



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXVIII NO.6

USPS 345-580

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 2022

## MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE

Folks, we are six months away from our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala.

I need to send out a huge THANK YOU for the generosity of the state session attendees. I was humbled by your giving. We have raised a little over half of our goal. We still have raffle tickets to sell, sesquicentennial pins to purchase, and we are still asking individual Granges or members to help us with this goal.

We are the committee but we need the help of all Michigan State Grange members to achieve it. If you have a business or individual that you think might help us out please feel free to ask them. Let them know that they are supporting the oldest agricultural organization by donating.

The next article we will be asking members that would wish to join us to start RSVP'ing so we can contact our catering company on the amount of people that are coming. We also have a block of rooms reserved if you would like to spend the night (that will be at your expense and we'll send you the information). Otherwise this will be a free event with 2-3 speakers and a proclamation by a representative from the Governor's office (hopefully).

*Fraternally, Rich Hazen*



**2022 Michigan  
State Grange  
Region III  
5th Degree  
Team**

Michigan State Grange



*Sesquicentennial Gala*

**RAFFLE**

Various Gift  
Cards Totaling

1st Prize \$250.00

'Snowdin'  
Tiger Acrylic Painting



2nd Prize

Quilted  
Lap Robe



3rd Prize

Drawing will be held on April 15, 2023 at 2:00 pm  
Kellogg Conference Center, Lansing, MI

**Cost: \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00**

License #: X06297

Raffle tickets are available by contacting the Michigan State Grange Office. Each Grange is asked to take some tickets and sell to their members, friends, neighbors or whoever. The more we sell the better.

Great prizes as listed above.

Email: [msgrange1873@yahoo.com](mailto:msgrange1873@yahoo.com)  
Call: 989-288-4546 or 517-285-6532

Page 1 & 2  
150th  
God knows the real  
us

Page 3  
Successful  
Convention

Page 4 & 5  
MSD Christmas  
Party— Winners,  
Winners & More

Page 6  
Lecturer's Winners  
And more...

Page 7

Page 8



# Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

Periodical postage paid at Durand, MI  
Michigan Grange News is published bi-monthly for the members of the Michigan State Grange.

Inquiries contact: Michigan State Grange  
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

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

**Postmaster send address changes:**  
Christopher D. Johnston, Editor  
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429

Nov. 6	Daylight Savings Time
Nov. 8	Election Day
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 15-19	NG Convention
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving
Dec. 7	Pearl Harbor Day
Dec. 9	MSD Christmas Party
Dec. 21	Winter Solstice
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve
Dec. 25	Christmas Day

Whole page \$150.00

1/2 page \$90.00

1/4 page / business card \$50.00

The above rates include advertising space for two months.

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

6 issues per year, bi-monthly  
404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429  
Tel: 989-288-4546  
E-mail msgrange1873@yahoo.com

## Chaplain

God knows the real us

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

To celebrate Winston Churchill's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 30, 1954, the British parliament commissioned artist Graham Sutherland to paint a portrait of the celebrated statesman.

Churchill was not happy with the results. Sutherland's portrait had Churchill slumped in a chair wearing his trademark scowl, true to reality, but hardly flattering. After its official unveiling, Churchill hid the painting in his cellar. It was later secretly destroyed.

Like Churchill, most of us have an image of ourselves we want others to have of us. Perhaps deep down we fear we won't be loved if the real us is known.

When the Israelites were taken captive by Babylon, they were seen at their worst. Because of their sins, God allowed their enemies to conquer them. But He told them not to fear, He was with them in every trial. They were secure in His hands and precious to Him. Despite their ugliness, God loved them.

Remember this – God knows the real us and still loves us unconditionally.

## In Memory Of ~ ~ William "Bill" Stevens



### MSG Exec. Comm. 1986-1990

William Jackson "Bill" Stevens, 88, of Charlevoix passed away on Friday, September 30, 2022 at Boulder Park Terrace. He was born on June 21, 1934 in Charlevoix, MI, the son of Charles and Geneva (Jackson) Stevens.

Bill graduated from Charlevoix High School, and shortly after he started his own Concrete Contracting Business, Stevens Concrete. He moved to the Grand Rapids area for several years before returning home to Charlevoix in 1969.

