



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXIII NO. 4

USPS 345-580

JULY-AUGUST, 2017

## Michigan School for the Deaf 2017 Graduation

**Dakota  
Jokoty**



**Michigan State  
Grange  
Deaf  
Awareness  
Scholarship  
Recipient**

Read more information regarding the MSD graduation on page 4

**2017 Michigan State Grange Convention  
Hosted by Region  
(Burns, Capitol, Gratiot, Maple Leaf and Studley Granges)  
October 20-22, 2017**

**Comstock Inn, Owosso, MI  
300 E. Main Street, Owosso  
989-725-0999  
Rooms \$80.00 per night + tax**

**Watch for details in the next issue of the Michigan Grange News**

Page 2	Page 3	Page 4	Page 5	Page 6	Page 8
<i>Congratulations Swainstons</i>	<i>Resolutions, tickets, pies, visits</i>	<i>MSD Graduation</i>	<i>Burgers</i>	<i>Student Loans Apps. Due</i>	<i>Writing Resolutions</i>

**[www.michiganstategrange.org](http://www.michiganstategrange.org)**



## Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

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Christopher D. Johnston

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404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

July 1	Canada Day
July 4	Independence Day
July 23	MSG Foundation Meeting — Student loan applications due



*To All of our Grangers that have gone on before us...*

*"Well done  
Good and Faithful Servants"*



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E-mail: msggrange1873@yahoo.com

### Chaplain

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

### Best Wishes

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO JEFF AND NANCY SWAINSTON

Jeff has recently been appointed by the Bishop and The Michigan Area Conference Cabinet to serve as Pastor of the

#### Manton United Methodist Church

Effective July 1st.

Please keep Jeff and Nancy in your prayers during this time of transition.

They will be moving to Manton

Be strong and courageous, the Lord your God is with you  
wherever you go. — Joshua 1:9

#### In Memory Of

#### CARL LAUPP PAST MSG GATEKEEPER — 1988-2002



July 11, 1929– May 8, 2017

Carl was a member of the Newton United Methodist Church, Home Grange #129, Michigan State Grange, BC Civil Air Patrol, Calhoun County Fire Chiefs Association, Western Michigan Fire Chiefs Association, Balloon Federation of America, and the Battle Creek Hot Air Balloon Club.

Survived by: Wife of 63 years, Martha, son Mark (Janelle) Laupp and daughter, Dawn Laupp. Two grandchildren: James Laupp and Marissa (Thomas) Williams, two great grandchildren, Waylon Williams and Lorelai Hill.

#### GLEN RUDER PAST MSG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER 1967-1977 AND 1992-1994 April 7, 1934—June 15, 2017

Glen served as an Agriculture Teacher at North Adams High School. He also operated with his son Glendale Electrical and farmed throughout his life. He was a longtime member of Osseo Methodist Church, North Adams Lions Club, Hillsdale Elks, and Adams Grange #286.

Survived by: wife of 57 years, Nancy, son Dale (Susan Lynn) Ruder, four daughters, Susan Berkeypile, Sharon Ruder, Diane Grubbs, and Carol Gates. Two sisters, eight grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his daughter Karen and two son-in-laws.



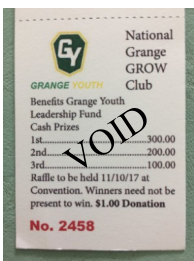
MEMORIALS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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

## Welcome to Summer!!

I hope that everyone is enjoying this hot and sticky summer we have been experiencing. I would assume cautiously that you are all soaking it up and storing it away since there is only 25 more Mondays until Christmas!! Which means there are only 17 more Mondays until we start packing up and getting ready to head to the Comstock Inn in Owosso, Michigan for the Michigan State Grange Convention. As we contemplate those useful numbers, contemplate writing resolutions. Over the last few years our resolution numbers have dropped significantly. I have said before that I have a hard time believing that everything in Michigan is just honkey dory. I am sure that each of us can find at least one thing that we would like to see changed whether it be with laws or governmental policies or within the Grange itself. A suggestion I had received some time ago for a resolution writing workshop was to gather some newspapers and take them to a Grange meeting. Hand them out and have everybody write a resolution with one thing that bothered them that they had found in the paper.

