



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XXX NO.5

USPS 345-580

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 2024

## 2024 151st Annual Convention

October 17-19, 2024

First Baptist Church  
6781 M-66, Charlevoix, MI

Rooms have are being held at the Charlevoix Inn and Suites, 800 Petoskey Avenue, Charlevoix until the 17th of September. You must make your own reservations and be sure to let them know you are with the Michigan State Grange. Prices are: Thursday night: \$89.00; Friday and Saturday night: \$189.00 plus tax on all. Tel: 231-216-3140.

Make sure you are getting your entries in all of the contests ready.

5th and 6th Degrees will be conferred.

Remember to bring items for the Silent Auction  
And bid, bid, bid!!

Check the agenda on the back page of this issue.

Hope to see all of you in Beautiful Charlevoix!!

### REMEMBER:

- ◆ ALL REPORT FORMS ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 10TH: VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS
- ◆ ALL CREDENTIALS AND RESOLUTIONS ARE DUE OCTOBER 1ST: STATE OFFICE

Page 2 Dead Batteries	Page 3 Many Thanks	Page 4 Deaf Olympics	Page 5 & 6 Election Thoughts CS notebooks due Sept. 10	Page 7& 8 Do you have Ag En-tries? Grange Happenings	Page 9 & 10 "G" Dollars & Pen-nies Collections Convention Schedule
--------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------	---	--	--

[www.michiganstategrange.org](http://www.michiganstategrange.org)



# 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

September 2	Labor Day
October 14	Columbus Day
October 17-19	151st MSG Convention
October 31	Halloween



Whole page	\$150.00
1/2 page	\$90.00
1/4 page / business card	\$50.00
\$40.00	

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

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

## Dead Batteries

### Dead Batteries

Dr. Terry Powell landed at the airport past midnight, exhausted from an overseas trip and still facing a long drive home. Finding his Buick in the parking lot, he turned the key and nothing happened. The battery was dead, which was how Powell halfway felt too. Thankfully, an airport service vehicle pulled alongside. The driver connected his working battery to Dr. Powell's weak one with jumper cables. The cables served as a conduit, carrying energy from one battery to the other, and the car started.

"Using jumper cables... is an apt analogy for the ministry of encouragement," Powell wrote in his book *Serve Strong*. "Life in a fallen world occasionally drains everyone's batteries. Illness, relational strife, unemployment, or susceptibility to temptation depletes resolve and joy... unless someone replenishes our batteries, we won't make much progress."

Jonathan pulled alongside David in the wilderness and jumpstarted his spiritual batteries. Perhaps today you will have an opportunity of finding someone needing a word of encouragement whom you can strengthen in the Lord.

*Then Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God.*  
~1 Samuel 23:16~

ENJOY ALL THE FALL ACTIVITIES

CORN MAZES  
PARTIES  
PUMPKIN PATCHES  
PUMPKIN DECORATING  
TRICK OR TREATING  
COSTUMES  
HAUNTED HOUSES  
SCARY STORIES  
ETC...

BEST OF ALL...

PLAN SOMETHING SPECIAL, LIKE A COMMUNITY SERVICE HALLOWEEN PROJECT!!

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Requester Publications Only)

1. Publication Title: Michigan Grange News  
2. Issue Frequency: 6x Year  
3. Issue Date: 9-3-24  
4. Issue Frequency: 345-580  
5. Annual Subscription Price: \$150  
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$150  
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
9. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
10. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
11. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
12. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
13. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
14. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
15. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
16. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
17. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
18. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
19. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
20. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
21. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
22. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
23. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
24. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
25. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
26. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
27. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
28. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
29. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
30. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
31. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
32. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
33. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
34. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
35. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
36. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
37. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
38. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
39. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
40. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
41. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
42. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
43. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
44. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
45. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
46. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
47. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
48. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
49. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
50. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
51. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
52. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
53. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
54. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
55. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
56. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
57. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
58. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
59. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
60. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
61. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
62. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
63. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
64. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
65. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
66. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
67. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
68. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
69. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
70. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
71. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
72. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
73. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
74. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
75. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
76. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
77. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
78. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
79. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
80. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
81. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
82. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
83. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
84. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
85. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
86. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
87. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
88. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
89. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
90. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
91. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
92. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
93. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
94. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
95. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
96. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
97. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
98. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
99. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429  
100. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 404 S. Oak St., Durand, MI 48429