He was a hard worker and a loving family man. He also gave back to the community in many ways over the years; he was actively involved at the Barnard United Methodist Church, Barnard Grange, NMAF Club, Michigan State Grange and National Grange,

Buckley Engine Club, Charlevoix Historical Society, Jordan Valley Fiddlers, OMFA Fiddlers Association of Michigan, helping with kid's day at the fly wheelers show, and the AURA Wall of Fame.

Bill is survived by his loving wife, Helen J. Stevens; Sons, Jeffery (Chris) Stevens, Rodney (Kim) Stevens, and Dudley (Brenda) Stevens; Stepchildren, Mark (Susan) Emmons and Deborah Emmons; Daughter-in-law, Kim Stevens; Grandchildren, Vicki Stevens, Brandon (Liz) Stevens, Bailee (Mason) Bohlmann, Bill Stevens, Chris Bradley, Cody (Erica) Bradley, Dana Neumann, and Jake Neumann; Great-grandchildren, Brinn Stevens, Davis Stevens, Natsumi Bradley, Hakon Bradley, and Isabel Hess; Sister, Joan Graves; Sisters-in-law, Marion Light and Gloria Stevens; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles H. and Geneva M. (Jackson) Stevens; His first wife, Donna (Donaldson) Stevens; Son, Gregory Stevens; Sisters, Josephine Bergmann Wood and Phyllis Allison; Brothers, Clair Stevens, Donald Stevens, Byard Stevens, Bruce Stevens; Brother-in-law, George Light; and grandson, Riley William Stevens.

**"WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT"**

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

As I am writing this article, it has now been a week since the Michigan State Grange Convention and all I can say is WOW!!!! What a fantastic convention. It was nice to continue on in person and to be back to a regular schedule. I believe the discussions on the resolutions were valuable and while some might have been controversial, as Grange members we are able to move past our opinions and remain in good spirits.

I would like to thank the host region for their work in making this session a success. Your hard work in planning and execution really showed your dedication to having a successful session. The Fifth Degree Team did an excellent job in exemplifying the degree and reminding us all of the lessons our founders wanted us to live by.

I also would like to thank Rich Hazen and Connie for filling in as the Assistant Stewards again this year. As many know, this was an election year and while many officers stayed the same, I would like to welcome **Maria Lopez** on board as the new Ceres, **Nancy Swainston** as the new Lady Assistant Steward, and **Richard Hazen** as the new Assistant Steward. I agree with the delegation who knows each of you will serve well in your new offices.

I believe Rich will be mentioning it in his article, but I would like to thank the members in attendance for their gracious support of the Sesquicentennial Celebration with their generous donations. I won't spoil Rich's article with the amount, but when Grangers are in need, Grangers really step up to the mark! I'm indeed impressed with the financial contributions that were not only given to the celebration alone, but also the contributions to the State Grange as well. Please continue to support the celebration committee with selling raffle tickets, they are really trying to make this a free celebration event for all Grange members!

In a couple weeks, Connie and I fly out to Sparks, Nevada to attend the National Grange Session. Unfortunately, we don't have any resolutions from our state going, but we'll be busy with many resolutions from other states. I'm sure we will also get updated on the National Grange Headquarters that we will be able to share with you when we return.

As the holidays approach, I hope that everybody

stays happy and healthy. From Connie, the boys and I, we wish you Happy Holidays

## 2022 Michigan State Grange 6th Degree Team



### 2022-24 Michigan State Grange Officers

Master	Christopher D. Johnston
Overseer	Sharon Popler
Lecturer	Jackie Bishop
Steward	Timothy Johnston
Ass't Steward	Richard Hazen
L. Ass't Steward	Nancy Swainston
Chaplain	Jeffrey Swainston
Treasurer	Kevin Young
Secretary	Peggy Johnston
Gatekeeper	Randy Cebulski
Ceres	Maria Lopez
Pomona	Mary Beth Bower
Flora	Tricia Eidsmoe
Exec.Comm.	Barbara Johnston
	Dale Moore
	Tom Smith
	Kevin Young

