



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XVII NO. 7

USPS 345-580

September-October, 2011

138th Annual Michigan State Grange Convention



Roger Bostwick is a third generation Granger from Kansas. Roger currently serves as the President of the Kansas State Grange and is also the Assistant Steward for the National Grange. One of Roger's favorite things about the Grange is the ritualistic work and the beauty and lessons contained in the degrees. Roger has memorized the entire installation ceremony as well as the Master's parts for the 5th and 6th degrees. He states, "this is easy when you drive over an hour one way to work, you have a lot of time to talk to yourself." He finds this the best way to memorize the works of our Order.

Roger works for the Deluxe corporation in Lenexa, Kansas and recently celebrated 26 years of service. He also enjoys working on the farm he and Melanie have named "Happy Hallow Farm." They help raise Simmental cattle with Melanie's parents as well as pigs, goats and chickens. Roger likes to try organic gardening and is adding something new each year to his garden. In his free time he enjoys restoring his 1942 Allis-Chalmers "C" tractor. Roger also serves as a leader in the local 4-H and the Way of the Cross United Methodist Church of Ozawkie. Family, church and Grange play an important part in the lives of the Bostwick family.

Melanie Steffey-Bostwick is a 5th generation Granger. Melanie is currently enjoying her role as the First Lady of the Kansas State Grange. Melanie works for

the Jefferson West High School as the Registrar. Melanie enjoys working with the kids, assisting them in their search for scholarships and applying to colleges. Grange has always been an important part of Melanie's life. Many of her school lessons while growing up were completed during Grange meetings and on trips to visit Granges throughout Kansas. Melanie serves as a leader for Girl Scouts, 4-H and Sunday School.. She also volunteers for the school by helping the many clubs in completing community service activities.

Roger and Melanie met in the Grange...you know what they say about Grange romance. They attended Junior Grange camps together and really did not have anything to do with each other, but as young adults they volunteered to be counselors at Junior Camp and the rest is history. Melanie and Roger have two daughters, Molly and Mandy. Molly is a senior at Kansas State University, studying secondary education with an emphasis in math. Mandy is a sophomore at Southwestern College, studying secondary education with an emphasis in English and a secondary degree in Spanish. Mandy is also a member of the Southwestern Track and Field team. Mandy was the inspiration for the "Mandy Project," we are happy to report that Mandy has overcome her hearing loss through medical treatments and speech therapy. As a family we are passionate about the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. We have served on the local committee for 13 years. Twelve of those years Melanie has served as the County Chair.

Roger and Melanie served on the National Grange Youth Team in 1993 and enjoyed the many youth and Grangers they met across the nation. We feel the Grange has offered us many opportunities to grow and become better people. The Grange has so much to offer not only individuals, but also families. We are excited to be a part of "Moving the Grange Forward."

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www.michiganstategrange.org



Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

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Sept. 10	Due date for reports, and some entries—check the program book
Sept. 11	10th Anniversary of 9-11
Oct. 3	Michigan State Grange Executive Committee
Oct. 20-22	Michigan State Grange 138th Annual Convention — Rodeway Inn—Cadillac
Oct. 31	Halloween

Come and join us in Cadillac!!

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Chaplain

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

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E-mail katjoy98@yahoo.com

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

It is hard to believe that summer is almost gone. The days seem to be cooler and even the nights are cooler. Sunset seems to come faster now than before. The fresh fruits and veggie are bountiful and sweet. Soon the kids will be returning to school were the teachers will teach them new and exciting things. But God's blessings are not ending with the summer. Each morning we see his blessing in the sun rise, the fresh air that we breathe and the smell of fresh cut grass. We sit down to 3 meals a day and taste God's love for us with the food that we eat. Our farmers start working early in the morning pulling out crops so that we will have food through the winter. They will work late at night so that the rain that is coming will not delay them in getting crops in. The rain comes and we know that it is from God because of the fact that the land is given a drink of water and we can smell the fresh clean air and smell the wet ground. Our flowers and trees are green and soon they will start turning fall colors, another sign of God's love and blessings. God's blessing are all around us. We need to remember all of these special blessings as we go forth into end of summer and the beginning of fall. Soon it will be time for the State Convention and the gathering of our Grange family. Remember all of your blessing now and forth coming.

Combined Issue

This issue is a combined issue for September & October. There will NOT be another issue before the annual convention. All needed information is included in this issue. Please keep this Michigan Grange News for reference.

Reminder

All reports are due by **September 10th!**

- ◆ Gold Star Grange
- ◆ Lecturer's Report
- ◆ Women's Activities Report
- ◆ Youth Reports
- ◆ Deaf Awareness Reports
- ◆ Membership Reports
- ◆ Deaf Awareness Essay Contest Entries
- ◆ Lecturer's Creative Writing Contest Entries

Be early sending your reports or entries in...this gives the directors time to get certificates ready and for those contests that need to be judged — the judging done.



