



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XIX NO. 4

USPS 345-580

JULY-AUGUST, 2013

TWO BIG RAFFLES

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE GIFT CARD RAFFLE

1ST PRIZE: \$500.00 GIFT CARD

2ND PRIZE: \$250.00 GIFT CARD

Gift Card is Winner's Choice

Drawing: September 21, 2013 —7:30 p.m.— St. Joseph County Fairgrounds

Tickets: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

If 1200 tickets are not sold, raffle reverts to a 50/50

License# R22303

FAMILY ACTIVITIES RAFFLE

LOG CABIN QUILT

Drawing: September 15, 2013 —2:30 p.m.—Burns Grange #160

Tickets: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

Proceeds to help 2013 State Grange Convention Hosting Committee

License # X84458

Order your tickets today from the State Grange Office
And Sell, Sell, Sell!!!!

Page 2	Page 4	Page 5	Page 8	Page 10	Page 11
"Love"	MSD Scholarship Recipient	Successful Workshops	Junior/Youth Camps	Summer Activities	Growing Economy

www.michiganstategrange.org



Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

Periodical postage paid at Durand, MI

Michigan Grange News is published monthly except July & November, for the members of the Michigan State Grange.

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

- July 4 Independence Day**
- July 28 Michigan State Grange Foundation Meeting**
- Sept. 15 Drawing for the Family Activities Log Cabin Quilt Raffle — Burns Grange**
- Sept. 21 Drawing for the Michigan State Grange Gift Card Raffle — St. Joseph County Fairgrounds**

Whole page \$150.00

1/2 page \$90.00

1/4 page / business card \$50.00

The above rates include advertising

Prices effective June, 1997. Payable in advance, check should be made to Michigan State Grange. Please include camera-ready copy. Copy to be received no later than the 15th of the month preceding date of insertion. Advertisements for alcohol or tobacco will not be accepted. Michigan State Grange reserves the right to refuse copy. Discounts available on multiple insertions.

10 issues per year June/July & Oct./Nov. are combined.
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429
Tel: 989-288-4546
E-mail msgrange1873@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Love

Kathryn Strouse, Chaplain P.O. Box 84, North Star, MI 48862
Tel: 989-875-2894 E-mail: katjoy98@yahoo.com

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Matthew 5:45b-46

I am sitting here listening to the rain pound on my house and wonder if it is God's purpose to wash away my home. Then I realize that God does not do evil things but man does evil things. I know that the earth needs some watering so that the crops can continue to grow but I think we have had enough. I know that God loves us and only will give us what we need. scripture says he causes his and sends rain on to all. I freedom of speech there cally what he is saying. one another no matter who can be evil, but we still them. Someone wrote on "Don't worry about other of you. God never told you ple, only to love them". The person who wrote this will know who they are and I have to say they are right on. It made me stop and think. The scripture asked the question "If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Yes we will get the reward of love back but sometimes even when it is hard to love someone who does not love us, the reward is even greater. You might ask how that is. It is because we are giving love to someone who might not love themselves or anyone else, and maybe just put a little spark into their heart. So while it might be raining on the outside right now, but on the inside of our hearts we are to love all who we touch. It might be by hand, voice or thought. It is all the same type of message. I love you. God also loves you. Pass it on.



Just like the sun to rise on all know a little but that is basi- We are to love they are. They need to love Facebook today people's opinion to impress peo-

Welcome to the Grange

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Roy Carlson | Maple Leaf #940 |
| Linda McGeorge | Harbor Springs #730 |
| Tom Waltke, Jr. | Burr Oak #1350 |
| Julie Clark | Burr Oak #1350 |
| Allen Robinson | Burr Oak #1350 |
| Sen. Rick Jones | Burns #160 |
| Naomi Fletcher | Burns #160 |

Distinguished Grange

Has your Grange filled out the Distinguished Grange form yet? They were sent to your Grange earlier in the year, but if you don't have one, you can either get it online at the National Grange website — members page — contests and programs. Or, you can contact the Michigan State Grange office and request another copy.

Let's see if we can have more than two Granges receiving this award this year at the National Grange convention. Due to National Grange by August 17, 2013.

