



MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



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MAY-JUNE., 2022

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE SESQUICENTENNIAL GALA

As our committee is meeting and things going through our heads when we are not meeting, we figured out that the date that we had planned (April 8th, 2023) is the day before Easter. So, with the committee trying to get out of town guests there, we have decided to have it the following Saturday, April 15th, 2023.

As discussions progress, we have decided to name the event “**The Michigan State Grange Sesquicentennial Gala**” instead of anniversary or celebration.

We have decided on a venue for the Gala. It is going to be held at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in the Lincoln Room on the MSU campus. We have chosen this location and time because it is pretty much centrally located in the state so our northern Grange members will have ample time to get there and then return home in the same day (we really would like to see you there). We will be reserving a block of rooms at the hotel if you do not want to drive home the same day. We will be posting room rates at a different time (I have not found this information out yet). We will have a social hour at noon with a luncheon at 1:00 and some selected speakers following. So, we now have a venue, a time, and the date.

We have decided on a logo that will be used throughout this campaign.

Not sure if your Grange has been active or not this winter but we are asking again that when your Grange is doing a fundraiser you might want to donate part of your proceeds to this endeavor. Through a cash donation or gift cards for the fundraiser raffle.

We have applied for the raffle license and the date of the drawing will be the day of the Gala. This gives us a year as a state wide organization to get out there and sell tickets. And, if you are having an event that you will be participating in, we can get tickets to you to sell as well. I am sure some committee members would be willing to come help. Remember, the more we can raise the better the Gala will be.

We are hoping that you are collecting photos, newspaper articles, etc. of your Grange for your board that will be on display during the Gala. **Mary Ann Rocco, your Community Service Director has put in her article ideas on what you should bring to the workshop on May 21st at 1:00 at Burns Grange.** We have some talented people on the committee to assist with this. We will have the display boards, computer, printer, and lots of hands to help. If you are not quite sure on what you should bring, come anyway. We can give you ideas, direction and expertise in putting one together. We are requesting some time during State Session to help those, who cannot come in May, put theirs together. Once done, you will be able to display your board at events that you are hosting or participating in.

We know that this is an election year so local representatives and senators might be changing so we are going to postpone the request for names at this time. After the election we will need to know as soon as possible so we can get invitations out to your respective representatives.

Let each and every one of us work on this. 150 years as an organization is something we should be very proud of and really, really promote. Not just at the state level but locally too. **WE ARE STRONG AND WE ARE PROUD.** Let’s show it by getting behind this and making this Gala the best ever. Thank you everyone. *Respectively submitted, Rich Hazen*

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Inquiries contact: Michigan State Grange
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404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429
Tel: 989-288-4546
E-mail msgrange1873@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Love Everyone

Jeff Swainston P.O. Box 77, Manton, MI 49663 Tel: 616-405-6921 revjeff82@gmail.com

Love Everyone

Each of us matters to someone. Your mailman is a beloved husband or wife. Your child's teacher is a cherished son or daughter. The barista at your favorite coffee shop is someone's best friend. Think about *your* people. How would you want them to be treated by strangers?

Each of us deserves love, kindness, and respect. Life is challenging. We can all fall into thinking that our people and our lives matter most sometimes. But the truth is that we all need each other. Every person you meet deserves to be treated like they are one of your people—the people you love and cherish most. If we can all remember to treat others with that kind of love, imagine what a difference it would make!



GRANGE HAPPENINGS



CONGRATULATIONS TO MARIE THELEN ON 75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE GRANGE IN MICHIGAN.

Marie first belonged to Olive Grange in St. Johns, then Capitol Grange in Ingham County and presently Burns Grange in Shiawassee County.

She has held many offices in the Subordinate, Pomona and State

Grange over the years. She was also a member of the Grange Acres Housing Board of Directors for several years.

Marie is presently in an Assisted Living Facility in the Bay City area where she was presented with her certificate and flowers from the members of Burns Grange, by her daughter Sandy. Love her smile!

Congratulations Marie!

When ordering flowers a request for bright, colorful, and cheerful flowers for a wonderful lady was made. I think they nailed it!



