reports due to State Lecturer</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 27-29</td>
<td>Executive Committee – HDQ – 11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28</td>
<td>State Legislative Day – HDQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>Subordinate Dues to State Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 18-22</td>
<td>State Grange Annual Session – Hilton Garden Inn, Watertown</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Museum Dinner at State Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Watertown</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>NYS Grange Foundation Annual Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Watertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>NYS Grange Museum Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m. Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12-16</td>
<td>National Grange Session, Doubletree, Bloomington/Minneapolis, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Empire State Granger Copy Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 30</td>
<td>Subordinate Dues to State Secretary</td>
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**Support Grange Youth**

We would like to announce that Katie Fallon, of Stanford Grange, Dutchess Co. is now a member of our NYS Grange Youth Committee. Katie was on our Committee in 2018 as the Young Adult Ambassador, but that term ended in November, so we welcome her back. At National Grange, Charlene Shupp-Espenshade retired as the National Grange Youth Director, and during the National Grange Youth Opening, she was presented with a plaque for her 10 ½ years of service. The new National Grange Youth Director is Mandy Bostwick from Kansas. Katie, as the 2019 Outstanding Young Patron for National Grange, will be working closely with Mandy, and assures us that she’ll help us too.

The planned Winter Youth Leadership Weekend at Ravenna Grange on Jan. 18-20 was postponed until Feb 22-24 due to the snow storm. We would like to thank Ravenna Grange for planning the weekend that we hope to be telling you about in the next Empire State Granger.

We hope to see many people come to State Grange Headquarters in Cortland April 27th for the Speech, Sing-A-Song, Radio Spots, and the Lecturer’s Talent Contests at the Lecturer/ Family Activities Conference. Those planning to enter the Speech and Sing-A-Song contests should contact Paula (xraypaula@yahoo.com), or Elaine (essmith63@gmail.com) by April 1st. The age categories are: Youth 13 ½ -21; Young Adult 22-35; and Adult 36+. The age of the contestant as of January 1, 2019 determines the age group. Start preparing now for this eventful day! The rules and guide for speech and sign-a-song are on page 57-59 of the National Grange Youth Program Book that can be found at national-grange.org under youth.

The Spring Youth Leadership Conference will be held in Cortland in conjunction with the Contest Day and the Dartball Tournament, April 26th – 28th. Please check your e-mail or NYS Grange Youth on Facebook later for more information on the Spring Weekend. Information on the Northeast Youth Conference in Connecticut in July is not available yet, but we should have it at Contest Day. Contact Paula to be added to the e-mail list or check with someone on the Grange who has access to e-mail and/or Facebook.
behalf was also sent out the last week of December. The form is to be returned to the State Secretary promptly. Lastly, the State Grange office sent out the information regarding bonding insurance for 2019…this has a specific deadline for this insurance for the calendar year 2019, so Granges should have acted on this issue and returned the appropriate check, made payable to NYS Grange, by the time you read this. Please contact the Cortland office for processing. The listing of Granges which wish coverage (recommended for all) must be sent to National Grange by the Cortland office in February.

The 2019 State Grange Directory is at the printers at this writing and should be distributed in early February once it is received. Unfortunately, we had some Pomona Granges and Subordinate Granges whose Secretaries did not return the 2019 Officer Lists by the requested September 15 date and a reminder was given to send them by the Delegate-at-Large in October if not in. In these cases, there is most likely an abbreviated listing for officers for those Granges from whom no reply was received. We do not wish to continue mailings to people listed from a previous directory who may no longer be listed. The Secretary, so the Master and/or Secretary’s name and contact info may be the only listing in those cases.

It has been some time since we shared the roster of our Associate Memberships in New York State. These are individuals or businesses who support the Grange cause but who do not serve on the Delegate-at-Large if in attendance regularly. The following is the list as of January 2019:

**Chautauqua**
- Fredonia: #1: Dr. Patrick R. Damore, Stephen W. Keeffe, Julie Nelson, Joyce Willits, Jamie Odien, Terry Brown, Brian & Brianna Transport, Inc., Laurie Nelson, Mark Forbes, Feinen Farms
- Ripley: #65: John Swartout, Ross 385: Peterson Farms, Falconer Funeral Home
- Village of Pierstown: #793: Iver Lindberg

**Livingston**
- Dryden: #111: Patrick Brennan, Robert S. Slocum
- Warsaw: #1088: E. Joseph Gozelski
- New York: Richard A. Ball; Cortland County BDC, Rural Schools Association of New York
- Whallonsburg: #954: Peter E. Crouch, Jr., St. Lawrence Co. Soil & Water, New York Center for Health (NYCAMH)

