

The Colorado Granger

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE COLORADO STATE GRANGE

WWW.COLORADOGRANGE.ORG

THE COLORADO GRANGER, JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2016

VOLUME 91, NUMBER 5

National Grange Convention 2015

by Cindy Greer, Master

Colorado had a great group representing and hosting the National Convention in Lincoln this past November. I want to thank everyone who helped in one way or another. It takes a lot of volunteers to take care of details of a national convention.

Special thanks to Charlene Porter for coordinating the Hospitality for Colorado on Tuesday and having an activity ready for Youth on Friday night, even though time was short. Trish Corman for coordinating the flower orders throughout the week. Sheryl Ayers for serving as National Session pianist. Marlys Halbeisen for coordinating the Idea Fair volunteers on Friday. Larry Corman for serving as the point person for the Youth department. Thank you to those who served as Deputies on Friday and for filling in when others didn't show up. Jeanne Davies was the speaker at the

Past Delegates lunch. Kathy Wardle served as a hostess for the Evening of Excellence along with other host State Lecturers. Domonic Breton served as Executive Committee member for the National Youth officers team. Daniel Greer presented a speech at the Evening of Excellence and Dan and Jenna participated as Youth Couple. Alan and Renee Caldwell sang in the Evening of Excellence. Harry Greer, Larry Corman, Sheryl Ayers, Marlys Halbeisen and Cindy Greer served as officers in the 6th Degree team.

Those who attended and helped out were: Gary & Kathy Wardle, John & Trudie Hagen, Dave & Kay McCord, Alan & Renee Caldwell, Larry & Trish Corman, Roger & Sheryl Ayers, Tom Campion (& Jean), Charlene Porter, Domonic Breton, Dan & Jenna Greer, Billy, Nathen, Brianna & Jacob Greer, Jeanne Davies, Marlys Halbeisen and Harry & Cindy Greer and Steve Davies.

Thank you to everyone who sent homemade cookies for the Hospitality Room.

Next year's convention will be held in Washington, D.C., as the National Grange celebrates its 150th annual convention and begins the 150th year of the organization.



Colorado Grangers at the Celebration Banquet at National Convention.



Jenna and Daniel Greer, Colorado Young Couple at National Convention.

by Charlene Porter

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all Colorado Granges who helped with the Hospitality Room. We had amazing support. I asked for a 1,000 cookies and I got 1,500 or more. Thank you to all who sent cookies and thank you to those who sent money. Thank you to all who came and helped put out all the food and acted as greeters. We had the best hospitality room day at the convention. Other hosting states served our cookies ALL week long, and all that we had left over. Thank you ALL. What a great experience.



Daniel Greer presenting his speech at the Evening of Excellence.



Greer Family dressed for the Youth Costume Contest.

IMPORTANT STATE GRANGE CHANGES

Your State Grange Office has moved to a new location. Please make a note of the new street address, phone number and email address. These are in effect.

New Address:

Colorado State Grange
2009 CR 31
Florissant, CO 80816

New Phone Number:
719-748-5008

New Email:
costategrange@gmail.com

Distinguished Grange Award

We are very pleased to announce that Marvel Grange #479 is the first Grange in Colorado to receive the National Grange Distinguished Grange Award. This program has been given out for the last six years. This is the first year that any Grange in Colorado has applied. Marvel Grange was presented with the award at the Distinguished Grange Award ceremony at the National Grange Convention in Lincoln,

Neb., in November, along with other states, subordinates and Pomona Granges in the nation receiving the award.

The Distinguished Grange Program honors Subordinate and State Granges that fulfill their responsibilities as part of the National Grange, while excelling in the areas of membership, fundraising, and service to their communities. The program is presented annually at National Session.

State Grange Scholarship Applications Due April 15

It's not too early to apply for a Colorado State Grange Leadership and Scholarship Foundation award for next school year. Applications must be received by April 15, 2016, to be eligible for a scholarship next fall.

Applicants of all ages are welcome provided they are or will be enrolled in an accredited Colorado institution of higher education, a Colorado-licensed vocational school, or a recognized program to develop leadership skills. Scholarships are awarded once each year to individuals who are regular members of a Grange in Colorado or who are children or grandchildren of Colorado Grange members.

You can download the application from www.coloradogranger.org (click on Scholarship) or call the State Grange Office at 719-748-5008.

Applications must be submitted to the Foundation Treasurer by April 15, 2016. Applications should be submitted by email to grangescholarshipfoundation@gmail.com. If you have questions, contact the Colorado State Grange Office or call the Foundation Treasurer, Jim Miller, at 303-898-5052.

The Foundation welcomes donations. Gifts from individuals, estates or for-profit businesses are tax-deductible. Donations made in memory

(Continued on Page 2)

Colorado State Grange Handbook Announcement

The Handbook was sent out with the Roster and Journal of Proceedings this year. If you did not get a copy and would like one, please email the State Grange Office at costategrange@gmail.com or send a request at 2009 CR 31, Florissant, CO 80816, and one will be put in the mail for you.

GIA Announces Scholarship Program For 2016-2017

Grange Insurance Association (GIA) Chairman of the Board, D. Thomas McKern, is pleased to announce that GIA will again fund 25 scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year, totaling \$33,500. In addition, GIA is honored to award the \$1,000 Paul and Ethel Holter Memorial Scholarship, funded by a gift of Mrs. Holter's estate, and the \$1,000 Dee and Ina McKern Memorial Scholarship, funded by a gift from the McKern family.

Applicants may apply for either an academic or a vocational scholarship. Three of the awards will be for students wishing to pursue vocational studies and 22 awards will be for academic studies. The top winner in each category will receive a \$2,500 award and the remaining winners will receive \$1,000-\$2,000 each.

Eligibility requirements (applicants must meet one of the following):

1. Current GIA policyholder (or children of GIA policyholder)
2. Children of current GIA company employees
3. A previous recipient of a GIA scholarship

Please note that children or legal wards of officers, directors or agents of GIA are ineligible.

These scholarships may be used at any institution offering courses leading to a certificate or a degree in a recognized profession or vocation, including: community colleges, business colleges and technical institutes. Vocational scholarships are aimed specifically for those students not pursuing a college diploma, but seeking

(Continued on Page 2)

Important Dates

The following are dates of STATE AND POMONA activities that we have received in the State Office. If there are others, please let us know so we can add them to the list.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| January 18 | Chili Cook-Off, Talent and Dessert Auction at Marvel Grange 6 p.m. |
| February 6 | Darden Pomona Meeting at Wheat Ridge Potluck 4 p.m., Meeting 5 p.m. |
| February 6 | Pine River Canal Company Annual Meeting at Mt. Allison Grange |
| February 13 | Valentine Dance at Golden Gate Grange 7 p.m. |
| February 13 | High Tea at Enterprise Grange 2 p.m. |
| February 14 | Florissant Grange Valentine Brunch 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. |
| February 20 | Community Luau at Marvel Grange 6 p.m. |

GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION (Seattle, Washington)

NOTICE OF 2016 ANNUAL POLICYHOLDERS' MEETING

The Annual Policyholders' meeting of the Grange Insurance Association will be held on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Grange Insurance Association, 200 Cedar Street, Seattle, Washington 98121.

All Grange Insurance Association policyholders are welcome to attend.

Signed at Seattle, Washington this 19th day of October 2015.

Rodney A. King, CIC, AFIS, Corporate Secretary
GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Master's Message

Cindy Greer, State Master
7629 CR 100, Hesperus, CO 81316
970-588-3386 • Email: hcrdgreer@frontier.net



2016!!! Happy New Year!! I know it's already the middle of January, but we are in the first stages of a brand new year. Has your Grange set any goals for the coming year or have you set any goals for what you are going to do in the Grange this coming year? A goal is a dream with a plan of action. A goal needs three things:

1. Easy to grasp.
2. Easy to keep in mind.
3. Easy to fulfill.

The goals I set at the National Convention are as follows, but I need your help.

Three Goals — Membership

- Increase individual junior membership base within Subordinates.
- Revitalize one Junior Grange.
- Revitalize one Subordinate Grange.

Three Leadership Goals

- Leadership Workshop at Family Camp (July)
- Deputies and State officers visiting Granges
- State Master's Newsletter (six — opposite months of *Colorado Granger*)

My personal Leadership Goal

Visit as many Granges in my state as time, weather, and travel will permit. At least 15 this next year.

The **1+ Program** allows your Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time. These individual members become the core group to build a chartered Junior Grange program. Many children have not had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Grange program because of the number of children required to charter a Junior Grange.

The 1+ Program allows children (ages 5 to 14), the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. The children do not have a vote in the Grange, but are eligible to earn merit badges, participate in all Regional, State, and National programs, contests and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges.