### MSG Foundation Board

President	Naomi Fletcher
Vice-President	Jackie Bishop
Secretary/Treasurer	Kathryn Strouse
Director	Jeff Swainston
Director	Chris Johnston

## DEAF AWARENESS

## MSD Party

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

**The MSD Christmas party with the Adopt-a-Child program is scheduled for Friday, December 9th. More information will be coming soon.**

### ESSAY CONTEST: Subordinate

1st Dale Moore Mid Michigan Pomona #61

2nd Peggy Johnston Burns #160

### GRANGES THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE MSD ADOPT-A-CHILD PROGRAM

Claudia Libbey-Barnard #689

Claudia Libbey Family

Peggy Johnston—Burns #160

Sharon Popler—Gratiot #1898

Lena Young-Community Grange #1675

### Michigan State Grange Foundation Annual Report 2021-22

Eric A. Bishop, Board President

It is my pleasure to provide the Grange with a report on the state of the MSG Foundation Board. As it has throughout its history, the Foundation's work has been focused on its chartered areas of emphasis, namely charitable work, education, and healthcare. Enabled by donations from Granges and Grange members, as well as the performance of our investments, the Foundation Board routinely considers requests for funds for educational institutions, historical societies, and other organizations whose missions align with our priorities. In addition, it also plays its important historical role in providing educational loans for members seeking assistance with their education, and fund MSG Department Director activities to develop and carry out educational workshops and send out quarterly newsletters for their departments.

With regard to our investments, this year yielded growth in our annuity investments such that the \$150,000 originally invested in two annuity investments are now valued at more than \$200,000. Important decisions lie ahead for the first and larger of the two annuities, as it will reach its maturity date within the next year. At that time, the Board will need to determine the best path for the reinvestment of those funds, considering all available investments mechanisms as potential choices. Given the positive growth seen over the past nearly 10 years during which those funds have been invested, many options are likely to be available for the Board's consideration, weighing the risks and potential benefits of each one.

In addition to income from our investments, the Foundation Board has been focused on ensuring that our past student loan recipients meet their obligations to repay those loans, thereby refilling the Student Loan Fund for future use by Grange members. This went well overall during the past year, as loan repayments were received regularly from recipients of foundation loans from across the past 10 years. We have seen excellent

Luanna Swainston—Kinney #754

Dale Moore—Mid Michigan Pomona #61

Sandra LaHart—North Adrian #721

Janet Dillivan—Burr Oak #1350

Andrea Peck—Fredonia #1713

Jackie Bishop—Home #129

Helen Mudd—Studley #1174

Helen, Ted & Tricia—family group

Mary Beth Bower—St. Jos./Cass/Kzoo Pomona #4

Stacy Bower—Colon #215

Maria Lopez—Personal

Doris Buehrer—Mosherville #1351

Janice Merten—Oceana #1047

Sharon Strebbling Plymouth/Westland #389

## MEMBERSHIP

## Winners

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

Membership reports were received from 13 of the 22 subordinate Granges in the state.

Home #129

Burns #160

North Adrian #721

Harbor Springs #730

Fern #803

Maple Leaf #940

Oceana Center #1047

White Pigeon #1345

Mosherville #1351

West Oshtemo #1630

Studley #1174

Fredonia #1713

Gratiot #1898

The membership year runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Seven Granges took in new members during this membership year for a total of 28 new members. Six Granges had an increase in membership.

Community #1675—2 new members

Fern #803—2 new members

Pittsfield Union #882—2 new members

Burns #160—4 new members

Oceana Center #1047—5 new members

Summit City #672—6 new members

Fredonia #1713—7 new members but no net increase.

Thanks again to all Granges participating in the membership program! Keep up the good work and I hope to see more reports next year with lots of new members!

response from our more recent student loan recipients, which is very much appreciated. Those who have received loans within the past ten years or more have been consistently reliable in providing regular repayment of their loans. This has created greater predictability within the available Student Loan Fund, and the Foundation would like to commend our student loan recipients who have met their repayment obligations reliably and routinely.