Resolutions

As a grassroots organization, the fundamentals of our future and foresight come from the local Granges. Policy that gets set by the State and National Grange cannot be put in place without it first coming from a local Grange. Since the only time the State Grange has the opportunity to act on resolutions is at the State convention, now is a really good time to get them wrote and sent on to the State Grange. Resolutions don't have to pertain to National events or legislation that is currently pending, resolutions can be about anything that you believe the Grange should do or should have a view point to stand on and act from. Some resolutions might even pertain to things happening in your own community. If you need assistance in writing a resolution that you have an idea about or think the Grange should have a voice about, let me know and I will do all I can to help you. **Resolutions are due to the Michigan State Grange Secretary by October 1st. Email is accepted, but must be followed up by a signed hard copy.**

Session Changes

Located elsewhere in this edition of the Michigan Grange News, as well as on the website, is the convention schedule, please make sure you look it over since there have been some changes to the convention schedule. This is going to be a trial year and we will see how it goes as to whether we continue with this type of schedule another year. One major change is for Wednesday and Thursday; notice there is no committee meetings scheduled for Wednesday. Due to the lack of attendees on Wednesday for those meetings and no action being taken, we are waiting until Thursday after the WAC luncheon to begin the committee meetings and action. Hope to see you there.

State Officer Elections

During last year's convention, the resolution was passed to reduce the number of members of the Michigan State Grange Executive Committee from seven to three. As was started last year, this year we will only be electing one person to the Executive Committee. We will also be electing two people to the Foundation Board of Trustees.

Regions

Also at last year's convention, we passed a resolution in regards to the hosting of the Annual Convention. It is my

understanding there is some questions regarding this new policy, and hopefully all of your questions will be answered at this year's convention. I am planning to talk for a while about how this is going to work and will at that time answer any questions you may have.

National Grange Applauds USDA Commitment to Rural Broadband Infrastructure

On Tuesday, August 23, The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that rural communities in 18 states will receive more than \$103 million in funding for projects that will provide broadband access to underserved rural communities. The money will fund 23 projects across the country and is expected to create hundreds of new jobs.

Ed Luttrell, President of the National Grange, applauded the announcement, saying "the future of businesses, schools, and hospitals in our rural communities depends upon our access to affordable broadband services. There is still a long way to go in regards to bringing these rural communities in line with non-rural communities. In order to bridge that digital divide, we must continue to speak and fight for our underserved communities."

The majority of this funding is in the form of infrastructure loans, which comprises five projects totaling \$90 million. These loans are in addition to the \$192 million in loans the USDA announced in late July. About \$13 million of the funding is through the USDA's Community Connect Program, which extends grants to construct, acquire or lease facilities to deploy broadband to economically challenged communities. These projects require a matching contribution and must serve an area where broadband is not available.

Established in 1867, the National Grange has more than 200,000 members in 2,700 communities throughout 40 states of the United States. The organization meets annually to develop its legislative policy for the coming year, and to recognize the talents of its members. This year, the national convention will be held Nov. 8 to 11 in Tulsa, Okla.

Until the next time....

Lois Nichols, Director P.O. Box 19186 Kalamazoo, MI 49009
Tel: 269-720-5057 E-Mail loisketchum@netzero.com



Nayasia Thomas, the 2011 Michigan State Grange Deaf Awareness Scholarship Recipient. Nayasia is a 2011 graduate of Michigan School for the Deaf in Flint.

MSD Scholarship

June 1, 2011 the Grange Scholarship for a graduating senior at Michigan School for the Deaf was presented to Nayasia Thomas.

Grange Gathering

Our National Grange designated July 16, 2011 as a special Grange Gathering Day. Bob and I arranged for space to be available at the Fair Grounds in Evart, MI, for Grangers to gather and join us in two community service projects. Bob and I were the only ones to show up. Y'all don't know the fun you missed!

State Session

Hope you have been saving clean aluminum to bring to State Session. Also, don't forget the Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education. The "box tops" have been turning up in some unusual places, so keep your eyes peeled. I have found them on notebooks, glue sticks, canned biscuits, and many more strange places.

We will also be collecting hats, mittens, and scarves for MSD again this year. In addition, we have a **Special Project** this

Answers for Lecturer's Word Scramble and Math Problems:

1. Program Booklet 2. Requirements 3. Woodworking 4. Embroidery 5. Essay 6. Donation 7. Publicize 8. Crocheting 9. Agriculture 10. Coloring 11. Tin Punch Art 12. Hearing Screening 13. Chairman 14. Dedicated Worker 15. Community 16. Secretaries 17. Photography 18. Talent Show 19. Water Colors 20. Productive 21. Gold Star 22. Grange Founders 23. Endowment Fund 24. Speaking Contest 25. Historical 26. Speaking 27. Ambassador

1. 22 2. 2000 3. 138

Special Request from Luanna Swainston pertaining the GROW Club List

If you know any of these people, where they live, how to contact them, if they are deceased, etc. Please let Luanna Swainston know at 616 -877-0169 or plswainston@iserv.net