Welcome to Summer

As most of you have probably realized by now summer is here. If you are out driving through the countryside you realize really quickly that while most of us were locked up in our houses trying to stay warm and dry, Farmers were hard at work plowing, fertilizing, and planting their fields. The fruits of their labor are showing and quickly with the warm nights we have had recently. I have seen fields of wheat that have started to turn yellow already, the corn is looking like it will definitely be knee high by the 4th, and the beans are coming on strong. The Farmers markets are in full swing and the specialty crops are going strong. So now the question, are we as Grangers still locked up in our homes trying to stay warm and dry or are we out there with the rest of the Agricultural world, shopping at the farmers markets supporting our local farmers and talking about the good things the Grange has to offer them today. As will be explained more in the legislative article, since the United States Congress can't seem to find their way to producing a Farm bill that can make its way through the House of Representatives and get it to conference with the Senate to help support our farmers, as we have always done, it becomes our job to go out and help support them in any way we possibly can.

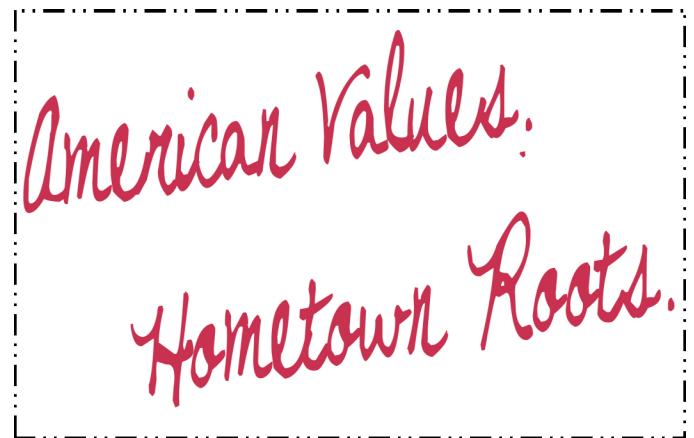
Kelley Farm Experience

This is the last time, I promise, that I will talk about the Kelley Farm experience for a year or so. As you should all be well aware, the Kelley Farm experience is fast approaching. The dates are set, the location is ready, the food vendors are lined up, the cast and staff are ready to go. Are you going to be there? This, for many of us, may be the only time we ever get to see the full exemplification of the original First Four degrees of our order as they were written by the founding fathers. I for one can't wait to see how it all comes together. I know the staff of the National Grange and the staff of the Kelley Farm as well as the many members across the country have been working very diligently to bring this together. The dates are set for July 12-14th with the degrees being done on the 13th. The Kelley Farm is located just outside of Elk River, Minnesota.

Elections of Officers

For many Granges, the election of officers has already taken place but for those of you who still have the election to do. Remember for many years we have heard the debate over term limits. Should we or should we not have them. Here is my honest opinion on the notion of term limits; every time you have an election you could possibly have a term limit. If the person in any office is not doing the job the way you think they should be doing it, then you have the right to vote for whoever you feel can do the job better. If you feel that you are potentially not doing the job as well as you feel it should be done, then maybe it is time for you to look for your own replacement. This is a hard concept to swallow but the reality is that we all know when the time comes that we are not able to fulfill the duties of our position and it is time to step down. NO... for those of you thinking I am about to step down, I am not. I am merely saying that every now and then it is good to have a change in leadership. So many times we in our Granges get used to things being the way they are, that we don't want change, but having a change at election time can be a good time to start your Grange growing again.

Until next time.....



Luanna Swainston, Director 965-108th Street, SW Byron Center, MI 49315
Tel: 616-877-0169 E-mail: plswainston@hotmail.com



On June 6th, 2013, I had the honor of presenting the \$500.00 scholarship to Jessica Kales, the Valedictorian at the Michigan School for the Deaf.

Jessica plans on going to Gallaudet University for a major in Psychology and a minor in English.

Jessica came to the Michigan School for the Deaf in 7th grade. She was involved in many activities while at the school — Varsity Volleyball 9th-12th, Varsity Basketball in 10th-11th, Drama in 9th-12th, Academic Bowl in 9th-12th, and Singing Hands in 11th Grade. As a senior in Volleyball the team was the championship team of the first annual Kentucky Spike-out Tournament. She also received an All-Star Player Award for the tournament.

In 2012, Jessica was one of the storytellers in the Drama Club's Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul. In 2012-2013, she was the Manager of the Cheer Team. Jessica was Photography Manager for the Yearbook staff.