As many of your likely know, the loan program was started in the early 1960s by the Youth Department and was then integrated into the MSG Foundation when it was founded in 1986. At present, the Student Loan Fund is allocated \$36,000 of the total assets of the Foundation.

*Continued on page 7*

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      tnbjohnston@pc.com

A big thank you to all who brought entries and participated in our many contests. We worked hard coming up with ideas (some old, some new and some recycled. Hope at least one of these was of interest to you and your Grange. You don't have to be highly competitive to achieve goals. Sometimes just participation is our Key to success. If you have the Keys many doors can open!

And thanks, too to each Grange and Granger who assisted us with our community service project this year. Food, toys, and pet supplies were gathered to be given to an Animal Rescue group in Calhoun County.



\*\*\*\*\*

### 10 Ways to make the holidays more peaceful for all

It seem that chaos and the holiday season go hand in hand. Here are some tools for making your holiday less stressful and yourself and your loved ones more comfortable.

1. **Expect a little chaos:** There will be minor inconveniences, like crowded stores, difficulty parking, and long checkout lines, and more chaos at home if you have kids out of school. Get your shopping done early, and don't sweat the small stuff.
2. **Enjoy the holiday cheer:** The holidays bring a lot of positive energy. It's part of why we love this time of year. Feeling it, even just a little, makes it easier to deal with any real Scroogies who may come along.
3. **Watch what you spend:** This is important to remember, because you may not feel the pinch until after the holidays. Create a budget and stick to it. If it's hard to keep track of your spending on credit, pay with cash.
4. **Enjoy the music:** Holiday music can be uplifting, and it's pretty much everywhere during the season. It also comes in every musical style, from classical to rap, so it's easy to find something to enjoy.
5. **Feel the warmth:** The holidays often bring out the best in people. This is a good time to get together with family and friends, have a little holiday cheer, and allow yourself the luxury of letting the love wash over you. It's a great feeling.
6. **Don't be the Grinch:** Almost every family or office has one, the person who hates the holidays. Unfortunately, that displeasure can get projected anywhere the Grinch goes. You don't want to be that guy or gal, so buck up, put on a red nose, and enjoy the party! It's going to happen anyway so you might as well get something out of it.
7. **Make it about the kids, but don't forget each other:** Some couples are all about doing the holidays for their children, and they forget to give each other the same kind of attention. We all want and need love and attention, so share yours freely.
8. **Try not to overindulge:** Food, alcohol and candy are plentiful at holiday time, so it's wise to remember that you have only this one body and eventually, perhaps tomorrow, you will have to pay for that extra piece of pie or that third serving of turkey.
9. **Be careful out there:** Traffic and distracted holiday shoppers do not mix well. Take your time, be gracious, and plan to park at the back of the lot. The extra exercise won't hurt. It's easy to get into a fender bender or just frustrated while driving, so stay cool.
10. **Be okay with not getting everything you wanted:** The holidays are not about presents; they are about presence. Being with those who care for you—or finding people who need your care—is what this season is all about.

May you have a wondrous and joyful holiday season, and may the gifts of closeness and love to with you and yours for the years to come.

### Family Activities Award Winners:

#### Baked Goods: Quick Bread

- 1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
 2nd: Priscilla Beard Burns #160 Non-member

#### 2 Fruit Pie:

- 1st: Lena Young Community #1675  
 2nd: Barbara Johnston North Adrian #721  
 3rd Priscilla Beard Burns #160 Non member

#### Oatmeal Cookies:

- 1st: Priscilla Beard Burns #160 Non-member  
 2nd: Barbara Johnston North Adrian 721  
 3rd: Arlene Douglas Burns #160

#### Six or less ingredient baked item

- 1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
 2nd: Tricia Eidsmoe Studley #1174

#### Homemade Candies — Fudge

- 1st: Dale Moore—Burns #160  
 2nd: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

#### Any Other Candy

- 1st: Dale Moore Burns #160

2nd: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

#### Party or Snack Mix

- 1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
 2nd: Barbara Johnston North Adrian #721  
 3rd: Dale Moore Burns #160