Christopher D. Johnston, Master 6241 Grand River Road, Bancroft, MI 48414
 Tel: 989-634-9350 (H) 989-666-6648 (C) E-mail msgprez19@yahoo.comVeru

150th Committee Raffle

As we are preparing for our 150th year we are raising money for the celebration that goes along with that. The 150th committee is having a raffle. The prizes of this raffle will be first place \$250 in various gift cards, second place will be an acrylic painting for a tiger, and third place is a quilted lap robe from the squares sent to the National Grange quilt block contest. If you recall from a previous 150th committee article from Rich, the 150th committee chair, the committee is requesting donations of gift cards from every Grange. Tickets will be available at the May 21st event at Burns Grange Hall, they will sell for \$5 each or 3 for \$10 and the drawing for the prizes will be at the 150th Sesquicentennial Gala in April 2023.

2023 Farm Bill

2023 Farm Bill With every Farm Bill the US Congress does every five years; they begin with field hearings. US Senator Debbie Stabenow is currently sitting as the Chairman of the Senate Ag committee, and has for several years. The Michigan State Grange was invited to be a part of this hearing. I attended to represent the Michigan State Grange on Friday April 29. It was held at Michigan State University's new STEM building on the East Lansing campus. While I did not give a testimony before the hearing, I did listen and talk with a few from other Agriculture related organizations from Michigan, as well as a brief discussion with the Senator. The Grange has been actively involved in the Farm Bill since the first Farm Bill. Burton Elller, Legislative Director of the National Grange communicates regularly with Senators and Representatives and their staff on key issues important to the National Grange that are included in the Farm Bill. The Farm Bill encapsulates a wide array of topics from specialty crop insurance to SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Grange Law

In the last issue I mentioned about "Why do we do what we do." Now we need to discuss the responsibilities of the Granges. Every Subordinate Grange is required to have at least one meeting per month every month. I understand that there are Granges that don't meet during the winter because the roads might

be bad, or it gets dark too early, or so many of our members go south for the winter. This does not excuse the fact that when we joined we took an oath to abide by the bylaws of your local Grange, the bylaws of the State Grange and the bylaws of the National Grange. While I understand the challenges of meeting, you might consider changing the time of your meetings for the Winter months so you don't have to drive in the dark. If the roads are bad, change the date of your meeting. Increase your membership so that when those who go south for the winter, your Grange can still meet. And don't forget the ability of having a virtual meeting with the use of the State Grange's Zoom account. This way those snowbirds can attend from states away and with bad roads, you can meet from the safety of your home. While you typically use the computer and internet for this virtual meeting, you have the ability to call in as well to be part of the meeting. Just contact me or Connie and we'll get the Zoom meeting set up and send you the link to send to your members. For the Granges that have meal functions in your hall. If your County health department requires you to have a food service permit, (they all will) please make sure you are obtaining one of them. Make sure you are doing what it takes to cover yourself and the Grange from Liability issues. Until next time.....

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE

2023 will be the year! We will be having a celebration in honor of 150 years of Grange in Michigan.

With every celebration (party) comes extra expenses. We have developed a Michigan State Grange Pin in honor of our 150 years and they are for sale!

We are selling these pins for \$5.00 each. If you are interested in one or two or more, please contact the State Grange office. If they can easily be delivered to you they will be...if not there will also be a charge for postage.



ASL:
A Paradigm
Shift

When I was all of two years old, My family received it first ASL (American Sign Language} lesson. They discovered that maybe, just maybe, this might be a useful language.

It was 1968 and I'd just had my tonsils removed. I woke up in a hospital room surrounded by hearing relatives and a nurse. Naturally, my throat hurt.

"Mmmph," I muttered. No response.

"MMMPPHH," I repeated.

"Sh, sh, don't try to talk," said the nurse. "Your throat is sore."

"MMMPPHH," I said once again, only this time I started gesturing. Still no response. All of my relatives looked at each other and shrugged.