For the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will:

- Appoint a Junior Grange Leader.
- Provide a meeting place.
- Provide financial assistance as necessary.
- Granges may dedicate specific fundraising projects for the Junior Grange program.
- Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual Junior Grange member(s) to report on their projects, i.e. completing a Merit Badge requirement.
- Organize a chartered Junior Grange when there are sufficient individual members to meet that requirement. The individual members shall automatically become members of the newly organized/reorganized Junior Grange. There is an Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange membership. If you need a copy please contact us.

How will a subordinate Grange report on 1+ Junior members? Once a year you will submit a report form that indicates how many 1+ junior members your Grange has along with their dues which are \$1/year.

The **25th Governor's Forum on Colorado Agriculture** will be February 18 at the Renaissance Hotel in Denver. The program includes: Dr. David Brown, speaking about the Future of Farming and Rural communities through a Demographic Lens; Jason Resnick, speaking about Labor availability challenges in production, Agriculture and potential solutions. Other topics include: GMOs — what are the benefits, challenges and issues; Cannabis — future regulatory landscape/hemp, tracking, production, vertical integration, product diversification. The Colorado FFA Foundation closes the forum with a reception for the Colorado Hall of Fame.

Registration fee before February 4 is \$150. For more information visit <http://www.governorsagforum.com/>.

State Grange Scholarship Applications Due April 15

(Continued from Page 1)
of a deceased Grange member will be noted in the Grange Book of Memories held by the Colorado State Grange Office. Donations should be directed to the Secretary of the Colorado State Grange, 2009 CR 31, Florissant, CO 80816. Please submit the donation

along with the name of the deceased Granger and the name of the Grange to which he or she belonged, or the name of a family member or friend that you wish to remember with a donation to the scholarship fund, along with an address where a memorial appreciation note can be mailed.

Visit the Colorado State Grange website www.coloradogranger.org

Please notify the State Grange Office of any address change.

Because it is 2nd class mail, the Grange is charged **59¢ per address change** the post office sends from the *Granger* mailings.

Email: costategrange@gmail.com
Call 719-748-5008 or mail the form below.

FOR THE COLORADO GRANGER MAILING LIST ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

NAME _____ GRANGE # _____
 OLD ADDRESS (IF CHANGE OR DROP) _____

 ZIP CODE _____
 PRESENT ADDRESS _____

 ZIP CODE _____
 (GIVE ROUTE AND BOX NUMBER)

Send to: Colorado State Grange
2009 CR 31, Florissant, CO 80816

Notes From The Secretary

Renee Caldwell, State Secretary
2009 CR 31, Florissant, CO 80816
719-748-5008
Email: costategrange@gmail.com



A Positive Point Of View

Here we are, greeting the New Year. I believe 2016 will be a great year for all of you and for our Grange Organization.

My training period is over, and I am on my own in the new office location in Florissant. It will take me awhile to get everything organized in a fashion that I can wrap my brain around, but so far the adventure has been a good one. Thanks to the great training of Marge Sassman and good communications with our Master Cindy Greer and our Executive Board members, I feel very excited about this position. You will see a few changes as we

progress, but hopefully, they will be changes for the good of our State Grange Organization. The most important change is that of the mailing address, phone number and email. They were printed in the last newspaper and reprinted in this one, so please make note of the changes. Of course, you can also find these changes in the Roster that was sent out recently.

Please call, email or write with questions or concerns. I will do my best to help you. If I don't already know the information... I will find the information that you need.

Positive saying for this edition: "I can if I THINK I can."

Our Kids Are Our Future Please Help Send A Grange Kid To College

Your donations to the Colorado State Grange Scholarship/Leadership Foundation can help finance a scholarship enabling another Grange youth to get a college education.

You can do this by remembering a Granger or a special friend with a memorial donation in his or her name or by simply making a direct donation, and remember that — your donations are tax deductible!!!

Scholarships are available to Grange members, their children or grandchildren. Applicants must have a satisfactory high school or college record and be of good character. Last year, 16 \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to Grange youths.

But... it takes all of us working together to continue affording this opportunity for our kids! So, please fill out the form below and **HELP SEND A GRANGE KID TO COLLEGE!**

DONATIONS TO THE COLORADO STATE GRANGE MEMORIAL FUND

Donations are used to fund the

State Grange Leadership and Scholarship Program

Make checks payable to "Colorado State Grange Memorial Fund" and mail to: Colorado State Grange, 2009 CR 31, Florissant, CO 80816

Donation is made in the name of:

Who was a member of:

_____ Grange # _____

(or was not a Grange member ____ This donation is just a memorial.)

Mail Memorial Card or Thank You Card to:

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Donation Made By: _____

Mail Receipt for this donation to:

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Was the deceased ever a Delegate to the State Convention or a State Officer? _____

If the answer is yes, please add on a separate sheet any comments that may be used in the eulogy given at the Annual Memorial Service.

GIA Scholarship Program 2016-17

(Continued from Page 1)
further education and/or training in a vocation often not covered by more traditional colleges or universities.

The committee will base its awards on the following:

- Complete and legible application
- Scholastic ability (official grade transcript required)
- Handwritten or typed **Essay** by Applicant
 - Please tell us about yourself, your family and your future goals
 - Also include any leadership or volunteer-related programs or projects in which you have been

involved in high school, in the community, or elsewhere

- What college, university, or trade school do you plan to attend and how will this scholarship assist you

Application deadline is March 1, 2016 (Postmarked). Funds awarded for the 2016-2017 school year.

Please complete the request form below for an application for a Grange Insurance Association Scholarship.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN ALSO BE DOWNLOADED AT OUR WEBSITE: www.grange.com.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Please send a GIA Scholarship Application to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail your request to: GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION
Attn: Scholarship Coordinator, P.O. Box 21089, Seattle, WA 98111-3089

Claudia's Corner



by Claudia the Skunk from the National Grange Herd

All Granges are a part of the Grange fraternity. The IRS and the Colorado Secretary of State have each Grange listed as *Colorado State Grange Patrons of Husbandry* followed by your Grange name and number. Each Subordinate and Pomona Grange has their own EIN number. This does not make the State Grange responsible for the bills, or the care of the building that Subordinate Granges may have. The State Grange does not insure individual Grange Halls.

Grange Hall Ownership — Most of the Granges in Colorado whose deeds could be found now have an attachment that requires that the Colorado State Grange be notified when a Grange decides to sell. *Why?* Because some Granges in the past have given away their buildings or even sold them without following the proper procedures found in the *National Grange Digest*. By not following our procedures the IRS could potentially take away all Granges' tax-exempt status and we'd all be paying taxes on income and property.

The *National Grange Digest* requires that the State Grange oversee any sales of buildings. The *National Grange Digest* requires that the majority of the proceeds from the sale of a building be put into escrow for the Subordinate Grange and that the State Grange Executive Committee has oversight of those funds. This does not mean that the Subordinate Grange doesn't have access to the funds. It means that the Subordinate Grange has to submit plans to the State Grange Executive Committee in order that the funds are utilized wisely. When a Subordinate Grange gives up their charter and sells their buildings the money goes into escrow for seven years, which allows time for the subordinate Grange to be revitalized or reorganized.

Each Subordinate Grange needs to be familiar with the *National Grange Digest*, which you can download from the National Grange website under the member's section. You can also order a copy from the National Grange Sales Department or the State Master can email you a copy.

