



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



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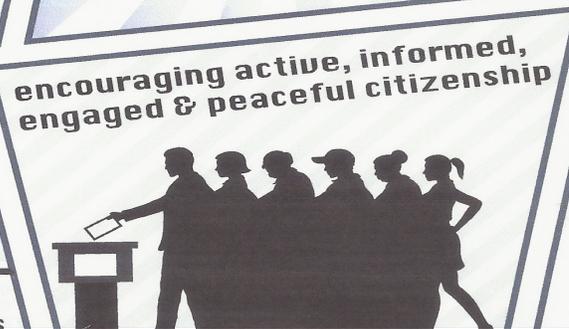
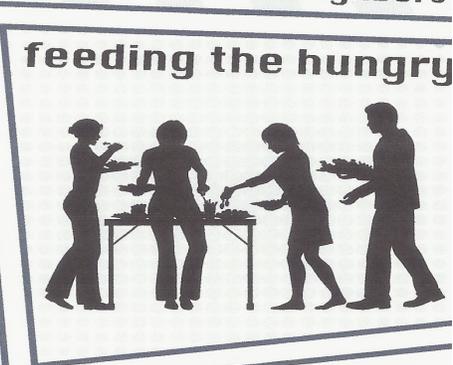
Mar.-Apr., 2019

## APRIL IS GRANGE MONTH 2019

A TIME TO CELEBRATE AND ADVERTISE THE GRANGE

A TIME TO HONOR THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY

A TIME TO PRESENT MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION



**GRANGE**<sup>®</sup>  
A fraternity  
training heroes  
for our  
hometowns  
since 1867

A TIME TO PARTY, PARTY, PARTY!!!

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# Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

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**Editor & Adv. Manager:**  
Christopher D. Johnston

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404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

- March 10** Daylight Savings Time
- March 17** St. Patrick's Day
- March 20** First Day of Spring
- April** Grange Month
- April 14** Palm Sunday
- April 21** Easter



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## Chaplain

## Adversity

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

### The Story

*The farmer thought the mule was not worth saving when it fell into a well accidentally so he thought he would just put it out of its misery by burying it. Despite the farmer's best efforts to bury the mule shovel after shovel full, the mule resisted until it was able to climb out of the well on top of all the dirt that was thrown in after him.*

*The mule, despite the fact it was initially in a deep well, would not give up. The mule simply shook the dirt off shovel by shovel never giving up the will to live, to climb out of the well.*

### We Fall At Times

*We may all have fallen into a hole at one time or another while we did not intend to. Some of us act like the mule and fight and fight until we get out of the hole, while others may try a few attempts, but in the end just give up and stay where they have fallen.*

*The difference between the ones who are able to climb out and the ones who ultimately give in and stay in their hole is really a matter of one's overpowering desire to get out from under whatever is pushing you down or trapping you. For those who have this power, it is not a matter of hoping to get out of the hole but only a matter of when.*

### A Good Comparison

*There certainly is a good comparison between a mule and it's stubbornness and a person who never, ever assumes that defeat or failure is an option. To accept defeat is to accept that life is over - all the fight is gone and you are simply waiting for your turn to have real dirt piled onto you.*

*The real challenge for a lot of us is to maintain the energy required to get out of one hole after another. No one said life was going to be easy so you might as well start to develop your resiliency, and your abilities to overcome issues by always, always looking for a solution and never, ever be satisfied that any hole, no matter how big, is going to get the better of you.*

*Be like a mule, a mule that is stubborn, who is going to do what they are going to do without even thinking that there is any option but to succeed.*

### A Lot In Common

*The farmer and the mule have a lot in common with most situations in life. We cannot always choose what difficulties we will run into, but we can choose how to respond. Our actions or reactions are in direct relationship to how much we actually control our own perceptions because there is absolutely no circumstance that has within its' own powers to compel any kind of emotional reaction. Events happen; you do not give any power to an event unless you choose to do so. This is the plain fact. If you do react to an event, you have made an actual decision to do so. To say an event caused you to react is not, in reality, a true statement. The event caused absolutely nothing; you made a choice and part of that choice is both one of mental decision-making and of physical action.*

### The Secret

*The secret to any event is to work towards minimizing emotion and maximizing pure factual thinking skills. When you work to reduce emotional reactions to a situation, you are giving yourself a real chance to deal with the issue in a constructive way. This is not to say that some events in life will not lead to an emotionally charged reaction like the death of a loved one. But this is not what we are talking about here. We are, instead, talking about all those everyday events that crop up like when a colleague does something that can mean that you have to take charge and do the work, or when you find yourself stuck in traffic with **cont'd page 6***

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**Grange Month**

As we know April is Grange month, and April is right around the corner. We should be making plans to celebrate us during the month of April by inviting our friends and neighbors to come in and join us for a meeting where we recognize our members and community members for all they do. This is a great time to recognize members for their years of service to the Grange. Many of our community Granges also use this time of year to recognize our Fire, Teacher and Law Enforcement Officers of the year.