Allegan County: Jeannetta Carpenter — Wayland #37

Barry County: Gayle Barlow — Irving #55

Juanita (Grabau) Misak — Irving #55

Steve Strickland — Carlton #264

Benzie County: Lynda Damer — Platte #1328

Berrien County: Sharon (Deming) Carsella

Aretha (Arent) Peters

Branch County: Donna (Hill) Smurr — Unity #1364

Calhoun County: Brian Westerhoff — Fredonia #1713

Cass County: William Has — Community #1675

Don Jessup

Sharon (Miller) Osterman — Community #1675

Marie (Morris) Westland

Charlevoix County: Garry Artgetsinger — Wilson #719

Linda Lumley

Cheboygan County: Russell Mealoy

Grace Thomas

Chippewa County: Nancy Franks — Kinross #1878

John Raniere

Clinton County: Linda Johnson

Dorothy Magsig — Dewitt #459

Gloria Jean Waltz

Gratiot County: Muriel M. Crooks — Ithaca #787

Hillsdale County: Harriett Engle — Mosherville #1351

Barbara (Golembiewski) Fillmore-Bankers #1330

James Monroe — Bankers #1330

Sharon (Carncross) Warren — Lickly Corners

Ingham County: Bill Balog — Capitol #540

Mary Ellen Fleming — Capitol #540

Cathy (Brake) Heuton — Capitol #540

Jean Johnson

Janet (Balog) Krogulecki — Capitol #540

Joyce (Balog) Smith — Capitol #540

Ionia County: Nina (Leland) Downing

Iosco County: Brian Bellview — Whittermore #785

Isabella County: Darryl Willoughby — Bloomfield #757

Kalamazoo County: Barb (Hassing) Reader — West Oshtemo #1630

Linda (Thompson) Ritzema

Peggy (Freestone) Taylor — West Oshtemo #1630

Kent County: Jean VenDeffelen — Alpine #348

Beryl (Giddings) Zimmerlee — County Line #671

Lapeer County: A. Jay Hewitt

Leo Weinzier

Lenawee County: Edward Dazey

Lester Fike, Jr. — Medina #277

Maureen (Downard) Gillin — Adrian #213

Harold & Esther Hodge — Fairfield #228

Linda (Better) Immers — Madison #384

Mason County: Lois Ann Bates

LaVerne Hillier

Mecosta County: Stanley Bellinger — Deerfield #1576

Audrey (Orr) Derby — Deerfield #1576

Monroe County: Patricia (Brinkmeier) Maszatics -Ash Center #471

Muskegon County: David Powers — Lake Harbor #1185

Newaygo County: Richard & Martha Evans — Big Prairie #516

Chester Schrader

Joe C. Zerlout — Fremont #494

Oceana County: Laura Milkins — Oceana Center #1047

Denise (Merrill) Shannon — Oceana Center #1047

Kevin Smith — Oceana Center #1047

Osceola County: Carol (Jackson) Furies — Richmond #878

Continued on page 9

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

With the upcoming annual convention of the Michigan State Grange rapidly approaching, it is extremely important to be prepared. I know it always sounds like a broken record but, one of the main objectives of the annual convention is to establish the legislative policy of the Michigan State Grange. As a grass-roots organization, the resolution process begins at the community/subordinate Grange. I am hopeful that over the past few months, your Grange has been busy working on resolutions to be acted upon by the delegates. It is extremely important for Grange members in Michigan to be part of the process. All legislative policy in the state and national Grange originated with resolutions from the local level. Please be involved.

I was cleaning my basement this afternoon...ugh...but came across a small booklet that I found extremely interesting. It was dated February 1981 and was called "State Close Up – A Forum for the Involvement of Youth in State Government." As I opened the booklet, the first page was titled "Jobs in Michigan: The Prospects and Problems." It is important to remember that in 1981 the country was trying to recover from a serious recession. In Michigan, then as it is now, most of the employment problems were centered in the auto industry. In 1981 approximately 30% of domestic autos were manufactured in Michigan. Also, over 35% of manufacturing jobs in Michigan were in some way connected to the auto industry. Japanese auto makers had taken over about 20% of U.S. sales because their vehicles were fuel efficient, well-made, and reasonable priced. Chrysler was in financial trouble. Sales of the K car were poor, leading to additional layoffs and large losses. Federal aid was needed to prevent Chrysler from going bankrupt.

The next section was called "Taxes in Michigan." Taxation, or forced savings, as many economists like to call it, is a transfer of resources from the private sector to the public sector. The largest growth of expenditures over the previous 20 years was welfare programs. Over 40% of every dollar earned went to support of these government programs. Several proposals were on the ballot to limit the amount of taxes that could be levied, primarily property taxes.

Next up, the section called "Education in Michigan – How Much Can We Afford?" In 1969, money for education accounted for nearly 59% of the state's total budget. In 1981, the same education appropriations for K-12 public schools, community colleges, and public colleges and universities accounted for 46% of the state's general funds. During this same period, the state has increased its general fund expenditures for social services and welfare from 14% in 1969 to 37% in 1981. While it is challenging to interpret these numbers, it definitely showed the beginning of a

trend.

Although I didn't take the time tonight to check the latest budget figures, my point really is that we are still facing the same issues today that we were in 1981. Doesn't it all sound too familiar? This is why the establishment of Grange legislative policy can be so important. We need to have a voice in what is going on in Lansing and in Washington DC. It starts at the grass-roots level in the Grange and it is a proven system that works.

Take the time in your local Grange to prepare resolutions that reflect how you feel about what is happening in local, state, and federal legislatures. Take time as delegates to debate these issues at the upcoming convention and establish a policy that is in the best interest of all Grange members in Michigan. And finally, if these issues end up being debated at the state or federal level, all members need to make your voices heard by making contact with your representatives and senators in Lansing and in Washington.

I am looking forward to the upcoming convention in

The Communication Program in Your Grange

By Beulah Winter (taken from old records)

What is the current status of your Grange's Communication Program?

Every now and then we need to sit back and take a look at our Grange and see where we could make some constructive changes to better our Grange.

Take this little quiz and see where you stand.