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Lady Asst. Steward..... Amy Peterson
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Treasurer..... Marlys Halbeisen
Secretary..... Renee Caldwell
Gatekeeper..... Tom Campion
Ceres..... Janette Oppermann
Pomona..... J Kelly
Flora..... Terri Costeldia

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Larry Corman,
Alan Caldwell, John Hagen



Lecturer's Creative And Performing Arts

Kathy Wardle, State Director
1136 Bluebell Way, Brighton, CO 80601-6783
303-659-8470
Email: artklw@aol.com

CREATIVE AWARDS

Best of Show: Regina Sollars, Florissant Grange

Granger with Most Creative Entries: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Photography

Landscapes and Seascapes:

First: Yvonne Chapman, Mount Allison Grange

Second: Renee Young, Fountain Valley Grange

Third: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Third: Cindy Greer, Marvel Grange

People:
First: Daniel Greer, Marvel Grange

Second: Gretchen Greer, Marvel Grange

Third: Jenna Greer, Marvel Grange

Animals and Other Creatures:

First: Jeanne Davies, Deer Trail Grange

Second: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Second: Jenna Greer, Marvel Grange

Third: Vickie Sutton-Gallegos, Mount Allison Grange

Photo Collage or Story:

First: Vickie Sutton-Gallegos, Mount Allison Grange

Second: Larry Corman, Mount Allison Grange

Third: Shirley Engler, Mount Allison Grange

Hobby Corner

Personal Scrapbooks:

First: Shirley Engler, Mount Allison Grange

Second: Larry Corman, Mount Allison Grange

Third: Shirley Engler, Mount Allison Grange

Special Gifts:

First: Regina Sollars, Florissant Grange

Second: Renee Caldwell, Florissant Grange

Second: Russell Greer, Marvel Grange

Third: Dan Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Florissant Grange

Second: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Third: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Third: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Third: Carmella Dunkin, Florissant Grange

Holiday Craft:

First: Renee Caldwell, Florissant Grange

Second: Yvonne Chapman, Florissant Grange

Second: Yvonne Chapman, Florissant Grange

Miscellaneous:

First: Regina Sollars, Florissant Grange

Second: Kay McCord, Victory Grange

Second: Dorothy Dannels, Enterprise Grange

Third: Karen Sexton, Animas Valley Grange

Fine Art

Drawing:

First: Jeanne Hostetler, Golden Gate Grange

Second: Trina Borst, Florissant Grange

Third: Jeanette Hostetler, Golden Gate Grange

Painting:

First: Renee Young, Fountain Valley Grange

Second: Dave Sassman, Victory Grange

Third: Renee Caldwell, Florissant Grange

Computer/Collage:

First: Trina Borst, Florissant Grange

Second: Trina Borst, Florissant Grange

Second: Trina Borst, Florissant Grange

With Pen in Hand

Poetry:

First: Jeanne Davies, Deer Trail Grange

Second: Jeanne Hostetler, Golden Gate Grange

Third: Renee Caldwell, Florissant Grange

Short Story:

First: Jeanne Davies, Deer Trail Grange

Second: Jeanne Davies, Deer Trail Grange

Third: Mary Hunter, Florida Grange

Publicity

Larry Corman, State Director
970-884-4762
or 970-749-8438
Email: Larry_Corman@hotmail.com

As we move into 2016, let us all think about how we can raise the awareness of our Granges in the local community.

One project that I have started is a Statewide Calendar on our website. If you go the state Grange website (coloradogranger.org), you will see a link on the left side, "Calendar." I am in the process of helping Castlewood Grange create their own calendar and Marvel Grange already has one in operation.

My desire is to have more Granges come onboard with Google Calendar. If you create a Google Calendar, I can then merge your events into the state-wide calendar. This process will eventually replace the "you're invited" and "important dates" that I have had on the state website for the past few years.

And, I will keep on encouraging you to create a Facebook page for your Grange. I am now "friends" with many, many Grangers throughout Colorado along with nationally. A good case in point . . . for a recent Mt. Allison community breakfast, we posted the event on a local community Facebook page and ended up having over 30 from that community attend. Facebook is free and has an unbelievable amount of daily views. We have just started the Mt. Allison Facebook. However, take a look at what other Granges are doing such as Marvel or Florissant Granges for some active and robust Facebook pages.

Even though I am a proponent of technology, please do not forget to continue to send announcements to the local newspapers and radio stations. It never hurts to cover your bases when you are advertising an upcoming event.

In closing, I am always here to help you with any of your publicity needs.

P.I.C.K.

People Improving Communities And Kids

Secretary/Treasurer
Cindy Greer

7629 CR 100
Hesperus, CO 81316
970-588-3386
Fax: 970-588-3871

Email: hcrdgreer@frontier.net

PICK is a 501c3 organization that exists to assist Granges in Colorado. If your Grange needs a 501c3 number to obtain door prizes or participate in an event that requires this special status, PICK can partner with you so that you can participate. PICK will provide you with the numbers and paperwork that you need, all you have to do is ask.

We have just completed the report for Redlands Mesa Grange with the Adolph Coors Family Foundation for the grant they received to add a covered porch to their hall. They are an ambitious group of Grangers that raised quite a bit of money on their own.

We will be having a silent auction at State Session which has been set for September 28-October 1 at the Castlewood Grange Hall in Centennial. We hope you will help us out with some donations for the Silent Auction.

Your Agent for
LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE

Clifford R. Schertz, LUTCF
14829 Pecos St.
Westminster 80023
(303) 450-0657

Listing available for a nominal fee — Contact Colorado State Grange
7275 S. Lima St.
Centennial, CO 80112-3850 • 303-708-0606



Family & Women's Activities

Karen Baron, State Activities Co-Director
2296 Mattive Pl., Brighton 80601
720-223-8177 or 970-481-7089
Email: briankaren_baron@comcast.net

Happy holidays everyone. The Handbook is out and there are few changes for this year. A couple of classes have been dropped as there have not been any entries in the last couple of years. The quilt block competition will be kept under the quilting section. This year the rule is any square can be entered as long as the size is 12 1/4" x 12 1/4" and the colors are bright. The pattern is up to you. We will have a crazy quilt to make for raffling off the next year.

I have added a gluten free class in the baking. The judging will be the same as other baked goods, based

on taste texture and appearance. I have also added a miscellaneous class to the sewing section. This is a catch-all for anything to do with fabric, yarn, or thread. Please remember that non-Grangers can enter the Needlework, Quilting and Sewing contests. This is a good way to get your community and friends involved in Grange.

I am looking forward to seeing and hearing about all the fun things our Grangers are doing. As always I value any feedback from all Grangers and will do my best to respond to your ideas; please email or call me.

Health Awareness

Louetta Phelps, State Director
10676 State Hwy. 151,
Ignacio, CO 81137



First I'd like to thank Cindy Greer for believing in me enough to offer me this opportunity and hats off to the delegates for making the shift from Deaf Awareness to Health Awareness to encompass a larger sphere of people.

During the last few years I have become very interested in learning about health and nutrition. I believe our country has been going in the wrong direction in the health and wellness industry. Our health care has become sick care and as one doctor said, "Drugs do things to the body but nutrition does things for the body."

I am very passionate about helping people be more aware of their health and to take preventive measures versus treating disease! I want to make a difference in the lives of as many people as I can before I am called to lie down my implements on earth. I believe that God has called me to this mission and that with His help we can make a difference. I cannot do it alone so I am in the process of building a team of people to help with this mission. If you feel a calling to help make a difference in people's lives and want to join my team, please let me know.

I have Cancer, Diabetes, Alzheimer's, Heart and other diseases in my family history. Yikes! That is why prevention is important to me. It is recommended that we get a variety of 9-13 servings of fruit and vegetables each day. Who can do that? We cannot always feel disease slowly creep up on us and we cannot always feel prevention. But research has proven that eating more whole food, fresh fruits and vegetables, drinking adequate amounts of water, reducing stress, getting adequate sleep and increasing activity considerably lowers one's chances of disease.

How do you measure your health? Your health affects every other aspect of your life. When you get proper nutrition in your body every day it will give you the physical edge to maintain quality of life and longevity. Where are you with your health and what do you wish to accomplish before you are called to the Great

Grange above?

Please consider your health and your life; what goals would you like to achieve? What challenges and diseases affect you and your loved ones? Each month I hope to highlight a specific challenge or disease. If you are knowledgeable about a certain health topic I welcome you to offer preventive insights in this column; please contact me: louettaphelps@aol.com.

Let's get healthy together. Over the next two months gradually increase your water intake to equal the amount of half your body weight in ounces. Example: if you weigh 100 pounds, drink a minimum of 50 ounces of water every single day and more if you can. Then you will want to increase water intake until you have almost clear urine. Ready, set, go!

Youth News

Charlene Porter, State Director
5090 Cody St.,
Arvada CO 80002
720-434-7161
Email: charspino@hotmail.com



Winter camp was canceled due to lack of interest.

Summer camp is July 21-23 in Westcliff. A \$50 deposit is due by April 15. The balance is due at camp.

Youth are meeting at Wheat Ridge Grange January 23 at 10 a.m. We will discuss the plans for the Mystery Dinner in March. All youth are WELCOME. Junior Grange will also meet during this time.

Plan Now To Attend The 2016 State Session At Castlewood Grange In September!

Your Agent for

UNITED HERITAGE LIFE INSURANCE

Clifford R. Schertz, LUTCF
15240 Delaware St., Broomfield 80023.....(303) 450-0657

Listing available for a nominal fee — Contact Colorado State Grange
7275 S. Lima St., Centennial, CO 80112-3850 • 303-708-0606

Your Agent for

GRANGE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

Dell F. Duran
510 Bell Ave., Alamosa 81101-2437(719) 589-3606

Listing available for a nominal fee — Contact Colorado State Grange
7275 S. Lima St., Centennial, CO 80112-3850 • 303-708-0606
email: cogrange@na800.net



Chaplain's Corner

Sheryl Ayers, State Chaplain
970-385-4557

Email: sherylayers@juno.com

Snow! Some despise it, some tolerate it, and some of us love it. We're seeing it all over our state, and we can recognize it as a blessing from God. The snow building up in the La Plata Mountains provides much of the water needed for crops in the growing season. Snow in much of Colorado's mountains, and even on the plains, will help provide domestic water for residents for the year.