At Graduation, aside from the Michigan State Grange Scholarship, Jessica received an award from the Flint Association of the Deaf-Auxiliary— an award presented to the best all-around female student; the AFSCME in honor of Sandra Evans. The student must be accepted in a college or trade school, have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, must have been a dorm student at MSD for four years (9th=12th grades), must have leadership qualities, must submit a 250 word essay on "How did attending MSD prepare me for the Future." She also received the Earl Jones Award —Valedictorian. This award is presented to the Valedictorian of the Class of 2013. This represents academic excellence and is determined by the highest cumulative GPA while attending MSD from 9th-12th grades.



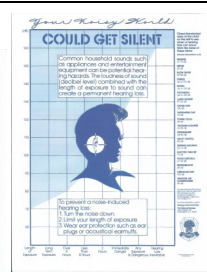
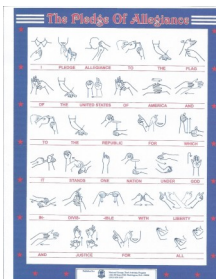
Jennifer Wickman was Michigan School for the Deaf Salutatorian. Jennifer was a recipient of a donation last year to assist her in a camp experience. After graduation she will go to college in California to study Marine Biology. She was involved in Varsity Volleyball, Varsity Basketball, Varsity Track, Drama Club, Singing Hands, Academic Bowl from 9th-12th, Student Body Government in 11th grade, Vice President Class of 2013 in 9th, President Class of 2013 in 10th-11th and Treasurer Class of 2013 in 12th grade, Yearbook Staff (Editor)

Jessica and Jennifer are best friends. We wish both Jessica and Jennifer the best in their future goals.



Remember to Order and Distribute Deaf Awareness Posters and other Information.

**Contact: Luanna Swainston
See contact Information above**



Spring was a busy time for the Family Activities Department. Two workshops were held a week apart in May. **Capitol Grange and Barnard Grange** graciously volunteered to host one. Sincere thanks to both Granges.

Our Spring Fling Workshop at Capitol Grange had some informative mini-classes. **Helen Mudd** gave us some very good constructive information on quilting. Two very critical things to do while quilting is to sew with a 1/4 inch seam allowance and press the seam with a dry iron. Press the seam right after stitching it, and press the seam toward the darker fabric. The better the back side of the quilt looks, the better the finished project. She covered many more things and gave us a demonstration on how to make perfect binding. We had the pleasure of viewing many of her beautiful quilts. Thank you Helen.

Photography was **Dale Moore's** class. He told us to buy the best camera for our needs that we could afford. Practice, practice, and practice. The more you work with your camera, the better your pictures will be. I'm sure there will be more great pictures in the Lecturer's department this year. Hat's off to you, Dale!

Mary Houghton had a wonderful class on "Write On", keeping a journal of our daily lives to pass on to our future generations. Think how wonderful it will be for our children and grandchildren to read about how we lived, our thoughts, our desires. Better than just having a name in a book with the dates of our birth and death. We also heard her grandmother recite a poem, Mary also read us a letter she wrote to herself about giving up her car keys to her family, she wanted to make sure that when the time comes, her children will have her letter and handing over those keys would be easier on everyone. Great class Mary, thank you.

A few of the classes at our Northern Experience Workshop at Barnard Grange were hands on. Under the direction of **Doris Felton** we were able to cut and tie 5 lap throws that were used for community service. Great project, we had fun and many reaped the reward. Thanks Doris.

Everyone had the chance to turn a canning jar, lid, and ring into a sewing essential. We filled our jar with thread, needles, a pair of scissors, a seam ripper and a measuring tape. We made a padded cover for the lid, (a place to hold our pins), slipped it on the lid, put the lid in the ring, fastened them together, screwed it on the jar, and presto, we have a nice sewing caddy. All thanks to **Karen Wolletz** for directions and materials. Thanks Karen.

Ladonna Kurburski had us whip stitching plastic canvas together to make a box (similar to a tissue box) to hold small pieces of tactile fabrics. Each fabric had a different texture, smooth, rough, nubby, you name it. These were for children for sensory play. The material often soothes a child. Sensory play stimulates the brain. A very informative class, thanks Ladonna.

We also had a demonstration by **Don Brown**, he showed us how to make a simple birdhouse. Don uses wood pallets to make many of his houses. He had all his pieces cut and showed us how to assemble the pieces. Don didn't feel his class went quite as well as he had hoped, so he sent me a (kit) recently to make my own birdhouse with all the directions. The class was fine! Thanks Don.

The Kurburski's showed us examples of the caning they do. A lot of work and talent goes into these items. Thanks **Wilbur and Carolyn**.