1. Does your Grange have someone responsible for communications (publicity or public relations chairman?)
2. Does your Grange receive publicity about your newsworthy activities in the local daily and/or weekly newspaper?
3. Does your Grange receive publicity on the local radio station?
4. Is the name "Grange" regularly heard by county commissioners, city councilmen and other local elected officials at public meetings? (Grange members speaking out in the name of the Grange)
5. Does your Grange hall have an attractive sign which tells the community what the building is?
6. Does your hall have (1) a pleasant, well-kept appearance or (2) do your neighbors wish it would burn down and thereby improve
7. Does your Grange have a system to contact all members for special events? (A functioning telephone committee or a regular newsletter?)
8. Do all of your members understand what the Grange is?
9. Does information about your Grange appear in the Michigan Grange News?
10. Does your Grange regularly participate in the County Fair by entering a display?

Women's Activities

On the Road

Judy Bowers 11802 Reed Road, Byron, MI 48418
Tel: 517-242-2790 Email: jkbbbeb@yahoo.com

Summer is coming to a close, as is the Grange year for 2010-2011.

It won't be long and we'll be getting together in Cadillac to go over resolutions, make policies, celebrate the accomplishments of Granges and individuals. It is a time to see the Grange in action. The ritualism, fellowship, time to renew acquaintances, make new ones, a fun, fun time. If you have never attended a state convention come join us.

Don't forget your entries for the different departments, and if you have a hidden talent, singing, dancing, baton twirling, etc. Sign up for that also.

The Women's Activities department would be happy to showcase your handiwork, baking, and canning entries.

Are you planning on attending the Women's Activities luncheon?" Of course you are. With October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I'm asking everyone to wear something pink at the luncheon. Also if you make a unique/pink item and showcase it at the luncheon, you could win a prize. The winner will be chosen by popular vote.

Also, don't forget we are giving pajamas and nighties to those in need. If you can't come but would like to give send them with a fellow Granger.

Another fun project is the handcrafted Christmas ornament. Send along a special one you've made and am willing to part with. The top three, chosen by popular vote, will be sent to Oklahoma to the National Convention and placed on a tree, that will be given to a group or organization in the area.

I hope to see many of you in Cadillac, haven't been able to visit all of you however, my little red car has been traveling the roads across Michigan. July 16th, I attended Sturgis "Stuff the hall" get together, then went to Three Rivers to attend the St. Joseph Pomona Picnic on the 17th.

August 6th you could find me at the Fredonia Grange meeting and I like Marshall, MI so much I went back on the 16th, to work in Fredonia's food kitchen at the Calhoun County Fair. My next fair was August 18th at Midland. Studley Grange put me to work in their food booth. To finish the week, I went to Plymouth/Westland's quilt show.

My next adventure will take me to Hart. I'm going to help out Oceana Center in their fair booth. Spending the night at Herb and Ardith Mertens. My farthest trip will take me to Chippewa County Fair and work in Pickford Grange's food booth. From there I'll go to the Barnard Grange meeting. I'll rest my body and mind at Charles and Darleen Dhaseleer's home.

Perhaps your Grange will be on my next stop. Be watching for me and my little red car!



YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

Thank You

Jeff & Nancy Swainston, 2589 144th Ave., Dorr, MI 49323
Tel: 616-813-8746 E-mail jnsphoto@charterinternet.com

THANK YOU to West Oshtemo Grange for hosting this year's Youth/Junior Grange camp. We had 18 participants at camp this year. We stayed very comfortable in the air conditioned hall, which was very nice due to the extremely hot, muggy weather.

On Thursday everyone got acquainted.

On Friday when it wasn't raining, we played kickball, catch, tag, enjoyed the swings, and ate dinner outside. We had plenty of Grange projects to work on and games to play inside when it was raining. Apples to Apples seemed to be a big hit again this year for kids of all ages.

On Saturday we enjoyed a morning visit to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum and in the afternoon had a wonderful time playing in the sand and water at Lake Michigan's Van Buren State Park located in South Haven, Michigan. A few of us were a little bit red by the time we arrived safely back at the Grange hall.

On Sunday we held vespers, cleaned the hall, and said our goodbyes to some new friends and some friends that we already knew.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this year's camp, all the help and support was greatly appreciated.

We will be looking for Granges to host camp for the next year. Please talk to your Grangers about providing a location for the Youth/Juniors in your area to easily participate in camp and enjoy to benefits of making life- long friends and great memories of Grange.

Don't forget to send in the **Youth/Young Adult report forms and the Achievement Award forms** by **September 10, 2011**, to **Jeff and Nancy Swainston 2589 - 144th Ave, Dorr, MI 49323**.

We will also need youth and young adults to march on Saturday morning during our State Grange Session 2011. If you are available the weekend of October 21st and 22nd please join us in Cadillac, MI, on Friday evening to practice marching and

Welcome New Members!!

Sandra LaHart—North Adrian #721 (correction)
Judy Harsh — North Adrian #721 (correction)
Allan Domanski — Burns #160
Michael Sheffer — Burns #160
Terri Sheffer — Burns #160
Aubrey Sheffer — Burns #160
Beth Caswell — Mosherville #1351
Christine Merten — Oceana Center #1047
Marcia Hayward — Summit City #672
Christopher Eidsmoe — Studley #1174
Nicholas Eidsmoe — Studley #1174
Homer Schantz — Maple Leaf #940
Roy & Mary Harris — White Pigeon #1345
Thomas Waltke — Burr Oak #1350
Julie Clark — Burr Oak #1350
Joseph Musall — Burr Oak #1350
Jayd Norman — Burr Oak #1350

MEMBERSHIP

Benefits

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

The State Grange session time is almost here! As of mid-August, I have received about ¼ of the Membership reports. All Granges reporting will receive a “Ya Gotta Wanna” certificate at the session. Although these reports are due September 10, I will accept them through October 1. I look forward to meeting new people and visiting with those I already know at the State Grange session. See you there!