#### Canning: Salsa

- 1st: Lena Young Community #1675  
 2nd: Arlene Douglas Burns #160

#### Canned vegetable

- 1st: Sharon Popler Burns #160

#### Knitting—Large items

- Lucile Bloom Burr Oak #1350

#### Crocheting—Large Items

- 1st: Fran Longsdorf Burns #160  
 2nd: Helen Mudd Studley #1174

#### Small items

- 1st: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160  
 2nd: Mary Beth Bower Colon #215

Continued page 6

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

I was very pleased with the participation in the Lecturer's Program contests judged at the Michigan State Grange session. There were 22 different participants, and 70 entries. The photography contest had 17 participants, including one "kids" participant and three "friends" of Grange members. The photography contest had a record number of entries (61), known because we ran out of clips to display the photos - a great problem to have! Most of the categories will remain the same for 2023, but there will be a few changes.

With the inclusion of the Family Activities Department into the Lecturer's Program, I will be expanding my committee, and look forward to developing that part of the program for the coming year. Special thanks to Master/President Christopher Johnston for freshening up the photography display boards with a new color of paint. Thanks also to committee member Joanne Cebulski and all others who helped set up and take down the displays.

#### Lecturer's Awards:

##### Story Topic: My Grange Experience

1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
2nd: Dale Moore Burns #160

##### Art:

##### Drawing or Painting

1st: Alayna Nail Fredonia #1713  
2nd: Sue Wagner Kinney #754  
3rd: Dawn Laupp Home #129

##### Family Heritage — Chart

1st: Barbara Johnston North Adrian #1713  
2nd: Tim Johnston North Adrian #1713

##### Family Heritage — photo

1st: Barbara Johnston North Adrian #1713  
2nd: Tim Johnston North Adrian #1713

##### Photography—Juniors 8 & under — Animals

1st: Winter Hsu-Bishop Home #129

##### Subordinate — Animals

1st: Kathryn Hsu-Bishop Home #129  
2nd: Terri Sheffer non-member Kent County  
3rd: Kevin Young Community #1675

##### Photography—Juniors 8 & under — people

1st: Winter Hsu-Bishop Home #129

##### Subordinate —People

1st: Julie Siefke non-member Calhoun County  
2nd: Kathryn Hsu-Bishop Home #129  
3rd: Sharon Popler Burns #160

##### Subordinate —Farm Crops Scene

1st: Kathryn Hsu-Bishop Home #129  
2nd: Sharon Popler Burns #160  
3rd: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

##### Subordinate —County Fair

1st: Terri Sheffer non-member Kent County  
2nd: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
3rd: Marcus Johnston Gratiot #1898

##### Photography—Juniors 8 & under — Winter Scene

1st: Winter Hsu-Bishop Home #129

##### Subordinate — winter scene

1st Dale Young Community #1675  
2nd: Julie Siefke non-member Calhoun County  
3rd: Kevin Young Community #1675

#### Family Activities Winners Continued...

##### Quilting: any form

1st: Mary Beth Bower Colon #215  
2nd: Linda Waltz non Granger—St. Joseph County

##### Item made from a loved ones belongings

1st: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160  
2nd: Barbara Johnston North Adrian #721

##### Handmade—Greeting Card

1st: Arlene Douglas Burns #160  
2nd: Sharon Popler Burns #160  
3rd: Evelyn Ward Burns #160

##### Book-mark

1st: Arlene Douglas Burns #160  
2nd: Fran Longsdorf Burns #160  
3rd: Evelyn Ward Burns #160

##### Any item using sunflowers

1st: Arlene Douglas Burns #160  
2nd: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
3rd: Kelly Holcomb Burns #160 non member

##### Decorated Brick

1st: Sharon Popler Burns #160  
2nd: Dale Moore Burns #160  
3rd: Arlene Douglas Burns #160

##### Woodworking

1st Ron Schaar Burns #160 Non-member

##### Garden Sparklers

1st: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160  
2nd: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
3rd: Sharon Popler Burns #160

##### Antique Home— Grandma's Kitchen or home item

1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160  
2nd: Arlene Douglas Burns #160  
3rd: Barbara Johnston North Adrian #721

##### Grandad's tool shed

1st: Rich Hazen Fredonia #1713  
2nd: Tim Johnston North Adrian #721  
3rd: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160

##### Miscellaneous Craft— any item that does not fall into another category

1st: Naomi Fletcher Burns #160  
2nd: Sandra LaHart North Adrian #721  
3rd: Arlene Douglas Burns #160

##### Certificate of Merit Recipients

Mid Michigan Pomona #61, Lenawee County Pomona #15, St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4 Harbor Springs #730, West Oshtemo #1630, Studley #1174, Community #1675, Mosherville #1351 Home #129, Summit City #672, Burns #160, Gratiot #1898, North Adrian #721, Burr Oak #1350, Plymouth/Westland #389.

