



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXV NO. 6

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 2019



MSG Region 4 Fifth Degree Team



Michigan State Grange Officers & 6th Degree Team

Michigan State Grange Master, Chris Johnston, Past Master Roland Winter, Past Master Jeffrey Swainston, Past First Lady and National Grange Ceres Nancy Swainston and First Lady Connie Johnston

6th Degree Feast Table



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Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

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Inquiries contact: Michigan State Grange
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

Editor & Adv. Manager:
Christopher D. Johnston

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

- Nov. 5** Election Day
- Nov. 7** Veterans Day
- Nov. 28** Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 25** Merry Christmas
- Jan 1** Happy New Year



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404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429
Tel: 989-288-4546
E-mail msgrange1873@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Helping those in need

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

The holidays can be an especially tough time of the year for the less fortunate in our communities. The weather changes and those who have been living in tents all summer now have to find a place to live. Those who have been living on garden vegetables all summer long now need to find another source for food. This problem is closer to most of us than we think.

As a pastor, my church receives requests almost weekly for assistance for someone in need. They need gas to get to the doctor, they haven't had a decent meal in a few days, and they need help finding a place to stay are all common requests this time of year. I have a desire and a longing to help as many people in need as possible. Actually, its more than a mere desire to be helpful. Sometimes it is a strong conviction that I am looking straight into the eyes of Jesus Christ.

But the same question always seems to arise. How do we know we are truly helping someone in need? How do we know that this person is not just trying to take advantage of us? The ultimate answer is that we don't. But in the spirit of the Christmas season we have to ask ourselves, "Do we practice justice, mercy, and truth on the most basic human level?"

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus reminds us not to judge others. He challenges us to pay attention to our own attitudes and motivations and not to be concerned with the failures of others. He reminds us to ask for what we need.

So back to the question of wondering if we are being taken advantage of by someone who really doesn't need the assistance. The real answer is that it doesn't matter. There are no guarantees that the person I give food to is really hungry. But I do know that if I were in their situation, I would appreciate receiving the help I need. That is how I would want to be treated so why wouldn't I do the same for someone else? I can respond to the need presented to me and leave the true outcome to God.

Today at every possible moment do justice, practice mercy, and reveal truth in the most basic, easy, and human way. It is in this small step that our souls will find renewal, that our hearts prepare to celebrate the Christ Child, and that others can see the true light. Merry Christmas to you all!!



IN MEMORY OF MARTHA LAUPP

August 15, 1035-October 23, 2019

Martha, the wife of late Carl Laupp (past Gate-keeper for the Michigan State Grange, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 23rd. She is survived by her son Mark (Janelle) Laupp and daughter Dawn Laupp. Grandchildren James Laupp and Marissa (Thomas) Williams and 3 great grandchildren. Martha served on the Women's Activities Committee for the Michigan State Grange, as well as many offices and committees at Home Grange #129.

Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

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

Convention Recap

We just wrapped up the 146th Annual Session of the Michigan State Grange where many resolutions were presented, discussed and either passed or rejected. We will even be sending one to National Session this year. We are getting fewer and fewer resolutions brought to session. Remember that we are a grassroots organization and resolutions are your voice!! This is your chance to make a change, not only in our great organization local up to National, but to also help change legislation in the state or the nation. Change starts with one person and grows from there to your local Grange, to the State Grange and on up to National Grange.

I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the host region for a job well done. I think everyone enjoyed their time there and a lot of work was accomplished. Thanks to the Fifth Degree Team for a great degree presentation.

During the banquet the Juniors sold 50/50 raffle tickets. It was suggested that the funds go towards the "Wreaths across America" program. If you attended session, you would have seen an information presentation regarding the program. This program started at Arlington National Cemetery but has expanded nationwide to National Cemeteries where their goal is to place a wreath at every veteran's grave marker. The total amount raised was \$372.00 with the winner receiving \$186.00. The winning ticket drawn was Marc Johnston's. Marc had used his department contest winnings to purchase tickets. Without any prompting that I'm aware of, Marc then donated his winnings back to Wreaths across America! So with a total of \$375.00 (with a small added donation), the Michigan State Grange will be sponsoring 25 wreaths that will be placed at cemeteries on December 14th.

National Session

In a few short days, Connie and I will be off heading to the National Grange Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota. We are part of the region hosting the National Session. We are excited to continue representing Michigan as your delegates.

