



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXV NO. 5

USPS 345-580

September-October, 2019

**146TH MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE CONVENTION**  
Hosted by Region 4  
(North Adrian, Rome, Adams, Mosherville, Pittsfield Union,  
Plymouth/Westland Granges)  
October 24-26, 2019

Lenawee County Fairgrounds, Adrian, MI  
602 N. Dean Street, Adrian

Hotel choices are on your own:

Carleton Lodge 1629 W. Maumee St., Adrian 517-263-7000  
Super 8 1091 US Highway 223, Adrian 517-759-1241  
Travelodge 1575 W. Maumee St., Adrian 517-263-5741  
Holiday Inn Express 1077 W. US 223, Adrian 1-800-315-2621

Meals will be:

Friday evening — Awards Dinner  
Saturday evening — Annual Banquet

(Due to unforeseen circumstances the meal prices and menus are not available at this time...as soon as they are the credentials will be in the mail with that information and an email will be sent out to notify as many as possible.)

Lunches for Friday and Saturday will be available at the Convention site by  
The Hosting Region...donations will be accepted.

**Reminder...**All report forms: Lecturer's, Deaf Awareness, Family Activities, Membership, Junior/Youth, Community Service Report form/Notebooks are all due on **September 10th**.  
Let's get them filled out and sent back to the directors ASAP!

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# Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

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Christopher D. Johnston

**Postmaster send address changes:**  
Christopher D. Johnston, Editor  
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

- Sept. 2**     **Labor Day**
  
- Sept. 10**   **Dept. Reports, CS, Annual Reports, etc. Due**
  
- Oct. 24-26** **Michigan State Grange Annual Convention**
  
- Nov. 5-9**   **National Grange Convention**

## September 23 — Fall Begins



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1/2 page	\$90.00
1/4 page / business card	\$50.00
\$40.00	

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## Chaplain

## Take Your Kids to Church

Jeff Swainston P.O. Box 77, Manton, MI 49663 Tel: 616-405-6921 jeff@jnsphoto.biz

### TAKE YOUR KIDS TO CHURCH

The lazy days of summer are coming to an end. Gone are the family reunions, vacations at the beach, and visiting favorite amusement parks. For some the summer marked first-time camp adventures, sports tournaments, and robotic competitions. It is still hot outside, but August and early September mark the beginning of school. Family game night will be replaced with homework and projects. Online video game tournaments with friends will be replaced with late night study sessions and writing papers. Shorts and sandals will soon be replaced with sweaters and boots.

For many families, the end of summer also means the start of THE CRAZY SCHEDULE! The challenge of juggling your schedule, the kids' schedule, meeting deadlines, getting a healthy dinner on the table, and making time for family activities. Hopefully there is one thing in your schedule that does not change...you go to church!

I always took my girls to church but I may have never told them why. I'm not sure I ever gave it much thought, I just felt it was important. I took them to church because it taught them what we believe as Christians, they engaged in the traditions of church, they had a safe space to explore their gifts and talents, they could think critically and ask questions about their faith, and it helped them intentionally set aside time for God.

We can worship God at home, but there is something special about corporate worship. It is during corporate worship that my children heard how God had changed and blessed other people. They saw how the community came together to take care of each other. They received a Word from God, heard songs and prayer, and had experiences to encourage and inspire them throughout the school week.

Church is a place where my children were nurtured and loved by a community of believers who wanted the best for them. Because we attended consistently, the members of the church knew them and became like family. They had dozens of big cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents. They knew they had people looking out for them wherever they were. It warmed my heart to see my teenage daughters in deep conversation with one of the elders of the church.

My children saw love and accountability modeled in the church community. They experienced love through the power of prayer, both praying for others and having others pray for them.

The church community reinforced what we taught at home. They practiced respecting their elders, caring for others, and disagreeing with others respectfully. They learned that the world does not revolve around them. They had opportunities to serve in the church and in the larger community.