This issue, I decided to provide you with some information regarding the benefits available to all Grange members through the National Grange. For those of you with Internet access, you can go to www.nationalgrange.org, then click on Member Benefits along the left side of the home page to get additional information. I am providing only brief information here. If anyone wants more information, and does not have Internet access, let me know by calling 269-365-0401.

National Grange benefits for all Grange members:

- 1) American Income Life Insurance Company provides a \$2,000 accidental death and dismemberment benefit at no cost. Call Larry Lozano at 408-410-7811 for more information.
- 2) TruHearing MEMBER plus provides a wide selection of hearing aids at lower prices. Forty free battery cells are provided each year, three free adjustments are provided, and a savings on exams. These also come with a 45-day money back guarantee and a one-time repair or loss replacement. Click on <http://www.truhearingmemberplus.com> and enter Group #MMPV-6GF1 under “employee”.
- 3) CVS Caremark provides savings on prescription drugs. Cards may be printed by going to <http://nationalgrange.rxsavingsplus.com>. You can save an average of 22% on most prescriptions and up to 50% on mail order. This card may be used even if you have insurance, but it is a discount card. It can even be used for pet medications. This card can help you with your deductible costs, and especially on non-generic drugs. Additional information is available from Samantha Johnson at 888-4GRANGE, ext. 109 or sjohnson@nationalgrange.org.
- 4) Choice Hotels provides a 20% discount on their hotels (Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Quality, Sleep Inn, Clarion, Econolodge, and Rodeway Inns). Make reservations at 1-800-932-2775 and provide ID#T00211660. You may be able to get a lower rate for your Michigan State Grange stay in Cadillac by using this discount.
- 5) T-Mobile provides up to a 12% discount to Grange members. Call 1-866-464-8662 and reference promotional code 10626TMOFAV.
- 6) A National Grange Credit card may be obtained by calling 1-800-932-2775 and mentioning priority code UABEYD. There is no annual fee, and you earn WorldPoints.
- 7) Enterprise Rent-A-Car offers discounted rates on a large selection of vehicles. Internet reservations may be made at <http://www.enterprise.com>, and enter corporate account number L16Y165, then pin number “THE”. You can also call 1-800-261-7331 or contact a local branch.
- 8) **Hertz** offers discounted rates and additional promotional offers. Reservations may be made at <http://www.hertz.com> or call

1-800-654-2200 and reference CDP# 1516203.

Also available are discounts from Allied Moving, Life Line Screening, and LTC Financial Partners (long-term care insurance), and Medical Air Services Association (emergency transportation assistance).

I welcome invitations to your Grange meetings. Since my job takes me out of town frequently, dates need to be established early. I look forward to hearing from you. Let me know

11. Are you proud to admit you are a Grange member?
12. Does your Grange need help with its communications program?

To determine if you need help, count the number of “yes” and “#1” checks above. If you checked 10 or more, your Grange is perfect! Have you answered everything honestly? If you have fewer than 10 “yes” checks, your Grange will benefit from an upgraded communication program.

What’s Your Grange Image?

How does the public see your Grange?

_____ the public doesn’t have a view or opinion about our Grange because nobody knows we’re there.

_____ the public thinks the Grange is a closed group, secretly conducting its business.

_____ The Grange is viewed as a “hall,” often in need of repair and maintenance.

_____ The Grange has the reputation in the community as a dynamic vibrant group of people who are active within their organization and in the community.

_____ the Grange is seen only as a local hall which is available for rent.

_____ Other:

The Way Others View Your Grange Depends Upon the Image You Project!!

How does the public (non-members) learn about your Grange?

_____ Through conversations with friends and relatives who are members?

_____ By seeing posters and other publicity announcing special upcoming events which are held in the Grange hall (such as fairs, dances, special classes and programs, etc.?)

_____ By seeing or hearing about regular notices of meetings in the local paper and/or on the local radio station?

_____ By driving by the hall and seeing a sign?

_____ By visiting the hall for community events or public meetings?

_____ By reading special feature stories in the paper or hearing broadcasts about newsworthy events or activities promoted by the Grange?

Please take these little quizzes on your Grange and discuss them at a meeting. There just might be some ways you can improve your Grange to better it and who knows you might find ways to get new members.

Community Service VIP/Dedicated Worker

Sue Wagner 4091 Bauer Road, Hudsonville, MI 49426
Tel: 616-669-6226 E-mail susiezq147@aol.com
Mary Houghton 6935 Monroe Road, Springport, MI 49284
Tel: 517-857-2686 E-mail mary.houghton@gmail.com

This is the September/October article of the Community Service department. The Subordinate Granges across this state have submitted their Annual reports and we are glad to announce that 12 Granges took the time to send their reports. On the initial investigation of the reports, from the 12 Granges that reported, there are over 200 hundred Continuing projects. But the best news to us is that there are over 60 NEW projects. One Grange was even creative and has 11 continuing projects but on several of the old projects they tried something new and that is progress. **Since the projects are all to make a difference in the community you live in, WE say Congratulations.** So Best of luck to all the entries and the Judging will be tough this year. The results will be announced on Thursday evening at the State Convention.

