



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXIII NO. 1

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JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 2017

2 ELECTED TO NEW OFFICES, 2 RETURN TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT RECENT NATIONAL GRANGE CONVENTION

Duane Scott, Fort Atkinson, Wisc. And Leroy Watson, Walpole, N.H. were re-elected to the National Grange Executive Committee. This is Watson's second term and Scotts fourth term and he was re-elected by the committee as Secretary.

Christine Hamp, Nine Miles Falls, Washington was elected to a one year term as Lecturer. This position was opened with the resignation of Amanda Brozana as Lecturer when she returned to the National Grange Staff as Communications and Development Director.

Brenda Rouselle, Essex Junction, VT was elected to a one year term remaining as Lady Assistant Steward, which Chris Hamp held until being elected Lecturer.



Duane Scott, Executive Committee, Chris Hamp, Lecturer, Brenda Rouselle, Lady Assistant Steward, and Leroy Watson, Executive Committee.

Christmas



Party



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Fame Information



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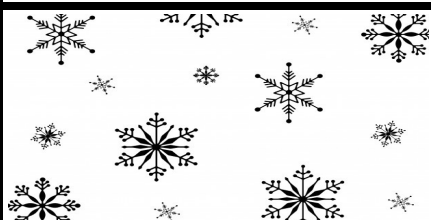
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Jan. 1	Happy New Year!
Jan. 16	Martin Luther King Day
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day
Feb. 20	President's Day



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Chaplain

Three Kings of Orient

Jeff Swainston 2589 144th Ave., Dorr, MI 49323 Tel: 616-405-6921 jeff@jnsphoto.biz

Who were these guys, anyway?

On the 12th day of Christmas my true love gave to me....

January 6 is the 12th day of Christmas and celebrates the feast of the epiphany. Also, a celebration of the wise men's visit to see the newborn king.

Who were these wise men?

We Three Kings of Orient are... OK, there probably were a lot more than three, almost assuredly they were not kings, and they may or may not have come from as far as the Orient. They probably arrived on Persian steeds and not camels. Much of our knowledge of the wise men seems to come from Hallmark Christmas cards.

In the gospel of Matthew in the 2nd chapter it says, "there came wise men from the east." That's it. Everything the Bible tells us about the wise men, right there. Matthew is the only gospel that even mentions the wise men and that's all he has to tell us about them. It's no wonder if you read opinions by 50 historians and biblical scholars you will get 50 different ideas on who these guys were.

So how many were there? Who were they? Where did they come from? When did they come?

I once did a sermon on the wise men that addressed all of these questions. I am not going into all that detail here, but if you want to know more, you know where to find me.

So if the Bible is so vague on the story of the wise men, why is it so important to us? Jeff's thoughts....

Let's suppose that the birth of Jesus has just taken place. Christmas 2016. And let's suppose Chris, Carl, and Pete are the wise men. What kind of gifts would we bring to pay homage and worship the newborn messiah?

Perhaps our music, choir, or praise songs.

Maybe our teaching and preaching.

Maybe it would be the ladies who knit and crochet and quilt for others.

Maybe its providing clothing for the homeless.

Providing a meal for someone who is hungry.

Giving an elderly person a ride to a doctor's appointment.

Helping flood victims or victims of any natural disaster.

The list is endless.

What would you do to pay homage to our King?

What gift would you bring?



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What happens when all the DOers are gone?

As National Master Betsy Huber stated in her annual address, “What happens when all the DOers are gone?” For nearly 150 years, Grange members have been the DOers. So, what happens if all the DOers are gone? Will there be no one there to take the dictionaries to third graders, or to run the food booths at the county fairs, or take the gifts to those in need? Only we can continue to train the people to be the DOers of the future. On the National level, we had a net gain in membership this past year. We can, if we all work together, achieve a net gain in Michigan. Let’s make this a priority for the next year, advance the interest and together we can increase the influence we have as an organization and have more and/or new DOers. We are all DOers when we work as a team.