Children are under a great deal of pressure academically, athletically, and socially. But when I took my children to church, those pressures were eased. Even if THE CRAZY SCHEDULE is in full effect at your house, make time to take them to church where they can be surrounded by a loving and supportive community.

*Adapted from the Michigan Conference UMC Newsletter*

Christopher D. Johnston, Master 6241 Grand River Road, Bancroft, MI 48414  
 Tel: 989-634-9350 (H) 989-666-6648 (C) E-mail msgprez19@yahoo.com

### Grange Revival (Camp Out)

For those of you who are wondering, Connie, the boys, and I attended the National Grange Revival (that has been renamed Camp Out for future events) the last week of July in Ozark, Arkansas. While we have determined that my truck is not ready to handle the mountains anytime soon again with our new camper, the event as a whole was exciting. We had been notified that there was fishing opportunities available so we took several tackle boxes and most of our fishing poles. Many children did not have any fishing equipment with them so they used ours, while I have no problem sharing and getting kids involved in outdoor activities, we did come home with one less fishing pole, and much lighter tackle boxes. Joan Smith from Potomac Grange #1 setup different events through out the camping area, these events became known as Grange Olympics and were set up with the intent that everyone could participate and take part in the Olympics. We did keep scores and turned them in, then awards were presented on Saturday evening. Sister Joan also learned a valuable camping life lesson, to not leave food out while camping in a bear infested area. Many of the nights we were there a bear visited the camp to see if Sister Joan had left any new goodies out for its snack. Prior to the event some of those who had registered had been asked to prepare a workshop or an outing. There were trips to a local river for swimming, a trip to the quilt shops, as well as to the site of the world's largest Budweiser can. Workshops included card making, tin punch art, line dancing and many more. It was determined to continue with the campouts every other year. The camps will be moved around the country. I highly recommend you attend; this is a chance to get with our friends we only see at the National Session or at Regional Conferences with the purpose of the camp out being all fun without work to do.

### Resolutions

As you all know we are arriving at that time of year when we start making our final arrangements for the state convention. The resolutions are due to the Michigan State Grange Secretary by October 1<sup>st</sup>,

in a hard copy with the signature of the Master and Secretary of the Grange adopting the resolution and the date on which the meeting was held that the resolution was adopted.

### State Session

This year's convention is being held at the Lenawee County fairgrounds community center and the meals will be held there as well. More information is found elsewhere in this issue. Meal prices will be coming soon while we find and work with a caterer. I'm looking forward to seeing all of our great state members at this convention.

### National Session

As you should be aware, we are co-hosting the National session this year with a few of our closest neighboring state Granges. The National session will be held in Bloomington Minnesota beginning just nine days after the completion of our state session. I would love to see many of you at the National Session.

### Trailer

Several years ago, the Michigan State Grange received a donation of an enclosed cargo trailer for the purpose of hauling the session supplies from place to place. As with many things age has not been kind to the trailer. We are in the process of making many improvements to the trailer to ensure that it will last for many years to come. The first trip with the trailer completed will be to the state convention. I will have pictures of the trailer in the next edition of the Michigan Grange News.

Until next time.....

### Reminder:

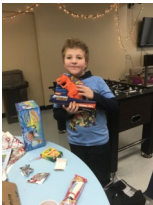
Chris has tickets for the National Foundation Quilt Contest. They are \$5.00 each for the queen size quilt

Peggy has tickets for the National Grange Youth 50/50 Raffle. They are \$1.00 each. She also has MSG Pins available for \$5.00 each. These are to help raise funds for our 150th Anniversary in 2023

Luanna Swainston, Director 965-108th Street, SW Byron Center, MI 49315  
Tel: 616-262-3516 E-mail: plswainston1@gmail.com

I hope you all had a great summer as fall approaches.

I know it's not the Christmas season yet but for the Adopt-a-Child Program, plans are being made as soon as school starts. I need to know if we have new Granges or Grangers who would like to Adopt-a-Child at the Michigan School for the Deaf and "honor" them at Christmas. The expressions on the faces of the child is worth the time to share what you can give. Most of those children would not have much of a Christmas without the generosity of you. Talk it over with your Granges and Grangers and give great thought to Adopting-a-Child.