##### Public Speaking—Foods I like/don't like

1st: Chris Johnston Burns #160

##### Readings:

1st: Richard Hazen Fredonia #1713  
2nd: Kevin Young Community #1675

##### Best of Show: Family Heritage, Art, Creative Writing

Peggy Johnston, Burns #160

##### Best of Show: Photography:

Kathryn Hsu-Bishop, Home #129

##### Certificates for Reporting:

Pomona: St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4, Mid Michigan Pomona #61, Lenawee Co. Pomona #15

Subordinate: Barnard #689, Burns #1601 Gratiot #1898, Harbor Springs #730, Pittsfield Union #882, Studley #1174, Fern #803, Home #129, Kinney #754, Summit City #672, Colon #215, Mosherville #1351, North Adrian #721, Plymouth/Westland #389, West Oshtemo #1630

## Community Service

## Winners

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

The Michigan State Grange Session has come to a close once again. I would like to thank all our Grangers who helped to promote Community Service in their communities during another this year.

Granges, let's all think about one new project/service we can do this next year for your community.

We have 24 subordinate Granges and 11 Granges submitted Community Service Reports with a total of 17,514 service hours with 6 Granges not submitting any service hours.

Congratulation Everyone!!!!

Thank you to all Granges for promoting Community Service and taking the time to complete a report and summing it to me.

### 2022 Michigan State Grange Community Service Winners 40 members and over

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Fredonia Grange #1713
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Burns Grange #160
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Pittsfield Union #882

### Under 40 Members

- 1st Place Studley Grange #1174
- 2nd Place Harbor Springs #730
- 3rd Place Community Grange #1675

**The NG requests our 1<sup>st</sup> through 4th place winners. Based on total number of points from the judging. Following are the Granges recognized as the top winners.**

- 1st Place Fredonia Grange #1713
- 2nd Place Studley Grange #1174
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Burns Grange #160
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place Harbor Springs #730

### 2022 Very Important Patron

**Congratulations:** Lena Young, Community Grange #1675

**Next Years Community Service Reports will be due on Sunday, September 10th, 2023.**

**Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas Everyone.**

## AGRICULTURE

## Winners

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

### Vegetables: Potatoes, any variety

- 1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160
- 2nd: Dale Moore Burns #160
- 3rd: Sharon Popler Burns #160

### Vegetables: Squash

- 1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160

### Flowers: any type of plant in a unique container

- 1st: Peggy Johnston Burns #160
- 2nd: Sharon Popler Burns #160

### Agriculture Chairman's Annual Report

Welcome to the 149th Annual Convention of the Michigan State Grange!! It is hard to believe that it is time for yet another Michigan State Grange Session. I am glad we are back to normal after our 2020 State Session being made only a one day session with no singing or floor work. Our 2021 State Session

was just about back to normal but we were still cautious after not being together for so long. Time sure goes by fast and for some reason this year has gone by way too fast!! I hope everyone has enjoyed my articles as at times I felt like I was just rambling on but at the time I was writing them it was what was on my mind. Agriculture in our Great State is a very important part of life and of the State Economy, and I feel honored to be the Director of the MSG Agriculture Department. It has been a very up and down year so far for Agriculture in our Country and it isn't over yet. With the virus causing shutdowns at meat processing plants in 2020 and then people not returning to work quick enough, farmers are still struggling to get their animals to the processors as they are backed up. We the Grange, need to stand strong more than ever to let everyone know that the Grange is still alive and here to help our friends in Agriculture. I look forward to seeing what entries will be in the Ag Department classes this year as we only had about 2 or 3 entries at the 148<sup>th</sup> State Session. It had been another strange growing season in 2022 with Spring being wet for some areas and then we had some heat waves in June with July finishing up with very humid weather but at least we have been getting rain in my area of Michigan. I hope to continue to bring you information on this Department that has meant so much to our Great Organization when it was first founded! I hope everyone enjoys the State Session and their stay in Marshall!!!