**Essex**
- Plattsburgh: #78: Glenn R. Hamilton, Patricia Quirk, Empire House, Law- rence Smith, Evans Auction Service, Scott D. Luecke, St. Johnsbury, VT, Don Leonard, Caroline Jensen
- Potsdam: #1533: Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch, Beth Keene, Di- anne Kirk, Julia Sheldon, Glenn R. Hamilton, Patricia Quirk, Empire House, Law- rence Smith, Evans Auction Service, Scott D. Luecke, St. Johnsbury, VT, Don Leonard, Caroline Jensen
- Hammond: #677: Andrew View Farm Tom Fal- li, Donald R. Miesfeldt, Jr., St. Lawrence Co. Soil & Water, New York Center for Agriculture Medicine and Health (NYCAMH)

If your Grange is listed above, please thank these parties for their support of your Grange. Your Grange is not in the list, ask yourself why? Every community has civic leaders or businesses that believe in the Grange philosophy and are supportive in the Grange’s role in rural America and in your community specifically. Associate mem- bership is easy…tell them that you appreciate their sup- port and that there are no oth- er obligations for showing their support and interest in this way. Annual membership is $30, made payable to New York State Grange. Send it along with the proper individ- ual or business name and con- tact information and I will process the rest. Each Asso- ciate Member gets a membership card (and a window sign if a business), a copy of each Empire State Granger through the year, and a copy of the annual Membership and Policy man- ual. From the $30, the Subor- dinate Grange receives $10 for their Grange treasury and State Grange retains $20 to cover the dues cost to Nation- al Grange. Associate Mem- bers also count towards a Grange’s total membership. 

Barton Snedaker

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**Here we are with the first articles of 2019, far enough into the year that most of us have already either forgotten or bro- ken our New Year’s resolutions. January is named after the Roman god Janus who is depicted as two faced, but not in a bad way. He could see the past as well as the future. Wouldn’t that be great in the Grange? If I told you there just might be a way, would you believe me? The following is an unabashed advertisement for the book Spirit of the Grange: The Wisdom of Deme- ter by Ann Bright Waters. There is a limited number available from The New Grange Store at Monroe Classics for $29.95 plus shipping. The book is also available on Amazon for a few dollars less. From either place it is worth every penny of the purchase price. I was fortunate to stum- ble upon and purchase my copy at national session in Stowe, VT. In my humble opinion A COPY OF THIS BOOK NEEDS TO BE IN THE HANDS OF EVERY GRANGE LECTURER. It is a wealth of information on each and every page and it is also highly recommended by National Lecturer, Chris Hamp. (See the Winter 2018 edition of National Grange’s Good Day! magazine for her review) On almost every page there is information that I found new to me or clarified what I thought I knew before. There is also sprinkled with vintage photo- graphs, illustrations and graphics. She has digested the first four degrees into one pro- gram that could be easily per- formed as a special Lecturer program, especially if you have many members who have been obligated in the Grange and have never seen the degrees presented. Without changing the beauty of the degree lan- guage she has “updated” it by combining some speeches and adding additional information. In some cases changing the speaker puts the familiar words into the mouths of different leaders. She offers these modi- fications as a way to look into the future for new members by mak- ing the degrees more “modern” without changing their intent. In future articles I will be using more information from this amaz- ing resource. I have a subscription to Good Day! If not, search out a form to get one. In the most re- cent Winter 2019 Edition, National- Grange.org, has an excellent editorial on Gen- eration Y, the young people be- tween the ages of 23 and 36. In it she states that we need to start thing differently about getting people to join, and more about what we have to offer to is truly engag- ing and worthwhile.” I have said in these pages before that we need Grangers not members. Her words echo that sentiment. She goes on speaking about Genera- tion Y specifically, but I believe it is true of everyone “(people are) busy, but they will invest in making a difference for their communities and world.”

FFA members, our Grange Youth, junior Grangers are all going to be members of Genera- tion Y or whatever comes next. That be true and are the future of the Grange.

While you have your maga- zine open, turn to page 16 and read another excellent article found there.

I started this column writing about resolutions. Mine has been set aside. I do not need to spend any purpose of contacting every sub- ordinate Grange (Master) in New York State. I have a list of ques- tions such as - how many mem- bers, how many active, do you have Pomona members, strengths and weaknesses of your Grange, what is your Grange known for in your community, and so on. I have already started and I hope to have it completed (in alphabetical order) before state session rolls around in 2019. I hate hearing about Granges that have closed, or are on their last legs. If you are in one of those Granges please do not wait for me to call you - my phone num- ber and email address are readily available in the state directory and on the State Grange website - call me.