With State Session approaching soon please look over the contests available to you. The contest and rules are in the Michigan State Grange Program Booklet. The Essay Contest is one. If you have Juniors in your Grange, encourage them to enter the Poster Contest. Look over the other contests in the Booklet also and see what is available and interests you.

If your Grange hasn't donated to the Deaf Awareness Fun your contribution would be appreciated. We recognize a graduating senior at Michigan

School for the Deaf with a \$500.00 scholarship to help with furthering his/her education. Also \$150.00 is contributed to the Alexander Graham Bell Association to help with their camp activities and supplies, each summer.

Child Christmas Michigan the pizza the teachers. (other food, beverage are donated by Grangers.)



At the Adopt-a-Mas Party at the School for the Deaf the fund helps to pay for served at lunch-students and

Don't forget to send me your Annual Deaf Awareness form by September 10th!! If you have a program that you would like to share please send it to me and I would share it with others. Also if you have marked at least 15 items, you will receive a special award. Whatever you mark, I am interested in what you are doing.

Don't forget your Boxtops and labels for Education labels. Otherwise send them with your delegates or send them to me.

Have a good rest of summer and enjoy your fall. Hope to see you at State Session.



**NEWBORN NEWS**



**Shannon (Abbott) and Jake Pomorski** welcomed **Carter Philip** to their family. He was born May 10, 2019 at 8:21 p.m. Carter weighted 8lbs. 11oz. And was 21 inches long. He was welcomed at home by big brother, Jaxson, Grandmother Michelle (Swainston) Abbott, and great Grandpa and Grandma, Phil and Luanna Swainston. Members of Kinney Grange #754 and Carlisle Grange #812.

Congratulations to the Pomorski's!

**Kathryn and Jen Hsu-Bishop** welcomed **Winter Sage** to their family. Winter was born July 9, 2019 weighing 7 lb. 12 oz. and 21 inches long. Winter was welcomed by grandparents Marshall and Jackie Bishop and Great Grandfather, Roland Winter. Members of Home Grange #129

Congratulations to the Hsu-Bishop's!

**Projects to Remember For Convention**

**REMEMBER** To bring your pennies or other coins or dollars for the NG Convention Collection...we host again this year (November, 2019)

**DON'T FORGET** to bring items for the Family Activities Community Service Project...gloves, hats, mittens, scarves, socks.

**BRING ALONG** items for the Silent Auction! This ia fun type of fund raiser for the Michigan State Grange!

**ALWAYS APPRECIATED** are items for the State Grange Office...paper, pens, envelopes, etc.

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST** extra money for the fund raisers!

## Family Activities

## Family Togetherness

Tom Smith, Director

816 4th Street, Three Rivers, MI 49093 Tel: 269-858-8305

State Grange Session is coming up quickly! Are we ready? I'm trying to get my end in order, but your help is needed to make it all worthwhile. First, if you haven't already, get your yearly report form filled out and sent to me. As I've said in other articles, a special award will be made to the Grange with the most outstanding report. I'm hoping for 75% of our Granges to respond, so there is your challenge.

The session in Adrian has plenty of exhibit space, so with your help we can fill the tables and give our judges some challenges in their decision making. And don't forget our "help" project this year is to assist a group working with the Needy and homeless of Lenawee County. Gloves, mittens, scarves, hats and socks can be brought to the Convention and placed on our bare Christmas tree. With your help we can make a pretty tree and help a lot of people in the Adrian area. We had super participation at West Oshtemo in 2018 and I hope we can do just as well this year.

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I've said this many times over the last three years, but we're saying it again! My goal has been to take this department from one of contests and women's activities and broaden our scope to focus on families. Since we have so many 3, 4 & 5 generations in our membership, this should be a natural. The following is something I clipped that has some great ideas for educational fun for family building.