You will recall that Fredonia Grange in Calhoun County took first place last year in the report they submitted. They went on to compete at the National Grange convention and they placed 2nd in the Nation. Congrats to my friend Mary Houghton for being the head of Community Service Department for Fredonia. With all the help from the members that work so hard, the great projects they support, they have received such an honor. Woo hoo.

The last two contests that can still be entered in the Community Service Department are the Very Important Patron and the Dedicated Worker. There were several Granges that have already submitted their entries for the VIP and Dedicated Worker with their Annual Report. So if you have an entry, please make sure have it arrive to Sue Wagner at the address posted above by September 10.

Each Grange is asked to honor a dedicated worker who has made a difference in the community. Giving public recognition to those who have given outstanding effort is important. This recognition is our way of saying Thank you for a job well done. The submitting Grange will send the summary of the candidate's accomplishments in an essay format. The essay should include why the Grange recommends this person. They may be a volunteer or a paid professional, a Grange member or a non-member, and a single person or a group. The entry must be received by Sept 10 and the award will be presented at the convention of the Michigan State Grange in October.

The very important Patron is to recognize members who have made an outstanding contribution to their Grange. The Grange may only submit one entry and the summary of the contributions your VIP has made to your Grange must arrive by Sept 10. If possible pro-

vide a photo of the VIP. This award will also be presented at the convention of the Michigan State Grange in October.

We appreciate the work done in the past year to our communities by caring and thoughtful Grangers. The Grange year in Michigan and the nation are coming to a close and it is time to start looking towards next year. The convention held each year is to recognize last year's accomplishments but even more than that, it is the opportunity to spark the fire for the year to come. So make and take the time to come to the convention and take part in the festivities. We look forward to seeing you there.

In Faith, In Hope, In Charity and with Fidelity The Sue and Mary Show

AGRICULTURE

Harvest Time

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

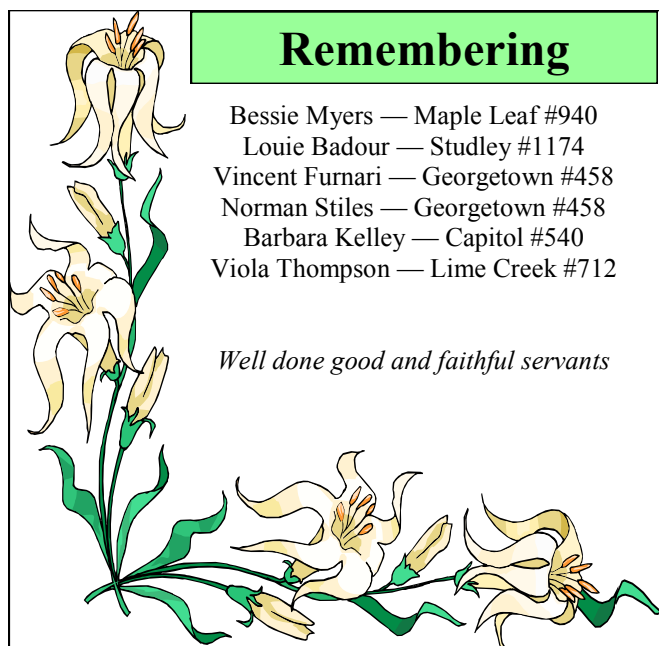
As I sit here in my living room writing my article it is Aug. 10th. Hard to believe the summer is three quarters over. Some County Fairs will be over by the time you get this issue of the MGN. For Agriculture though, it really is only about half over. Farmers around my area, if they are lucky, are making their 3rd cutting of Hay this summer. Field corn and soybeans are really growing very well here too. I haven't seen field corn as high as it is this year ever! With all the moisture and then heat and more moisture the corn has just been growing like crazy. I have soybeans around my property on three sides (not my beans but a neighbor's crop) is about waist high and very healthy. Not only the field crops are going well but also the fruit crops have been very good this year too. Some of the apple orchards in my area of the state are showing scab and fire blight do to all of the wind and stormy conditions we have been through this early summer. Of course I have no idea the ins and outs of these problems but I do know it makes the quality of the product go down in value.

The months of September and October will be very busy months for most farmers in our State with apple harvests and grape shaking going on during those months. Not only farmers but anyone that plants a vegetable garden will be busy from now until the first frost harvesting their bounties from their gardens. My personal garden did pretty good this year even during the very hot month of July. The zucchini squash did pretty good but came on all at once and then was done. If you didn't check it every night you would have baseball bat sized squash! I hope everyone that planted a garden has had a good growing season this summer. I have seen many updates and news releases from one particular Grange that planted a Community Garden. I am not sure this was because of my challenge to all Granges to plant one on their Grange property but I am very pleased of their accomplishments. I have seen that they are getting community support and even a few new members! This is really awesome!

I hope everyone that comes to the State Grange Convention in Cadillac in October joins us for the Agriculture Dinner. Yes, I said Dinner as we are not doing an Agriculture Breakfast this year. It was decided to change things a little and see if more would come to a Dinner. I hope to see you there. So until the State Session, enjoy your bountiful harvests of our wonderful State Agriculture!!!