State Grange Trailer

If you were at the session, you would have seen

the progression pictures of the updates being made on the State Grange trailer. Unfortunately the final part of the process wasn't complete before the session. We are hoping to have the trailer completed and back by the end of this week as we need to haul items to the national session. Watch for the pictures of the updated trailer in the next issue and on the website.

Michigan Grange Pin

We are still selling pins!! Sold a few more at the session, but still have plenty available! Remember the proceeds are going towards our 150th celebration. The cost of the pin will be \$5.00 per pin, and will be available through the State Secretary. All efforts will be made to hand deliver the pins if someone will be in the area. However, if the pins are to be shipped there will be a small charge for shipping.



VIP

I would like to personally congratulate **Athol Hazen, Jr.** on being selected as the Michigan State Grange VIP! It is a fitting recognition for a well-deserving person! Congratulations Athol!

Christmas and New Year

And finally as we are headed into the Holiday season, let us be mindful of the shut-ins that would love to hear from you. We should also remember those who are less fortunate; so, make some time for those who could use just a little bit more. Also, let's take some time to slow down and think about what we need to be planning so as to make next year a Great Grange year.

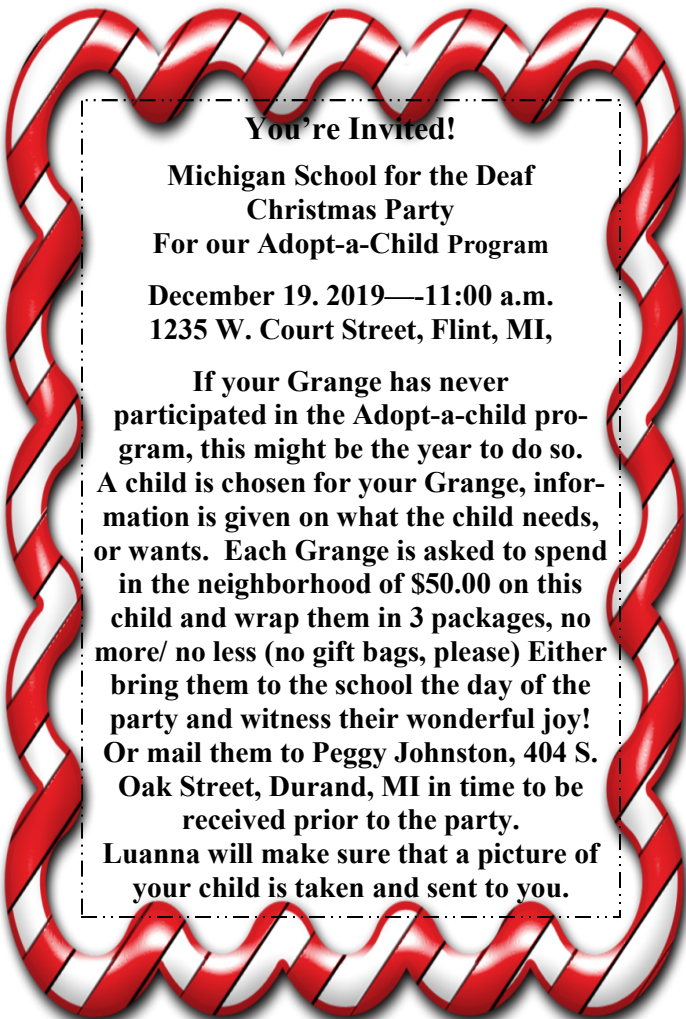
GOLD STAR GRANGE:

Burns Grange #160

CONGRATULATIONS to Ron Ely for being re-elected to the MSG Executive Committee and to Jeff Swainston and Kathryn Strouse for being re-elected to the MSG Foundation.

Until the next time...

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



You're Invited!

**Michigan School for the Deaf
 Christmas Party
 For our Adopt-a-Child Program**

**December 19, 2019—11:00 a.m.
 1235 W. Court Street, Flint, MI,**

If your Grange has never participated in the Adopt-a-child program, this might be the year to do so. A child is chosen for your Grange, information is given on what the child needs, or wants. Each Grange is asked to spend in the neighborhood of \$50.00 on this child and wrap them in 3 packages, no more/ no less (no gift bags, please) Either bring them to the school the day of the party and witness their wonderful joy! Or mail them to Peggy Johnston, 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI in time to be received prior to the party. Luanna will make sure that a picture of your child is taken and sent to you.