As we read in Genesis about the seven-year famine in Egypt, Canaan and that entire area, we learn Joseph recognized that God was controlling events. Quite possibly, there was a lack of moisture from the sky, though other events may have influenced farmers' inability to grow grain those seven years (insects, for instance). God used that famine to protect and guide his children (Israel), moving them to Egypt where they flourished for the next 400 years.

So, you may think, "Snow is a valuable blessing but why would I want to put up with it? It's cold and it's slick." Yep, that it is! How can we appreciate the warmth of summer days without the contrasting cold? How can children — and adults — slide

gleefully down hills without the slickness? That's not even mentioning the hours spent building snow forts and snowmen, having snowball fights, playing fox-and-geese (anyone remember that game?), and snuggling back into bed when you hear "snow day" from the schools!

That's all fun, but the reason I love the snow so much is that it reminds me of God's love. "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." (Isaiah 1:18) All the ugliness in my life (my sins) are covered over by Jesus Christ's pure blameless life, death on the cross, and resurrection. Jesus himself is spoken of in the Bible in clothing "white as snow" (Transfiguration in Mark 9:3) and having hair "white as snow" (Revelation 1:14).

I pray you will enjoy the snow this winter (and I'm praying for lots of it!). Remember it's a recurring gift from God, and He gave His greatest Gift in the holiday we celebrated (in the snow this year!) at Christmas.

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Deadline For The March-April 2016 Issue Of The Colorado Granger Is February 15, 2016.

Tune In To Junior Grange

Daniel and Jenna Greer, State Directors
970-588-3386

1+ Program

To Build The Junior Grange

The 1+ Program allows your Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time. These individual members become the core group to build a chartered Junior Grange program. Many children have not had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Grange program because of the number of children required to charter a Junior Grange.

The 1+ Program allows children (age 5 to 14), the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. The children do not have a vote in the Grange, but are eligible to earn merit badges, participate in all Regional, State, and National programs, contests and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges.

For the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will:

- Appoint a Junior Grange Leader.
- Provide a meeting place.
- Provide financial assistance as necessary.
- Granges may dedicate specific fund raising projects for the Junior Grange program.
- Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual Junior Grange member(s) to report on their projects i.e. completing a Merit Badge requirement.
- Organize a chartered Junior Grange



when there are sufficient individual members to meet that requirement. The individual members shall automatically become members of the newly organized/reorganized Junior Grange.

The Obligation Ceremony for Individual Junior Grange membership – 1+ Program is included.

How will a subordinate Grange report on 1+ Junior members? Once a year you will submit a report form that indicates how many 1+ junior members your Grange has along with their dues which are \$1/year."

JG AWARDS

Following are the winners of each category for Junior Grangers.

Art – Water Color 5 to 9

- 1st - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Brianna Greer, Marvel

Art – Other Mediums 5 to 9

- 1st - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Billy Greer, Marvel

- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel

Photography – Scenes 5 to 9

- 1st - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Nathen Greer, Marvel

Photography – Animals 5 to 9

- 1st - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Brianna Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel

Photography - People 5 to 9

- 1st - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Brianna Greer, Marvel

Holiday Decorations 5 to 9

- 1st - Ryan St. Aubin, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Gavin Doughtary, Marvel
- 3rd - Nathen Greer, Marvel

Recycled Craft 5 to 9

- 1st - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Ryan St Aubin, Wheat Ridge
- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel

Nature Craft 5 to 9

- 1st - Ryan St. Aubin, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Isaac Greer, Marvel

Textiles 5 to 9

- 1st - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Brianna Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Brianna Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Nathen Greer, Marvel

Miscellaneous 5 to 9

- 1st - Brianna Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Gavin Doughtary, Marvel

Special Gifts 5 to 9

- 1st - Billy Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Isaac Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Brianna Greer, Marvel

Creative Writing 5 to 9

- 1st - Brianna Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Zion Simmons, Mt. Allison

Creative Writing 8 to 10

- 1st - Nina Luellen-sipes, ElPaso
- 2nd - Billy Greer, Marvel

Creative Art - Theme 7 & under

- 1st - Ryan St Aubin, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Karly Eidenschenk, Marvel

Creative Art 8 to 10

- 1st - Isaac Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Billy Greer, Marvel

Cookies 5 to 9

- 1st - Nathen Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Brianna Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Billy Greer, Marvel

Art – Water Color 10 to 14

- 2nd - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison

Art – Other mediums 10 to 14

- 1st - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison
- 2nd - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison

Photography – Animals 10 to 14

- 1st - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison
- 2nd - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison
- 3rd - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison

Holiday Decorations 10 to 14

- 1st - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison
- 2nd - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison
- 3rd - Caitlyn Chapman, Mt. Allison

Recycled Craft 10 to 14

- 1st - Daniella Duncan, Florissant
- 2nd - Harold Singleton, Wheat Ridge
- 3rd - Tyler Lopez, Wheat Ridge

Special Gifts 10 to 14

- 1st - Harold Singleton, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Harold Singleton, Wheat Ridge

Miscellaneous 10 to 14

- 1st - Harold Singleton, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Harold Singleton, Wheat Ridge

Art - 4 & Under

- 1st - Cayden Simmons, Mt. Allison
- 2nd - Alex St. Aubin, Wheat Ridge
- 3rd - Alex St. Aubin, Wheat Ridge

Holiday Decorations 4 & Under

- 1st - Alex St. Aubin, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Jacob Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Cayden Simons, Mt. Allison

Recycled Craft 4 & Under

- 1st - Jacob Greer, Marvel
- 1st - Jace Jacobs, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Cayden Simons, Mt. Allison
- 3rd - Emmett Greer, Marvel

Nature Craft 4 & Under

- 1st - Emmett Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Jacob Greer, Marvel
- 3rd - Cayden Simons, Mt. Allison

Textiles 4 & Under

- 1st - Jacob Greer, Marvel
- 2nd - Emmett Greer, Marvel

Miscellaneous 4 & Under

- 1st - Jace Jacobs, Wheat Ridge
- 2nd - Jace Jacobs, Wheat Ridge
- 3rd - Jace Jacobs, Wheat Ridge
- 3rd - Jacob Greer, Marvel

Real Estate Management

Mike Lackey, State Director
303-521-8773

Email: thelackeyteam@gmail.com



Has your insurance company left you high and dry on your Grange building? It has affected us all. Due to this "crisis," I have searched for a solution for us. We have found Bob Clouse Insurance Services. They are a company not tied to one insurance company and they specialize in insuring Grange buildings. They search the marketplace for the best insurance to fit your specific needs and then propose to you the best solution for your Grange.

All of the participants in the agency are long-term Grangers. Our contact is Martha Stefanoni. She and her late

husband were keys in the Youth program in California. Both Martha and Tom were California Outstanding Couple of the year in 1988. Martha is a former First Lady of the California State Grange. Today, Martha is an active member of the Grange and has been a licensed insurance agent for 30 years.

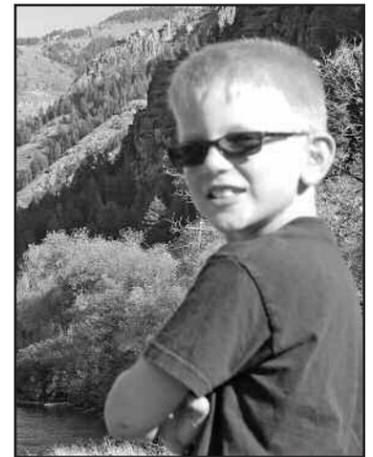
Please contact Martha and she can help you with your Grange building insurance needs. Her toll free number is 844-472-6431. Let me know how they have helped you. Contact me at 303-521-8773 or email me at thelackeyteam@gmail.com.

Mandy Project Recipient

Justin Elliot

Justin Elliot is eight years old. He was born with moderate, bilateral hearing loss and has worn hearing aids since he was three months old. There is no known cause for his hearing loss. The explanation received for Justin and an older brother is that the cilia in their ears never fully developed. Justin attends Foothills Elementary School in Colorado Springs.