**Degree Day**

Many thanks to Burr Oak Grange and the St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona Grange for a fantastic Degree Day. There was a good size group in attendance, including many from other states. The High Priest of Demeter, Roger Bostwick was there along with the Seventh Degree Directors, Gene and Marie Edelen. After each degree presented, Roger would give an explanation. This was the first time many had ever seen the first four degrees performed and to those members that stepped in and held an office for each of the degrees, thank you for your assistance. And what Grange event is complete without a potluck?! We also had a fantastic pig roast potluck put on by the Pomona Grange. As usual, Grangers always eat well!

**State Session**

Is just around the corner. Get your credentials sent in soon. I know they went out rather late, but please abide by the deadline to get them returned. We will be meeting at the First Baptist Church in Charlevoix. The session, meals and display room will all be at this location. There are hotels in the area. There is a room block at Charlevoix Inn and Suites until the 17th of September. Addresses and phone numbers for these locations are available on the website. And along with the State Session, is our purpose for the meeting. Resolutions! Please get your resolutions in by October 1st. I'm sure there are many issues that need to be addressed and resolutions are the perfect start to make changes. After all, we are a grassroots organization, changes start with the Community Granges.

**National Session**

Right on the heel of the State Session is the National Session. We encourage everyone to attend this November in Bettendorf, Iowa. There will lots of new workshops and tours designed for the members attending that are delegates. Registration is getting limited on many of the tours, but I still encourage you to get signed up.

**Veterans**

This year as the hosting region for the National Session, we are looking for Veterans that have not received a Quilt of Valor yet. If you or you know of a Veteran that will be attending the National Session, please let me know. We would want to honor them with their own Quilt of Valor.

**Wreaths Across America**

This year's National Session Community Service Project is Wreaths across America. If you would like to support the community service project and sponsor a wreath or more (each wreath sponsorship is \$17.00), please make a check out to Michigan State Grange and send it to Connie Johnston at my address. Along with your donation, please let her know if you are sponsoring a wreath in honor of a current military member or one in memorial of a passed veteran and what branch they served or are serving in. There will be a display with all the names as well as a list that will be sent to Wreaths Across America with the donations received.

**Distinguished Granges**

Congratulations to Burns Grange, Gratiot Grange and St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona Grange for receiving the Distinguished Grange Award from National Grange. An honor well deserved





Peggy Johnston, Co Director  
404 S. Oak Street,  
Durand, MI 48429  
989.288.4546 or 517.285.6532  
jklbmc@yahoo.com

Sharon Popler, Co-Director  
3640 E. Bath Road  
Morrice, MI 48857  
989.627.3801  
gma4hugs@hotmail.com

- ◆ Just a reminder that your Deaf Awareness report forms are due September 10th.
- ◆ Hoping that many of you are preparing entries in the poster contest advertising either National Deaf Awareness Week or Month.
- ◆ Also...a really fun, creative contest is the decorated Christmas ornament with the "I Love You" sign on it.
- ◆ Please check the Program book or the website for rules on both of these contests. If need be let me know and I will send them to you.

I recently signed up for DeafandHofH.com and just received a newsletter from them with some interesting articles. Hope you enjoy reading some of the articles from across the country.



## New Chapter for Deaf Women's U.S. Soccer Team

The U.S. women's soccer national team begins their season and so does the U.S women's deaf national team. Soccer deaf professional athletes emphasize their goal to bring hope to other Deaf athletes, and let them know they are capable of anything. The deaf women's national U.S. team is moving on to something greater during the summer Olympics, which is obtaining their gold medal in Tokyo in the Deaf Olympics. The Deaf national soccer team has been both successful and resilient to get to where they are standing.

The Emma Hayes era began with a win on Saturday as the U.S. women's national team beat the Korea Republic 4-0 in Hayes' first match as head coach.

The goals came courtesy of braces from Tierna Davidson and Mallory Swanson, who had 30 family members and friends on hand to watch her in her home state of Colorado. The goals were long overdue for both.

Davidson had previously only scored once for the national team — 2,101 days ago — and Swanson, who tore her patellar tendon last year, hadn't scored in 465 days, per U.S. Soccer.