GROW Club Request continued from page 4

Ottawa County: Caroleen (Klinkner) Miller -Georgetown #458
Saginaw County: Leota Boetcher — Ponto #1362
Dorothy Newman
Marion Ward — Ponto 31362
St. Joseph County: Ben Bordner — Burr Oak #1350
Ann Louise (Hagelgans) Carr — Colon #215
Wexford County: Theron Fenton—Silver Creek #649
Terry Morgan — Pleasant Lake #690
??? James & Donna Skirlo
??? Debra Wagner



Remembering

Bessie Myers — Maple Leaf #940
Louie Badour — Studley #1174
Vincent Furnari — Georgetown #458
Norman Stiles — Georgetown #458
Barbara Kelley — Capitol #540
Viola Thompson — Lime Creek #712

Well done good and faithful servants

ADDRESS CORRECTION FORM

Grange Name _____ No. _____

YOUR Name: _____

OLD Address _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NEW Address _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please use this form to send to notify us. The USPS charges the Michigan State Grange 50 cents for each correction. Thank you!

Mail to:

Michigan State Grange, 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429 or email the information to

**Two days from now,
Tomorrow
Will be
Yesterday!**

JUNIORS

Successful Camp

Connie Johnston, Director (pro tem) 6241 Grand River Road, Bancroft, MI 48414



Junior and Youth/Young Adult Camp

In July, **eight Juniors and another eight Youth (and Young at Heart)** joined together for **summer camp at West Oshtemo Grange** in Kalamazoo. What a great time!! We worked on crafts and played lots of games at the hall. On Saturday we spent a couple hours at the **Kalamazoo Valley Museum** with lots of hands on activities then took off in the afternoon for some fun in the **sun at the beach**. We had a fabulous time and we'd like to **thank West Oshtemo Grange** for hosting us and **Jeff & Nancy Swainston** as the acting chefs and feeding us well!

One special stop we made was getting our **picture at the historical marker** at the site of the first annual meeting. Which bring us right around the corner to the 138th annual meeting in October. Have you been working on your contest entries? You can check out all the contests available in the program or on the website, but make sure you check **ALL** the departments!

Women's activities baking contest is **frosted cupcakes** and has lots of other crafts. Deaf Awareness wants a **poster** of what it means to be deaf. The Lecturer has all sorts of contests to enter, **photo, crafts, etc.** But most important, don't forget the Junior contests that are out there!! **Creative writing, drawing, a button craft, punch tin art, etc.** Check them all out; you have a month to work on all of them. The best part of it all though??? A lot of them have **monetary awards**, so you could even make a dollar or two!

On **Saturday, Oct. 22nd**, we will have the **Junior activity room open**, with lots of crafts and activities to do. Then we will have the **Junior Luncheon** where the Juniors will eat for free!! Please let the State Grange know how many Juniors will be joining us so we have an accurate count. You won't want to miss out on this fun!!

Where will camp be held next summer????

The Michigan State Grange Foundation started with the fond hope that it would be financed by the Michigan state Grange Members through their donations. It was hoped that the foundation would be able to assist the Michigan state Grange Committees with some of their operating costs that pertained to the education of the Grange members in Michigan . This is being done to a certain extent. But without money being donated the amount that is available is being diminished. There was a Michigan State Grange educational fund that was being used to offer interest free loans to those Grange members who needed assistance with meeting the cost of their education. This was turned over to the foundation for them to administer, approve and make the loans, and to collect the loans when they came due. Lofty Ideas and they should have been attainable. For many years there was a regular flow of funds to the Foundation from the membership. This unfortunately has dried up as those who were Grangers at that time the foundation was established have passed on.

Now it is time for the current membership to step forward and assist with the Growth of the Foundation thru their regular donations. I believe that the Student Loan Fund loan system has to be strengthened. Our financial statement shows the amount of funds that is currently loaned to Grange members for education. . However it does not show the amount of funds loaned that is delinquent. The loan requirements were that the loans would be renewed for a period of 4 years then they had to be paid. This hasn't been done. I also understand that there were a number of loans that were written off because the students did not pay or keep the Foundation informed of current addresses. The foundation needs to strengthen the repayment plans established and they will need to have co-signers for all loans granted, without exception.

Now the task becomes difficult. And it is the collection of these past due student loans. Some of the loans have, unfortunately been delinquent for a long period of time and are no longer collectible due to the statue of limitation established by the Laws of Michigan. I hope that these individuals will see the error of their action and repay the amount they owe promptly.

Yes, I would like to see the Foundation continue. Yes, I would like to have our members, who are borrowers, repay their loans. Yes, I would like to see that the funds, given by those who invested in the Foundation, will continue to be available and be of service to our newer, younger, members who will also need it to pay for the cost of their education.

Athol Hazen, Foundation Board Trustee

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!

******NEW PRICE******

Michigan State Grange Cookbooks

Yes! We still have “**Sharing our Best**” Cookbooks available. There are over ten cases left.

If you have an event coming up in the near future and would like to have some of these books to sell, PLEASE, let us know at 989-288-4546 or msgrange1873@yahoo.com and we will do our best to get them to you.

We are offering the cookbooks to Granges for \$5.00 each, but you can add a couple of dollars to that cost to make a little for your own Grange.

The cases contain 24 books.

If you would like cookbooks brought to the convention, please let us know and we will put them on the trailer. Call...Call...Call...PLEASE

NATIONAL GRANGE PHOTO CONTEST

On Thursday when the Judging gets started at State Session, the judges will be asked to judge a "Best of Show" for the National Photo Contest from all the pictures that qualify. When this is done, they will then judge all the other categories, including the photo entries. They will then be asked to pick any "One" item that will go to the Idea fair at National.

A reminder that for the National Contest your photo size "must" be between a 4 X 6 and no larger than 11 X 14 (including matting if used), color or black/white, film or digital and must be a Grange member to qualify. No professional photographers may enter. There must be some sort of firm backing to your picture for support. The prize monies are \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for 3rd place.