Fall is a great time for family togetherness, but it passes quickly if we don't plan ahead a little. Here are some family fun activities that are inexpensive and memory making:

1. Go weekend camping, maybe just in a backyard (remember the Smore's)
2. Take a color tour
3. Go on a nature walk and try to identify various trees you see.
4. Visit a pumpkin patch
5. Don't just buy your apples, go pick some.
6. Create your own decorations with leaves and gourds.
7. Make handmade Christmas cards.
8. Make handmade Christmas gifts.
9. Whole family take dancing lessons.
10. Volunteer at an animal shelter
11. Organize a food or clothing drive.
12. Research and plan holiday travel together.
13. Create and sell items for a fall or holiday bazaar or craft show.
14. Plan holiday surprises.
15. Start Christmas shopping.
16. Go to a local free movie event.
17. Watch historical reenactment.
18. Attend a fall cultural festival
19. Pick a movie series and have a weekend watching marathon (don't forget the popcorn!)
20. Attend a local play or concert.
21. Cheer for your favorite team either in person or by watching TV together.

22. Read a book as a family.
23. Go on a local holiday tour, such as a mansion or lights tour.
24. Begin planning your own Christmas displays.
25. Foster an animal from a local shelter while they search for a forever family for his or her.
26. Get lost in a corn maze.
27. Go on a hayride.
28. Learn a new game
29. Visit a farm.
30. Try cooking new recipes together.
31. Plan that Thanksgiving feast.
32. Can and preserve produce.
33. Make and enjoy Christmas cookies early.

## Community Service

Sept. 10 due date

Mary Ann Rocco, Director 145 Beadle Lake Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49014  
Tel: 269-209-6640 Email: roccomaryann@yahoo.com

Summer is coming to an end and Fall is right around the corner. This means that your Community Service Report is due very soon. Hopefully you have completed your Community Service Report or are working on completing it.

All nominations for the VIP Award are also due and postmarked by September 10th. You may mail them in the same package as your Community Service Report.

Don't forget if you have honored a Firefighter, Teacher or Law Enforcement Officer this year to send an essay with a picture if possible along with your Community Service and VIP entries for judging. The state winner of the Firefighter, Teacher and Law Enforcement Officer entries will go onto National Grange for judging. They are also due to me by September 10th.

I have tried to pass along information in previous Grange Newsletters as a guide and have mailed out your registration form along with the guidelines for your report. If you have any questions at all please give me a call or email me.

Your Community Service Report needs to be mailed to me in Battle Creek and postmarked by September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to be judged.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer and I hope to meet you at the Michigan State Grange convention.



Jackie Bishop, Lecturer 479 Tuscany Drive  
 Tel: 269-365-0401 jacqueline\_bishop@hotmail.com

State Grange Session is soon!

I hope that everyone has been taking photographs all summer on your vacations for the “America, the Beautiful” and “Michigan, my Michigan” classes, as well as at your the photography contest. Additional classes include “animals” looking forward to all your entries in the photography contest not photography-minded, consider entering the art contest in adult coloring book page, drawing/painting, or three-



“county fairs” to enter into and “people in action”. I am at State Grange. For those one of the following classes: dimensional objects. For



For those planning on attending the State Grange session, there will be a public speaking contest on Thursday evening. Start planning your entries now. Each entrant will draw their topic from a hat. Topics include 1) my favorite toys as a child; 2) my family traditions; and 3) a memorable Grange experience. All speeches shall be 3-5 minutes in length.

Special reminder to Lecturer’s: Your annual report forms are due to me by September 10, or as soon thereafter as possible. Certificates will be awarded at State Grange for completed annual reports.

National Grange Quilt Block contest entries must be received to the National Lecturer by October 31, 2019. Since our State Grange session is a week later this year, we will not be able to display Michigan entries at State session. Mail your entries to Christine Hamp, National Lecturer, 16418 N. Birdie Road, Nine Mile Falls, WA, 99026. The details of this contest were included in the Second Quarter Lecturer’s Bulletin. If you cannot obtain that information, contact me by phone or e-mail above. The block is quite easy this year, so I hope that Michigan will send some entries.