## National Grange GROW Club



The National Grange GROW club is doing a raffle this year and Connie and I have tickets. The money raised from the raffle will be used to help pay expenses for the National Youth Ambassadors who have the opportunity to travel to different states for the five regional conferences, as well

as to assist the National Youth department with non-budgeted items. The tickets are available up to National Session for a price of \$1 each.

## Who wants me to get a pie in the face?

That's right by making a donation to the National Grange Youth Leadership fund I could end up with a pie in the face. The goal is for this fundraiser is \$10,000.00 if we reach this point the Worthy National Master has agreed to also take a pie in the face. For each milestone

reached, starting at \$250.00 another National Officer or National Staffer will receive the glory of having a pie launched into their face by a well deserving individual who gets to take out all of their frustrations on us. While I look forward to doing whatever I can to assist the youth department I encourage all of you to make a donation so that as many of us as possible can enjoy in the opportunity of advancing the experience of our youth and helping them in their Grange journey.



## MSG Officer Visits

In accordance with a resolution passed at the convention last October, the Michigan State Grange officers having been given the list of Granges they are expected to visit between now and October 2018. When they call wanting to find a time to visit with your Grange I would anticipate the Granges would be ready with welcoming arms to have a State Officer visit.

**Until next time!!!!**

## *In Memory Of*

**HERBERT MERTEN, JR.**  
**PAST MSG OVERSEER 2002-2004**  
**PAST MSG ASSISTANT STEWARD 1988-1998**  
**PAST MSG EXEC. COMM. 2008-2010**  
**Nov. 27, 1936—June 22, 2017**



Herb graduated from Hart High School and served in the US Army. He was a timber broker and consultant for Texas Refinery and formerly a dairy farmer. He joined the Grange in 1962 with his wife. He had belonged to the Junior Grange as a kid with his brothers and sisters. Herb is survived by his wife, Ardith of 58 years, four daughters, Patty (Tim) Kersjes, Janet Swanson, Ann

(Jerry) Herrygers and Susan (Mark) Mussell, three sons, Thomas (jill) Merten, Herbert (Gail) Merten, and Fred (Sarah) Merten; Twenty three grandchildren and nine great grandchildren; three sisters, Helen Graczyk, Idy (Dennis) Deviney, and Ann (Gerald) Heydenberk; three brothers, Joseph (Mary Ann) Merten, Gordon (Janice) Merten, and Jim (Linda) Merten; many nieces and nephews.

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

## Dakota Jokoty Receives Scholarship

The Michigan School for the Deaf Graduation was Thursday, June 8, 2017.

We were able to present the Michigan State Grange \$500.00 scholarship to the Valedictorian Dakota Jokoty. Thanks to Peggy Johnston and Sharon Popler for attending for me and to Sharon Popler for presenting the scholarship to Dakota. Dakota spent 4 years at the school. He participated in Academic Bowl and Student Body Government with the Academic Bowl being his favorite memory. He plans on attending Gallaudet University in the fall.

Dakota is from Marine City, MI. Dakota received an award from the Detroit Association of the Deaf. It was a \$150 award to be used towards college/technical college or university for students with a least a 3.2 GPA or above, demonstrates leadership, positive role model, involved with extra-curricular activities and Student Body Government. The Quota International of Flint awarded Dakota a \$1,000.00 scholarship which is to be used towards college tuition and/or expenses for a student with outstanding citizenship, a positive outlook on life and strives to be the best they can be, a student with a high GPA during high school and demonstrates leadership qualities. The Earl Jones Award is presented to the Valedictorian of the Class of 2017. This represents academic excellence and is determined by the highest cumulative GPA while attending Michigan School for the Deaf from 9th to 12th grade.

We wish Dakota and his 2017 graduating classmates a successful future in whatever they endeavor to do.

We have graduates who are members of the Michigan State Grange and we wish them well on a successful future also.

Thanks to the Granges and Grangers for making the scholarship program possible with your donations to the Michigan State Grange Deaf Awareness Fund!