**State Session**

Just a quick note and reminder that the Michigan State Grange annual session has been pushed back one week this year and will be held in Adrian at the Lenawee County Fairgrounds October 24-26, 2019. More information will come in later issues but put it on the calendar now.

**National Session**

In just a few short months we will be joining the Grange members in our region and assisting in hosting the National Grange session in Bloomington, Minnesota. Many hands make short work. We have been assigned to help with the preparations of the seventh degree regalia, which will take many hands to accomplish. There will be several areas that can always use extra hands whenever they are available. If you are planning to attend the convention and are willing to help out, please let us know.

We are also looking to see if there are any **military veterans** from Michigan that are planning to be in attendance at the National Session.



**Michigan Grange Pins**



Pins are still available through the State Grange Office. Cost is \$5.00 per pin. Postage will be added if shipped. Contact Peggy at 404 S. Oak Street Durand, MI 48429, 989-288-4546 or msgrange1873@yahoo.com

**National Grange Mission Statement**

During the recent Masters Conference held in Wichita, Kansas, the leaders in attendance worked diligently on a new revised Mission Statement.

“The Grange strengthens individuals, families and communities through grassroots action, service, education, advocacy and agriculture awareness.”

If your Grange does not have a mission statement please feel free to adopt and use this one.

**National Grange Foundation Annual Quilt Raffle**



Raffle tickets are available from me for the National Grange Foundation annual quilt raffle. The quilt is made of tender heart quilt blocks submitted last year to the National Grange quilt block contest. The quilt is queen size and the raffle tickets are \$5.00 each.

Until next time.....

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

I found this article on the Internet. You think of people being deaf but dogs?

**“Unadoptable” Rescue Dog Makes History as the First Deaf Member of Washington’s K-9 Unit.** By Meera Dolasia on Mary 5, 2018



Ghost, a pit bull mix with honey brown eyes and gorgeous white fur, is making headlines for becoming the first deaf dog to join the K-9 team in Washington state’s and, possibly, even the country’s history. What makes the achievement even more remarkable is that, just a few years ago, the narcotics detection dog, was deemed “unadoptable” and scheduled to be euthanized.

The canine’s incredible journey began in September 2015, when the then three-month-old **stray** puppy was brought to the Swamp Haven Rescue Center in St. Augustine, Florida. Thanks to his high energy, occasional **indifference** to humans, and deafness, which would require adopters to learn a different way to **communicate**, animal control officials placed him on the “unadoptable” list. This meant the puppy would soon have to be put down. However, Swamp Haven volunteers were not ready to give up on Ghost and reached out to animal shelters across the country for help. To their **delight** and relief, the Olympic Peninsula Humane Society in Port Angeles, Washington agreed to take in the puppy, giving Ghost a new lease on life.

After the puppy missed out on several adoption opportunities, the shelter reached out to Barb Davenport, a K-9 program manager for Washington State Department of Corrections, who is well-known for selecting canine **recruits** from animal shelters around the country. The expert, who has trained over 450 rescue dogs to search for drugs since the 1980s, thought Ghost was the perfect candidate for the job. Davenport said, "He was very focused and determined to locate his ball when thrown or hidden. This makes for a more trainable dog." And while his high energy may have been a **deterrent** for a home life, it was an important asset for his new career.

Following a multi-year training **stint**, Ghost began his job, which **entails** sniffing for drugs in state prisons and other facilities, in January 2018. Even more **heartening** is that the once “unadoptable” dog now has a stable and happy home with **handler** Joe Henderson, who, like Ghost, works for the Washington Department of Social and Health Services.

\*\*\*\*\*

Wishing each of you a Happy St. Patrick’s Day and Spring (hopefully).  
are all ready for warm weather.



I think we

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Getting Members**

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

**Members:** how do we get them; how do we keep them?

Every organization I know is having this same problem. The National Grange has a monthly membership teleconference program. Ideas and suggestions are also shared among the participants.