Justin receives services from the school district's teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing on a weekly basis and he sees the district audiologist as needed for hearing tests and fitting of ear molds. He also works with Foothills Elementary speech and language teacher twice a week. He is able to use the district's FM system in the classrooms during the day. The family's goal is to continue this treatment and work together with the school to improve his speech. Their goal is to pre-



Justin Elliot, Mandy Recipient

empt circumstances proactively with hearing aids. The Colorado State Grange awarded the family \$1,000 to help with the cost of the hearing aids purchased through Children's Hospital which cost a little over \$6,000.

Agriculture

David H. McCord and John Hagen, State Co-Directors
David • 303-388-1259 • Email: dmccord60@earthlink.net
John • 970-381-2891 • Email: hagenj45@yahoo.com

Highlights of the December 4, 2015, fall meeting of the Colorado Ag Council.

The Grange has long been a member of the Colorado Ag Council beginning with the great efforts initiated by Jeanne Davies. From the organizational doctrine:

"The Colorado Ag Council is a structured entity of statewide agricultural organizations that represent and serve Colorado's agricultural producers. The Colorado Ag Council acts as a forum for discussion and review of issues currently being considered by its member organizations."

Members also include Conservation Districts, Cattlemen, Cooperative Council, Dairy Farmers, Elk Breeders, Horse Council, Onion Growers, Wool Growers, Food Industry, Aquaculture, Wheat Growers, Cattle Women, Corn Growers, Egg Producers, Farm Bureau, Livestock, Pork Producers, Sugar beet Growers, Green Industries, Farmers Union, Fruit and Vegetable Growers, Potato Administration Areas II and III, Rocky Ford Growers, Agribusiness. Non-voting and ex-officio members: Catlin Augmentation, Apples, Dog Clubs, REA, Veterinary Medical, Weed Management, Tri-State Generation, Colorado Chefs, Governor's Water Advisor, Ag Education, Ag Leadership, Foundation for Agriculture, FFA Association, FFA Foundation, Colorado State University and Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Largely active during each state legislative session the Ag Council provides a forum for ag industry executives and lobbyists to meet with elected legislators to review current and coming issues.

Below are notes from the fall meeting.

1. Department of Ag Commissioner Don Brown:

A major item now is with the not allowed herbicides contaminants found in certain marijuana products.

The Department is developing a list of herbicides that cannot be applied. The challenge is the public sees banned pesticides in the headlines and the result is a splash over to the rest of agriculture — to the public, "pesticide" equates to poison.

The new State Fair General Manager is Sarah Cummings. She is from Sonoma, California, where her family was engaged in cattle and oyster farming and she managed the fair there. The Fair Manager hosts an annual luncheon for all agricultural groups at the beginning of each State Fair.

2. The Ag Council is concerned that the USFS and BLM land managers in Colorado do not understand grazing needs and agricultural uses of the lands they administer. A letter of support to gain understanding will be sent from the Ag Council chair. Likewise, rural county commissioners will be encouraged to be involved with their local federal land managers.

3. Western States alliances — Gov. Hickenlooper is fond of alliances and has signed with Arizona, Wyoming and others. A current issue is the proposed introduction of Mexican Gray Wolves into Arizona south of I-40. The Ag Council opposes this. The wolves will migrate (as we have seen with those introduced in Yellowstone — their offspring now have reached Oregon, Idaho, and Northern California).

4. The Ag Council and Legislative breakfast meet and greet is Wednesday, January 20 following 7 a.m. Alert your legislators to attend.

5. The Ag Day at the Capital Sponsored by the Ag Council is Wednesday, March 16. Twelve chefs are signed up so far. Please encourage your legislators to join one of the cooking teams helping serve and working with the chef on the menu and food selection. The intent this year is to get more urban legislators on the chef teams. Ag Day is a popular and major event (Continued on Page 8)

Colorado Grange Museum

Karen Baron, President of Museum Board
Home: 720-223-8177 • Cell: 970-481-7089
Email: briankaren_baron@comcast.net

There is still research going on as to how or where to move the museum. The board is investigating any and all places that we hear about. In addition to the move we are looking into putting smaller displays in other museums. There are several potential sites but have yet to make any decisions on where or what to display. I am encouraged by the response I am getting while talking to different people. I know this is vague, but will announce any and all action when it happens. Look for updates announced in the Granger.

In January we have the opportunity to get all copies of the Granger in the museum put on microfilm. I have been in touch with the Denver Public Library and there is a program to do this at no cost to the museum.

Also the board is going to put out a survey to all Granges after the first of the year. Please fill it out and get it back to us as soon as possible. The survey will come out over the Internet so please take it to your meetings and get response from all members of your Grange.

You can contact me at briankaren_baron@comcast.net or call at 970-481-7089.

Membership

Roger Ayers,
State Director
970-385-4557

Email: Reayers@icloud.com



Hello! Let me introduce myself: Roger Ayers, member of Marvel Grange. I've served as Colorado State Grange steward, executive committee member and was elected to serve as assistant steward this year. Colorado State Master Cindy Greer asked if I would be the Membership Director this year, and I said, "I'd be delighted."

First, a big thank you to Marlys Halbeisen for her service as membership director the last seven years. She has had many great ideas and pro-

grams to help build membership.

I traveled to National Grange in Lincoln, Nebraska, this year and went to the membership workshop held by Leadership/Membership Director Joseph Stefanoni. He pointed out that National Grange had a net loss in membership last year but it was only a small loss as compared to previous years. The point is that the tide is turning. He has issued a challenge to each local Grange to get five new members this year. In order to meet this challenge this year in Colorado, the membership program will be designed to recognize the Granges that meet this challenge. Please see the Handbook for details.

While at National Session I met with Dominick Breton who is very active in Westminster Grange. Westminster is working hard to connect with their community and they have many community events at the Grange. Dominick tries to have membership info available at all these events. As we connect with our community, let's not miss an opportunity to talk about Grange and Grange membership. Dominick offered to help me with membership this year. Thank you, Dominick!

Grangers, membership matters! Please ask someone to join. You can make a difference.

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You Are Invited

The following are Subordinate Grange activities you are invited to.

January 18 – Chili Cook-Off, Talent, Dessert Auction at Marvel Grange, 6 p.m. Contact Cindy Greer, Information Chairman, 970-588-3386.

February 8 – Potluck at Wheat Ridge Grange, Bunco to follow, 12 p.m. Contact Charlene Porter at 720-464-7161.

February 13 – Valentine Dance at the Golden Gate Grange, 7 p.m. Contact Rich Phillips at 303-277-1933.

February 13 – High Tea at Enterprise Grange, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Contact Mike Lackey, 303-521-8773, for further information.

February 13 – Jam Session at Marvel Grange, 6 to 10 p.m. Contact Cindy Greer, Information Chairman, 970-588-3386.

February 14 – Valentine Brunch at the Florissant Grange, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact Ed Oppermann at 719-748-5004.

February 14 – Pancake Breakfast at the Golden Gate Grange, 8 to 10:30 a.m. Contact Rich Phillips at 303-277-1933.

February 20 – Community Luau at Marvel Grange, 6 p.m. Contact Cindy Greer, Information Chairman, 970-588-3386.

February 24 – Potluck and a Movie at the Wheat Ridge Grange, 6:30 p.m. Contact Charlene Porter at 720-464-7161.

March 13 – Pancake Breakfast at the Golden Gate Grange, 8 to 10 a.m. Contact Rich Phillips at 303-277-1933.

March 14 – Potluck with Bunco to follow at Wheat Ridge Grange, 12 p.m. Contact Charlene Porter at 720-464-7161.

March 17 – Mystery Dinner (Youth) at the Wheat Ridge Grange, 6:30 p.m. Contact Charlene Porter at 720-464-7161.

March 30 – Potluck and Movie at the Wheat Ridge Grange, 6:30 p.m. Contact Charlene Porter at 720-464-7161.

La Plata

Archuleta and La Plata Counties, CO and San Juan County, NM

Mt. Allison

Contact Larry Corman, Larry_Corman@hotmail.com, for further information.

January 18 – Monthly meeting (and dues paying) @ Grange Hall.

February 6 – Pine River Canal Company annual meeting @ Grange Hall.

April 16 – Ignacio Health Fair @ Ignacio High School (new location!!).

As I write this article, I am so thankful for a roof over my head on this cold, wintry day. I don't like those days when the temperature has a minus sign in front of the number.

We've had a busy Grange Hall the past few weeks. The last Saturday in November we had the pleasure to host Emma Shock's 90th birthday celebration. I've only been a Grange member for a bit over 30 years but in all of my years, I have never seen the Hall packed this full. And, my prayer is that if I reach that illustrious birthday number, I will have half the energy of Emma. She amazes us — the Senior Energizer Bunny! And, she's way past the Golden Sheaf age . . . 70+ years as a Grange member.

