



# MICHIGAN GRANGE NEWS



Volume XVIII NO. 1

USPS 345-580

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 2012



## Distinguished Grange Award Received

Burns Grange #160 received a Distinguished Grange Award at the National Grange Convention in Tulsa, OK. Present to receive the award were: Connie Johnston, Gatekeeper, Chris Johnston, Steward, Peggy Johnston, Secretary, Alli Driskell, Sharon Popler, Master, and Judy Bowers, Lecturer.

*What an Honor!*

## Michigan School for the Deaf Christmas Program

Eighteen Michigan School for the Deaf Students, many teachers, interpreters, school officials and Grange members were present to have a wonderful Christmas party.

Christmas Storytelling, lots and lots of pizza, chips, cupcakes, pop/water and fun was had by all.

Each student received some much needed or much wanted gifts from the generous Granges that helped them. The students were full of thanks to those that gave to them.

Two of our students were absent the day of the party.



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Support Needed	MSD Party	New Year Resolutions/Goals	Promote Agriculture	Asthma and Cold Weather	Get the Ball Rolling



# Michigan Grange News

(USPS 345-580)

Periodical postage paid at Durand, MI

Michigan Grange News is published monthly except July & November, for the members of the Michigan State Grange.

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

**Postmaster send address changes:**  
Christopher D. Johnston, Editor

- Jan 8** Michigan State Grange Foundation Meeting
- Feb. 6** Executive Committee Meeting
- Feb. 15** Articles due for March-April Michigan Grange News issue
- Feb. 24-26** Master's Conference

## Welcome 2012

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.

10 issues per year June/July & Oct./Nov. are combined.  
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### Chaplain

### Winter

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Winter is a joy to some people  
Many enjoy the winter sports  
Ice skating, skiing, or building a snowman  
Especially little ones love to make snow angels.

Boys love to play Hockey in the street  
While their sisters go to the pond to ice skate  
How about those who have snow ball fights?  
So much fun to have in the fluffy white snow.

Sledding at the park racing down those hills  
Cross country skiing for some older folks

Or just a walk down to the neighbors  
For a hot chocolate and sit by the fire.



Good conversation with good friends  
Petting the dog or cat can warm your heart.  
Perhaps you like to meet at the senior center  
And play a game of Scrabble or Yahtzee.



Just keeping active will keep you young  
Even a walk down to the rink, and watch younger people enjoying winters Blessings  
Winter is for the young at heart, and  
Keeps people youthful and your mind alert.

Enjoy all God's awesome Seasons of the calendar, and of your life.

\*\*\*\*\*



May the God of hope fill you with all joy,  
And peace as you trust in Him,  
so that you May overflow with hope  
by the power of the Hold Spirit.

*Romans 15:13*



### Michigan State Grange Cookbooks

Have you ever gotten your first copy of our cookbook?  
Are you in need of a second copy...maybe you have worn the first one out.  
Do you need a gift for a bridal shower, graduation, birthday or maybe just a special thank you?

**WELL!!! We only have three cases left!**

They are selling for \$5.00 each and if your Grange would like use them as a fund raiser you can add a few dollars to that and make some money.

The last three cases will be on a first come first serve basis, so if you wish to have any of them, please contact the State Grange Office soon!

989-288-4546 or msgrange1873@yahoo.com

**Goals**

During the recent Michigan State Grange convention you heard about my BHAGS “Big Harry Audacious Goals” of increasing the membership in the state of Michigan by 25%. This is not as hard as it seems, from my perspective of looking at the entire state a 25% increase is around 250 new members. For your perspective take a look at your Granges total membership and divide by 4. That’s how many new members you need to obtain the 25%. For most of you this is less than ten new members. For some of you this could be as much as 30. I would love to have this done by the end of the second quarter of 2012; however, when this gets done it gets done. I would hope that this would be a goal of yours as well, if not a 25% increase then at least a net increase which would be an increase over the number of members you have plus any that you may lose throughout the year. I also have a goal of starting two new Granges this year. This goal is going to have to be accomplished through a cooperative of myself, the membership director, her committee and those of us that attended the Grange Growth Summit for starters, but it will take more than just those people, we will need your help as well. If you have suggestions of places that you believe could benefit from a Grange in their community we would love to hear from you. The National Master also has a BHAG that by the time the 150<sup>th</sup> National Grange Convention roles around in 2015, there will be at least one Grange in every state that has ever had a state Grange. Currently there are 39 states with Granges, but there have been Granges in 48 states. For the future of this organization we all need to not only have goals but we have to work towards them, in order for me to be able to achieve my goal I need the support of each of you to assist in that goal. So what do you say....can we do it? I believe so.