January’s topic was gaining members thru juniors.

Try to connect with parents thru their kids. The National Grange has started a 1 Plus Program where a Junior Grange can be started with just 1 junior member.

Is starting or having a Junior Grange work? Yes, but if you start with a junior, you may get the entire family, thereby increasing your membership and gaining workers for your events.

Invite home schooled families. They are looking for ways to

involve their kids in community service.

Invite people to participate in projects but do not hard sell a membership.

This is a totally different approach from what Grange has done in the past!

Promote the Cape of Honor program offered through the community service department. Contact me if you need more information on this.

Hopefully you have taken the time to read the information I provided in the Program Book on a membership contest. I hope to see a report from many Granges!

I will be gathering information about each of the granges in the state and determining what I want to do with membership. Please be patient with me as this is a new area for me! I have lots to learn before putting a plan into place.

Wishing you a happy spring – if it ever gets here!!

Tricia

Still have that program book handy that came in your last Michigan Grange News? It's important to hang on to that, because all of the contests in all departments are right there waiting for you to get started on. Now is a great time of the year to start some of those crafts, take a picture or try a new recipe.

I recently received our Michigan State Grange Roster, like many of you. It's kind of sad in a way that many of our Granges do not have anyone listed for many positions. The material goes out, to the Secretary, who in many cases is already overloaded with duties. Each Grange should strive to be sure that they have someone designated as a Chairperson to help get information out to our Grangers. To grow, we need participation and without our Granges showing some effort and interest, it's difficult. Hopefully, we will be doing conferences again and we can discuss this at that time. And if you have ideas or thoughts on conferences in your area, please let your state leaders know.

As I am writing this article, it's 4 degrees above zero, with winds! So I thought this information might be of interest to all.

**Heating Safety — Be Warm and Safe This Winter**

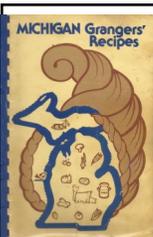
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three foot "kid free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying in to the room, ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly!

**Which Wood Burns Best?**

It's fireplace time again and with it comes the problem of buying or cutting your firewood. Now, I don't claim to be a scholar on this subject of what's best, but this poem might help.

Beech wood fires are bright and clear  
 If the logs are kept a year.  
 Chestnut's only good they say,  
 If for long its laid away.  
 Birch and Fir logs burn to fast,  
 Blaze up bright and do not last.  
 Elm wood burns like a church yard mould,  
 E'en the flames are very cold.  
 Poplar gives a bitter smoke,  
 Fills your eyes and makes you choke.  
 Apple wood will scent your room,  
 With an incense like perfume.  
 Oak and maple, if dry and old,  
 Keep away the winter cold.  
 But Ash wood wet, and ash wood dry,  
 A King shall warm his slippers by.

\*\*source unknown



If anyone has one of these past Michigan State Grange cookbooks that they don't need or want anymore, please let Peggy know in the State Grange Office. We have a lady that would like one, because her mom had recipes in it and after the passing of her folks she did not get to keep any of their belongings or her moms recipes.

Thank you

**GOOD Rx PROGRAM**

For those that might not have insurance or prescription drug insurance. You might want to check this program out. You can save up to 80% on drugs with this card. It is good at CVS, Walgreens, Kroger and most other pharmacies. There is no expirations, fees or obligations.

Check Goodrx.com or ask your doctor or pharmacy about it.

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



Happy Spring!

Since there are several March and April special days, I decided to wish you well on all of them.

Happy Ash Wednesday (March 6); Happy beginning of Daylight Saving Time Day (March 10);

Happy St. Patrick's Day (March 17); Happy Purim (beginning at sundown, March 20); Happy April Fool's Day (April 1); Happy Passover (beginning sundown April 19); Happy Easter (April 21); Happy Administrative Professionals Day (April 24)

April is Grange month! Although not mentioned below, this is a great time to recognize people in your community with the Community Citizen and Public Service Award. Plan now for your event(s).

### Grange: A fraternity training heroes for our hometowns since 1867

In 2019, it's time to celebrate our everyday heroism as Grangers! This year, our Grange Month theme – that we encourage you to keep going all year long – allows our members to tell the story of our organization one good work at a time. It's "**The Grange Way**" – in 2019 we recognize the magnitude of impact the sometimes seemingly small acts can have. From free or low-cost meals helping to meet the needs of our neighbors struggling with food security to providing dictionaries to third-graders, which helps to bridge the gap for those without internet or connected devices at home, Grangers are often the uncelebrated heroes that help our hometowns be places to live, love and learn. Take part in the celebration this year with an open house, by sending a letter to your local newspaper editor and by telling our story in a way that connects with a new generation. (from National Grange website)

There are several announcements that I wanted to highlight from the National Grange Lecturer, Chris Hamp.