National Grange Convention Highlights

For those of you who follow me on Facebook, you know that the delegate tour was of a few Washington D.C. Monuments and Buildings as well as the National Grange Building. One of the highlights was when four Grange members, representing a Marine veteran, an Air Force veteran, an Army veteran, and an active duty Air Force officer were able to lay a wreath from the National Grange at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This was a great honor for all of us to witness but especially those taking part in the event.

Tuesday morning’s breakfast speaker was U.S. Congressman Glenn Thompson from Pennsylvania. He spoke of having a strong relationship with the Granges of Rural Pennsylvania and Delaware. He also highlighted about gearing up for the 2018 Farm Bill and how important the voice of Granges will be when they get into the nitty gritty of deliberating the multi-billion-dollar piece of legislation that will affect agriculture for the next 4 years.

Having Sister Betsy as the first female at the helm of the National Grange was fitting with one of the speakers being the first female U.S. Postmaster General. Megan Brennan thanked us for our nearly 150 years of support of the Postal Service, as well as informed us of the new services that will be rolled out this next year. At the end of her comments to the delegate body, she presented to the National Grange a poster size print of the National Grange Stamp, as well as pins of the

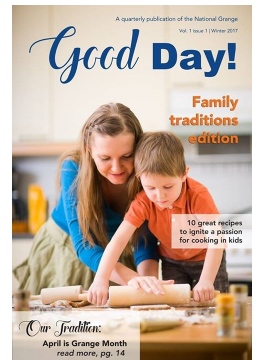
stamp available for everybody in attendance.

In Master Betsy’s Internal Masters address, she mentioned that the National Grange building has had many updates, but that many more are needed. They cleaned out the basement and have made that into another office available for rent to help increase the rental income. However, more income is needed to make the many behind the scene repairs. Stewart Hughes, the National Grange Controller, had set up a campaign to ask for donations to go towards these repairs. Stay tuned for future information. I know if you send in a certain amount that I can’t recall at the moment, you can receive a building pin. I know funds are tight, but please consider making a donation. This building is a huge source of the National Grange income and it is certainly in our best interest to keep it updated.

Good Day

For only \$14.00 a year, you can get a subscription to the new National Grange Magazine “Good Day”. This quarterly magazine will be filled with great stories, learn about new contests, programs and benefits, see the latest Grange gear and enjoy submissions by talented members.

Maybe you can even see your work featured! Email communications@nationalgrange.org to learn more or request subscription cards by mail for you, your friends and your Grange.



Distinguished Granges

Once again, the Michigan State Grange was recognized for the third year as a Distinguished State Grange. I would like to Congratulate the following Granges that received the Distinguished Subordinate Grange award. Kinney Grange for the 2nd year, Gratiot Grange for 5th year, and Burns Grange for the 6th year. I would love to see more Granges making the attempt to become a Distinguished Grange. All it takes is completing the paperwork and receiving so many points per achievement to get 100 points to receive the award.

Luanna Swainston, Director 965-108th Street, SW Byron Center, MI 49315
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What a wonderful party for twenty-eight wonderful students at the Michigan School for the Deaf in Flint on Dec. 20, 2016. So happy to see all the parents, teachers, helpers, staff members and Grange members there. Grange members came from Charlevoix, Hart, Kalamazoo, Burr Oak, Midland, Grand Rapids area, Plymouth, Westland, Durand, and Marshall area to make this a very special day for these boys and girls. Such a rewarding project. Granges and Grangers that participated in the Adopt-a-Child program were Studley #1174, two from Burns #160, Burr Oak #1350, Gratiot #1898, Plymouth/Westland #389, N. Adrian #721, West Oshtemo #1630, Mid Michigan Pomona #61, St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4, Barnard #689, Kinney #754, two from Carlisle #812, Oceana Center #1047, Mosherville #1351, Fredonia #1713, the Claudia Libbey family sponsored two, Phil & Luanna Swainston, Phil & Luanna and Ken Becker, Marshall & Jackie Bishop, Stacey & Keith Bower, Peggy Johnston & Sharon Popler & Dale Moore, Ted, Helen Mudd & Tricia Eidsmoe, and the Michigan State Grange sponsored three. Thanks to all the Granges and Grangers that purchased gifts but couldn't make it to the school. Mark Bovey, the Administrative Manager welcomed those in attendance. The "Deaf Elf" story was read by Alvin Shaw while Dave Lawer interpreted the story to the students. Even participation from the students was had. Then came the pizza and goodies for everyone to enjoy. Thanks to Sharon Popler, Arnette Welsh, Helen Mudd and Tricia Eidsmoe for serving the pizza. And then the excitement came—the students got to open their gifts. The expressions on the students faces was worth it all. It is such a rewarding project. I want to thank Janet Kelley, the Administrative Manager's Assistant for helping to provide names for those who benefit from this program. Everyone's participation helped to make it a success! Everyone deserves a big

THANK YOU!!!