**Ask!****Ask!****Ask!****Support**

I need some support. In 2003 a very generous Grange donated the money for a trailer and the markings to be out on the sides of it. This past summer during the intense heat the fiberglass nose cap on the trailer got several cracks in it. The estimate for having the old cap removed and a new one replaced is just over \$1,100.00. The insurance company has deemed it to be a maintenance issue and they are not able to help in the replacement of it. So I am asking that if any Grange is willing to make a donation towards the replacement cost, it would be greatly appreciated. The trailer was originally intended to serve as the transport for raffle items such as the John Deere Gator and for the transport of the items needed for the convention from the office to the convention site. Now since we no longer have the office and the storage unit is full, the trailer is also used for storage. With the cap having gaps in it up to a ¼ inch wide, the weather is able to leak in and potentially damage our supplies for the convention which could cause us to spend more money to replace them.

**Department Directors**

Department Directors - we need to be thinking ahead towards the spring conferences. I will be letting all of you as well as the officers know when I have set a date for the officers and department directors meeting, which will probably be in early February. At that meeting we will be setting up the dates for the department conference and the locations.

I hope you all have had a safe and happy Christmas and will continue to have a better New Year. Until next time.....



Luanna Swainston, Director 965-108th Street, SW Byron Center, MI49315  
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I hope everyone had a great holiday and I wish each of you prosperous New Year.

Thank you to all who were involved with the Michigan School for the Deaf Adopt-a-Child Christmas Party. The following Granges and Grangers made their student's Christmas a little brighter:

Mosherville #1351, Burr Oak #1350, Burns #160, Gratiot #1898, Plymouth/Westland #389, Studley #1194, Sturgis #1490, West Oshtemo #1630, Oceana Center #1047, Georgetown #458, Barnard #689, Rome #293, North Adrian #721, Home #129, Fredonia #1713, Kinney #754, Carlisle #812 and the Libbey family from Peninsula #706.

It was a fun day for everyone who participated – Grangers and students.



← Dragon Jaksic signed Christmas stories to the students and others that attended the Christmas party. His assistant was Kaitlin Wears and Amy Rose interpreted for us.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Happy Grange Refreshment Servers dish out the food. ↓

Arnette Welsh, Kinney #754; Sharon Popler, Burns #160 Phyllis Warren, Burns #160 Darwin Isham, Fredonia #1713 Peggy Johnston, Burns #160



Oh!

Oh!

Oh!

**Look what I got!!!**

I also delivered 94 hats, 17 scarves, 12 pairs of gloves, 3 pairs of mittens, 2 hat/mitten sets, 3 afghans, 584 Box tops for Education and 983 Campbell Soup Label points that were collected at the Michigan State Grange convention last October. WOW!! Grangers care!

We received a **Wish List from Michigan School for the Deaf** with ideas of what is needed in the classroom

- Black dry erase markers,
- Pencils/erasers,
- electric pencil sharpeners for kids who are physically unable to sharpen pencils,
- manual pencil sharpener,
- backpacks,
- Kleenex,
- hand sanitizer pump bottles,
- notebooks,
- subject notebooks,
- lined paper,
- index cards
- various size winter boots and coats.

If your Grange would like to contribute some things on the list I know the school would appreciate it.



Luanna Swainston and Arnette Welsh representing Kinney Grange with their child at Michigan School for the Deaf. She was patiently waiting until the signal was given to open her gifts.



**Happy New Year!**

Another year (calendar) is upon us. Time for those resolutions that many of us make year in and year out. You know the ones, **EAT HEALTHIER, EXERCISE, GET ORGANIZED.**

I have a few goals I want to work on this year. I'm going to post them on my bulletin board, look at them often, and do my best to follow through on some, if not all.

A couple of my goals have to do with **PROCRASTINATION, CLUTTERED LIFE, and HI-TECH PHOBIA.**

**PROCRASTINATE**-To put off (action) habitually till another day or time.

**CLUTTER**-1. To litter with things in a disorderly manner, 2. A disorderly heap 3. Disorderly mess.

**HI-TECH PHOBIA**-an obsessive or irrational fear or anxiety of some object or situation. In my case (computer).

I'm a procrastinator (BIG TIME). Sometimes I just feel I have so much going on that I tend to put off certain things, like writing this column. I'll speak up and volunteer for one more job even though I know my plate is already overflowing. Another aspect of this is I have trouble delegating. Why is that?