We kicked off December with our annual Christmas breakfast for the community. Last year we had a minimal number but this year we ended up having to do food runs to keep up



Annual Christmas breakfast for the community at Mt. Allison.

with the 85+ attendees. We served up slab bacon and sausage (4-H meat that was from a pig donated by Basin Co-op), eggs, pancakes, the world-famous (at least Allison famous) biscuits and gravy of James Sutton, and tater tots. The attendees were very generous in their canned goods donations — we had a table filled with boxes and cans of food.

We pray that all of the Grangers enjoyed their Christmas and New Year's. May 2016 bring you many blessings.

Larry Corman

Marvel

Contact Cindy Greer, 970-588-3386 or hcrdreer@frontier.net, for further information.

January 9 – Jam Session, 6 to 10 p.m.

January 18 – Chili Cook-off,



Canned goods donated by Christmas breakfast attendees at Mt. Allison.

school age or older. Refreshments are provided by the Grange. Performers sign up at 3:45 p.m. and the show runs from 4 to 6 p.m. Performers and listeners are invited! Our Dec. 6 event was attended by 17 people, including the six performing acts.

Used Book Sale — The next Left Hand Grange used book sale will be held on Friday evening February 5, and Saturday, February 6. Proceeds are used for building maintenance and other various Grange expenses.

Grange member Christine Washington continues her successful monthly series "Knitting at the Grange" on Sundays from 1-3 p.m. Please come and crochet or knit. It is open to beginners and all ages and genders are welcome. The next event is January 17. Contact Christine with any questions at 303-718-6246 or chrisw6049@gmail.com.

Left Hand Grange #9 sponsors both Cub Scout Pack 161 and Boy Scout Troop 161, and recently renewed their charters for 2016. On December 14, at the Grange Hall, the Cub Scouts celebrated their 50th Anniversary and the Boy Scouts their 55th Anniversary. Also, Eagle Scout candidate Drew Heidemann recently installed an automated project screen with remote control in the upstairs meeting hall at the Grange for his Eagle Scout project.

Bruce Johnson



Eagle Scout candidate Drew Heidemann in front of his Eagle Scout project at Left Hand Grange Hall.

Working

Adams, Morgan and Weld Counties

Green Valley

Contact Karen Baron, 720-223-8177 or 970-481-7089; briankaren_baron@comcast.net, for further information.

February 1 – Meeting at 12 p.m., location to be announced.

March 7 – Meeting at 12 p.m., location to be announced.

April 4 – Meeting at 12 p.m., location to be announced.

We have changed our meeting day. Several of our members agreed that Mondays worked better for them and it did not interfere with the rest of the members so it was changed. We now meet the first Monday of the month. In December we had our Christmas party with 11 in attendance. The Grange supplied the lunch and we all had fun with our crazy white elephant gift exchange. We welcomed two new members, Becky Riley and De Eckles. Both ladies are enthusiastic and a lot of fun. It was great to have so many members there. The Grange had our second annual coffee bar at the Holly Daze craft fair in October as we did last year and recruited our new members from that event.

Karen Baron

Ute Mountain

Dolores and Montezuma Counties

Mount Lookout

Contact Carol van der Harten, Shearts@q.com or 970-533-9955, for further information.

December 17 – Officers Meeting, 6 p.m.

January 4 – General Membership Meeting, 7 p.m.

January 10 – Community Supper, 5:30 p.m.

January 21 – Officers Meeting, 6 p.m.

February 7 – General Membership Meeting, 7 p.m.

February 14 – Community Supper.

At our December general membership meeting we learned from the Mancos Historical Society president, Linda Simmons, about a fascinating project which is a result of cooperation between the Mancos High School and the Mancos Historical Society. Students are offered an elective for credit to research and write about the history of people, places, events and institutions, etc. in the Mancos Valley and surrounding areas. This research

Granger Deadline And Guidelines

February 15, 2016 is the deadline for articles for the March-April 2016 edition of *The Colorado Granger*. You can send them to the State Grange Office, 2009 CR 31, Florissant, CO 80816 or email costategrange@gmail.com.

We would appreciate your following these guidelines when writing an article.
Name of Grange
Contact person (with a phone number)
Upcoming dates
Brief summary of what has been happening at your Grange — DO NOT SEND MINUTES

The New Year's Eve party theme was "Follow the Yellow Brick Road New Year's." It was a *Wizard of Oz* theme with hay and straw as the main course (noodles, ham and peas), with Munchkin salad, Tin Man's heart biscuits, Emerald City punch, and Lion's dream dessert. We didn't leave Toto out as we had puppy chow for snacks and some bananas for the monkeys. Door prizes provided by local businesses were given out and everyone enjoyed playing table games following dinner.

Jam sessions have been moved to the second Saturday to see if that will reduce conflicts and help attendance.

We learned that Pyrex celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2015. And since we met on December 4 we sang Happy Birthday to the Grange.

A committee was established to investigate Insurance for the building, as we need to find a new company when our current insurance is due in January. We also applied to the State Grange for a grant for the domestic water project that will be coming to us in 2016.

Cindy Greer

Marvel JGs

Contact: Cindy Greer, Leader or Jenna Greer, Leader 970-588-3386 P O Box 234, 22551 Pleasant Park Road, Conifer, CO 80433.

January 11 – Meeting after school.

February 8 – Meeting after school.

Marvel Junior Grange would like to congratulate Karly Eidenschink for receiving a \$50 award from the National Grange for her theme art project and Isaac Greer for receiving participation and a certificate in the theme art project.

We did not meet in November. December 14 we made Christmas decorations, decorated the Grange Christmas tree and the hall and opened gifts. We also received some jump ropes that our leader brought home from National so that we can all exercise more. Some members began jumping rope to see how many jumps in a row they could accomplish.

Cindy Greer

includes interviews as well as historical written documentation. The Historical Society hopes to use the results of the research in a future museum and possibly publications.

The Grange participated in the first annual Mancos Festival of Trees in our local park. Area businesses and organizations were invited to decorate a tree to be on display from December 4th until after the New Year. The Mount Lookout Grange was represented by a well-lit and colorful tree bearing ornaments with our Grange logo and bird seed encrusted pine cones.

The Grange Hall was put to good use during the second half of December as a collection and distribution center for gifts donated to local families from the "Giving Tree Project." December at the Grange also hosted a festive holiday community dinner, complete with roast turkey.

The Grange continues to provide a cozy and comfortable space for Acoustic jam sessions as well as various workshops and community meetings and events.

Mount Lookout Grange #339 wishes all of you a happy and prosperous new year.

Carol van der Harten

Boulder County

Boulder County

Left Hand

Contact Bruce Johnson 720-301-6367 or johnson.blj@comcast.net for further information.

January 10 – Open Stage, 4-6 p.m., music at the Grange.

January 17 – Knitting at the Grange, 1-3 p.m.

January 20 – Business Meeting at 6 p.m.

February 5 – Used Book Sale, 5-8 p.m.

February 6 – Used Book Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

February 10 – Business Meeting at 6 p.m.

February 14 – Open Stage, 4-6 p.m., music at the Grange.

February 21 – Knitting at the Grange, 1-3 p.m.

March 9 – Business Meeting at 6 p.m.

March 13 – Open Stage, 4-6 p.m., music at the Grange.

Music Open Stage — Our monthly Sunday music Open Stages are continuing into 2016, and will run through April. These events are hosted by Bruce and Marcia Johnson. All musical styles are welcome: folk, country, bluegrass, blues, jazz, pop, light rock. Performers must be high



Lise Blumenthal performing classical guitar at December 6 Open Stage.

Visit the
Colorado State Grange
website at
www.coloradogranger.org

Darden
Jefferson County

Contact Idella Lewis, idellamlewis@gmail.com, 303-233-3393, for further information.

February 6, 2016 – Darden Pomona meets at Wheat Ridge Grange, 4 p.m. Meeting; 5 p.m. Potluck; with Hobby Night to follow. Bring a hobby to share with everyone!

Darden Pomona Grange met at Enterprise Grange Dec. 5. \$50 from each Grange was donated to Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church for their food bank.

Marlys Halbeisen reported on the national convention held in Lincoln. Thank you to all who donated items for the hospitality room at the National Convention in Lincoln. There was an abundance of treats to share with everyone.

Following the meeting a delicious Christmas potluck was held. The tables were decorated in festive decor and it was truly a Christmas feast with all of the food that we had! Guests for the evening were families with children from The Carin' Clinic which helps underserved families.

Following the Christmas dinner the annual Christmas party was held upstairs. Entertainment was provided by the tap dancing ladies, under the direction of Eileen Figliolino, a piano solo, and several Christmas carols were sung. Santa was the main attraction, hearing Christmas wishes and presenting the children with a sack of candy, warm winter hat, and a stuffed animal. Then a pinata was broken and more candy spilled out for them.