One of the highlights of the workshop was showing off the gorgeous Log Cabin Quilt made by **Darleen Dhaseleer**. Darleen not only put the quilt squares together, a job I wouldn't want to do, she stitched SIXTY of the blocks, reworked a few and stitched on the binding. I truly can never thank Darleen enough for all the time, work, and material she invested into this piece. Thank you Darlene for **A JOB WELL DONE!** Thanks also to the few Grange members that contributed a block or two for this quilt.

The proceeds from this quilt raffle will be going to region 3, who will be hosting this year's state session. Let's all make an effort to sell the tickets sent to you. Who knows, perhaps next year it will be your region, and we could have another quilt raffle.

I would like to thank again the Grange members that attended these two workshops. I was hoping for a better turnout, however we had two great days of fun, fellowship, learning, and sharing. Fraternally, Judy

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! Hopefully, by now, you have found 1 or 2 projects to use for the community service program. It does not have to be a huge project. 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 a while.

Just a reminder that the due date for your community service book is Tuesday, September 10. You can include projects from August 31, 2012 thru August 31, 2013. 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



Burns Junior Grangers Donate Bird Feed

Burns Junior Grange#325 started a collection of bird feed for the Durand Rehabilitation Center. Several items were collected and delivered recently by Connie, Marc and Cory Johnston.

The Program Director of the Center was very pleased and said that the residents will be happy to have food for the birds that gather around the bird feeders near the windows.

The Juniors are now collecting cat and dog food for the Shiawassee Humane Society.

The collection is well underway.

Kinney Grange #754 at the Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts

The members of Kinney Grange manned a booth at the recent Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts June 7-9, 2013. this was our 6th year of participating. Our menu consisted of Popcorn, Golden Cheddar and Caramel Corn. We also served Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Powerade and Water. Our goal was to earn enough money to buy dictionaries for the Words for Thirds program. The weather on Friday and Saturday was good and Sunday was predicted rain, but it waited until the Festival was over. We were one of 26 organizations to have a food booth



Front row l-r: Peggy Johnston, Sharon Popler, Jessica Swainston, Kaitlyn Betcher, Back row l-r: Lois Nichols, Bob Nichols, Phil Swainston, Rodney Wagner, Arnette Welsh, Nancy Swainston. Photo by Luanna Swainston



at the Festival. We had Kinney Grange members including our Junior Grange members, Grangers from other Granges and

non-Grangers helping us. Over 400 man-hours was recorded. The Festival involves many stage performances of all types, an art tent, activities and art projects for the kids and a variety of good food, both American and "foreign country" food. It's an exciting weekend with many activities, something for everyone!

← Harry Brown, Master of Kinney Grange #754 "Popcorn King" just doing his thing. Although he had several understudies this year, he is still "King."

National Grange supports ag funding, SNAP; says splitting Farm Bill may be 'last resort'

The National Grange on Thursday (June 27) said reports that House Majority Leader Eric Cantor is looking to separate the agriculture and conservation provisions from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program funding in the current Farm Bill could be a positive move in the divisive political climate.

National Grange Legislative Director Grace Boatright said in a statement late Thursday:

"As an agriculture-oriented organization, we strongly believe in the need for continued support for America's farmers through a Farm Bill. We, too, believe in helping those in need of food support through community-level programs and assistance through federal funds such as SNAP. If separating the two components of this massive bill allows the divided Congress to move past partisanship and toward passage of both the Farm Bill and a responsible spending plan for SNAP, the Grange stands behind such a move. This should be done as a last resort to get critical funds approved before it's too late."

Boatright went on to say:

"America's hardworking farmers and ranchers provide food, fiber and fuel for us each and every day and cannot wait until a more united Congress is able to enact legislation. The security of our food — from the perspective of growers and those who seek assistance as consumers—should not be held hostage."

STRAWBERRY SEASON

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE

One homemade or store bought pie crust

6 cups of fresh strawberries

1/2 c. sugar

2 T. cornstarch

1/2 c. water

1/2 tsp. almond extract

4-6 drops red food coloring

2 c. whipped topping

Heat oven to 450 degrees and bake pie crust until golden brown. Cool completely. Meanwhile, wash and hull strawberries and drain on paper towel. In 2-qt. saucepan, mix sugar and cornstarch. Stir in water. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture boils. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly, until glaze mixture is thickened and clear. Remove from heat, stir in almond extract and food color. Cool 10 minutes. Gently mix strawberries and glaze and spoon into pie crust. Top with whipped topping and refrigerate for 2 hours.