Before the Hayes chapter officially kicked off, a new chapter also began for the U.S. deaf women's national team.

The deaf national team played the first game of a historic doubleheader with the senior women's national team, and they dominated Australia 11-0. Emily Spreeman had six goals, more than any member of either the USWNT or USMNT has scored in a single game.

Saturday was the first-ever doubleheader featuring an extended national team and senior national team, and the deaf national team's first-ever game on U.S. soil. It was also their first televised U.S. Soccer-controlled match.

"I just hope that this inspires a future generation of deaf girls and boys everywhere and that they're able to see one of us and say, 'Oh, I want to be the next Holly Hunter. I want to be the next Kate Ward,'" Spreeman said postgame.



## Deaf Awareness Fund

If your Grange has already made your donation to the Deaf Awareness Fund this year, Sharon and I would like to thank you for that donation.

If your Grange or even yourself would like to make a donation to the Fund, please send it to the Michigan State Grange Deaf Fund, 404 S. Oak Street, Durand, MI 48429.

Donations help with the Scholarship, Alexander Grange Bell Camp Fund, Ad in the MSD year book, and the party and sometimes gifts for boys and girls at Christmas at MSD.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

**If you plan to sponsor a child or children for the MSD Adopt-a-Child Program, please let us know.**

Jackie Bishop, Lecturer 479 Tuscany Drive Portage, MI 49024  
Tel: 269-365-0401 jacqueline\_bishop@hotmail.com

## State Grange Session is soon! Are your contest entries completed or nearly done?

From experience, I know that a lot of entries are completed the week before State session. I challenge you to get your entries together now, including getting them labeled to avoid the last-minute rush. All entries must be labeled and each entrant should have an entry form that lists all their items in the Lecturer's contests. Your Lecturer should have these labels and forms, but I will have extras at session.

I hope that everyone has been taking photographs all year for the "Animals", "People", "Farm Crop Scenes", "Sky", and "Monuments" classes to enter into the photography contest. The photos are displayed via a peg board with photos placed on clips. The backing should at a minimum of card stock weight (minimum 67 lb), but heavier mat board is recommended. I am looking forward to all your entries in the photography contest at State Grange. My goal is 75 photos (about 15 more than last year).

For those not photography-minded, consider entering the Arts contest. Note that the classes are now by what medium the item is constructed with as opposed to what technique was used to create it. An example: an entrant has a crocheted item they wish to enter. The article would be entered in Class A (Yarn) or perhaps Class D (thread) instead of the class "Crocheted items" which no longer exists.

Now is also a good time to practice making your entries in the food contest for "Yeast Breads", "Fruit Pie" and "Canned items". I am hoping to see entries in the new contest, "Traditional or Unusual Family Recipe Contest". This contest will be judged on Thursday night with the home-made foods.

All contests are open to Grangers and Grange friends. In addition, contests are open to children through age fourteen.

**Special reminder** to Lecturer's: Your annual report forms are due to me by **September 10**, or as soon thereafter as possible. Certificates will be awarded at State Grange for completed annual reports.

## Election Thoughts

Now that the Republican and Democratic conventions are over, it is certain that we will all be bombarded even more with many candidate ads. It is clear that many of us are passionate with regard to what we wish the future to hold with regard to our government and its emphases. In the current environment, where it is difficult to discern what is fact, it is ever important that we seek out multiple sources of information from multiple viewpoints in order to make wise decisions when we vote.

In the Third Degree of the Grange (Harvest), the opening by the Steward says: "We must reap for the mind as well as for the body, and from the abundance of our harvest, in good deeds and kind words, dispense CHARITY." Let us all keep the concept of charity in mind as we participate in "promoting the welfare" of our nation. From the Fourth Degree (Home), we find this: "Let the agate be to you and emblem of FIDELITY. May your principles of manhood and womanhood be as firmly impressed as the lasting colors of the stone, and may our friendship be as firm as the stone itself." In the salutation of order, remember these words as we move through the Presidential Election process: "A good Patron ... dispenses CHARITY and is noted for FIDELITY."

**VOTE!** Since the next issue of MGN will probably not be in your hands before the November 5 election, I encourage you to vote. Stand up for your beliefs by expressing them in this very important way.