**2019 Quilt Block Contest.** This is an easy one this year (Pride of Quillisacut), based on the Split Nine Patch.

It is likely that you have some fabric scraps to make this block. I will send the rules and directions in the next Lecturer's Bulletin, but feel free to contact me if you want them sooner than that. You can opt to have your block judged or not. Blocks are made into finished quilts sold later to raise Grange Foundation (National) funds. All blocks will go to the National Grange. There is a Junior group for judging, as well as Subordinate.

Veterans will once again be recognized at the National Grange session November 6 to be held in Minnesota this year by receiving "**Quilts of Valor**". The National Lecturer is looking for Granges in the Midwest Region to provide these. There are specific rules that must be followed – patriotic in nature, machine quilted, size, etc. Burr Oak Grange already has one of these ready to go! All the information regarding how to make a Quilt of Valor is on the website at <https://www.qovf.org>.

The Grange is in partnership with the **NOAA National Weather Service**. Grangers can become Citizen Scientists! Here are several possibilities: 1) Become a Storm Spotter under the NWS SKYWARN Program, 2) Become an NWS Cooperative Observer, 3) Use mPING to Report Precipitation. Contact me for more information or see <http://www.nws.noaa.gov>.

**CHAPLAINS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2...nowhere to go but sit in your car. These are situations that can lead to emotions but this need not happen when you realize you are in charge of how you feel, how you think, and therefore how you will react.**

While the story does make us smile, it does have wisdom in it. It reminded me about defeating adversity. How we handle adversity determines our success in life. Adversity is a fact of life. It can't be controlled. What we can control is how we react to it. When faced with adversity we can give up and adopt the "poor me" attitude. Or we can look at adversity as an opportunity to find other ways to do things. We can be determined, persistent, and persevere. It all comes down to your choice, and it is a choice of attitude!

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

Is it Spring yet??!! The way the weather has been this winter so far it is almost like winter and spring are fighting. December wasn't that bad for at least my corner of the mitten. January was when things got bad! Wow did it get cold. I think we were colder than the northern part of lower Michigan for a change! February hasn't been too bad except for the 12<sup>th</sup> when we had freezing rain and everything was covered in ice. Wasn't a fun drive in to work that morning. It is only February 17<sup>th</sup> so I know there is plenty of time for winter to show up! We have about no snow on the ground and have some to be coming today though. Nothing to speak though really but we have more scheduled mid week. Spring is around the corner just by looking at what is coming in my mailbox lately. Seed catalogs and hatchery catalogs have been coming for the last week or more! If looking at these types of catalogs do not put you in the mood for Spring I don't know what would!



This is the perfect time to be planning your gardens for the coming growing season. You need to have time to decide what you want to plant so you can be ready when the ground is ready for preparing and planting in the early summer. You want to look at the different varieties of each vegetable you intend to plant. Of course you have to be careful that you don't plan too much for the size plot you have for planting. All your plants need their space and overcrowding is not a good thing in a vegetable garden. Many plants can spread out of the area that you think is enough and crowd into another area which causes problems for other plants not being allowed to grow right.

Don't forget to plan what you would like to grow for the Agriculture Department Growing contests that are new in your Program Book. Be sure to check out the Program Book for all the class details and rules. I have changed a few of the classes from last State Session. I hope we will have a good turn out as this will give everyone in the Grange a chance

to show what they can do!

An update to one of newest classes for this year's State Session. I received clarification from the Indiana State Grange Ag Director since I borrowed a class from her list. It is the Winter Arrangement class. Sarah said that she should have inserted the word Dried at the beginning of the class. She said most of the previous entries have composed of baby's breath, hydrangea and ornamental grasses. So if drying flowers is something you do well, here is a class for you. It wouldn't have to be dried flowers only, I am flexible with this class at this time.

If you are looking to do a new planting in your yard this spring, here is something to think about when deciding what to plant. This is from an article from the October 2015 Tennessee Granger which borrowed from the New Jersey State Grange CGA Director. It is entitled Honey Bees.