MSD WISH LIST—2019-20

*Glue sticks * Coloring books * Crayons*

*Educational games—ages 3-6 * Pencils*

*Crayola washable markers * 3 bean bag chairs”*

*7 prs. of child scissors * Any Deaf children’s Book (any) such as: Moses Goes to School, Moses Goes to a Concert, Moses Goes to the Circus, Dina the Deaf Dinosaur, I am Deaf, Mo Willems books, Eric Brown Books, Building Train Track, Toddler/Preschool puzzles, Kids Music Set, Magnetic building set, Counting bears, Beanie Bags, Washable Paint, Wikki Sticks*

The Wish List from the teachers at the Michigan School for the Deaf includes the items listed above so far. If you would like to purchase any of the items GREAT! You can bring them to the school Christmas party or mail them to Michigan State Grange, 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429. If you would like to make a donation toward these supplies (and most likely other items that will be added to the list) shopping would be done for you. You can give money or a check to either Luanna Swainston or Peggy Johnston and earmark it “Wish List Supplies”. I know the teachers appreciate the items for their classrooms. Thanks for your consideration!

Please Help!

CEERTIFICATES PRESENTED:

DEAF AWARENESS FUND DONATORS –2019:

Burns #160, Gratiot #1898, Mid Michigan Pomona #61, Studley #1174, Rome #293, Fredonia #1713, West Oshtemo #1630, North Adrian #721, Barnard #689, Fern #803, Carlisle #812, Kinney #754, Plymouth/Westland #389, Mosherville #1351

DEAF AWARENESS ANNUAL REPORTS:

Plymouth/Westland #389, Barnard #689, Burns #160, Gratiot #1898, Rome #293, Kinney #754, Home #129, Oceana Center #1047, Community #1675, Studley #1174, Mosherville #1351, Fredonia #1713, Carlisle #812, North Adrian #721 *** CharAn Pomona #38, Mid Michigan Pomona #61, St. Joe/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4, Lenawee Pomona #15

ADOPT-A-CHILD — 2018

Mosherville #1351, Plymouth/Westland #389 (2 students), Oceana Center #1047, Libbey Family (2 students), Barnard #689, Burr Oak #1350, Studley #1174, Marshall & Jackie Bishop, Burns #160, West Oshtemo #1630, St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4, Kinney #754, Fredonia #1713, North Adrian #721, Mid Michigan Pomona #61, Rome #293, Gratiot #1898, Ted & Helen Mudd & Tricia Eidsmoe, Kent, Ottawa & Oceana Pomona #18, Phil and Luanna Swainston, Carlisle #812, Dale Moore & Peggy Johnston & Sharon Popler.

ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS:

1st Place: Tom Smith West Oshtemto #1630
 2nd Place: Peggy Johnston Burns #160
 3rd Place: Janie Lerchen Plymouth/Westland #389

POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:

JUNIORS 12-14 YEARS OF AGE

1st Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325
 2nd Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325



Family Activities

Winners

Tom Smith, Co-Director 816 4th Street, Three Rivers, MI 49093 Tel: 269-858-8305
Barbara Johnston, Co-Director 2028 Robbins Road, Tipton, MI 49287 Tel: 517-431-2546 tnbjohnston@pc.com

Welcome to Barbara Johnston, North Adrian Grange #721 as the new co-director for the Michigan State Grange Family Activities Department.

BAKED GOODS: APPLE PIE

1st Place: Lena Young, Community #1675
2nd Place: Audrey Ewing, Plymouth/Westland #389

BAKED GOODS: QUICK BREADS

1st. Place: Cyrus Bishop, Home #129

BAKED GOODS: DOCTORED UP CAKE

1st Place: Lena Young, Community #1675
2nd Place: Tricia Eidsmoe, Studley #1174
3rd Place: JoAnne Normand, North Adrian #721

BAKED GOODS: OATMEAL COOKIES

1st Place: Helen Mudd, Studley #1174
2nd Place: Kevin Young, Community #1675
3rd Place: Eric Bishop, Home #129

HOMEMADE CANDIES

ANY TYPE OF FUDGE

1st Place: Ted Mudd, Studley #1174

ANY OTHER TYPE OF CANDY

1st Place: Barbara Johnston, North Adrian #721

CANNING:

JAMS, JELLIES, PRESERVES, HONEYS, ETC.