As Summer is coming to an end and Fall is right around the corner, colored leaves, picking apples and pumpkins will be here before we know it.

Hopefully you have completed your Community Service Report or are working on completing it. If you are having trouble completing your Community Service Report booklet, you can still fill out the Community Service Summary Report Form and submit it as your Community Service Report without a booklet.

All nominations for the VIP Award, Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter/EMT and Teacher of the Year nominates, along with your Community Service Report are due to me by September 10th. You may mail all your nominations and your Community Service Report in the same package.

I have tried to pass along information in previous Grange Newsletters as a guide and have mailed out your registration form along with the guidelines for your report. Your Community Service letter and

Nominations forms have also been posted on the Michigan Grange website. If you have any questions at all please give me a call or email me.

---

**Remember your Community Service Report and Award Nominations need to be to me in Battle Creek by :**

- ◆ **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to be judged.**
- ◆ **Mary Ann Rocco**
- ◆ **145 Beadle Lake Drive, Battle Creek, Michigan 49014**

(Just a little note, when mailing your materials please put **Drive** on the address. There is also Beadle Lake Road and a Beadle Lake in the same zip code.)  
269 209-6640 [roccomaryann@yahoo.com](mailto:roccomaryann@yahoo.com)

With the start the new Grange calendar year, lets try and find a new Community Service Project to do in your community this year.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer, and I'll see you in Charlevoix at the Michigan State Grange convention.

---

## The Power of a Smile

**Smiling:** It's free, it takes little effort, and it can help you and others feel better. Here are just a few reasons to put on a happy face:

*Melts away stress.* Cracking a smile releases chemicals in your brain that boost your mood. Smiling also relieves physical symptoms of stress by lowering your heart rate and blood pressure, as well as relaxing tension in your muscles.

*Solves problems.* A simple smile can be the key to conflict resolution. Let's say you need to talk to a store manager or call to reschedule an appointment. Approaching with a smile starts the conversation on a positive note, even on the phone, since your smile can be heard in your voice.

*Boosts your career.* Research show that smiling while working increases productivity. Your smile also makes you seem more confident and approachable, raising your chances of being promoted and building good relationships with your co-workers.

*Lifts others up.* When someone smiles at you, you probably smile back. Give others the same mood lift by initiating a smile with strangers and people you know. This small act can make a big difference in someone's day.

*Gives you a facelift.* Don't worry about laugh lines; smiling actually mak3s you look younger by lifting the muscles in your face. In general, people who smile are seen as more attractive and friendlier than those who don't.



## AGRICULTURE

### Do you have Ag Entries?

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

Wow! August is just about over as I write this article and another County Fair season is just about over for my area. The weather is up and down with temperatures and humidity, but it wouldn't be summer and fair season without that type of weather! The Berrien County Youth Fair just finished on Aug 17<sup>th</sup> and we had almost perfect weather, besides 2 days that had some rain. But once it stopped raining, it was great, and the people flocked to the grounds. There are only a few more fairs left in Michigan now with one of them being the St. Joseph County Grange Fair in Centreville and I believe the last one in Michigan being the Hillsdale County Fair.

We got our garden in around Memorial Day weekend this year, planting zucchini, tomatoes, butternut squash and pumpkins. I have seen a few squash amongst the vines so we will be able to enter in the Ag Department class. We had a hill of volunteer potatoes grow in the middle of the garden, so we will have to see if we can dig any up for State Session in October. I hope others have had better luck and will have lots of items to enter in this year's classes. If there is a class suggestion for the 2025 State Session that you would like to share with me, please do so. I am always up for making changes if it works with when our State Session is held.

As we move into the harvest season, please keep in mind that we will once again be sharing the roads with very large sized farm equipment. I know we are all in a hurry to get where we are going but we need to keep in mind that those big pieces of equipment help to put food on our families' tables.

I look forward to seeing everyone that will be coming to the Michigan State Grange Convention that is being held in late October up in Charlevoix. I hope everyone has been working on entries for the Departments so we have a great Grange Contest year! See you at State Session!!

#### Halloween Trivia:

1. Who originally sang the song "the Monster Mash."?
2. What is the title of the Peanuts Halloween Special?
3. Which city throws the biggest Halloween Parade in the US?