FOUNDATION

Student Loans

Roland Winter 15150 A Drive North Marshall, MI 49068

Tel: 269-781-2500 E-mail rbwin129@comcast.net

As you read this article I am sure most everyone is thinking about their plans and activities for the summer that has just begun, with vacations, reunions, fairs, and busy Grange schedules. Don't forget that if you or someone in your Grange is planning to apply for a Student Loan their application must be in by the time of the next meeting of the Foundation which is July 28th as Chris mentioned in his article last Month. It is one of our goals to continue to make money available to the Student Loan Fund to help our young and older Members as well, with their educational endeavors. It is also one of MY goals to do a better job of collecting those past due loans that we have, so this money will be available for future loans. We will be asking for help from you or your Grange for information about Members or past members of your Grange that have unpaid loans so that we can take the proper action.

Also don't forget to think about the Foundation with a donation from you or your Grange or both so the Foundation can do the job it was organized to do.

Our goals can only be met by your continued support and donations to the Michigan State Grange Foundation. We THANK YOU for your past support and look forward to hearing from you in the future.

The following five recommendations were made in the first Foundation Committee report in 1986 and are still current:

The continuation of voluntary contributions.

The continuation of the establishment of memorials dedicated to living or past Patrons.

That each Grange carry on whatever type of fund-raising activity they may determine upon, with the so-raised contributed to the Foundation.

That Golden Sheaf members who presently are not required to pay dues contribute to the Foundation each year as they may find themselves financially able to do so.

Many loyal Patrons may want to make bequests to the Foundation in their will.

Roland G Winter President, Michigan State Grange Foundation

MSG FOUNDATION,

2589 144th Avenue

Dorr, MI 49323

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

\$ _____ **In Memory of:**
_____ **For Memory** _____ **Birthday**

Address _____ **Anniversary**

City/State _____ **Zip** _____ **Deceased**

Donations made by: _____ **Other**

Thank you for your Support!

Connie Johnston, Director 6241 Grand River Road, Bancroft, MI 48414 Tel: 989-634-9350 E-mail ckream27@yahoo.com

What a great camp!! There were a total of 18 Juniors and Youth and we had tons of fun and learned a lot! A quick synopsis of the weekend of what we did: Went to a sheep farm where we got to see a whole lot of lambs!! Learned what it takes to care for them, a little bit about sheep, and watched a lamb feed from a bottle. A few Juniors even got nibbled on by the lambs. We went to a fish hatchery where we learned how they use to transport fish stock to lakes by train car, got to feed the retired brood stock and see LOTS of baby fish. We went swimming in Lake Charlevoix, did craft entries for several of the department contests, roasted hot dogs and smores around a campfire and just enjoyed free time on the swing set and basketball court. Saturday evening the Youth and older Juniors went putt-putt golfing while the Juniors camped out and watched a movie.

Of course we couldn't have had a great camp without the Grange that opened their doors. A big THANK YOU to Barnard Grange #689 for hosting us and feeding us well. Thank you to Matchett Sheep Farm for giving us a great and educational tour. Thank you to the Oden Fish Hatchery for a wonderful tour of their hatchery. And because I couldn't do this myself, I have many thank you's to give.....to Terri Sheffer and Karen Strouse for being part of the Junior committee and your assistance with camp.....to Sharon Popler, Judy Bowers, Peggy Johnston for all your help with camp, bringing snacks, and for leading a few of the craft workshops.....to Randy and Joanne Cebulski for your assistance and all around help around the hall (even the little tour of Barnard Road on the way to the sheep farm)....and to Anne and Foster Kurburski, Angela Kurburski and Chris Johnston for help with transportation and adult supervision. Grange truly is a family!!

State Session is just around the corner. At camp we worked on decorating frames for one of the Junior contests. One of the other craft contests is a silhouette. This silhouette can be of anything, it doesn't have to be a person. It can be in any colors. I can't wait to see the variety of silhouettes at session.