Relieving Hunger

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Had enough Winter Yet? As I write this article the wind is blowing and the forecast says up to ten inches on the way. Ah, the joys of life in Michigan!

Be sure to look closely at this issue of the Grange News. There are many changes in the Family Activities Department so check out the program book and hang onto it as you work on your entries for the State Grange Convention. Only ten months till State Session so be sure to start now on your entries.

I found this article somewhere a while back and being a clip and file person (also know as a Grange Lecturer) I figured sometime it would be of use somehow. Anyways, There are some great ideas for Family Activities as well as Community Service.

Twenty Projects for Relieving Hunger

- ◆ Sponsor a Community Food Drive to replenish a local food pantry.
- ◆ Volunteer to deliver prepared meals to elderly citizens.
- ◆ Organize a feeding program at a local school to provide nutritious, healthy snacks.
- ◆ Prepare and deliver food baskets to families in need.
- ◆ Serve a meal at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.
- ◆ “Adopt” a family struggling to put food on the table. Take them shopping for fruits and vegetables.
- ◆ Organize an event to benefit the food bank in your community; use cans of food as admission.
- ◆ Sponsor a hunger walk and use proceeds to buy food for a shelter or orphanage.
- ◆ Create snack packages to be distributed to children in need.
- ◆ Collaborate with other area service organizations to take turns hosting meal for people in need.
- ◆ Partner with local restaurants or food markets. Pick up donations of fresh food items for a women’s or children’s shelter.
- ◆ Create a cookbook of inexpensive, easy to make recipes.
- ◆ Start a food cooperative to serve as a resource for healthy food at a more affordable price.
- ◆ Help plant a community garden so local residents can harvest their own.
- ◆ Collect baby food & infant formula for an organization serving young mothers at risk.

- ◆ Provide a healthy snack or meal for a group of needy children who are in an after school program.
- ◆ Work with healthcare professionals to provide free classes on food preparation & nutrition.
- ◆ Provide apples or another type of fruit as a healthy snack for children in childcare facilities.
- ◆ Provide transportation for elderly residents so they can shop for groceries.
- ◆ Teach children to bake a loaf of bread so they can take it home to their families.

Well that was the list of twenty in the article. You can see that there are ideas that any Grange would be able to do, regardless of size, age or resources. Just Get Busy!!

Another idea I thought of was to organize a small group and contact a farmer after the harvest and clean the fields. Quite often in my area potatoes, carrots and other crops get missed by the big machinery and end up rotting in the fields. What a super way to help your local food bank.

HAPPY GRANGING!!

FOUNDATION

GIVE

Roland Winter 15150 A Drive North Marshall, MI 49068
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MSG FOUNDATION,

Kathryn Strouse, Sec/Treas.

P.O. Box 84

North Star, MI 48862

Please accept my donation to help support the Mission of the Michigan State Grange Foundation.

§

In Memory of: _____ **In Memory**

In Memory of: _____ **Birthday**

_____ Birthday

____ Anniversary

Address

City/State	Zip	Deceased
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Donations made by:	Other
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Thank you for your Support!

I can't believe how fast this past year has flown by. Being so busy with Grange events and Family, makes the days go by so fast as many of you already know!!! The new year has already started but I'd like to wish everyone a very : **Joyous and Healthy New Year!!!!**

In this MSG paper you'll all see the changes for the Lecturer's Department. I hope you'll all take a few moments to look them over and maybe decided to start early making some of the items. If you have any questions about something, please give me a call or e-mail me. While the winter rages outside I'm going to get started on a few projects listed.

WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR SENIORS

During the winter months, ice, snow and cold temperatures can make life challenging for everyone. Slippery sidewalks and cold weather can cause a wide range of injuries and illnesses—especially for seniors. Here is some helpful advice for preventing common winter dangers that the elderly population face.

1. **AVOID SLIPPING ON ICE:** Icy, snowy roads and sidewalks make it easy to slip and fall. Unfortunately, falls are a common occurrence for senior citizens, especially during the winter months. Often these falls cause major injuries such as hip and wrist fractures, head trauma and major lacerations.

2. **DRESS FOR WARMTH:** Cold temperatures can lead to frostbite and hypothermia—a condition where the body temperature dips too low. More than half of hypothermia-related deaths were of people over the age of 65. So don't let indoor temperatures go too low and dress in layers. Going outside? Wear warm socks, a heavy coat, a warm hat, gloves and a scarf. In very cold temperatures, cover all exposed skin. Use a scarf to cover your mouth and protect your lungs. Your body temperature should never dip below 95 degrees—if it does get medical assistance immediately.

3. **CHECK THE CAR:** Driving during the winter can be hazardous for anyone. But it is especially dangerous for older people, who may not drive as often anymore or whose reflexes may not be as quick as they once were. Get your car serviced before wintertime hits—or ask a family member to bring it to a garage for you. Checking things like the oil, tires, battery and wipers can make a big difference on winter roads.

4. **FIGHT WINTERTIME DEPRESSION:** Because it can be difficult and dangerous to get around, many seniors have less contact with others during cold months. This can breed feelings of loneliness and isolation. To help avoid these issues, family members can check in on seniors as often as possible, even a short daily phone call can make a big difference. Seniors can also arrange a check-in-system with neighbors and friends, where each looks in on one or two others daily.

5. **PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES:** Make sure you have easy access to flashlights and a battery-powered radio in case the power goes out. Stockpile warm blankets. If the power goes out, wear several layers of clothing, including a hat. Move around a lot to raise your body temperature. Also keep a supply of non-perishable foods that can be eaten cold on hand.

6. **PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING:** Using a fireplace, gas heater or lanterns can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning. Ensure your safety by checking the batteries on your carbon monoxide detector and buying an updated one if you need to.

7. **EAT A VARIED DIET:** Because people spend more time indoors and may eat a smaller variety of foods, nutritional deficits, especially Vitamin D deficiency can be a problem. Milk, grains and seafood, and options like tuna and salmon are recommended. These are fortified with vitamin D.

The most important tip to keep in mind during the colder months is to ask for help. If you need to clear your property of snow and ice, don't hesitate to ask a family member or neighbor, or hire a professional. Arrange rides to the grocery store and doctor's appointments. Many communities have shuttle services specifically for seniors. Don't be afraid to reach out for help. Wintertime certainly poses challenges for seniors, but with a bit of planning and awareness, you will stay healthy and experience the joys of springtime soon enough.

Community Service

Projects

Secretary

Upcoming Mailings

Tricia Eidsmoe 1451 Grey Road, Midland, MI 48640
Tel: 989-631-0079 E-mail: tennisbums@charter.net
Helen Mudd 1757 Stewart Road, Midland, MI 48640
Tel: 989-631-3708

Peggy Johnston 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429
Tel: 989-288-4546 or 517-285-6532 E-mail msgrange1873@yahoo.com

As we start the New Year, it is time for Granges to make plans for community service projects. It is helpful for the community service chairman if they can have a committee to assist plan and take action. All Grange members need to get involved to make the projects a success.

I want to point out a change in the Program Book this year. I have emphasized every year that I have been chairman to keep your report simple & concise. This year there will be a size limit on notebooks. It can be no larger than a 2 inch binder and only one book can be entered per Grange. Any notebook that is larger than 2 inches will not be judged.

If you are having trouble finding a project, contact a local organization to see if you can partner with them on a project they are planning. Studley Grange operates a food stand for the Chippewa Nature Center in Midland during a fall weekend activity they have each year. There is also an organization that coordinates a flower planting along a busy thoroughfare in Midland. We have a section that we are responsible for planting and the best part is that there is no charge for us!