Clutter, I don't feel I'm really bad here, except in my spare bedroom/craft room/soon to be office. Forget that- it does carry into other aspects of my life. Take for instance I just threw out a couple dozen magazines. Won't tell you where they were. I enjoy looking through them, thinking I'll try a recipe or do a craft. Out to recycling they went without looking at a single one, boy was that hard. See, 2012 isn't even here and I've started on one goal.

Computers- why does this innate object scare me so? Is it because I can't stand sitting for long, or I just feel so out of my comfort zone.

Resolutions, goals, no matter what you plan on doing this next year, have fun, learn something new, share time with family and

friends, enjoy every day and don't forget to smell the roses.

Grangers are busy people, helping those less fortunate, delivering dictionaries to third graders, setting up our halls for many events, etc., our days are full.

A few of these fun things could include a project or two, or three, that's in the program book. (INSERT IN LAST NEWSLETTER.)

Have a craft night, knit or crochet together, a quilting bee. How about pulling out that unfinished project? Teach a young person how to do any of these things. They may just want to learn how to make a funky hat or scarf.

Here are a couple of the winning recipes from state session, I'm sure you will enjoy them as much as all of us did.

\*\*\*\*Here are a couple of winning recipes from the State Session. I'm sure you will enjoy them as well as all of us did.

**\*\*\*\*\*Recipe\*\*\*\*\***

**Apple Raisin Pie**

**Esther Gagnon**

**3-4 apples, depending on size — peeled and sliced**

**1 cup light brown sugar                      2 T. flour                      1 tsp. cinnamon**

**1/2 tsp. nutmeg                                      1 tsp. lemon juice                      1/2 tsp. salt**

**1/2 C. raisins**

Mix together and pour into unbaked pie shell. Dot with butter and place top crust on. Bake for 20 minutes at 425 and then reduce to 350, bake until apples are done and pie crust is brown.

**Pie Crust: 4 C. flour, 1 T. sugar, 2 tsp. salt, 1 3/4 C vegetable shortening, 1 T white or cider vinegar, 1 large egg, 1/2 C cold water.**

In a large bowl combine the 1<sup>st</sup>. four ingredients well, with a fork or pastry blender. In a small bowl beat together with a fork, water, vinegar, and egg.

Combine the two mixtures stirring with a fork until all is moistened. Divide dough into five portions. With your hands shape each portion into a flat round patty ready for rolling. Wrap each in plastic wrap and chill at least 1/2 hour. Recipe makes 2 double pies and 1 single crust. Dough freezes well.



Baking Contest winners: Esther Gagnon, Helen Mudd, Norma Raynard, Chris Johnston, Kevin Young, Ted Mudd, Marc and Cory Johnston with Family Activities Director, Judy Bowers.



**\*\*\*\*\*Recipe\*\*\*\*\***

**Apple Cake**

**Ted Mudd**

**1 1/2 C oil    2 C. sugar    2 eggs**

**1 tsp. vanilla    3 C chopped apples    3 C flour**

**1 1/2 tsp. soda    1 tsp. salt    1 tsp. Cinnamon**

**Mix oil, sugar, eggs and vanilla. Combine dry ingredients, add to egg mixture, stir well. Stir in apples, pour into a greased 9" x 13" pan.**

**Topping:**

**1/2 stick of margarine    1/2 C sugar    2 tsp. cinnamon**

**Mix together topping ingredients with fork or fingers. Sprinkle on cake,. Bake in 350 degree oven for 50-60 minutes.**

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Happy New Year! Wow it is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. Most of us are so busy we do not take the time to stop and think about where all of the everyday things that we use come from. The loaf of bread that you just bought at the grocery store and how the bakery made it with flour from the wheat grown by a Farmer. If it wasn't for our local Farmers, we wouldn't have many things that are available daily to use at our local grocery stores. Our Agriculture community is responsible for producing crops that feeds our Country and other Countries throughout the World.

I would like to know how or what your Grange does to promote Agriculture in your area. Send me an email or a note via US Mail and describe what it is your Grange does throughout the year or during a certain month each year. I would like to share some of the ideas with the State Grange membership at some point during 2012.

I am also looking at doing a Humanitarian Project at the 2012 State Convention. Watch for more details to follow leading up to October 2012.

The winter months are the best time to plan your gardens. Make plans early at your Grange to plant a small plot or large one if you have the space for a Grange Garden. If you do not have a Grange Hall that has a big enough area, maybe one of your members would have a spot at their home to plant this Grange Garden. I would love to hear from the Granges again in 2012 about your Grange Gardens and maybe share some pictures of the work being done and how the plots produce throughout the summer.