Thank you to Enterprise Grange for hosting a joint Christmas party with Darden Pomona Grange. A good time was had by all! Best wishes in the New Year!

Idella Lewis

Enterprise

Contact Mike Lackey, 303-521-8773, for further information.

January 13 – Potluck at 6:30 p.m. Potluck will be a Hobo Theme. Come dressed as a Hobo. A hobo is a migratory worker or homeless vagabond — especially one who is penniless. Unlike “tramps,” who work only when they are forced to, and “bums,” who do not work at all, “hobos” are traveling workers. Our meal will include Hobo Stew and any of the fixin’ you believe hobos eat. **Leonard Dannels will speak about the History of the hobos. Business Meeting to follow.**

February 9 – Potluck at 6:30 p.m. Travel Program by “The Barker Family.” Business meeting to follow to discuss High Tea.

February 13 – High Tea at the Enterprise Grange Hall starting at 2 p.m. Tickets will be \$15 per person. (Please purchase no later than Thursday, February 11, 2016, for our planning purposes.) Tickets will be sold at the door for \$18 per person.

Purchase tickets from any current Enterprise Grange member or for further information call or e-mail: Carol Lackey at 303-521-4477 carollackey@att.net; or Dorothy Dannels at 303-921-7849. The High Tea is our fundraiser for special causes (yet to be determined for 2016).

March 18 – Potluck at 6:30 p.m. Program will be about Model Airplanes and Drones. Business Meeting to follow.

We had turkey and ALL the trimmings this year at our Thanksgiving Potluck. Mike Lackey also entertained us with a Thanksgiving trivia contest.

We had at Our Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner Potluck and celebration in conjunction with the Pomona Christmas Party this year. The Carin' Clinic brought six families that are having hardships during this holiday season.

Miss Eileen Figliolino's dance troupe did a tap dance to Christmas music, Master Mike Lackey did a reading of “The Night Before Christmas” and Mary Staghose played several Christmas Carols. Then right before Santa arrived, we had a sing-along with piano accompaniment by

Andrea Broomhall.

Santa finally arrived. Santa (Everett Meredith), had a gift of hats or Teddy Bears for each of the children. The grand finale was a piñata. The children loved it but some of us thought it got a little wild. I guess that's what can happen when you put children and a bat together! Everyone who came received a leaving bag of goodies on their way out. Thank you to everyone for the wonderful entertainment and joining us for our holiday party.

We successfully filled 150 Christmas stockings for seniors this year. Thank you to all who donated items and helped fill the stockings. We completed everything the afternoon of November 21 and the church picked them up for delivery to the seniors. Including all organizations, there were 2,000 seniors I'm sure will have a happier holiday season this year.

Merry Wyman, our Community Service Director, also had a special need this year. Monthly, Merry takes a meal to Brandon Place, a refuge home for homeless women. Throughout the year the Grange helped with providing food for those meals. Under Merry's guidance, we also helped to fill 25 bags (the total amount of residents in the home) with special items needed by the women to be presented to them as Christmas presents. Merry delivered the bags and the Christmas meal to them on Monday, December 14.

Lisa Cole also has a special project she participates in with Family Tree. The Family Tree provides innovative, life-changing services designed to end child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness. She puts together 30 to 35 boxes for teenagers who have become head of households due to the above circumstances. The Grange donated animal character winter hats to her project.

We have also adopted three families this year for Christmas. The Carin' Clinic has identified families that make too much for social services and too little to have extras for their children during the holidays. We are providing them with their Christmas meals and gifts for each of the family members. Hopefully, we can add a little less stress to these families during this joyous season.

We welcome all Grangers and friends to any and all of our activities and look forward to your attendance. Mike Lackey

Maple Grove

Contact Idella Lewis, idellamlewis@gmail.com, 303-233-3393, for further information.

Maple Grove Grange met in November. Thank you letters were read from Pleasant View and Kullerstrand Elementary to the dictionaries that were presented to them in October.

Elaine Kolstad was appointed as the new Chaplain and Bill Lane as Gatekeeper this year.

We were sad to lose our past member Frances Coven who passed away in November.

The Annual Christmas party was held December 10. Following the potluck dinner a gift exchange was held around the beautifully decorated Christmas tree. Everyone went home with their own special gift, even though there was some “stealing” of gifts!

Wishing everyone a joyous year in 2016!

Idella Lewis

Wheat Ridge

Contact Charlene Porter, 720-434-7161, for further information.

January 7 – Business Meeting 6:30 p.m., no potluck.

January 11 – Game Day Potluck 12 p.m., Bunco to follow.

January 21 – Chili and Soup Cook-off.

January 27 – Potluck and Movie. February 4 – Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.

February 6 – Darden Pomona meeting 4 p.m.

February 8 – Potluck 12 p.m., Bunco to follow.

February 18 – Potluck 6:30 p.m.



Wheat Ridge TRUNK or TREAT.



Wheat Ridge Christmas party.

February 24 – Potluck and Movie 6:30 p.m.

March 3 – Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.

March 14 – Potluck 12 p.m., Bunco to follow.

March 17 – Mystery Dinner (Youth) 6:30 p.m.

March 30 – Potluck and Movie 6:30 p.m.

Wheat Ridge Grange has been very busy these past few months. We had two major events in October: We participated in the city TRUNK or TREAT and we decorated a trunk and handed out over 2,000 pieces of candy on October 24; on October 29 we held a Halloween party and 50 people attended.

Dec. 5 was city tree lighting on the school grounds across the street from the hall. At the Grange Hall we had hot cocoa and hot cookies. We had as many as 1,000 people in and out during the event. We had kids games, arts and crafts, and local art booths. On Dec. 14 game day was held and our Christmas party was on Dec 17.

Charlene Porter

Pleasant Park

Contact Yvonne Ludwig, Master, 303-838-4805, P.O. Box 234, 22551 Pleasant Park Rd., Conifer, CO 80433, for information.

February 13 – Regular meeting 10 a.m., followed by Potluck.

March 12 – Regular meeting 10 a.m., followed by Potluck.

April 9 – Regular meeting 10 a.m., followed by Potluck.

Jim Helker was the Grand Marshall at the Annual Conifer Christmas Parade and festivities on December 5. We shared a booth with the Salvation Army. The exposure and networking was important as we are trying to get new members and grow our Grange. Parade attendance was small because of snow and the chilly winter weather.

Our annual Christmas Party was after the meeting on December 12. Several members attended in spite of the snowstorm and the newly elected officers were installed.

Check us out on Facebook. One of our goals for 2016 is to utilize social



Pleasant Park Master Yvonne Ludwig, Secretary Sharon Bonomo, Executive Committee members Jan Rosales and Sharon Minick, and Treasurer Donna Beck.



Wheat Ridge Hot Cocoa and Hot Cookies get-together.



Heather and Liberty Kuhns with wreaths and crafts from Golden Gate Grange.

media and benefit from all the perks it has to offer.

We are looking forward to a happy and productive year ahead. Everyone is invited to come and join us at any of our meetings: Our Lecturer has more interesting speakers scheduled.

The Pleasant Park Grange Hall continues to be a busy place hosting meetings and special events. All Grange members can use the facility for a donation. Contact Sharon Bonomo at 303-838-2394 if you want to plan an event at our Grange Hall.

Yvonne Ludwig

Golden Gate

Contact Master Rich Phillips, 303-277-1933, or Jayne Ruesch, 303-215-9257, for further information.

January 7 – Monthly Meeting, 3 p.m.

January 10 – Pancake Breakfast, 8 to 10:30 a.m.

February 4 – Monthly Meeting, 3 p.m.

February 13 – Valentine's Dance, 7 p.m.

February 14 – Pancake Breakfast, 8 to 10:30 a.m.

March 3 – Monthly Meeting, 3 p.m.

March 13 – Pancake Breakfast,



Pleasant Park sleigh ride.



Jeannie Hostetler proudly displays a wreath she made at Golden Gate.

8 to 10 a.m.

Mondays at 1:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. – Yoga.

The Family Halloween Party was a great success. Thanks to Roger Potuzak for loaning us his wonderful and spooky decorations! Janet and Dave Primmer did the lion's share of transporting the decorations, setting them up and returning them to Roger. They deserve a big round of applause! Thank to Kristin Davis and Kay Fulford for creating our outdoor display and braving the freezing outdoor temperatures during the event. We couldn't have done it without the help of many other Grange members who helped with decorating, baking cookies and cakes, and all those who attended! Thanks to all.