No matter how large or small your Grange membership is, you can always find a project to accommodate the area where you live. If your Grange has projects that you would like to share with other Granges in the state, please contact us and we will put them in the Grange news.

Have a safe and warm winter!

Tricia and Helen

Junior & Youth/Young Adult Director Membership Director

Wanted/Needed

Both a Junior/Youth Director and a Membership Director are needed for the Michigan State Grange.

If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Chris Johnston, Master at 989-666-6648 or msgprez19@yahoo.com

Coming Soon!

Several mailings will be sent out soon, hopefully within the month of January. For the last couple of years we have tried to cut the cost of postage for various mailings such as the Roster, Journal of Proceedings, and Legislative Policy. These mailings were emailed to at least one in every Grange. This might mean that if you want a printed copy you will have to print it off yourself. We always print a number of copies to have in the office and if need be, we can mail one to you or deliver it if we are going to be in your area anytime soon. I encourage you to either file the email where you have it when needed or print your own copy off.

This past Convention there was a resolution to have one copy of the updated By-Laws sent to each Grange. I would imagine that these will be sent to the Master or Secretary. That one copy should be kept available where all members can refer to it when needed.

I will also be sending out the quarterly report forms for 2017. Every Secretary should have forms already for the December 2016 quarter. These are for March, June, September and December of 2017. There will be two forms for each quarter, one to be sent to the State Office and one to be kept in your records. Remember dues are to be paid within 30 days of the close of the quarter.

Once these mailings are done, I will be working on another one which will be new forms for the membership awards. Please, when you receive these, dispose of any old ones you have. There are some new price changes with NG on some of these awards.

As Secretary of your Grange be sure to keep up to date on membership awards due to your members and order them early enough to have them to present to your members when earned. Grange month is a great time to have a special program and present awards. Every member is entitled to a 10 year, 25 year, 50 year certificate and pin. After the 50 year award is earned, every 5 years there is a seal that should be ordered to be placed on the Golden Sheaf Certificate.

If you have questions regarding any of the above or anything that you feel is the Secretaries duty please don't hesitate to call. If you get the answering machine...leave a message, I will get back with you.

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

Happy New Year everyone! Wow where did 2016 go?!! Well I am sure everyone is starting to think about Spring and winter is only half over! For those of us that have not seen snow and rain so far this winter, we have to remember it is an important part of life in the Midwest. This fall we had very good weather for the most part for the farmers to harvest their crops. If they do not have them out by now there is something wrong! I came across an article in my farm paper "The Farmer's Exchange" and I want to share with you some of it which was written by Jeff Burbrink who is an Elkhart County Extension educator.

When you think of snow, what do you think of? Beautiful white flakes drifting through the sky? Tree branches sprinkled with white, contrasting with their winter dull black or grey? Slushy, dirty, hazardous driving conditions? Shovels, snow blowers and blades? Sleds, mittens, snow angels and snow forts?

Snow means different things to different people, at different times in their lives. For farmers and others who appreciate the outdoors, snowfall can be thought of as beneficial. Snow can serve as a thermal insulator, protecting crops like alfalfa and wheat from subfreezing weather. Some agricultural areas depend on an accumulation of snow during winter that will melt gradually in spring, providing water for crop growth and livestock water.

Yes, snow is a part of everyday life during winter in our community. And don't we often wish we didn't have to live with it, we couldn't live without it.

So while you sit and look at the snow float from the sky, think about what you might want to plant in your gardens or yards this coming spring. Now is a great time to be looking through the seed catalogs and plant books for those special favorites you might want to plant and then share the crops with friends and neighbors.

Here is a good reason to be planning early. Be sure to check out the Agriculture Department in the Program Book. I have added some classes for all ages (separate divisions for Adults and Juniors)

to enter at the 2017 State Session pertaining to Agriculture. I hope all will really look at entering something. If our State Session was during the late Summer or early Fall months, we could do more classes to deal with fruits, vegetables and flowers. But it is kind of hard to do tomatoes or raspberries in late October. Have fun with these 4 classes and we will see if there are other suggestions for classes for the 2018 Session.