### *In Memory Of*

**Nancy Tuttle**

*Home Grange #129*

**Caroline Kurburski**

*Harbor Springs Grange #730*

**Glen Ruder**

*Adams Grange #286*

**Owen Near**

*West Oshtemo Grange #1630*

**Lucille Lowing**

*Kinney Grange #754*

**Wayne Aebig**

*Oceana Center Grange #1047*

**Ted Swanson**

*Oceana Center Grange #1047*

**Herbert Merten, Jr.**

*Oceana Center Grange #1047*

**Norma Adams**

*Burr Oak Grange #1350*

### Convention Activities

- Traveling to Owosso, Michigan home of the Curwood Castle and the Michigan Steam Railroading Institute.
- Visiting with new and old friends and fellow Grangers.
- Experiencing the Grange Ritual
- Conferring the 5th and 6th Degrees
- Receiving awards for your Grange's years work
- **Silent Auction to help the Michigan State Grange....be sure to bring your items.**
- Pennies from Heaven will be collected on Saturday to help with the 2019 National Grange Convention.
- Region 2 will be having the drawing at noon on Saturday, October 21 for the raffle they have been holding. Twelve prizes to be given away....get your tickets!
- A time to remember those that have gone on before us.
- A final get together for this convention at the banquet
- Enjoy some great music.



## Family Activities

## Burgers

Marybeth Bower, CO-Director 708 Ralston Road, Colon, MI 49040  
Tel: 269-432-3921 E-mail: mashview@live.com  
Tom Smith, Co-Director 816 4th Street, Three Rivers, MI 49093  
Tel: 269-858-8305

I was getting supper started and then realized I needed to get my article for the Grange News in soon. Well, supper comes first so I finished grilling my lamb burgers, added a fried egg, mayo and sliced pickled beets and thought about doing the article on burgers. And by the way, don't laugh at my burger till you have tried one. Awesome!

### Burger Trivia

Anyways, here is some burger trivia for you to digest.

The average American eats about three burgers a week, for a grand total of nearly fifty billion burgers a year.

It has been published there are more than fifty thousand burger joints in America. They generate about 73 billion dollars in business each year.

Beef is by far the burger of choice for Americans but pretty much anything can be used such as lamb, pork, turkey, portabella mushrooms and black bean patties.

The first burger chain started in Wichita, Kansas in 1921, White Castle. The sliders were only five cents and served with onion and pickle. The burgers are steam fried and are square, so the cooks can pack the grill with precision.

### Toppings and More

- 45% of burgers sold are eight ounce patties
- The most popular cheese is American, followed closely by cheddar.
- 45% of buns served are Brioche.
- Ketchup is the most popular sauce, followed by mayonnaise.
- Tomato and lettuce are in a dead heat for favorite vegetable topping. Surprisingly, mushrooms are the third most popular veggie choice on a burger and then comes the onion.
- Bacon kicks every other protein's butt, with chili and pulled pork coming in a very distant second and third.
- 62% of places surveyed used pre formed patties...thankfully, 27% do it the right way and hand form their patties.
- Smashed burgers are on the rise, with 7% reporting that was their preferred method.
- 60% of places use ground chuck in their burgers.
- 31% use certified angus beef.
- 5% use certified grass fed beef.
- 52% of customers request their burger medium.
- May 28 is National Hamburger Day.
- September 18 is National Cheeseburger day.
- September 15 is National double Cheeseburger day.

- May is National Hamburger Month.

**Let's Go to Caseville, Michigan!** Every year, Caseville hosts the cheeseburger in Caseville Festival. The 2017 Festival is August 11-20 and features concerts, fireworks and the popular Parade of tropical fools, which attracts nearly 80,000 people every year.

*And now if you'll excuse me, back to my lamb burger and fries.*

## GRANGE HAPPENINGS

### Kinney Grange #754

#### Food Booth and the Grand Rapids Festival of Arts

This was Kinney Grange #754 11th year of manning a booth at the Grand Rapids Festival of Arts, June 2-4, 2017. We were one of 25 non-profit organizations to have a booth at the Festival. Our booth consisted of the aroma of freshly popped popcorn along with Caramel Corn and Golden Cheddar Corn and Coke products as well as water and Gatorade.

There were many activities for all ages including 6 stages where various groups, sing, dance, etc., an art tent and fun projects for the younger ones.