If there is ever something you would like me to write about in my MGN articles please let me know and I will see what I can do. I am also open to suggestions of what you would like our Guest Speaker during the Salute to Agriculture Dinner at our Annual State Session speak on.

**MEMBERSHIP****"Ya Gotta Wanna"**

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**Happy New Year!**

By the time that you read this newsletter, many of you will have made (and some will have broken!) their annual New Year's resolutions. Traditionally, January is a time to think a bit about the future, and to think also how we would like to see some things changed in our lives, our families, and perhaps our communities. Even though we sometimes break the resolutions we set, they still tend to haunt us, and in the end we usually move in the direction of the change we had expressed in the resolution.

In reviewing my first year as Membership Director of the Michigan State Grange, I realized that items that I emphasized all year (Be Positive! Promote the Grange! Celebrate Members!) were not quite enough. About mid-year, I added the **"Ya Gotta Wanna"**, as certainly Granges must have the will to keep their

Grange going and growing, and the awards given out at the State Grange session were **"Ya Gotta Wanna"** awards. However, there still was a piece missing - so this year I am adding Plan for Success! Annual membership reports this year will ask Granges to report on the plans they made during the year for increasing and/or promoting and/or celebrating membership in their Granges.

Although the Grange year really begins October 1 and planning should begin in the fall for the coming year, some Granges make their plans for the calendar year instead. It really doesn't matter what timeframe a plan is for; what is important is to have goals and a plan to implement those goals.

Before you can make a plan, you need to have a dream or a vision of what you want your Grange to be. During the past several years, our National Master, Ed Luttrell, has encouraged the State Masters to set BHAGs (Big, Hairy, and Audacious Goals) for their membership and Grange growth. I challenge each Grange in Michigan to take some time in a January meeting to determine at least one BHAG for your Grange. This might be percentage membership growth, net gain of members, growth of member involvement in Grange activities, or execution of a major project to recruit new members, or ..... I would like each Grange to report to me their BHAGs/dreams no later than the end of February.

After the BHAG/dream is set, you need to determine first steps that can be taken by your Grange to move towards the dream. Over time, small steps towards the dream add up to big steps. For instance, if your dream is a 20% net gain of members, first steps could include setting this year's target at 5% growth and doing that with a specific membership project.

Now comes the planning of the actions needed to move towards these first steps. This usually works better if current members are involved in brainstorming approaches that could be taken, instead of one person detailing a project. This brainstorming could happen at another regular meeting, and be led by the Membership Chairperson. After the brainstorming, achieve consensus as to the type of project that will be undertaken, and then specific details can be outlined. This detailed plan should include roles and responsibilities for all those involved in the project, including leadership of the activities, timeframes to accomplish tasks needed to perform the membership project, and don't forget a celebration of success at the end of the project.

**Be Positive! Promote the Grange! Celebrate Members! Plan for Success!** (I'm assuming ya' wanna!)

**Membership Award  
Winners**



**!! JUST IN !!**  
**GREAT LAKES GRANGE LEADERSHIP**  
**CONFERENCE 2012**  
**April 27-29, 2012**  
**Camp Abe Lincoln**  
**1624 West Front St., Blue Grass, Iowa 52726**

The cost will be \$90. That includes 3 meals on Saturday and 1 on Sunday. Snacks on Friday night. They ask that we bring 3 toys for a boy and 3 for a girl. These will go into plastic shoe boxes for a program called “ Jared Boxes” for children in the hospitals. Ideas for toys can be coloring books, pencils markers, bubbles, books, small dolls, cars or any type small toy. Iowa will supply UNO games for all the boxes. Like last year, we will be in cabins, so bring all your own bedding and toiletries. The theme this year is “Mystery Night at the Grange”. In January I’ll get copies made and send them out to all the Lecturers. In the past we have had a really good turn out for this conference, so hopefully we can continue this!!



**ASTHMA AND COLD WEATHER**



The weather and the environment play an important role in asthma attacks. Though, there is no one single best weather climate for people with asthma and asthmatic symptoms. Certain types of weather may induce asthmatic symptoms earlier. Considerable research has been done in this field. Universities like Harvard, have found that temperature influences asthma more than any other environmental or weather factor, though other factors like pollens and seasons had an effect on the severity of asthmatic symptoms.