### Writing Resolutions that Work

The Grange has a long history rooted in member participation in our policy development through our resolution process. Each Granger is tasked with addressing voids and surpluses in our policy and can propose to implement these changes by offering amendments to your local and State Granges. Drafting resolutions may seem like a daunting task at first, but if you follow three simple steps listed below, you will soon be on your way to writing a clear and effective resolution.

First, it is important to know the anatomy of a resolution.

There are three main parts, the **Title**, the body or **Whereas** section, and the conclusion or **Resolved** section.

The Title should clearly state the issue to be addressed. For example, if you are drafting a measure to deregulate the postal service, your title should be something along the lines of:

**Example:**

**Deregulation of the Postal Service** rather than just Postal Service

The whereas section is where you get to make your argument for why this resolution is necessary. This section does not become policy but explains to other Grangers why the issue is important and provides details, data, and other reference material so they can be better educated on voting for the issue.

**Example:**

**Whereas, the federal government imposes unreasonable regulations and mandates on the U.S. Postal Service but no longer funds any of the organization’s operating costs; and**

**Whereas, the U.S. Postal Service will continue to be forced to close local post offices and reduce services under such a business model; and**

**Whereas, the U.S. Postal Service could survive and compete if allowed to create its own business model free of Congressional oversight; and**

**Whereas, the National Grange has a rich tradition in helping to ensure the rural free delivery of mail; be it**

The Resolved section must be a complete sentence which sums up what your resolution is trying to achieve and can stand alone without any of the supporting information.

**Example:**

**Resolved, that the National Grange support legislation that creates an autonomous U.S. Postal Service which can set its own operating procedures and business model without the undue regulation of the federal government.**

### Writing Resolutions that Stand the Test of Time

A good deal of Grange policy dates back 75 years or more and continues to be relevant because the ideals and concepts hold true today. However, we also have policy that is out-of-date and relates to issues that have been dealt with on the local and congressional levels. If you have a resolution that deals with an issue that is connected to a current event or particular bill, your resolution may be included in the committee of jurisdiction’s policy statement for that year, rather than passed as a resolution. Rest assured that this is still very important and is actually a better home for your resolution. Good luck and happy policymaking!

*Copied from 2018 Sept.-Oct. MGN*

Kevin Young, Director 60822 Creek Road, Niles, MI 49120  
Tel: 269-684-3870 E-mail: Kevin60822@sbcglobal.net

Wow! August is almost over and another County Fair season is in the books for my area. I am sitting here after finishing up a very busy week (August 20th) at the Berrien County Youth Fair both as a volunteer and a very proud Uncle! We started out with loading the 4 market pigs in less than 15 minutes! The kids washed the pigs in the trailer and then my oldest nephew gave each pig a haircut. The pigs looked very good and all made weight on Sunday morning during weigh in at the fair. The market goats and breeding stock all made it to the fair in good condition as well. The proud Uncle was so happy with how the kids did this year with their goats. They did very well with showmanship and then came the really proud moment when 1 of the kids were in the champion drive for Grand Champion Dairy Market Goat, which my nephew was the winner 2 years in a row with his goat that we raised in my back yard! That makes 3 years in a row as my niece won two years ago! Willow was a doe and is happily living at home with our good friend Jessica who raises registered Nubian Dairy goats. The pigs looked really well but the judge wasn't looking for what we had in the type of pigs. With the fair week past us, that means my chores will slow way down as I do not have goats and pigs to care for any longer. They will surely be missed for the next few weeks, but I do have chores to do yet. Our small flock of 17 chickens and one guinea hen are stilling doing well. They enjoy all of the things from the garden that have been there a little too long. Like zucchini that are the size of baseball bats or tomatoes that the bugs started to eat on. They expect "goodies" every time I go out to the coop!