## FOUNDATION

### Donate

Naomi Fletcher, President 14684 25.75 Road, Rapid River, MI 49878  
Tel: (H)906-644-2319 (C)906-399-2815 Naomi.fletcher54@gmail.com

**MSG FOUNDATION,**  
**Jackie Bishop, Sec/Treas.**  
**479 Tuscany Drive**  
**Portage, MI 49024**

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

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Donations made by: \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your Support!

### “GRANGE TODAY”

This is the new communication from the National Grange Communications Department. If you do not receive this by email please contact Phil Vonada at [pvonada@nationalgrange.org](mailto:pvonada@nationalgrange.org) and sign up.

One of the issues each month will include stories of events/projects of Subordinate/Community Granges. Please send your articles/pictures to [pvonada@nationalgrange.org](mailto:pvonada@nationalgrange.org).

This is a good chance to brag your Grange up and let others know what you are up to. Besides you just might get new ideas for your Grange from what other Granges are doing.

1. Bobby Pickett
2. It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown
3. New York City

ANSWERS:



## Full Election:

Those officers up for election this year are:

Master: Chris Johnston

Overseer: Sharon Popler

Lecturer: Jackie Bishop (not accepting)

Steward: Tim Johnston

Ass't Steward: Rich Hazen

L. Ass't Steward: Nancy Swainston

Chaplain: Jeff Swainston

Treasurer: Kevin Young

Secretary: Peggy Johnston

Gatekeeper: Randy Cebulski

Ceres: Maria Lopez

Pomona: Mary Beth Bower

Flora: Tricia Eidsmoe

Exec. Comm.:

Dale Moore

Tom Smith

Pianist: Kevin Young

## MEMBERSHIP

See you in October!

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

Another Grange year is almost over. Which means summer is almost over. Time for the annual reports to the Michigan State Grange! Hopefully you have completed your membership report. It needs to be at my house by Tuesday, September 10.

I look forward to receiving many reports this year. I am hoping Michigan will have an increase in membership.

The new membership year has already started; it runs July 1 to June 30. Now is the time to start planning a membership program for the upcoming year.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer! I hope to see many of you at state session in Charlevoix in October!

MEMBERSHIP

## GRANGE HAPPENINGS

### Colon Grange #215 Celebrates 150 Years

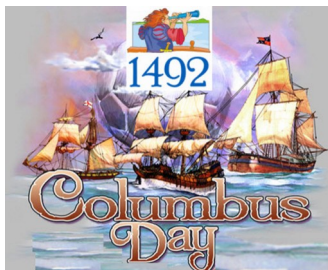
On July 21st, many people gathered at the Colon Grange Hall in Colon, MI to help celebrate the 150 years.

During the program a candle lighting ceremony was done that had been written by Tom Smith, of Community Grange in Cass County and St. Joseph County Pomona Grange. Those participating in the ceremony were Mary Beth Bower & Warren Frazier, Colon Grange #21 and Sharon Popler and Peggy Johnston of Burns Grange#160.

Stacey Bower of Colon Grange #215 presented

awards to Joe Rolin for Firefighter of the Year; Ann Oldenberg Vinson for Teacher of the Year; and Joel Herr, for Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Cake and ice cream were served and everyone enjoyed the fellowship time.



Columbus Day commemorates the landing of Italian-born navigator Christopher Columbus in the New World—i.e., the Americas—on October 12, 1492. It is a federal holiday in the United States, observed on the second Monday in October. The day typically involves parades, ceremonies, and celebrations for those who observe the occasion. Some celebrate Italian-American heritage on this day.



## FUNDRAISING

## "G" Dollars & Pennies

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

Well, hello everyone. I hope you have all been saving those Grange Dollars!! I can't wait to see how many are turned in at State Session in Charlevoix. Please remember that the Grange that turns in the most will receive a Framed Grange Dollar along with a \$50 gift card from Meijer. We are also collecting "Pennies From Heaven", so bring your loose change as well. It doesn't have to be rolled and ready to take to the bank as I can take to my local Credit Union where they have a coin counting machine! So bring as much or as little as you can!