Well that is all for now. Here is hoping 2017 is a great year for all and brings bounty to our Agriculture Neighbors and Friends!

Legislative

Election Over

Jeff Swainston, Director 2589 144th Ave., Dorr, MI 49323
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The election is over, hallelujah!! The inauguration is upcoming of President Elect Trump. Congress is at recess. The only news coming out of Washington is the process of Trump filling his cabinet positions. I know many of us have mixed feelings about the election and I believe the key to a successful Trump presidency is the quality of his advisors. Whether you like him or not, he is deserving of our support. Wanting him to fail would be a lot like wanting the pilot to crash the plane that we are all riding on. I, for one, am willing to give him my support. In four years I may have a different opinion but the democratic system works and will continue to work. No judging can take place yet, he hasn't even taken office. For now, we'll just keep riding the plane....

National Grange Promotion Kits Available

During the 150th Anniversary celebration year of the National Grange its important to promote the Grange and be part of our next member gain!

For only \$12 plus shipping, you can receive the new Grange Promotion kit (COM 117) with everything you need to grow your Grange. Contact National Grange to order a kit or two or more.

Ask your community what the Grange means to them, invite them to be Do-ers with you and the other Grange members across the nation, and provide them the printed material to apply for membership.

Included in the kit: 25 Declaration of Purpose, Brochures: 15 Junior, 10 youth, 25 adult members, 10 E member, 25 Recruiting; 25 Rip Card, 25 A Grange Story Comic book.

Grange Marker Placed at St. Joseph County Grange Fair Grounds



Writing on the Marker: *In the beginning, the St. Joseph County had many different fairs. This monument is dedicated to Granges and Patrons of Husbandry and matrons who have been involved in the St. Joseph County Grange Fair since 1915.*

Parkville #22 River Side #178 Colon #215 Constantine #236	Leonidas #266 Corey #291 White Pigeon #1345 Burr Oak #1350	Centreville #1440 Sturgis #1490 Fabius #1495 Moorepark #1497	Mendon #1513 New Horizons #1897 Marcellus #1557 Howardsville #1616 (Edwards Corners)
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After nearly three years of planning, discussion and research, we did it! 2016 Marked the Centennial of the St. Joseph County Grange Fair in Centreville and our Pomona Grange purchased and dedicated a beautiful granite Marker to mark the Milestone.

There had been a County Fair in St. Joseph County for many years prior to 1916, But the society responsible for the fair fell on hard times, and the Granges assumed the running of the fair in 1915, with the first actual Grange fair starting in September 1916. Until 1995, local Granges had full management of fair operations with each subordinate Grange entitled to a director. Due to a ruling by the State of Michigan, the Fair had to open up to allow non Grangers access to #51 or to us Grange Veterans in St. Joseph County, the Grange Building.

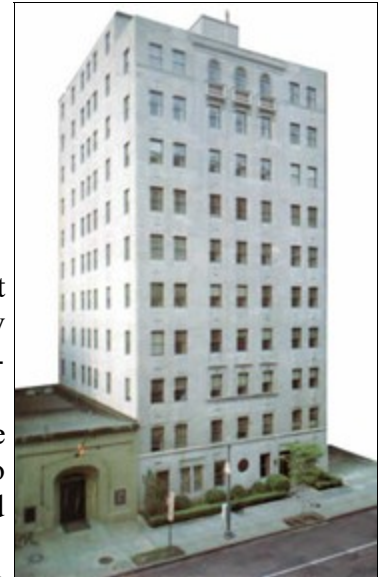


**Grange Radio
Is Back on the Air
www.grangeradio.org**

In November, just prior to the start of the National Grange Session, the Grange Radio returned with new voices and music. A greater diversity of music and programming is expected after the new year. It can be found online at www.grangeradio.org, where Grangers have a place they can go to listen to family and farmer friendly music while staying up to date on the latest Grange news and events. The station also has an active Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GrangeRadio. You can add your voice to Grange Radio by recording a short "bumper" or becoming a contributor. To learn more, go to the website.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON, D. C.

HISTORIC BUILDING HOUSES GRANGE By Mandy Bostwick



The building that currently houses the National Grange Headquarters wasn't the first building to house the National Grange, but it remains the only privately owned building on several blocks directly adjacent to the White House and Lafayette Park.