"MMMPPHM, MMMPPHH, MMMPPH!" By ten everyone was scrambling for the source of my angst. One by one my family dug up a teddy bear, a comic book a favorite toy, and other stuff I had no interest in.

Finally, my Deaf mother walked in the room.

"What's wrong?" she signed.

I quickly made a "W" handshape and gently tapped it on my chin.

"He wants water" my mom explained to my exasperated family. They reluctantly nodded and told the nurse. She said I wasn't allowed to drink yet but I could suck on an ice cube. Good enough for me.

Ten minutes later, the same scene repeated itself only this time I made a "T" handshape and wiggles it. Again, all of the hearing people in the room struggled to figure out what was going on. It was a game of charades gone bad.

Once more, mom to the rescue.

"He needs to go to the bathroom," she sighed.

Most of my family didn't know what to think. They'd been told all along by medical and educational professionals that ASL was to be avoided at all costs

Apparently, there was this popular misconception that use of ASL would hinder my speech and also distort my ability to process English (for a rebuttal of this myth.)

But suddenly, here was my family witnessing firsthand that signing is indeed a very effective means of communications. Even so, it took several more years before they finally felt comfortable with it.

Tom Smith, Co-Director 215 River Drive Apt. A-4, Three Rivers, MI 49093 Tel: 269-858-8305
Barbara Johnston, Co-Director 2028 Robbins Road, Tipton, MI 49287 Tel: 517-431-2546 tnjohnston@pc.com

With Spring the season, and summer right around the corner, that means our annual State Grange Convention is coming up fast!

Please whether you are the Family Activities Chairman or not take a look at the 2022 program and contests. There are many new contests, as well as some old favorites, and there really is contests from fairly simple to a little more challenging. These contests are open to the ladies, and the gentlemen, as well as for kids to do.

How long has it been since your Family Activities Chairman, took the opportunity to highlight the contests and activities? Do you take advantage of the quarterly bulletins for reports? Deaf Activities, Lecturer and Family Activities try to provide information to assist you. Do you even look at it? If not, before it hits the trash bin, why not save it and give it to a member who might find a way to utilize it. Your State Grange Secretary works very hard printing, envelopes, labels, stamps etc. as well as the website and she deserves a “shout out” for her work.

2023 marks the 150th birthday of the Michigan State Grange, and this year is sort of a kick-off to the celebration. I’m setting a goal of 150 entries in the Family Activities contest for this year and next. We can do it!! But it depends on you and your Grange to make this goal a reality! We really need to keep those judges busy!

Happy Granging!!

Dunk into these Doughnut Trends

You can’t go wrong with a classic doughnut, whether glazed, frosted or jelly-filled. But there’s now a “hole” new world of doughnuts to explore.

National Doughnut Day, the first Friday in June, started as a fundraiser in 1938. Yet it’s only been recently that bakers have started experimenting with nontraditional doughnuts. When a New York pastry chef introduced the Cronut—a cross between a croissant and a doughnut—in 2013, he sparked a craze to create innovative delights.

Trending doughnut mashups include extreme sandwiches using a sliced glazed doughnut as a bun, with fillings such as eggs and breakfast sausage, fried chicken, and ice cream. You can load up on doughnut nachos, with either dessert toppings or traditional Tex-Mex ingredients.

Nostalgia is a big motivator for many bakers, who have created doughnuts that capture the flavor of a favorite candy bar or childhood treat, such as a PB&J. Sugary cereal and cookie pieces have swapped out sprinkles for toppings.

It’s also becoming popular to make doughnuts at home, with recipes for the traditional method of frying them or baking them using special pans with ring-shaped wells. The next doughnut trend on the rise? Experts say it’s using tangy sourdough to make both sweet and savory treats.



Trivia Bits



Maraschino cherries haven’t always been blazing red sugar bombs that top ice cream sundaes and float in cocktails. They originated in the 1890s as a delicacy made by steeping marasca cherries from Yugoslavia (now Croatia) in maraschino, a marasca cherry liqueur. By the 1920s American cherry growers had “perfected” a low-cost, alcohol-free substitute for the original, using native-grown Royal cherries that were bleached, soaked in syrup and dyed bright red. It’s still possible to buy maraschino cherries made the original way. Or you can find a recipe and make your own.