Winter season is the time to be particularly careful if you are suffering from asthma. In winter time make sure you are wearing your gloves, scarves, hats and whatever else you can to keep yourself warm. During the winter season also ensure you don’t have damp floors or are wearing damp clothes. A scarf is highly recommended because it will prevent the dry air in the cold weather from entering your nose and mouth.

The studies show that cold weather can act as a trigger for three quarters of 5.4 million people with asthma and hospital admissions generally peak when temperatures plummet. Catching a cold or flu can also trigger asthma symptoms.

If you are indoors avoid using stoves and fireplaces, which produce smoke. An influenza vaccine is also a good idea during the winter seasons and the cold weather. Also, make sure you have your asthma medications handy.

People whose asthma is well-controlled are more likely to be able to withstand the dangers of winter months and you can help keep your asthma under control by making sure you have a regular asthma review with your doctor, and that you have a personal asthma action plan. This is a plan which should be completed by your doctor and contains the information you need to manage your asthma, including information about your medicines, key things to tell you when your asthma is getting worse and what you should do about it, as well as emergency information on what to do if you have an attack.

**TIPS FOR KEEPING ATTACKS AT BAY  
AS THE WEATHER GETS COLDER**

1. Always keep taking your regular medicines as prescribed by your doctor.
2. Always keep your inhalers with you at all times.
3. Wrap up well and wear a scarf over your nose and mouth – this will help to warm up the air before you breath it in.

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE AN ATTACK**

1. Keep calm-do not panic.
2. Sit down and try to take SLOW steady breaths
3. Take one or two puffs from your reliever inhaler as directed by your doctor in your plan of action.
4. Call 911 if your symptoms do not improve in 5-10 minutes.

This information was gotten from the internet. You should always consult your Doctor about any problems your having with your asthma symptoms.

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Happy New Year!! With the ball dropping in Time Square, it is our time to get it rolling for another successful year. The holidays are over and now we can focus on getting our Juniors involved. Time to plant the seeds! At the National Convention, the National Master, Ed Luttrell, was delegated with the responsibility of forming a committee to review and revamp the Junior Grange programs to be able to increase and retain the Juniors. I'm looking forward to the changes that they might make.

I recently learned of a project that your Grange could possibly do that would benefit in many ways. It is one that would be a great community service project, a fundraiser and could be a Junior Grange and membership drive all in one!!

Hopewell Grange in Illinois had a Parent's Day Out early December. It is where they watched children from 2-12 years old for 10.00 per child, 30.00 family cap, from 10:00 to 4:00, giving the parents time to assist Santa's elves in his gift gathering. The children are able to play games, do crafts, watch movies, and were also served lunch.

I think this is a great idea!! What a way to spend a day to earn money (or not), help your community and get some membership possibilities! Of course we are already past the holiday season, but I don't think it has to be done only during the holidays. All parents could use some "me time" or even "date time" and this would be an excellent opportunity for them. Maybe even do a night for parents to go out for Valentine's Day. Try it out and see how it goes. I have all sorts of forms (flyers, release forms, etc.) from Trisha Renkin from Hopewell Grange. I'd be happy to pass them onto you!!

With Valentine's Day approaching, here is a quick craft for your juniors:

**Materials**

- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Colored card stock
- Old-fashioned candy stick, in a wrapper
- Pipe cleaner



**Instructions**

Fold paper in half and draw the top half of a heart. Cut out the heart half.

With heart still folded, cut two slots for the candy-stick body.

Open the wings and weave the candy stick down into one slit and up through the other.

To make the antennae, wind the pipe cleaner tightly around one end of the candy stick so that two equal lengths extend upward and then curl the ends.

Finally, decorate your butterfly with dots or other designs and write your message on the back.



Junior Grangers presentation at the Convention. Cory and Marcus Johnston were present to represent the Juniors of Michigan. Karen Strouse helped with this presentation.



↑ Above is a picture of the GROW Club Display that Luanna Swainston has put together and had on display at the conventions for the last few years.

Judy Bowers, Family Activities Director, hard at work in the Convention display room making sure that all items are displayed correctly. ↓



## Community Service

Sue Wagner & Mary Houghton, Co-Directors

Mary Houghton and Sue Wagner, the Community Service Directors for the past 3 years, applaud the Granges in Michigan that are making a difference in their communities. It was our pleasure to take over this position when it was vacated by Patty Carncross in 2009. Mary and I have enjoyed working together on this important department for the Grange. Thanks to all the Granges that take this department seriously and work diligently to be IN their communities, doing what needs to be done and doing it well. We appreciate the kind words and thoughtful comments that were given to us while Co-Directors. We know you will give our successor equal reasons to be proud.