Construction on the 11-story building at 1616 H Street was completed in the Spring of 1960. On June 29th, over 1,500 people came to Washington, D.C. to attend the dedication ceremonies. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson and President Dwight D. Eisenhower led the festivities.

Grange leaders were very excited that the President had agreed to speak at the dedication ceremony and asked Benson to write the dedication speech for him. Eisenhower wasn't satisfied with the speech Benson wrote, and reportedly asked Master Herschel Newsom to write a speech for him to deliver.

David H. Howard writes about the historical dedication speech in his book, *People, Pride and Progress: 125 years of the Grange in America*. "Just before the president was introduced, Ike reached into his pocket for the copy of the speech he had to give in just a few moments. (National Lecturer) Brake saw Eisenhower, fumble in his pocket and then whispered to Benson, 'I left the speech at home. What in the hell should I do?' Benson, somewhat ruffled, turned to the president and said, 'I don't care what you do, but get up there and dedicate this building for Herschel!' Despite this minor glitch Eisenhower gave a well-received speech.

In order to construct the headquarters building, the National Grange needed a mortgage of approximately 1/17 million dollars. The first nine floors of the building were rented right after the dedication to help offset the hefty mortgage. While the tenth and eleventh floors were used as the actual National Grange headquarters.

At the 1975 National Grange Convention, a bicentennial cookbook was unveiled as a fundraiser to help pay off the mortgage. Over 175,000 copies of the cookbook had been sold by 1977, allowing the National Grange to retire the debt. On March 25, 1977, 17 years after the dedication, a Mortgage Burning Ceremony took place. Pieces of the burned mortgage can still be seen today, inside a jar atop a display case in the National Master's Office.

Today the National Grange offices only occupy the 11th floor. This has significantly reduced the office are footprint needed and maximizes rental space available for tenants.

Like most buildings that are over 50 years old, the National Grange building needs renovations and updates. The Goss conference room for example, though repainted for the 50th dedication in 2010, needs improvements to maintain the style and beauty of the building.

It should be remembered that we are but the current caretakers of the Grange building. It is an asset that should be treasured and preserved.

PROGRAM BOOK INCLUDED

**BE SURE TO PULL THE PROGRAM
BOOK OUT OF THE CENTER OF
THIS ISSUE OF THE MICHIGAN
GRANGE NEWS AND KEEP IT FOR
REFERENCE THROUGHOUT THE
YEAR.**

*"What we do is less than a drop in the ocean.
But if it were missing, the ocean would
lack something."
—Mother Teresa*

*"College isn't the place to go for ideas."
—Helen Keller*

Michigan Farmers' Hall of Fame



Application for Induction

Qualifications: You must be 60 years of age or older

and have actively farmed for at least 20 years.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Spouse _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

County _____ Township _____ Phone _____

Email address _____ Cell Phone _____

Years of Active Farming _____ Acres owned _____ Rented _____

Actively Farming or Retired _____ Type of Farming _____

Explain in detail your past and present farming activities: crop history, livestock history, how you built your farm operation, modifications, innovations, etc. Do you have any awards, honors, etc. Include articles and letters of support. *

Explain in detail your involvement in Community Services and Farm Organizations: Local, County, and State. *

Use extra sheets if needed for the information you may have.

Date of Application _____ Signature of Applicant _____

Mail Application to:

Harry Pratley

12070 Stone Jug Road

Battle Creek, MI 49015

Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame

Application for Membership



Name_____.

Name of Organization if applicable_____.

Address_____ **City**_____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____.

County /Township_____.

Phone_____ **e mail address**_____.

How would you like to help with the organization ?_____.

Annual dues are \$50.00, Date paid_____ **Expires this date next year**

Signature_____ **Person taking application**_____.

Send to: Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame, Harry Pratley, 12070 Stone Jug Road,
Battle Creek, Michigan 49015

Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame

Application for Membership



Name_____.

Name of Organization if applicable_____.

Address_____ **City**_____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____.

County /Township_____.

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How would you like to help with the organization ?_____.

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tle Creek, Michigan 49015