1st Place: Barbara Johnston, North Adrian #721

KNITTING

AFGHAN:

1st: Russell Hoag Community #1675

ANY OTHER KNITTED ITEM

1st Place: Russell Hoag Community #1675
2nd Place: Linda Waltz Colon #215

CROCHETING AFGHAN:

1st Place: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160
2nd Place: Russell Hoag Community #1675
3rd Place: Sharon Popler Burns #160

CROCHETING: Any Other item

1st Place: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160

QUILTING

ANY OTHER FORM OF QUILTING THAN TIED

QUILTS

1st Place: JoAnne Normand North Adrian #721
2nd Place: Betty Persons Burr Oak #1350
3rd Place: Pramila Sardeshpande Plymouth/Westland 389

CLOTHING

DECORATED SWEATSHIRT

1st Place: Sharon Popler Burns #160

RECYCLED CRAFT

1st Place: Dale Moore Studley #1174
2nd Place: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

CHRISTMAS WREATH

1st Place: Dale Moore Studley #1174

2nd Place Peggy Johnston, Burns #160

TABLE CENTERPIECE

ANY THEME

1st Place: Audrey Ewing Plymouth/Westland #389
2nd Place: Peggy Johnston Burns #160
3rd Place: Dale Moore Studley #1174

GREETING CARDS

1st Place: Sandra LaHart North Adrian #721
2nd Place: JoAnn Normand North Adrian #721
3rd Place: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

WOODWORKING

1st Place: Bob Persons Fern Grange #803

ANTIQUE FARM ITEM

1st Place: Tom Smith West Oshtemo #1630
2nd Place: Marjorie Lee Community #1675
3rd Place: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

MISCELLANEOUS CRAFT

1st Place: Audrey Ewing Plymouth/Westland #389

CLOTHING (JUNIOR CLASS)

DECORATED SWEATSHIRT

1st Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325

CHRISTMAS WREATH (JUNIOR CLASS)

1st Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325

TABLE CENTERPIECE

(JUNIOR CLASS)

1st Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325

Mitten Tree Total For Share the Warmth Adrian, MI

**9 prs. of booties 13 scarves
8 pr of ear warmers 127 caps
56 prs. Of mittens and gloves
59 prs. Of socks
Total 272**



CERTIFICATES: Mid-Michigan Pomona #61, Burns #160, Burr Oak #1350, Community #1675, Studley #1174, Fern #803, Colon #215, Harbor Springs #730, Gratiot #1898, North Adrian #721, Kinney #754, Mosherville #1351, Summit City #672.

Special Report for Outstanding Report: Burns #160

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

Congratulations to the winners of the Lecturer's contests! It is always exciting seeing the talents displayed of Michigan State Grangers. I personally enjoy seeing the Grangers from around Michigan at the session as well.

As always, I would encourage more people to show their talents by entering the contests next year. It would be fantastic if there was at least one entry from each Grange in Michigan. The Program Booklet will be coming to you soon, so you have the opportunity to plan what contests you might like to enter next year. It is likely there will be a few minor changes. I look forward to what another year will bring!

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Class A — Poem Topic: Favorite Season
1st Place: Tom Smith, West Oshtemo #1630
2nd Place: Marshall Bishop, Home #129
Class B — Story Topic: As A Child, I wanted to be a
1st Place: Tom Smith, West Oshtemo #1630
2nd Place: Peggy Johnston, Burns #160

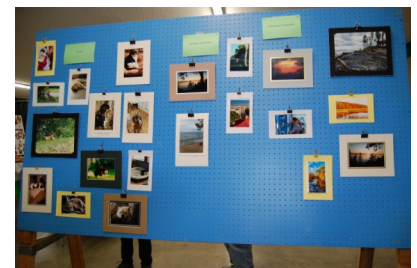
ADULT COLORING BOOK PAGE

1st Place: Peggy Johnston, Burns #160
2nd Place: Dale Moore, Studley #1174

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Class A: Animals
Subordinate
1st Place: Terri Sheffer, Burns #160
2nd Place: Janie Lerchen, Plymouth/Westland #389
Juniors: Age 12-14 year olds
1st. Place: Cory Johnston, Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Marcus Johnston, Burns JG #325
Class B: People in Action
Subordinate
1st Place: Sharon Popler, Burns #160
2nd Place: Tricia Eidsmoe, Studley #1174
3rd Place: Terri Sheffer, Burns #160
Juniors: Age 12-14
1st Place: Marcus Johnston, Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Cory Johnston, Burns JG #325
Class C: America The Beautiful
Subordinate
1st Place: Connie Johnston, Burns #160