A FEW REMINDERS FOR STATE SESSION

Under the "Hand crafted Art Contest" there are 3 changes. **Gone are:** Rug making, Table Favors and What a Doll **Replaced by:** a Candle Centerpiece, hand made place mates (2 needed not 4), and a Miscellaneous Craft.

Under the "Art Contest" the Computer Art has been eliminated.

The Photo Contest has some changes also.

Gone are:

Nature at her best
Michigan Highlights
Silly pet
Grangers working together

NEW ONES ARE:

Before and After (2 pictures in a 5x7 double hole matted frame)
Granger's in Action
Family (same as last year)
Michigan Sunset
Wildlife Animal Pictures (no domestic animals)

There are a wonderful group of items that can be made in all the Departments this year, so have fun looking and finding all the things you'd love to make!! Be sure to send only one entry per category.

Please have all your items labeled and all **Lecturers** items listed on the pick up forms to make check in time a lot shorter. If you need any forms please see your Lecturer or contact me and I'll get some sent to you right away!!

PROGRAM BOOKLET WORD SCRAMBLE

1. orpmarg otelkob _____
2. Rsetqueimren _____
3. Ooowwdgnikr _____
4. Oideryrbme _____
5. Yesas _____
6. Oaidntno _____
7. Pblezuie _____
8. Choertcign _____
9. Tureuclairg _____
10. Ringooel _____
11. Nit enhup tar _____
12. Gnrhaei gsnirnee _____
13. Airnamhc _____
14. Dddeeiaet wkoerr _____
15. Citymmnou _____
16. Rrsstacieee _____
17. Phooytraphg _____
18. Lentta sowh _____
19. Taerw sloocr _____
20. Divetucrop _____
21. Lodg tars _____
22. Nagerg soundfer _____
23. Oeetnmwdn dfnu _____
24. Kingpaes esttonc _____
25. Calhiirsto _____
26. Keapings _____
27. Saasambrdo _____

You'll find the answers in the paper on another page.
These words are all taken from the booklet ENJOY !!!!!

Try Figuring These In Your Head

10	100	138
+13	—57	+ 7
+ 6	+16	+80
- 9	X 4	+17
X 4	X 8	+22
+8	+ 112	-31
Divide by 4	Equals ??	-48
Equals ??		-47
		Equals ??

2011 Annual Convention Tentative Schedule

Take note — there are a few changes

Wednesday, October 19

3:00p.m. Delegate Registration
 4:00p.m. Display Room Opens
 6:00p.m. Baking Contest Judging
 7:30p.m. Talent Contest
 Lecturer Awards
 Baking Contest Awards
 Introduction of National Representative
 State Officers/Department Directors
 Delegate Reception
 State Officer Practice

Thursday, October 20

8:00a.m. Delegate Registration
 9:00a.m. Open 138th Annual Session in 6th Degree
 9:15a.m. Lower to 4th Degree – admit 4th degree members
 Flag Presentation
 Roll Call of Officers
 Roll Call of Delegates
 Introduction of National Representative
 Welcome by City Officials
 Executive Committee Response
 Partial Report – Credentials Committee
 Adopt Order of Business
 9:30a.m. Lecturer, Women's Act., Junior, Deaf Awareness contest judging
 10:00a.m. Report of Executive Committee
 Financial Reports
 Proposed Budget
 11:00a.m. Advisory Nominations for one Executive Committee member and Two Foundation Directors
 Masters Address
 12:00p.m. Past/ Present Officer, New Delegate, GROW Club Luncheon
 1:30p.m. Session Committee Meetings
 Foundation Meeting
 5:30p.m. Salute to Agriculture Dinner
 7:00p.m. Call to Order
 Awards- Membership, Deaf Awareness, Master's Special Award, Gold Star Grange, Information & Community Service
 Memorial Service
 Session Committee Reports
 Close in 4th degree
 6th Degree Practice
 5th Degree Practice
 Session Committee Meetings

Friday, October 21

8:30a.m. Election
 9:00a.m. Open Session
 Roll Call of Officers
 9:30a.m. Speaker: Roger Bostwick, National Grange Assistant Steward
 Budget Approval
 Session Committee Reports
 12:00p.m. Women's Activities Luncheon and Awards
 2:00p.m. Call to Order
 Roll Call of Officers
 Adoption of Thursday's minutes
 Department Information - Lecturer, Deaf Awareness, Community Service
 Session Committee Reports
 4:30p.m. Close in 4th Degree
 7:00p.m. Fifth Degree
 8:30p.m. Sixth Degree
 10:00p.m. Youth Practice and Pizza Party

Saturday, October 22

9:00a.m. Open in 4th Degree by Youth/Young Adults
 Youth Awards
 Roll Call of Officers
 Department Information – Youth/Young Adult and Legislative
 Session Committee Reports
 10:15a.m. Michigan State Grange Foundation Report
 10:30a.m. Executive Committee Milk Break
 11:00a.m. Junior Grange Presentation
 Department Information - Junior
 Session Committee Reports
 12:00p.m. Junior Luncheon
 1:30p.m. Call to Order
 Roll Call of Officers
 Adoption of Friday's minutes
 Unfinished Business
 Installation of Officers
 Department Information - Membership
 4:00p.m. Close of 138th Annual Session
 7:00p.m. Annual Banquet
 Dedicated Worker/VIP Announcement
 Youth/ Young Adult Raffle
 Dance