Happy New Year! I hope everyone is working on getting their teams together for our sports pro- gram. We have darts in April, bowling in June and Golf in Ju- ly. I would love to see some teams this year. We always have a good time so I hope to see more Grangers participate in our sports programs. Stay warm and I will see you in the Spring!

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Carl Bullock

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**Sports**

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Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all are working on your Handiwork projects. The quilt this year is baby-sized. If anyone wishes to enter items in the categories at the Big E that are not part of New York’s contests, you are welcome to do so. If there is more than one item entered, then only one of the items will be selected for entry at the Big E. The adult garment may be knitted or crocheted with any pattern of a sweater, dress, cape, poncho, vest, but NOT hats, mittens, scarves, or socks. For the Northeast Exposition, the quilted wall hanging may not be larger than 18 in. x 18 in. due to limited space in the building. The stuffed toys need to be child safe, and may be knitted, crocheted, or stitched. If anyone needs the pamphlet for the Northeast needlework contests, let me know and I will send you one. I thank everyone for all the hard work. We are looking to increase the number of entries into the contests, so maybe you have never submitted an entry before or are just beginning to learn how. Start today!

The baking contest this year is Chocolate Jumble Cookies. The recipe is included in the Handbook, but it can also be found in the National Grange Family Cookbook from Country Kitchens published in 1979. We would like to clarify that the 3 squares of chocolate noted in the recipe is equivalent to 3 oz. of baking chocolate, as the size of baking chocolate squares has changed since the recipe was published in 1979. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused when trying the recipe.

April 27, 2019 is the Lecturing Session. The 2019 Motor Coach Tour is to America’s Hometown—Plymouth, MA. The 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim’s journey to start a new community will be in 2020. We will be ahead of the tourists that will be flocking to Plymouth for that anniversary.

The Itinerary for the trip is not complete, but you can mark your calendars for May 28-31. There will be a guided tour of Plymouth’s waterfront, and a visit to Plimoth Plantation where it is always 1624. We will share a meal at Plimoth Plantation with a “Pilgrim” as our host. The tour travels to Sandwich, where the glass industry began, to visit the Sandwich Glass Museum. This is prime time for the Heritage Museum and Gardens Rhododendron Festival, so there will be a visit to see these splendid flowers. If you prefer cars to flowers, the Car Museum at Heritage will have a special exhibit on race cars, or you can ride the carousel in the Folk Art Museum. From there we go to New Bedford to the Whaling National Historical Park.

From the 17th, 18th, and 19th century, the tour goes forward to the 20th century at Battleship Cove in Fall River. This is the home to the USS Massachusetts—a battleship, the USS Joseph P. Kennedy Jr.—a destroyer, the USS Lionfish—a submarine, 2 PT boats, and the Hiddensee—a former East German naval ship. There is an exhibit on Women in the Navy.

The hotel where we will be staying is not yet set, but breakfast will be included each morning. As soon as the final itinerary with the exact cost, is published, trip escort, Kathleen Hughes, 312-586-8334, 8972 E. Floyd Rd, Holland Patent, NY 13354, will be glad to send them out. Boarding locations include Syracuse, Rome, and Albany.

Mincemeat pies trace their history back to the Crusades. Mincemeat pies used to be child safe, and may be knitted, crocheted, or stitched. If anyone needs the pamphlet for the Northeast needlework contests, let me know and I will send you one. I thank everyone for all the hard work. We are looking to increase the number of entries into the contests, so maybe you have never submitted an entry before or are just beginning to learn how. Start today!

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The hotel where we will be staying is not yet set, but breakfast will be included each morning. As soon as the final itinerary with the exact cost, is published, trip escort, Kathleen Hughes, 312-586-8334, 8972 E. Floyd Rd, Holland Patent, NY 13354, will be glad to send them out. Boarding locations include Syracuse, Rome, and Albany.

Mincemeat pies trace their history back to the Crusades. Mincemeat pies used to be child safe, and may be knitted, crocheted, or stitched. If anyone needs the pamphlet for the Northeast needlework contests, let me know and I will send you one. I thank everyone for all the hard work. We are looking to increase the number of entries into the contests, so maybe you have never submitted an entry before or are just beginning to learn how. Start today!