An update on the 10"x10" squares Blanket Raffle. We are sorry to say that we couldn't get it put together in time to sell tickets this summer. However, we will be selling tickets as soon as our friend that is sewing all of the squares together gets the 2, yes 2, blankets back to us in Michigan. She lives out in Washington State and has them almost finished. The 1<sup>st</sup> prize blanket is 8 squares across by 9 squares long, so this will be a very big blanket. The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize blanket is I believe 7 squares across by 8 squares long. And, there is a 3<sup>rd</sup> prize which is \$50 Shell gas card and a \$25 Lowe's card. Right now I am planning that the raffle will end at the 2025 State Session so we will have plenty of time to sell tickets.

There will be items on the Silent Auction table (maybe a table by itself) for all of the items we earned through the Tupperware Sale earlier this year. I will be making up "gift sets" for example there is an ice cream scoop and there will be ice cream toppings with it as well. Be sure to check out these items and big often!

I look forward to hearing from you if you have any suggestions for future fund raisers. We need to think of things we can reach outside of the Grange Membership circle to bring in other sources of funds. I believe I was told that some good ideas were given/discussed at the Grange Day of Learning back in April. Stay tuned....

See you at State Session!!

*What's a trees favorite song in  
Autumn*

*"Don't Stop be leafin"*



## 2024 DEGREE DAY

A special thank you to Burr Oak Grange for hosting this event. To St. Joseph/Cass/Kalamazoo Pomona #4 for their participation in making this a

super Grange Day!

Twenty-seven Grange members were present for the conferral of the



first four degrees. Roger Bostwick, High Priest of Demeter and his wife Melanie of Kansas, Seventh Degree



Directors, Gene and Maria Edelen of Iowa, Jason Smith, IN State Master and five other Indiana



Grange members were included in our attendance. We thank each and everyone that came and took part in the degrees. The first two



degrees were conferred, then a break for an awesome Grange potluck including pork from the pig roast provided by the Pomona and sweet corn provided by the Bowers family. The afternoon consisted of the 3rd and 4th degrees and then drawings for the white elephant sale.

## ANNUAL SESSION 2024 SCHEDULE

(Subject to change)

### Thursday, October 17

1:00 p.m. Registration  
2:00 p.m. Display Room Opens for Entries  
4:00 p.m. Committee Meetings  
6:00 p.m. Baking Contest Judging  
7:00 p.m. Welcome Baking Contest Auction  
Lecturer Program  
State Officers/Department  
Directors  
Introductions  
State Officer Practice

### Friday, October 18

7:30 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. Open 151st Annual Session in 6th Degree  
9:15 a.m. Lower to 4th Degree – Admit 4th Degree Members Flag Presentation  
Roll Call of Officers  
Roll Call of Delegates  
Welcome by City Officials  
Executive Committee Response  
Partial Report – Credentials Committee  
Adopt Order of Business  
9:30 a.m. Lecturer, Family Activities, Junior, Deaf Awareness Contest Judging  
10:00 a.m. Report of Executive Committee  
Financial Reports Proposed Budget  
Masters Address  
Session Committee Reports  
12:00 p.m. Lunch Break  
12:45 p.m. Foundation Meeting  
3:00 p.m. Budget Approval Election  
Speaker: Distinguished Grange Program  
Session Committee Reports  
6:00 p.m. Awards Dinner  
7:30 p.m. Call to Order  
Memorial Service  
Session Committee Reports  
Close in 4th Degree  
6th Degree Practice  
5th Degree Practice  
Session Committee Meetings

### Saturday, October 19

8:30 a.m. Open with 5th Degree 6th Degree  
Feast Table  
Roll Call of Officers  
Session Committee Reports  
12:00 p.m. Lunch Break  
1:30 p.m. Call to Order  
Roll Call of Officers  
Adoption of Friday's Minutes  
Unfinished Business  
Installation of Officers  
4:00 p.m. Closing of 151st Annual Session  
7:30 p.m. Annual Banquet VIP  
Announcement  
50/50 Raffle

### THINGS TO REMEMBER TO BRING TO CONVENTION:

Silent Auction Gifts  
Contest Entries  
“G” Dollars  
Pennies (and other coins or bills)

~~~~

Your Interest  
Your offer to help  
Your dedication  
Your willingness to meet new people and  
renew old friendships  
Don't forget to bring yourself and maybe  
even some Grange friends!!