We had 11 Kinney Grange members, 3 junior members, 2 non-members, 4 members from other Granges, (including 3 Michigan State Grange Officers helping. As usual, it was a lot of work but everyone pitched in and made it fun and successful.

Each group has to have a specific "project" that they are working toward. The profits we receive help our Grange in purchasing dictionaries for the 3rd Graders in the Kenowa Hill Public Elementary Schools through the Words for Thirds Dictionary Project. This will be our 7th year in distributing dictionaries.



Pictured above: l-r Brittany Welsh, Sharon Popler, Arnette Welsh, Phil Swainston, Bob Nichols, Dale Moore, Nancy Swainston, Lois Nichols, Rodney Wagner and Peggy Johnston

Hi everyone!!! I sure hope your summer is going Wonderful. Gardens are in and starting to grow, which means getting ready for the rewards it will produce. Kids are out of school and ready for summer fun. I just returned from a two day fishing trip and had a blast!!! It had been many years since I've went fishing. Ready to go again!! As we're out and about having fun with all our events and vacation, please be safe in what ever your doing.

Recently I've received some information from the National Lecturer about a couple of things of interest. First, They have changed what items go to Nationals for Best of Show. Only the region hosting will show their Best of Shows. So 2 years from now when our region host Nationals, our best of show's will go. The one thing that will stay the same is the photo contest. Best of show each year will go to National's.

Next is the "Lecturers program in a Box." This is 2 pages information and I will send it out to anyone that would like to do this. Just send me an e-mail and I'll send it or I can print it and send it to you.

\*\*\*\*\*



State session will be here in no time and just a reminder if you haven't started some of your entries, you have just over 3 and 1/2 months to get them ready. Something you can do in an evening is think about your garden. Pretend your one of your veggies or fruit. Then write down a story about what your day was like living in the garden. Be creative!!! Have fun with it!! OR... go in your closet and find an old purse you



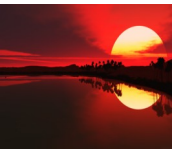
don't use anymore and make something with it. Now to make something with a kitchen towel, I'll have to buy one. Mine are all full of stains or holes there so old!! Ha Ha!!!



Have fun with all the different categories. The photo contest is one to encourage people to get outside and see what's there. A Single wild flower, one of your pet playing. Michigan has Beautiful Sunsets. Find a classic Court House and take a picture. I'm looking for something to take a black and white picture of. If you have any



questions about any of the categories this year please send me an e-mail. There are many things you can do or make in the different Departments this year. Family Activities, Deaf Awareness, Community Service, Junior/Youth and Kevin has included some in his agriculture department. So check out the program booklet and pick something you'll really enjoy. Let's fill all the tables this year!!!! Have fun and I hope to see many of you at State Session in October, in Owosso!!



## FOUNDATION

### Student Loans

## JUNIORS/YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

No Director

Roland Winter 15150 A Drive North Marshall, MI 49068  
Tel: 269-781-2500 E-mail rbwin129@comcast.net

### REMINDER:

Student Loan applications for the Fall Semester are due to the Foundation no later than **July 23rd for consideration**. Please send them to either Roland Winter, 15150 A Drive North, Marshall, MI 49068 or Kathryn Strouse, P.O. Box 84, North Star, MI 48862.

Applications can be on the Michigan State Grange website at michiganstategrange.org under Foundation or contact one of the above or the Michigan State Grange Office.

The interest free loans are made in amounts up to \$1,000.00 per year.

We really need to have someone step up to the plate and take the **Directors** position for the youth and juniors. Since we do not have a director at this time, here is a reminder of some of the contests that we can still be working with our youth and juniors on for the upcoming convention in October. **Youth and Young Adults:**

Be sure to fill out the Achievement forms for your youth and return to the Michigan State Grange by Sept. 10th. Also the Special Recognition for Pomona and Subordinate Granges. There is also a Public Speaking contest for Michigan Granges also. **Juniors:** Coloring Contest, Crafts ( Wind Chime, Tie Dye Shirt, Noodle Art) and Junior Group Activity.