The baking contest this year is Chocolate Jumble Cookies. The recipe is included in the Handbook, but it can also be found in the National Grange Family Cookbook from Country Kitchens published in 1979. We would like to clarify that the 3 squares of chocolate noted in the recipe is equivalent to 3 oz. of baking chocolate, as the size of baking chocolate squares has changed since the recipe was published in 1979. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused when trying the recipe.

April 27, 2019 is the Lecturing Session. The 2019 Motor Coach Tour is to America’s Hometown—Plymouth, MA. The 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim’s journey to start a new community will be in 2020. We will be ahead of the tourists that will be flocking to Plymouth for that anniversary.

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The Junior Grange continues to celebrate its 130th anniversary. The National JG Director wants to focus on our roots, our history, our memories, and what our future may hold. If you go onto the National Grange website, under Junior Grange, you will find the 2019 Junior Grange Program Guide. The 2019 theme for Juniors is “Heroes in Training.” There are new programs such as Junior Historian, Cape of Honor, Agricultural Awareness Project, Digital Talent Show, JG Jeopardy, Legislative Junior Experience, Handy Craft Contest, Pen pal, Grange Radio, Quilt Block, and the Merit Badge Program is now a Passport. There is an Awareness Project theme, and a 12 month guide for your Junior Grange meetings. There are deadline dates to all programs, contests and reports for the National Program. You will see National JG program continues also with Creative Art, Creative writing, mini-scrapbook, photography, Public Speaking, and Sign-a-song.

The New York State Grange Handbook for 2018-2019 continues. Here you will find the Junior Grange section for our own State JG program which includes our own programs, ideas, and crafts. We know you cannot do everything in these programs. We are giving you the information to help Junior members and Junior Leaders in their own meetings and community.

We are going to Allegany County, Cuba Grange Hall for the Junior Leadership Day on Saturday, April 13. The schedule and registration form (please return to me by March 30) is in this issue. As always, there is no cost and lunch is included. Come to learn of changes, share ideas, participate and join in fellowship. All Junior members including +1 members, possible new JG members, Junior Leaders, parents, Grand members are welcome to attend. We are planning on working on the Dairy Awareness Award. Come see what exciting workshops we will have! Did you know the Juniors have a mascot? Clarabelle the cow!

I am happy to announce the appointment of Therese Fallon (Dutchess County) to the State Junior Committee-Special Junior Deputy. I am sure she will be a great asset to our State Junior Committee and activities and knowledge. Welcome Therese!

Leadership/Informational Workshop
April 13, 2019 @ Cuba Grange Hall, Allegany County

NO cost for JG members/Leaders/Parent/Grange participants
2019 – Heroes in Training

Saturday, April 13
9:30 Welcome - Gail Chamberlain, NYS JG Director
Agriculture Awareness Project – Dairy Awareness
The importance of dairies and dairy products
Make a collage
Create a flier
Dairy Craft
“Kelly Farm Project”

12:30 LUNCH
1:15 Ritual
2:00 Workshop –what do you think?

SAFE TRIP HOME

Directions to Cuba Grange Hall – from I 86, Turn toward Town, take LEFT (across from McDonalds) onto Maple St., sharp curve and stop Sign, LEFT on Medbury St. go to Stop Sign LEFT onto East Main St. Grange is on the Right.

Registration Form For Junior Workshop Day
(copy as needed)

Send by March 30, 2019
Send to: Gail Chamberlain, State Junior Director,
3627 Co. Rte. 21 Whitehall, NY 12887
phone 518-499-1028

Name: __________________________
City: __________________________
Telephone: ____________________
E-mail: ________________________

Grange: ________________________
State: _______ Zip code: _______

Please check all that apply:
Junior member  ____ Leader  ____ other/friend
Community Grange member  ____ Parent

Allergy or health concerns:
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________

Ideas for Future workshops or crafts:-
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________
_________________________________________________

Nearest Leader Conference
March 17-19 2019
Fairfield, CT
Registration is required 
completed registration forms only

January/February 2019
STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST

Once again your Rural Schools Association is partnering with the New York State Insurance Reciprocal in sponsoring a contest designed to encourage rural students to showcase their creativity and community and school pride. We’ve had phenomenal results from our Student Photo Contest and Student Logo Design Contests. This year we’re all about videos!

CONTEST RULES:

1. Students, or teams of students may submit videos of two minutes or less on one of two themes:
   a. What Makes Our Community Great
   b. How My School Contributes to Our Community

2. Videos may be music videos, narrated videos, documentary style or present material in the form of short plays. In short, the sky’s the limit on creativity; as long as it’s two minutes or less.