Bees of all kinds have been declining in numbers over the past few years. The reasons are many, but one of the most important is the lack of suitable plants from which bees can collect nectar and pollen all season long. About 1/3 of the food eaten by Americans come from crops pollinated by honey bees, including fruits, vegetables and nuts. You can help honey bees and native pollinators by planting bee-friendly plants in your garden. Here is a list of perennials to help get a bee garden started.

- Crocus                      White Sweet Clover                      Catnip
- Russian Sage   Mountain Mint                      Snowdrops
- Thyme                      Purple Cone Flower
- Anise Hyssop   Goldenrod   Autumn Joy Sedum

When a foraging bee discovers plants that are producing nectar or pollen, it returns to the hive to inform the other bees about the source. More bees then join the foraging. Bees prefer to work large patches of the same flower, so planting several of the same type of bee-friendly plants ensures a good source of forage. It is best to leave flowers on the plant until the blooms are spent, allowing the bees to make the most of each flower. Planting perennials that bloom at different times during the year insures a source of nectar throughout the foraging season. DID YOU KNOW: A honey bee visits up to 100 flowers on a single trip outside of the hive.

Well that is it for now. Good luck with your garden planning and happy growing until later!

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

Hello,

I'm Mary Ann Rocco, your new Community Service Director. I am a member of the Fredonia Grange and live in Battle Creek, Michigan. My husband and I have 4 children and 9 grandchildren and are both retired school-teachers. In my 40 years of teaching my experiences includes: elementary classrooms, Title One coordinator, Gifted and Talented Coordinator and extended work with Odyssey of the Mind and Destination Imagination Programs. I have also held several State offices for these Problem Solving Programs.

Community Service is an integral part of the Grange. The Community Service is a way to share and inform our fellow Grange members what we are doing to support our communities.

If you need to contact me via email, please put your full Grange name on the subject line (ex. Fredonia Grange).

Hopefully Spring is just around the corner.

### **A review of the Community Service Rules:**

#### **PROGRAM PERIOD:**

The Community Service program period is September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019.

#### **REPORTS:**

Community Service Reports should be sent to the Community Service Director by September 10th.

#### **DIVISIONS:**

Granges are divided into two categories. Small Granges with 40 members or less and large Granges with more than 40 members. Membership numbers are determined by the second quarter (June 30) membership report to the State Secretary. Granges will compete within own category.

#### **SUMMARY REPORTS:**

A summary report form will be supplied to each Community Service Chairman. A report may be submitted alone or with a notebook to receive full credit as an entry. Reports may be typed or neatly hand written.

#### **NOTEBOOK REPORTS:**

Notebook reports MUST contain the Summary Report as the first pages of the report. Materials should be organized and indexed in a manner that effectively tells the story of your Grange's Community Service work.

#### **NOTEBOOK SIZE:**

Maximum size for a notebook is a **2 inch binder**. Only one book can be entered. Any notebooks larger than this will not be judged.



### *In Memory Of*



**William Parker (Bill) Raynard**  
**Aug. 11, 1935-Dec. 23, 1918**

**Brother Raynard served on the Michigan State Grange Executive Committee**

Bill grew up in Pickford and spent his winters with wife, Norma, in Lake Wales, Florida. He was a member of the Pickford United Methodist Church, the Michigan State Grange, Pickford Grange, served on the board for the Northwoods Christian Camp. He could be found often at the Chipewa County Fairgrounds. He is survived by his wife Norma, son Alan (Karen) Raynard, Daughter-in-law Betty Raynard, four grandchildren, two step grandchildren, five great grandchildren and two step great grandchildren and a sister-in-law. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister, son, and brother-in-law.

### *In Memory Of*



**Phyllis Pawson Leeth**  
**Oct. 25, 1930-Dec. 29, 2018**

**Sister Leeth, served as Michigan State Grange Community Service Director 1995-2002**

Phyllis was ordained a minister in June 1983 and served as a pastor the rest of her life. She married Calvin Pawson in June 1947, he passed in June 1981. She then married Manford Leeth June 1999 and he has passed on Jan. 17, 2019.

She leaves five children, Becki (Norman), Melanie (tom), Charlotte (John), Laura (Larry) and Christopher. Numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren and great, great grandchildren. Several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by husband, daughter Ruth, brothers Donald, Harlan, Howard, Norman and William Hill and sister Ruth.

*(Materials such as DVDs and computer generated programs should not be included with reports and may not be used in place of a notebook report.)*

#### **PROJECTS:**

**Descriptions of projects should answer the questions, What? Who? Why? How? And When?**