You can find the rules for each of these contests in the 2016-2017 Program book or on the michiganstategrange.org website under Junior/Youth/Young Adults.

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

Wow where has this year gone!? We are almost half way through it as I sit here on June 20<sup>th</sup> which means the first day of Summer is tomorrow on the 21st! Crops are in full swing of growing and or producing here in Michigan. We are just about done with strawberries and rhubarb and asparagus is about done as well. The farmers hopefully by this time have gotten all their field crops in and already spraying for weeds etc. Hopefully they are getting the needed rain too!

It is just amazing on how time is flying right by! Before we know it we will be up in Owosso for our next State Session. I hope everyone has planted something to show in the new Agriculture Department classes during State Session. We planted pumpkins and sunflowers here. I hope they grow. I am not sure if something got to our pumpkin seeds or not. Time will tell.

Like many other areas across our Great State, the youth around here are getting ready for the local county fairs. My nephews and niece are working with their market and show goats and market pigs getting them ready for our county fair, Berrien County Youth Fair, which is in August. Right now they are just walking their market goats to get them used to being handled and bracing them for when the judge goes to check the muscle on their rumps and backs. They look really good right now and we still have just under two months before Fair. Good luck to all that have family and friends that exhibit at the county fairs!

I am not sure if anyone else has chickens, but we have added 6 new chicks to our flock. Right now they are around 8-10 weeks old so they are in a wooden crate in the garage until they are old enough to join the others in the coop. They are really growing! We hope to be having lots of eggs when they get to that age for laying.

I haven't been able to keep up with all the current events going on in our Nation but we have to watch what is going on with the Farm Bill. Please let your State Senators know how important the right Farm Bill is to not just our State Agriculture but our Nation and World.

Well I have rambled on enough for this article. I hope the rest of your Summer is good and not too hot and dry! See you all soon!

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

Welcome to summer! Believe it or not another Grange year is almost over. Hopefully you have found 1 or 2 projects to use for the community service program. They do not have to be huge projects. Anything that helps your community counts. We just want the Grange name to get out in your community so people know you exist. You will be surprised at how many people and organizations will recognize your Grange after awhile!

### **Reports**

I want to emphasize how important it is for every grange to send in a community service report. Even completing only the form that is mailed to you helps. The National Grange wants 25% of the Subordinate Granges in Michigan to submit a report, so each and every one of you counts in my report to them!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Notebook Size**

#### **This is the last reminder!!**

The maximum size notebook that will be allowed is a **2 inch binder**.

Your Grange will be disqualified from judging if the notebook is larger than this requirement.

\*\*\*\*\*

The due date for your community service book or form is Sunday, September 10. You can include projects from September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2017. Please send your report to Tricia at the above address. If you have any questions or need special delivery arrangements, please contact Tricia at the above phone number or email.

Wishing you a wonderful & safe summer!

Tricia & Helen

### **DUE SEPT 10TH!!!!**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS/  
NOTEBOOKS — LECTURER'S — FAMILY  
ACTIVITIES — MEMBERSHIP — DEAF  
AWARENESS — GOLD STAR GRANGE  
REPORTS.**

We have 27 Granges in Michigan.... every Director should receive 27 reports!



## Michigan Farmers' Hall Of Fame

Is pleased to announce the return of.....

### FARM DAYS

**When:** August 31st, September 1st, and September 2nd  
(Thursday, Friday, and Saturday)

**Where:** Calhoun County Fairgrounds -Marshall, Michigan

Camping!  
Hall of Fame Induction ceremony!  
Antique tractor show and events!  
Horse pulling and events!  
Farm safety program!  
Nightly entertainment! (including Barney Fife!)  
Quilting Bee!  
Flea Market and Craft Show!  
Agricultural education activities!  
Cow milking contest  
Auction

And many many more.....

Information on camping contact  
the fair office,  
Phone: (269) 781-8161  
Email:ccaisoffice@gmail.com



Questions regarding the event  
contact Harry Pratley, with the MI  
Farmers Hall of Fame  
Phone: (269) 209-2603

## Legislative

## Resolutions

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

### 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

In closing, make sure your resolution can 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!

**RESOLUTIONS DUE TO THE  
MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE OFFICE  
NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1ST.**