The presentation at the 2011 State Grange Convention advised that you can use the awards given as a compliment for a job well done and/or a spark for an idea to try something new. Below you will be reminded of the placement of the Granges that reported, the recognition to the Dedicate Worker and the Very Important Patron. After that there are lists, lists and more lists which were compiled from the work our Granges are doing **Enjoy.**

### Annual Report

The National Grange Community Service Department is once again joining with the Michigan Community Service Department with monetary recognition of reports submitted and judged for the Grange year 2010/2011.

The first place winners received \$75.00, Second place winners received \$50.00 and Third place winners received \$25.00.

From the two first place entries a Best of Show was decided and that entry will compete at the National Grange Convention.

### **Granges with up to 40 members**

1st place — Studley #1174

2nd place — Gratiot #1898

3rd place — Kinney #754

### **Granges with more than 40 members**

1st place — Oceana Center #1047

2nd place — Home #129

3rd place — Burns #160

**Best of Show** is Oceana Center #1047

### **Participating Granges**

Barnard #689

Burr Oak #1350

Georgetown #458

Harbor Springs #730

Lime Creek #712

Mosherville #1351

North Adrian #721

Pittsfield Union #882

Plymouth/Westland #389

### **Dedicated Worker**

John and Eunice Bauserman winners — In the description of this couple's entry, the word Active keeps appearing. It tells that they work unselfishly and quietly and provide community service to a broad range of people. The latter portion of their entry advised that in their spare time, John and Eunice attend area dances. They can be found in Scotts on Tuesday night, Fredonia Grange on Wednesday night, Coldwater dance, Climax dance, and Maple Leaf Grange dance on Saturday whenever they can work it in their other Grange and Church activities. Congratulations.

### **Very Important Patron Award**

Roland Winter received this distinction. His report is full of

participate, Coordinate, and Served as .... The Judge commented that he even has a Grange Museum in his basement. Congratulations to Roland for his dedication to our organization.

### **"G" Dollars**

G dollars are simply dollar bills that have G on them. The dollars were collected by Granges and Grangers and donated to the Community Service Department with the intention to help a Grange that has not been able to participate in The Dictionary Project. If you are not familiar with the Dictionary Project, dictionaries are purchased and donated to school children in the 3rd grade.

The G dollars collected in the 2009/2010 Grange totaled \$327.00. Harbor Springs Grange had not had the opportunity to participate with this project before so 81 dictionaries were purchased at the cost of 143.50. Then 81 labels were typed and printed, 81 parents' letters were typed and printed, and the cost of paper, ink, and postage totaled \$43.50.

To complete the accounting for the \$327.00, postage was needed to mail the 2010 reports back to Granges that did not pick them up at the State Grange Session. The purchase of a display board, certificates, CD's, CD cases and CD labels for the 2011 convention were also taken from these funds. This allowed the committee from using any budget money from the State Grange General Fund.

### **2010**

\$327.00

Bills Paid

—\$187.00 Harbor Springs Dictionaries and supplies

—\$22.50 postage for reports

—13.00 State Grange display and CD expense 2010

Total fund remaining ==\$104.50

### **2011**

Balance brought forward \$104.50

Bills paid

—\$20.00 for 21 DVD's, DVD covers, ink, each Grange report scanned, a DVD produced and given to each Grange.

—\$27.00 for certificates to present for Report entries.

### **Donations**

+\$109.00 Sue and Ron Schmidt

+\$195.00 John Baldwin G \$100.00 bill, \$50.00 bill, \$20.00 bill, \$10.00 bill, \$5.00 bill, \$2.00, \$1.00 plus 7 dollars more (amazing and generous gift John)

+\$6.00 and +\$50.00 Athol Hazen and Fredonia Grange

+\$52.00 Dick and Diana Wagner

+\$20.00 Lucy Sandeen

+\$20.00 Sharon Popler

+10's, 20's, 1's many more generous donations given at our State Session with a total of \$113.50.

### **Grand Total \$623.00**

Fern Grange in Big Rapids, Harbor Springs Grange in Harbor Springs, and Peninsula Grange in East Jordan were contacted about the Dictionary Project donation possibilities.

Thanks to ALL who made generous donations to the G dollar project. The report on the Granges that receive the total \$623.00 donations will be posted in a future Grange News article.

*Report Lists continued on Page 11*

**Community Service Report Lists —**

The rest of this report lists information compiled from the Reports that were submitted. While reading the list you could use it as a tool to spark an idea. Or check off all the things your Grange is already involved.