**A visit to Matchett Sheep Farm —
Charelvoix**



**Visit to Oden Fish
Hatchery — Petoskey**

Swimming at Lake Charlevoix



Working on crafts/baking



I hope all of you are having a GREAT summer. I know many of us have been so busy with Grange events. Keeping busy and getting the Grange name out to the public is so important for growth. This past State Session I talked about having a picnic during this summer. Well I've talked to several people and I think it would be best to cancel for now. Maybe some time in the future we could try to do it. Hopefully your all working on some of the categories for the Lecturers Department, or any department. This coming session all of us Directors are hoping for a Great turnout of entries. Get the family or Grandkids involved and have a Wonderful time doing these crafts. Below are some facts that I found and thought you'd like to take to you meetings and read them for fun, reminisce a little and have a nice time with it.

KEEP ENJOYING THE SUMMER!! TILL WE MEET AGAIN, Sharon.

July Trivia Questions

1. What battle took place from July 1-3 1863? The Battle of Gettysburg. It was the turning point of the American Civil War.
2. Which famous outlaw died on July 14, 1881? Billy the Kid.
3. What theater was John Dillinger killed at on July 22, 1934?
4. Man first stepped on the surface of the Moon on July 20, 1969. Neil Armstrong then Buzz Aldrin. Who was the 3rd member of the team? Michael Collins. Orbited the moon while they were on the moon.
5. What event took place on July 13, 1985 that was billed as the Greatest show on Earth? LIVE AID. Live aid stemmed from a collaboration of people to help famine victims in Ethiopia.
6. What was the flight number of the plane that exploded off Long Island, New York on July 17, 1996? TWA flight 800 bound to Paris when it exploded in mid air south of Long Island, killing 229 people.
7. Where was John F Kennedy Jr headed when his plane disappeared on July 16, 1999? Martha's Vineyard. He was headed to a family wedding,

August Trivia Questions

1. August 6, 1945 changed the concept of warfare in the most terrifying way, when an atomic bomb was used for the first time. What was the name of the plane that dropped the bomb? The Enola Gay. The bomb called "Little Boy" was dropped over Hiroshima by Colonel Tibbets.
2. On August 28, 1963, one of the most memorable speeches in history was heard publicly for the first time. What was it and who said it? "I have a dream" speech by Martin Luther King Jr. made his speech in front of over 200,000 civil rights demonstrators in Washington D.C.
3. Babe Ruth and Elvis Presley both died on the 16th of August. True or False? Babe Ruth died on Aug 16, 1948 and Elvis Presley died on Aug 16, 1977.
4. One of the greatest construction and engineering achievements in American history was unofficially opened on Aug. 15, 1914. What was it? The Panama Canal. On that date a ship named Ancon made the first inter ocean voyage by way of the Panama Canal.
5. What happened on Aug 13, 1961? The Berlin Wall went up. For 3 decades the symbol of cold war divisions, the Berlin Wall was responsible for the loss of numerous of people that were shot trying to cross it.
6. It began on Aug 15, 1969 and it is one of the most memorable events in the history of the twentieth century? "Woodstock" Held at a farmer's field in Bethel, New York, the Woodstock Music and Art Fair became one of the defining moments in music history.

Parade of Grange Meeting Places

Has your Grange planned, started, or even completed a replica of your Grange meeting place? On Wednesday night of the convention, there will be a parade of these copies of our Grange meeting places.

Check the 2012-2013 program book, page 4 for the instructions on doing this project.

It will be fun to see what everyone comes up with.

Jackie Bishop 479 Tuscany Drive, Portage, MI 49024
Tel: 269-365-0401 Email: jacqueline_bishop@hotmail.com

Happy Summer!

At long last, it does seem that summer is here. For some Granges, this means a bit of “vacation” from many of their activities. But for many others, this is the time of the participation in festivals, parades, county fairs, and summer fun. Oftentimes, during these summer activities, Grangers have access to a large number of people, so this is a great time to publicize your Grange and make known to the public what you do, as well as recruit new members.

You can easily follow the Plan, Publicize, Persevere, People model during the summer months:

-The Planning comes in as you consider what kinds of ways you might be able to publicize your Grange at these events. This might be creating a tri-fold display with photos of past events and activities, it might be printing off a number of membership applications to have available, it might be creating some posters that can be placed for the public to see, or Planning avoids the “shoulda” conversation that could otherwise occur at these events : “We “shoulda” had an application available when that guy asked us how he could join the Grange”; “We “shoulda” displayed information about what we do at our Grange”; “We “shoulda” put up posters for our next dinner”.

-The Publicize part of the model could include those kinds of things already mentioned, but might also include placing articles or ads in the local newspapers regarding your events. Any time the word “Grange” can be placed in front of the public, you are making it easier to ask people to join the Grange, and find those who would be interested.