2nd Place: Tricia Eidsmoe, Studley #1174
3rd Place: Chris Johnston, Burns #160
Juniors: Age 12-14
1st Place: Marcus Johnston, Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Cory Johnston, Burns JG #325
Class D: Michigan, My Michigan
Subordinate
1st Place: Dale Young, Community #1675
2nd Place: Dale Moore, Studley #1174
3rd Place: Janie Lerchen, Plymouth/Westland #389
Junior: Age 12-14
1st Place: Cory Johnston, Burns JG #325
2nd Place: Marcus Johnston, Burns JG #325
Class E County Fair
Subordinate
1st Place: Connie Johnston, Burns #160
2nd Place: Terri Sheffer, Burns #160
3rd Place: Chris Johnston, Burns #160
PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST
1st Place: Eric Bishop, Home #129
2nd Place: Barbara Johnston, North Adrian #721
3rd Place: Barb Castle, Torch Lake #1840
ORIGINAL GRANGE PROGRAM
1st Place: Tom Smith, West Oshtemo #1630
BEST OF SHOW — PHOTOGRAPHY
Dale Young Community #1675
BEST OF SHOW OVERALL (NON-PHOTOGRAPHY)
Sharon Popler Burns #160
CERTIFICATES FOR REPORTING:
POMONA GRANGES:
Mid Michigan Pomona #61
St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4
SUBORDINATE GRANGES:
Burns #160
Colon #215
Community #1675
Fern #803
Gratiot #1898
Harbor Springs #730
Home #129
North Adrian #721
Oceana Center #1047
Pittsfield Union #882 Studley #1174 Summit City



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

ANNUAL REPORT:

Worthy Master, First Lady, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters:

Welcome to the 146th Annual Convention of the Michigan State Grange!! It is hard to believe that it is time for yet another Michigan State Grange Session. Time sure goes by fast and for some reason this year has gone by way too fast!! I hope everyone has enjoyed my articles as at times I felt like I was just rambling on but at the time I was writing them it was what was on my mind. Agriculture in our Great State is a very important part of life and of the State Economy, and I feel honored to be the Director of the MSG Agriculture Department. It has been a very up and down year so far for Agriculture in our Country and it isn't over yet. Please keep a close eye on future bills that could harm Agriculture as many of us know it. Some bills have become law and has harmed the small farmers yet again. We the Grange, need to stand strong more than ever to let everyone know that the Grange is still alive and here to help our friends in Agriculture.

I look forward to seeing how many entries the Ag Department receives this year at State Session! I know the growing season this year has been very different than in past years so we might not have the entries that I hope to see though. We changed some of the classes to enter so I hope we were able to cover everyone no matter if you have an outdoor garden or a place in your home to grow things! I hope to continue to bring you information on this Department that has meant so much to our Great Organization when it was first founded! I hope everyone enjoys the State Session and their stay in Adrian !!!
Fraternally, Kevin Young,

**RED APPLES**

1st Place: Joanne Cebulski Barnard #689

VEGETABLES—POTATOES

1st Place: Lena Young Community #1675
 2nd Place: Kevin Young Community #1675
 3rd Place: Russell Hoag Community #1675

VEGETABLES — SQUASH

1st Place: Lena Young Community #1675
 2nd Place: Randy Cebulski Barnard #689
 3rd Place: Russell Hoag Community #1675

SUNFLOWERS

1st Place: Keith Bower Colon #215
 2nd Place: Taya Bower Colon #215
 3rd Place: Stacey Bower Colon #215

INFORMATION AWARDS by Peggy Johnston, Information Director

Adams #286, Barnard #689, Burns #160, Burr Oak #1350, Carlisle #812, Colon #215, Community #1675, Fern #803, Fredonia #1713, Gratiot #1898, Harbor Springs #730, Home #129, Kinney #754, Mosherville #1351, North Adrian #721, Oceana Center #1047, Pittsfield Union #882, Plymouth/Westland #389, Studley #1174, Summit City #672, Torch Lake #1840, West Oshtemo #1630.

MEMBERSHIP**Winners**

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

There are 25 subordinate Granges in the state and reports were received from 11 of them. Congratulations to these 11 Granges for taking the time to complete a report and send it to me as well as working on growing their membership!