3. We encourage guidance and collaboration with school staff, (as educators may be able to provide help with editing programs and other aspects of production) but it’s not required.

4. The content of the video submitted must be student directed.

AWARDS:

- $1000 Grand Prize
- Two First Prize Awards of $500. Five Second Place Awards of $100. Awards will be presented at local District or BOCES Award Nights in the spring. For winning videos submitted by teams of students, the prize will be shared by the team.

DEADLINE: All submitted videos must reach the Rural Schools Association of New York State on or before April 1, 2019.

SUBMIT VIDEOS TO: Videos submitted electronically should be sent to da295@cornell.edu. Videos sent by mail should be mailed to Rural Schools Assn. of NYS, 24 Century Hill Drive, Suite 200-A, Latham, NY 12110.

Sponsored by: Rural Schools Association of New York State

The content of the video submitted must be student directed.

Legislation Becomes Law

In December, the new farm bill passed with huge bipartisan majorities in the Senate (87-13) and House (369-47). Following its passage, National Grange President Betsy Huber issued the following statement: “America's farmers, ranchers and landowners have a reasonable, balanced, common-sense $867 billion farm bill headed to the President’s desk today. The bipartisan legislation passed overwhelmingly in the Senate by a vote of 87-13 and in the House by 369-47. The package now gives much needed multi-year certainty to commodity programs, crop insurance, conservation, farm loans, beginning farmers and ranchers, SNAP assistance, nutrition programs, foreign markets promotion and more. It also establishes a new Foot and Mouth Disease vaccine bank. "I want to thank Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts and Ranking Minority member Debbie Stabenow for their bipartisan leadership to get this done. Both have proven themselves worthy to have named National Grange Champions of Rural America (Stabenow in 2017 and Roberts in 2018)".

Trade

USDA’s four trade promotion programs were funded at $251.5 million per year.

Commodity Programs

- Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage are similar to the multi-year certainty provided in the bill.
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- USDA’s four trade promotion programs were funded at $251.5 million per year.
- Commodity Programs

(Continued on page 8)
2014 farm bill with several enhancements on reference prices and yield data
- Loan rates are increased substantially
- The new Dairy Margin Coverage Program builds on the recent Margin Protection Program passed in February by reducing premiums on the first 5 million pounds of production (about 240 cows) and raises the top margin coverage from $8 per hundredweight to $9.50

Does not set payment limits on eligibility for commodity program payments

Conservation
- The Environmental Quality Incentives Program has increased funding; the Conservation Stewardship Program has reduced funding but is preserved as a standalone program
- Conservation Reserve Program enrollment is increased from 24 million acres to 27 million acres

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program is now a standalone with its own rules separate from other conservation programs from which it was previously funded

Nutrition
- Additional work requirements and tightened eligibility requirements were omitted from the final Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provisions; governors will be required to approve state agency applications to USDA for waivers from the existing work requirements

The Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program is given permanent funding and is renamed the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program for the former USDA Undersecretary and Grange member from Massachusetts

Credit
- Farm loan limits on operating and ownership loans are increased ($1.75 million on guaranteed operating and ownership loans; $600,000 on direct ownership loans; direct operating loans are raised to $400,000)

Rural Development
- Provides permanent authority and rules for the $660 million rural broadband grant and loan program created by the fiscal 2018 spending bill.
- Prioritizes funding for projects to combat opioid addiction and authorizes a 33 percent increase in grants under the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program

Research
- Funding is increased for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research, the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative and the Specialty Crop Research Initiative

Forestry
- Renews the categorical exclusion that allows diseased and insect infested trees to be removed from government forests.

Energy
- Renews the authorization but reduces the funding for bioenergy programs.

Horticulture
- Legalizes the production of industrial hemp
- Creates a new Local Agriculture Market Program
- Creates a new Urban, Indoor and Other Emerging Agricultural Production Research, Education and Extension Initiative
- Maintains funding for Specialty Crop Block Grants

Authorizes USDA to require additional documentation for shipments from abroad under the National Organic Program

Crop Insurance
- Hemp is made eligible for crop insurance
- Discounts for beginning farmers and ranchers are extended to 10 years from the current 5 years under Whole Farm Revenue Protection

New policies will be researched by USDA to cover crops affected by hurricanes and tropical storms

Miscellaneous
- Creates and funds a new Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program that includes a new Foot and Mouth Disease vaccine bank
- Creates a new Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach Program
- Requires the President to nominate an undersecretary for rural development