**Fund Raising**

- |                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Advertising Sign Sale              | Bake Sale                   |
| Boy Scout Troop Popcorn Sale       | Box Lunch                   |
| Card Party                         | Chicken BBQ                 |
| Chili Supper                       | Christmas Tree Sale         |
| Collect Aluminum                   | Craft Sale                  |
| Concession Stand at Sporting Event | Dances                      |
| Euchar Tournament                  | Fair Food Booths            |
| Fish Fry                           | Garage Sale                 |
| Gently Used Winter Clothing Sale   | Golf Event                  |
| Goulash Dinner                     | Harvest Dinner              |
| Homemade Ice Cream                 | Jamboree                    |
| Raffles                            | Scalloped Potato Ham Dinner |
| Soup Dinner                        | Swiss Steak Dinner          |

**Food**

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Food donated to Food pantries               | Cookies donated   |
| Thanksgiving baskets                        | Christmas Baskets |
| Money donated for perishable food purchases |                   |

**Money Donations**

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Veterans                         | Deaf Fund                  |
| Paws with a Cause                | Children First             |
| American Hear Association        | Oliver Hudson Kelley Fdtn  |
| Alzheimer Association            | National Grange Youth Fund |
| Michigan State Grange Youth Fund | Red Cross                  |
| Salvations Army Bell Ringers     | Hospice                    |
| Paradise Dog Training            | Adopt a Family for Holiday |
| Eagle Scout Project              | Homeless Shelter           |

**Display & Promotion**

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Fair Booths   | Library                    |
| Town Hall   | 4 H Booth                  |
| Festival of Trees                                       | Cut 3/4 of a MILE of Grass |
| Parade Float  | Festivities after a parade |
| Roadside Beautification: seasonal signs at Water Trough |                            |
| Maintain Hall   |                            |

**Projects**

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Adopt a Highway Roadside Pick up         | 4 H                         |
| Afghans Donated                          | Angel Tree Gift Donation    |
| Apple Day                                | Appliance Donation          |
| Back Pack Donation                       | Bell Ringers                |
| Bingo                                    | Blood Bank                  |
| Book Fair                                | Box Top Collection          |
| Camp Counselors                          | Campbell Soup Label Coll.   |
| Christmas Gift Donation                  | CPR classes                 |
| Degega Personal Bag Donation             | Dress Up Night              |
| Ear Plug Distribution at a parade        | Easter Egg Hunt             |
| Extension Office Demonstration on        | Canning and Freezing        |
| Family Night Out                         | Family Math & Science Night |
| Favorite Collection Display              | Flag Pole Donation          |
| Flag Repair                              | Funeral Lunches             |
| Great Antique Restorers Society          | Greeting Card Project       |
| Habitat for Humanity Cooperative Project | Haiti Mission               |
| Halloween Party Trunk of Treat           | Hayride & Bonfire           |
| Kidney Kozies donated                    | Labor Day Bridge Walk       |
| Lap Robes donated                        | Living La Vida Local        |
| Meals on Wheels                          | Memorial Day Program        |

- Memorial Scholarship Fund Donations
- Penny Fair
- Nursing Home Table Favors
- Needy Baby Project
- Needy Baby Project
- Nursing Home Table Favors
- Old Fashion Christmas Program
- Old Time School Day with all Grades in one class
- Pillowcases for Chemotherapy Patient's Pillow
- Placemats for meals on Wheels
- Postage Stamp collection
- Preserving Traditions
- Progressive Dinner
- Project hats & mittens
- Quilt Donation to Fire Dept
- Quilt Instruction at Kids Summer Program
- Quilts donated
- Reflective House Number sign Project
- Respite Donation
- School Supply Donation
- Senior Service Trans.
- Sliding & bonfire
- Spartan Label Collection
- Sweaters for Veterans
- Therapeutic Riding Club
- Town Street Light Pole Banner Purchased
- Toys for Emergency Room
- Youth Baseball Team Sponsor

In closing, Mary and Sue wish you all good work and good times.

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



**Community Service winners**, Representing Gratiot Grange #1898 — Kathryn Strouse; Studley Grange #1174 — Tricia Eidsmoe; Burns Grange #160—Peggy Johnston; Kinney Grange #754—Luanna Swainston; Oceana Center Grange — Janice Merten; Home Grange — Roland Winter. Sue Wagner, Community Service Co-Director standing in back.



**2011 Very Important Patron Award Recipient:**

Roland Winter receiving his VIP Award Certificate from Sue Wagner, Community Service Director.