These Granges completed their membership report:

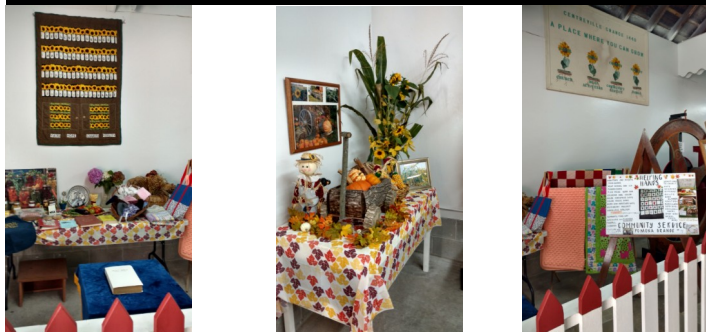
Burr Oak #1350	Fern #803
Mosherville #1351	Rome #293
Studley #1174	Summit City #672
White Pigeon #1345	

These four Granges took in new members during the 2018-2019 Grange year. Their membership numbers may be down according to their year-end report, but I am rewarding them for getting new members!

Burns #160	1 new member
Harbor Springs #730	3 new members
Home #129	1 new member
Plymouth/Westland #389	1 new member

Thanks again to all Granges participating in the membership program! Keep up the good work and I hope to see more reports next year with lots of new members!

GRANGE HAPPENINGS



For over 100 years the Grange has had a place at the St. Joseph County Grange Fair. We no longer solely manage the fair, and the displays aren't as big or fancy as they used to be, but a small booth showed fair-goers there is still a Grange presence in our area.

A small display highlighting the many community service projects of our local Granges was in place for 1 week in Centreville in Sept. and viewed by thousands.

Various types of home arts was displayed, along with a little agriculture and canning, also.

In charge of the display this year was Betty Persons, Lucille Bloom and Mary Beth Bower.

JUNIOR GRANGE

COLORING CONTEST

Age 6 & under

1st Place: Ava Booth Burns JG #325

Age 7-8

1st Place: Addison Niswander Barnard #689

2nd Place: Trey Booth Burns JG #325

Age 9-11

1st Place: Jackson Niswander Barnard #689

Age 12-14

1st Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325

2nd Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325

CRAFTS—PIPE CLEANER ANIMAL

Age 12-14

1st Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325

2nd Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325

CRAFTS —CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

Age 6 & under

1st Place: Ava Booth Burns JG #325

Age 7-8

1st Place: Trey Booth Burns JG #325

Age 12-14

1st Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325

2nd Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325

CRAFTS — BANKS

Age 12-14

1st Place: Marcus Johnston Burns JG #325

2nd Place: Cory Johnston Burns JG #325

CERTIFICATES FOR REPORTING

Fern #803 Gratiot #1898 Mosherville #1351 Burns #160
Community #1675 Studley #1174 Plymouth/Westland #389
Home #129 Home Junior #290 Summit City #672

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

Wesley Grubbs, Steve Gates, Colin Ruder, Soren Sheffer, Braedon Sheffer, Eowyn Sheffer, Randi Ruder, Neal Ambrose, Levin Driskell, Jessica Ruder, Dillan Driskell, Danielle Wolfe, Blake Johnston, Kelly Gates, Kirk Maylum II, Allison Driskell, Christopher Eidsmoe, Nicholas Eidsmoe, Duncan Grubbs, Frances Zsigray, Karen Strouse, Aubrey Sheffer, Ronnie Wolfe.

GRANGE RECOGNITION

Adams #286, Mosherville #1351, Gratiot #1898, Community #1675, Studley #1174, Home #129, Summit City #672, Fern #803, Burns #160, Plymouth/Westland #389, Oceana Center #1047

Community Service

Report

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

Another State Session is over and I want to thank all our Grangers who helped promote Community Service in their Communities. We have 25 subordinate Granges and 12 Granges submitted Community Service Reports for a total of 26,387 service hours. Congratulations!!!

Thank you to all Granges for promoting Community Service and taking the time to complete a report and submitting it to me.

Michigan State Grange Community Service Winners

40 members and over	under 40 members
1st. Fredonia #1713	1st: Studley #1174
2nd Home #129	2nd: Kinney #754
3rd: Burns #160	3rd: Mosherville #1351

Top Winners:

1st: Studley #1174
2nd: Fredonia #1713
3rd: Home #129
4th: Burns #160

**2019 VERY IMPORTANT PATRON
CONGRATULATIONS:
ATHOL HAZEN, FREDONIA GRANGE**