-Although getting a signed membership application is likely your end goal, sometimes it takes pre-work to get that result. This is where Persevere comes in. Just because you did all the Planning and Publicizing and did not get a new member the first time doesn’t mean that you should stop doing the Planning and Publicizing. If you consider how much information each of you process in a day, it is easy to see how most people need multiple “hits” with regard to any kind of information for it to stick in their brains.

-Then, it’s really about the People. Don’t be too shy about asking those that attend your events to join the Grange. Be prepared for some questions. Try to target

your answers not to just what you like about the Grange, but what the person you are asking to join might like about the Grange. You might ask them a few questions – “What brought you to this event?”, “Where did you hear about the Grange?”, “Are you aware of the Grange family-friendly orientation?”, etc.

Let me know about your summer activities, as I hope to attend some of them this Summer.

I would like to give Peggy Johnston and Dale Moore kudos for making the first move with regard to the reorganization of Hayes Grange. They placed an ad in the local newspaper, and an article regarding Hayes Grange was published in the local paper. So far, we have one response from this, but others in the area were contacted for the article. We hope to set up a meeting this summer to get the ball rolling there. The hall is available, so this is a positive.

Have fun this summer!

Plan! Publicize! Persevere! People!

Deaf Awareness and Junior Grange Appeal for Funds

All Granges have received an appeal from both the Deaf Awareness Director and the Junior Director for donations to help their departments. Both departments are still waiting to hear from many Granges or individuals. These departments run mostly on the support of the Subordinate and Pomona Granges in Michigan. Please help if you possibly can.

In Memory Of...



**Margaret Beardslee
Community #1675**

**E. Marie Dean
Summit City #672**

**Eva Grant
Home #129**

**Ruth Strebbling
Plymouth/Westland #389**

*“Well Done Good and Faithful
Servants”*

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

It seems like I just wrote my last article for the MGN. The time is going by way too fast! We were wondering if summer and drier weather would ever get here. Well let me tell you it is here now. As I sit here writing this MGN article, it is Thursday June 20th and so far this week it has been dry and temperatures have been very nice. Not a lot of humidity and temps in the upper 70s to low 80s during the day. Starting June 21st, the temperatures are going up and the humidity is moving in again. Of course field corn loves this kind of weather as long as there is some moisture too! My garden is finally growing nicely but so are the weeds in it. I mulch my garden with the "used" straw when my nephews and niece clean their goats' house. What a wonderful way to cut down on most of the weeds and also naturally fertilize the soil!

I saw an editorial from the June 12th. Lansing State Journal and I would like to share some of it with you.

Growing Michigan's Economy, Bite by Bite.

Summer is the season when Michiganders can celebrate the State's bounty of locally produced foods, especially as the region's numerous farmers markets come alive with fresh produce and other goods.

That makes it a fine time to remember that Michigan is second only to California in the diversity of its agricultural production. The State has led the Nation in growing cucumbers for pickles, squash, blueberries and tart cherries and is among the top producers of carrots, asparagus, apples and sweet cherries. A report last year from Michigan State University estimated economic impact of Michigan's food and agriculture industries at \$91 BILLION.

Encouraging growth in those sectors has numerous benefits. Eating food grown close to home provides more nutrients, uses less transportation and thus produces less environmental impact, and keeps money circulating in the State's economy.

Pure Michigan Adds Agriculture Apparel to Online Store

Pure Michigan Agriculture and Pure Michigan Farmer merchandise is now available at puremichiganstore.org

The merchandise is available at the Pure Michigan online store and includes t-shirts, sweatshirts, ball caps, beanies, and Carhartt jackets sporting either the Pure Michigan Agriculture or Pure Michigan Farmer logo. To find the Pure Michigan Agriculture and Pure Michigan Farmer products, visit www.puremichiganstore.org and click on the Agriculture/Apple tab at the top of the page. Products in the Pure Michigan online store are made in the USA, and in many cases in Michigan. A portion of every sale supports the Pure Michigan advertising campaign. Pure Michigan Agriculture is a project of the Michigan Ag Council and MEDC that aims to raise awareness of food and agriculture in Michigan today.