The garden hasn't done well this summer for some reason. The zucchini produced okay this year but all came on at the same time. The tomato plants are behind so we are just starting to see fruit turning color. The butternut squash had struggled this year to grow and I am not sure how well they will turn out for State Grange. We did get potatoes planted even if it was not until June! But they are growing well with the method of planting we did. I believe it was the last article I mentioned about the Ruth Stout method of gardening. I hope everyone that has planted items for the Agriculture Department classes

Tricia Eidsmoe 1451 Grey Road, Midland, MI 48640  
Tel: 989-631-0079 E-mail: tennisbums@charter.net

Summer is coming to an end. It is already late August and county fairs are taking place all over the state. As I write this, it is still in the 80's though!

Fall means it is time for the **annual reports** to the Michigan State Grange. Hopefully you have completed your membership report! It needs to be at my house by **Tuesday, September 10.**

I also hope to receive many entries to the National Grange Membership contest. Reminder that you will send to me a short write-up (up to 2 pages) of where your Grange placed its display and what interest the display generated. The goal was to create a display promoting your Grange and to use it in the community your Grange serves. Your display could be either digital or non-digital. I do not need the display sent to me; just the summary.

The **National Grange Membership contest summary** needs to be at my house by **Sunday, September 1.** I will be on vacation September 10-25 and need to have these summaries judged then sent to National Grange by the end of September.

If you have any questions, please contact me. I am willing to work with you so that your membership report and display summary can be entered in these contests.

In the meantime, enjoy the remaining days of summer! I look forward to seeing you at the Michigan State Grange convention in Adrian.

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are doing well too!

As we move in to the harvest season, please keep in mind that we will once again be sharing the roads with very large sized farm equipment. I know we are all in a hurry to get where we are going but we need to keep in mind that those big pieces of equipment help to put food on our families' tables.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Michigan State Grange Convention that is being held in late October at the Lenawee County Fairgrounds. I know our host region has been working hard to make this convention very nice. Keep in mind that State Session is still on a shortened schedule so check the MGN and the website for the proposed schedule.

Ya'll come now, ya hear!!!  
See you at State Session!!

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

## (Subject to change)

### Thursday, October 24

1:00 p.m. Registration  
2:00 p.m. Display Room Opens for entries  
4:00 p.m. Committee Meetings  
6:00 p.m. Baking Contest Judging  
7:00 p.m. Welcome  
    Baking Contest Auction  
    Public Speaking Contest  
    State Officers/Department  
    Directors  
    State Officer Practice

### Friday, October 25

7:30 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. Open 144th Annual Session in 6th Degree  
9:15 a.m. Lower to 4th Degree – admit 4th degree members  
    Flag Presentation  
    Roll Call of Officers  
    Roll Call of Delegates  
    Welcome by City Officials  
    Executive Committee Response  
    Partial Report – Credentials  
    Committee  
    Adopt Order of Business  
9:30 a.m. Lecturer, Family Activities, Junior, Deaf Awareness contest judging  
10.00 a.m. Report of Executive Committee  
    Financial Reports  
    Proposed Budget  
    Masters Address  
    Session Committee Reports  
12:00 p.m. Lunch break  
12:45 p.m. Foundation Meeting  
3:00 p.m. Budget Approval  
    Election

Speaker Connie Johnston

“Wreaths across America”

Session Committee Reports

6:00 p.m. Awards Dinner

7:30 p.m. Call to Order

Memorial Service

Session Committee Reports

Close in 4th degree

6th Degree Practice

5th Degree Practice

Session Committee Meetings

### Saturday, October 25

8:30 a.m. Open with 5th Degree

6th Degree

Feast Table

Roll Call of Officers

Session Committee Reports

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:30 p.m. Call to Order

Roll Call of Officers

Adoption of Friday’s minutes

Unfinished Business

Installation of Officers

4:00 p.m. Closing of 144th Annual Session

7:30 p.m. Annual Banquet

VIP Announcement

Youth/ Young Adult Raffle

Dance