Fraternally, Kevin Young, AG Director

---

### Foundation Report Continued from page 4

Sufficient allocated funds are available to provide as many as 20 new student loans, even without consideration for repayments being made by past recipients. Considering that these loans may be approved for a variety of educational endeavors, this leaves us with great flexibility to help members of all ages and interests.

As always the Foundation is happy to accept donations from individuals and Granges, either as memorials or simply as contributions toward the mission and goals of the Foundation. The Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization and individual donations are tax deductible, as charitably contributions. Within the Foundation's assets, a permanent Endowment Fund is held from use to ensure future funding for activities through investment income. By Foundation policy, half of all donations made without program designation will be allocated to the Endowment Fund, ensuring continued growth potential for the future.

The MSG Foundation Board would like to thank those Granges and Grange members who have made donations to the Foundation. We truly appreciate your contributions.

I would like to thank the other members of the Foundation Board for their hard work and consistent dedication to the mission of the Foundation, namely: Vice President Roland Winter, Secretary/Treasurer Kathryn Strouse, Director Jeff Swainston, and Director Chris Johnston.

Fraternally Submitted: Eric A. Bishop, MSG Foundation Board President.

***The MSG Foundation Financial Report will be included in the next issue of the Michigan Grange News.***

## GRANGE HAPPENINGS

### St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4 has been busy.

In 2018, the St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona Grange erected a monument, just outside the “Grange Building” on the St. Joseph County Grange Fairgrounds in Centreville.

This memorial is to recognize all of the Subordinate Granges who assumed operation of the fair in 1918. From Parkville #22 to New Horizons #1897 each Grange is recognized for their dedication and efforts. Also listed are the Corey Grange, St. Joseph County and Marcellus Grange of Cass County who at one time were active in Grange Fair activities.

We also wanted to recognize Grange individuals for outstanding service. Due to Covid-19, we honored 2 from last year and 2 for this year.

**Lester Schrader** was recognized for his long time service to the Grange Fair, and as a member of Centreville Grange.

**Howard Bucknell** of Sturgis Grange was honored for his many years of service as President of the Grange Fair.

**Wayne Hagelgans** from Colon Grange is noted for his many years of service as manager.

**Wilma (Garman) Bordner** was recognized for her outstanding service as Secretary of the Grange Fair



### Wayne Hagelgans

Colon #215

### Wilma ( Gardner) Bordner

Burr Oak #1350

### Les Schrader

Centreville #1440

### Howard Bucknell

Sturgis #1490

competing for ribbons and prize money may be past, with the hundreds of hours spent canning, sewing, baking, sowing and harvesting. But St. Joseph/Cass/



Kalamazoo Pomona Grange #4 feels that as long as its called a Grange Fair, we'll be there!

2022 was no exception and a colorful & educational exhibit on agriculture. Members who put up the display were Mary Beth Bower, Lucille Bloom, Mitch and Connie Addis, Darlene Tate, Betty Persons and Tom Smith.

### Community Grange #1675 Life Plan Center of Niles Community Service Project

Community Grange #1675 decided to collect baby, toddler and female personal items for the Life Plan Center of Niles. At their August meeting the members brought together the items they purchased or donated for their Community

Service project. They even had a few people from outside of the Grange donate things. One member

gave a nice monetary donation to be given to Life Plan to be used as need. This project didn't start until their June meeting and Community only has 15 members! What a

Grange activity that was enjoyed by all members of the Grange. Well Done Good and Faithful Servants! The members are already looking ahead at the new Grange year and are excited to get working in the local Community once again.



Members Jesse Preston and Lena Young join Community Service Chairperson Melody Conrad with the display of items collected for Life Plan of Niles.

### Fredonia Grange #1713 Band Entertained after the Annual Banquet