## **Grange Leaders Say Proposed Regulations Against Teen Farm Labor Could Be Detrimental to Agriculture, Entire Generation**

The National Grange recently took a stand against proposed regulations by the U.S. Dept. of Labor that would limit the ability of teenagers to assist in farming operations across the country, calling the proposal “destructive “ to the agriculture industry.

National Grange Legislative Director Nicole Palya Wood said the regulations take aim at many of the daily chores of rural youth and seek to drastically narrow the exemptions provided to these family farms by redefining farm ownership.

“With farming operations becoming more and more efficient and complex, this new language could leave many of our rural youth prohibited from the farms that are their heritage.” Wood said.

Ed Luttrell, president of the National Grange, said the proposed regulation goes against the grain of the American values many Grange members hold dear.

“So many of us grew up on farms, and our parents and neighbors helped us learn work ethic by giving us the opportunity, when we proved ourselves ready, to have more and more responsibility,” Luttrell said. “This proposed regulation is big government stepping in to tell us when a child is ready to learn the value of work and become a contributing member of their community based on age, and the lessons these kids learn even doing small chores are invaluable.”

The regulation, Luttrell said, “will have a direct and detrimental impact of agriculture, and would further exacerbate one of the most serious problems we as a nation face, the failure to see value in hard work.”

“In our organization, many, if not most, of our leaders learned our work ethic on the farm. Even though many of us chose not to become farmers directly, we learned everything about what it is to put in a full and hard day’s work, to have accountability and to do a job with pride from our time on the far,” Luttrell said. “the idea to limit on farm employment for teens is destructive to not just the agriculture industry, not just specific farm families, but to their entire generation.”

Many groups have argued against the proposed regulations, citing an even more removed view of the agriculture industry for the American public.

Luttrell said the proposed regulation would “limit the exposure young people have to farming and could have a lasting impact on agriculture.”

“Most children and teens have never been on a farm. Those who have, and who wish to work on one, are more than likely going to be the producers for the next generation,” Luttrell said. “If we don’t engage young adults in farming practices and encourage their interest in agriculture, we may threaten our very supply of food and fiber. Consider that a majority of current farmers are 55-years-old or older. Without training and encouraging our youth to far, we are soon going to run out of knowledgeable and motivated agriculturalists. This proposal make that an even greater likelihood.”

Wood also cited recent predictions that show U.S. farmers and ranchers must double production by 2050 to fulfill global food needs.

“We must commit to a safe but vibrant and expanding legacy of future growers, farmers, and ranchers rather than restrict their access, education, and involvement in family farms,” Wood said.

Luttrell said the U.S. Dept. of Labor’s citation of safety concerns regarding teenage farm labor are valiant but the proposed regulation as a whole is more hurtful than helpful.

“As a family organization, the safety and well being of our youth is a top priority for the Grange, because we know that we are training tomorrow’s farmers and ranchers. Bestowed with that responsibility, we also understand that it is necessary to provide a safe and secure setting where our youth can develop their interests in agriculture and carry that knowledge into the future,” Luttrell said.

Luttrell also said the proposed regulation would make farming and ranching as even more expensive endeavor, and said burdensome and unnecessary regulations are something the Grange actively lobbies against.

“I think this regulation is unnecessary and is going to add to the cost of doing business in America,” Luttrell said.

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## **National Grange Introduces Yankee Candle Fundraiser**

The National Grange is excited to announce a fundraising program, in conjunction with Yankee Candle, that can benefit the Grange at all levels. This program will allow Subordinate, Pomona and State Granges to sell specific Yankee Candle products, complete with the Grange logo and tagline, “American Values. Hometown Roots,” printed on the label, for the same price as these items are sold in stores. Each Grange who sells these products will profit from the sale directly.

If your Grange is interested in this project, contact Samantha Johnson at the National Grange, and request a Grange Yankee Candle Fundraising Packet. Requests can be made by email at [sjohnson@nationalgrange.org](mailto:sjohnson@nationalgrange.org) or by phone at (202) 628-3507 ext. 109.

The Large jar candles sell for \$27.00 with \$20.00 going to National Grange and leaving your Grange a \$7.00 profit.

The small tumbler candle sells for \$16.00 with \$11.50 going to National Grange leaving your Grange with \$4.50 each.

The Votive candles sell for \$3.00 with \$2.25 going to National Grange leaving your Grange with \$.75 each.

The scents available in all sizes of candles are: Farm House Apple, Farmer’s Market, Home Sweet Home and Mountain Lodge.

Consider selling candles for your Granges next fundraiser.