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



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

May and June have an abundance of holidays that are celebrated by many in the United States – Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Memorial Day, Graduation Days, Grandparents Day, Summer Solstice, and many more. With a little bit of research, I found a couple things that seemed like it would be of interest to Michigan Grangers. Enjoy all your May and June celebrations!

Memorial Day - Did you know?

Memorial Day's origins are rooted in the post-Civil War era when a group of Union army veterans known as the Grand Army of the Republic sought a way to honor fallen service members. Originally called Decoration Day, it was first celebrated on May 5, 1868, and involved decorating the graves of those who died in the Civil War with flowers.

Memorial Day honors those in the military who’ve died while serving the country while Veterans Day honors all U.S. military veterans.

On Memorial Day, the U.S. Flag should be flown at half-mast from dawn until noon only. From noon to dusk it should be flown at full.

Wearing red poppies, a popular Memorial Day tradition, originated from a poem called “In Flanders Field” written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae in 1915.

US Memorial Day represents over 20 million casualties of War.

One of the earliest Memorial Day commemorations was organized by a group of formerly enslaved people in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the Confederacy surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

It didn’t become a federal holiday until 1971.

A Few Michigan May/June Festivals and Events

There are so many events and festivals in Michigan that I got overwhelmed searching through them. I list some below that seemed like they might be of interest. I am just listing the events here, and leave it to you to find the details.

- May 7-15 – Holland Tulip Festival
- May 12-15 – Durand Railroad Days
- May 12-15—Boyne City National Morel Mushroom Festival
- May 20-22—Lake Orion Flower and Art Fair
- May 28—St. Ignace Native American Festival
- June 4-5 – Midland Antiques Fest
- June 9-12 –Frankenmuth Bavarian Fest
- June 17-18—Byron Center W. Mich. Chalk Art Festival
- June 25 – Marshall Blues Fest

COMINGSOON

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

HELLO SPRING!!!! Hopefully sunshine and warmer temperatures will be arriving soon.

Let's all try to support other Granges in their Community Service efforts.

A small group of Fredonia Grange members attended a Burr Oak Fish Fry in April. The food was delicious and the fellowship was great.

The Sesquicentennial Committee is requesting all Granges to make a display board depicting the history of your Grange and community service projects that you are currently or have worked on in the past, to be displayed at the 150th Gala.



To help you with this project we are hosting a workshop on May 21, 2022, 1:00 at the Burns Grange Hall. **You can register for the workshop on the Michigan State Grange website.**

Many of the items we will cover, can also be used when putting your Community Service reports/booklets together.

**Display Board Sample
 Grange Display Board**

1. Decide on the subject/items you want to display.

- ◆ Community Service Projects
- ◆ History
- ◆ Community and Grange information that tells your Grange story to other
- ◆ Title, Grange Name

2. Collect items to be displayed on your board

3. Decide and collect the materials you need to assemble your display board.

- ◆ A display board (A white, 30" by 20" Bi-fold foam board will be provided for you at the workshop)
- ◆ Lettering (size and type --Avery assorted labels another good option)
- ◆ Mounting materials, tape, hot glue, glue, sticky dots, adhesive foam dots, etc.
- ◆ Added accents, sparkles, beads, 3-D Stickers, flowers/leaves/actual items, etc.
- ◆ Color, shapes and borders (card stock weight paper is best for mounting items)

(Most schools and ISD's have an Ellison die cutter and if you supply your own paper they should let you use it. This makes letters and other objects.)

- ◆ A cricut cutter and a computer and printer (for labels) will be available for your use at the workshop

4. Lay out all items on the board.

- ◆ Placement so board is balanced
- ◆ Room for all materials you want to display
- ◆ Labeling of materials are correctly spelled
- ◆ Looks pleasing to the eye (Don't over crowd the Board)
- ◆ Your message needs to have clear, clean and concise content

5. Attach materials to your display board.

Before you come to the workshop you will need to collect and find the items in lines 1 thru 3, and bring them with you. Except for the things we will be providing at the workshop. (The display board, the circuit cutter and the computer and printer.)