Jeff Swainston, Director 2589 144th Ave., Dorr, MI 49323
Tel: 616-813-8746 jeff@jnsphoto.biz

Early June is a great time to be in Washington DC, especially if you are involved in any type of Legislative activity. The 2013 National Grange Legislative Fly-in was held June 2-4 in Washington DC and Worthy Master Chris and I were able to attend. Due to the high cost of airline travel we decided to drive instead of fly. As always, the fly-in is a busy schedule, packed full of activity from the time you arrive until the time you depart.

Arriving in Washington Sunday afternoon put us in the National Grange Headquarters building for our first legislative briefing Sunday evening. Monday and Tuesday were full of activities on the hill including meeting with staff persons in several legislator's offices. Chris and I took full advantage of the opportunity to enlighten the legislators and staff as to the Grange's position on several pieces of pending legislation.

The main focus of this year's fly-in was two-fold. The most important issue discussed was the Farm Bill. The other issue of focus was expanded broadband services for all of rural America.

The Senate was fairly certain that a version of the Farm Bill would emerge from their chamber. The House was not so sure. In the days following the fly-in both the Senate and House took action on the Farm Bill and as anticipated the Senate approved a Farm Bill and the House did not. The original hope was that they could get an approval in both chambers and have the legislation in conference committee by mid-June. Of course that did not happen. The biggest sticking point was deemed to be the SNAP program which was formerly known as food stamps. Almost 80% of appropriations in the previous Farm Bill was for the food stamp program. The Senate was hoping to trim that item in the budget by about \$4 billion while the House was looking at a figure closer to \$20 billion.

The rural broadband issue has also been a hot topic in recent months. Most legislators are in agreement that the system needs to be updated and services expanded. As is typical in Washington, the main question is the appropriations to fund the improvements.

Some other activities were also part of this year's fly-in. At a luncheon at the National Press Club, the National Grange presented the 1st William Saunders awards to Dodge Ram for their Super Bowl commercial, "God made a farmer." Representatives were on hand from Dodge to accept the award and speak a little bit about the basis for the commercial. That same luncheon also featured Representative Peterson from Minnesota briefing the group on the pending Farm Bill legislation in the House.

In the evening AT&T hosted a dinner and presentation about the rural broadband issue and how they expect to be a part of expanded services. I believe they are a bit too optimistic with their timeframe but there was some interesting question & answer conversation following the presentation.

Following more visits on the hill on Tuesday Chris and I hit the road back to Michigan. The fly-in is a great event and does a lot for the visibility of the Grange in Washington DC. There are a lot of relationships that have been built over the years both on the hill and in coalitions with other organizations. Most of the events during the fly-in are sponsored events which helps keep the costs down. The only real expense is the travel and hotel. By driving instead of flying those costs were kept to a minimum. What is more important is the value our organization gains by our activities in Washington DC. Part of that value is local media coverage of our event. One example is the articles that were published on our local newspaper's website and well as printed in the local newspaper. At least one of these articles can be accessed on the Michigan State Grange website by clicking on the link.

If anyone has any questions or comments about any of the activities during the fly-in or any of the pending legislation, contact me anytime. The Grange was founded to be a legislative voice for the farmer and has now become a legislative voice for all of rural America. Let your voice be heard!!

2013 Kelley Farm Experience

The Exemplification of the 1873 Degrees

Date: Saturday, July 13, 2013

Time: 10:30 A.M.

Location:

Oliver H. Kelley Farm
15788 Kelley Farm Road
Elk River, Minnesota 55330

Admission Prices:

\$6 (for ages 6 through 99)

\$15 (for non-Grange members – includes Kelley Farm fee)

This event is rain or shine.

Free parking at the Kelley Farm.

Bring a picnic or visit our food vendors.

Purchase tickets online now through July 1st

The Oliver H. Kelley Farm is located in Elk River, Minnesota, 50 minutes from the Minneapolis – St. Paul Airport (MSP). Travel to your hotel and the Kelley Farm are most convenient by rental car, available at the airport.

The National Grange has secured blocks of rooms at special rates.

Please book your room directly with the hotel of your choice.

All rooms are first come, first served.



Exemplification OF THE 1873 Degrees

OLIVER H. KELLEY FARM
JULY 13, 2013

Cambria Suites Maple Grove	Sleep Inn & Suites
9655 Grove Circle N Maple Grove, MN 55369 (763) 494-5556 Rate: \$109 plus 10.275% tax per night Breakfast included. Cut off date: June 28th	20930 So. Diamond Lake Road Rogers, MN 55374 (763) 428-3000 Rate: \$119 plus 7.275% tax per night Breakfast included. Cut off date: May 12th