Scissors and a ruler may also be something you want to bring with you.

Lines 4 and 5 we will be doing at the workshop. You will be able to use the items we are providing and we will assist you in any way we can.

A light snack will also be provided. Lets all get together and have a fun afternoon.

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

Okay enough with the snow in April!! This spring has been very crazy for weather so far. As I sit here on April 19th the weekend forecast is calling for highs in the mid to upper 70s and maybe into the lower 80s! We are having a true roller coaster Spring that is for sure. I wonder what Summer will be like here in Michigan this year. Hoping Summer will be nice and not too hot.

How many of you have planted anything in your gardens yet? Things that could have been planted by now would be seed potatoes, onion sets, cold crops (cabbages, etc) and I even think carrots but not sure so please check before you plant them! When planning your garden spots, keep in mind the Ag Classes that you can enter at this year's Annual State Grange Session. Each class is open to Junior members on up to Subordinate members. There are plenty of different classes for all ages and you do not have to live in the Country to do them. I can't wait to see what Unique containers with plantings come to State Session. Please check the Program Booklet for more details. Be sure to check out the Family Activities section as they put in a neat class in their Department having to do with Antique Agriculture items.

We are running behind at getting things done around the little farm this spring due to the crazy things going on in our World right now. I have yet to get the chicken coop cleaned but that is because when I have the time it is either not nice weather or I am too tired and need to just rest! The pigs will be brought to the farm on April 23rd for my niece are and we have had a Boer yearly doe and my niece's market goat here since the first of April. My nephew's market goat isn't ready to come to the farm yet as he is still on a bottle and this Uncle doesn't have time to do that every morning! LOL Chores are in full swing here besides having the chickens to gather eggs from. We are getting at least 7 eggs a day on the average. We have decided to raise chicks again this year and so far have 5 chicks in the brooder box with another 4 coming around the 21st. We still have our "garage" cats of all different ages and colors. We just within the last week had sisters give us litters of 5 and 3 kittens. They are so cute but I hope we can find great homes for them when they are old enough. Oh brother!?! We can't keep them all, but they are so much fun to watch grow up and play in the yard with each other.

Please be mindful that this is the time that the country roads and some State Highways will have slow moving farm vehicles on them. If it wasn't for those farmers and their employees we wouldn't have the opportunity to go to farmers' markets or the grocery stores to get the needed foods to feed our families. Please give those big vehicles

and tractors as much room as you can without causing problems for yourself or others.

Well, that is all for now. Please remember whenever possible to buy Local or Locally Grown / Made products! I have a few friends that have started up side businesses to help with their farm income. One is a Dairy farmer and they also raise dairy beef and sell either whole, half or quarters of beef straight from the processors or packaged frozen beef. The other friend lives closer to my mini farm and they started a Farmer's Market to sell their own pork that they had processed and have locally raised beef and other local products. You are helping small farm families most of the time. Good luck with your garden planning and happy growing until later!

MEMBERSHIP**Promote!!**

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

Welcome to spring! I hope every Grange is working hard to attain new members. Hopefully you took advantage of Grange Month in April to promote your Grange.

Here are a few techniques to promote your Grange:

- ◆ Most important – be active in your community!
- ◆ Use social media – Facebook and Instagram; create a Grange website. These are all ways people in your community (and beyond) know you exist.
- ◆ Use your local newspaper. They love to promote their community!

These may result in someone wanting to know more about your Grange.

Other suggestions to attract potential members:

- ◆ Take advantage of other organizations in your area. Work with them on projects. Maybe the volunteer bug will be infectious and they will want to consider joining your Grange.
- ◆ Invite people to be involved with your Grange activities. It may take a few times for them to realize the affect your Grange has on your community, but it will pay off.

The Grange year for the membership department ends June 30. Which means there is not much time to get new members on your membership roll.

I wish everyone a Happy Mother's Day, Father's Day and Memorial Day! Summer is just around the corner!

Tricia