Pancake Breakfasts have resumed. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and coffee will get your day started off right! Pancake Breakfasts are held on the second Sunday of the month from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The annual Wreath Making and Kids' Holiday Crafts was well attended in spite of a nasty snowstorm. The wreaths made from local greenery were beautiful and each one was unique. This event was followed by a Toy Drive and wrapping party for the Children in Jefferson County Foster Care. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Grange members and other Golden Gate Canyon residents. Thanks to Janet Primmer for organizing this event.

Our Valentine's Dance is scheduled for February 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. This community event with refreshments and the live band, Magic Memories, has grown in popularity each year. Come for the dancing, stay for the door prize! Tickets are \$10 per person if bought in advance or \$12.50 at the door. For more information call Terri Costeldia 303-277-1933 or Phoebe Reese 303-277-1742.

Website: www.goldengategrange.com; Like us on our Facebook page – Golden Gate Canyon Community. Rich Phillips

Pikes Peak
El Paso and Teller Counties

Florissant

Contact Ed Oppermann, 719-748-5559, tibber75@netzero.com, for further information.

January 8, 9 – Friends of the NRA Board Meeting and Grant distribution. The Florissant Grange will be hosting this event, serving breakfast and lunch.

January 30 – Indoor Swap Meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join us to sell your treasures.

February 14 – Valentine’s Day Brunch. Let’s celebrate Valentine’s Day by enjoying brunch at the Florissant Grange. Your choice of oven baked bacon, scrambled eggs, hash browns, biscuits and gravy with homemade sausage, orange juice, coffee tea and cocoa. Have a little or have a lot, all for your donation to the Florissant Grange. (Suggested donation is \$7.) We will be serving from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

November 25 we served Free Thanksgiving Dinner to our community. It is our way of saying thank you to all those who support our Grange and all those who may not be able to enjoy a Thanksgiving Dinner otherwise. We served approximately 150+ community members a complete Thanksgiving Dinner including turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, cranberries, pumpkin, cherry, apple and mixed berry pies and much more.

December 12 Santa and Mrs. Claus visited the Florissant Grange with goodies and fun for all the community children. The weather was very Christmas-like with snow flurries all day, but that did not stop the kiddos from coming to see Santa and put in their wish for Christmas.

December 19 we had the “Last Minute Christmas Craft Show and Sale” where shopping for those last minute “one of a kind” special gifts was possible. Crafters, vendors and vintage items were on hand, along with a bake sale to benefit the Florissant Grange.

We hope you have a very Blessed Christmas and New Year.
Ed Oppermann



Community getting Free Thanksgiving Dinner at the Florissant Grange.



Community enjoying Thanksgiving dinner.



Jammers providing music at the Florissant Grange Thanksgiving Dinner.



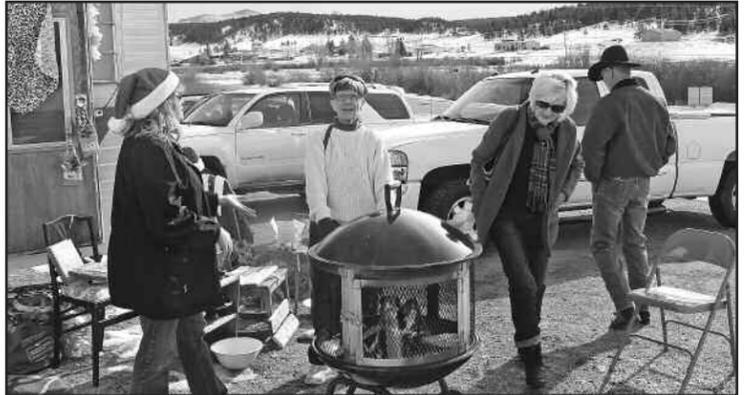
Grangers ready for the Christmas Party, Santa and Mrs. Claus (Tom and Dianna Mnich), Jeanette Zupancic, Regina Sollars, Janette Oppermann, Ed Opperman and Don Sollars.



The children enjoy a craft activity at the Christmas Party.



Longtime Granger Betty Thomas and Shavano at the Christmas Party.



Last Minute Christmas Craft Show and Sale at Florissant Grange.



Florissant Grangers putting Christmas Boxes together to give to families in need this Christmas.

Agriculture

(Continued from Page 4)

with the Senators and Representatives and staff with 500 people being served. In recognition of the importance of food the Ag Council members raised \$168,000 donated to the Food Bank of the Rockies on the 2015 Ag Day.

6. The Governor's Forum on Agriculture is Thursday, February 18, 2016, at the Renaissance Hotel, on Quebec in Denver and the FFA Colorado Ag Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is that evening.

7. "Building a Better Colorado" — addressing what kind of government do we want? Includes 2024 budget crisis forecast and what can be done. This is a strongly bipartisan effort created by Dan Ritchie, former chancellor at the University of Denver. Reeves Brown outlined specific issues to the Ag Council:

- Problems with our election process. Note the few voters and low turnout, trend to unaffiliated (these cannot participate in primaries), Democrats and Republicans are becoming minority parties. We no longer have a presidential primary.

- Fiscal process. Is not sustainable and we will hit a fiscal wall in 10 years when ALL of our state general fund will be taken up with meeting needs for K-12 education, health and human services, and corrections. NO money will be available for higher education, transportation infrastructure, and other services we expect from the state. The tax system is inflexible and increasingly ineffective.

- Amendments to our constitution. The constitution is cluttered, is too easy to amend with signatures then we vote versus working with the legislature but difficult to change down the road. About 105,000 signatures are now needed to place an item on the ballot.

- Decreasing ability of state government to meet expectations of Colorado's citizens. This is an effort to engage all citizens, not just the Front

Range's urban population. The focus is on the 2016 elections. There is no interest to undo the public's right to vote on tax increases (TABOR).

Local meetings are being held throughout the state. Please access their website to respond to one or more of the questionnaires seeking input on issues. <https://betterco.org/ssues/finances/index>

8. Rep Brown (by phone). He will support water storage on the So. Platte. He remains concerned about the number of bears in Colorado and conflicts with livestock. (A bill from 2015 led to a study of the issue by Parks and Wildlife.) He will run a bill on highways and transportation. He would like a referendum to put funds into highways. He advises to watch for legislation on the State Water Plan. No other Legislators were able to participate on the Council's fall meeting — all are traveling.

9. Initiative to move hospital care funding to a one-payer system. This will be on the 2016 ballot and is now making the news. Petitions were submitted. I am certain there will be a strong response from the entrenched medical interests. If hospital funding can be made an enterprise fund, it would be outside the strictures of TABOR allowing funding for other uses, especially transportation (yet still under TABOR).

10. Pinnacle — They are seeking to broaden their business beyond Colorado where they are limited by statute. Pinnacle cannot compete in providing worker's comp and related services as other companies have a multi-state reach and can compete in Colorado. This will mean a statutory change.

11. Agriculture water runoff from irrigation, feed lots and crops will be subject to the non-point source provisions of the Clean Water Act, Regulation 85. Ag is a minor part here but will require voluntary and cooperative effort to prevent regulatory mandates. This effort will parallel the cooperative effort to minimize air borne nitrogen pollution of the Rocky Mountain National Park where feed-

lots were identified as a source, largely from ammonia.

12. State mandate to vaccinate all dogs and cats for rabies prevention. Previously, vaccination was via local decision by each county but now rabies has been found in skunks in addition to bats and a statewide control is under way. The challenge: how do you catch all barn cats some of which are wild? The risk to livestock comes where an infected skunk bites a horse or cow.

13. Other topics:

- Governor's climate plan — largely concerns oil and gas industry. The City of Denver is working on climate change.

- GMOs on private land, Boulder has a prohibition on county open space land used for crops. Private lands may be affected.

- NE Colorado water, management of aquifers to make them last as long as possible, Republican River rights to Nebraska and closure and draining of Bonney Reservoir. If deep wells are shut down, agriculture goes away.

- Mule deer bill — Back Country Hunters and Anglers propose allowing fishing and hunting on certain State School lands, would mean revenue loss to school funding.

- Illegal marijuana growers divert stream water without rights to the water; Rep Vigil will sponsor a bill.

- The Ag Council's organizational doctrine was revised: Prospective members are asked to submit an application letter. To remain in good standing, an organization must attend at least one meeting a year. The immediate past chair will now have one vote on the executive committee. A quorum is 1/3rd of the members. Actions must be authorized by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members (an email vote will suffice within 48 hours for producer members not present).

John Hagen will provide information about legislation, events, and ideas that affect Colorado agriculture. He is a third generation wheat farmer and a longtime Granger. Welcome to 2016!

Information From GIA

Water Damage Claims

by Ryan M. Dudley,
President & CEO of
Grange Insurance Association

I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season full of fun family activities. In this article I want to share information regarding three types of home insurance claims caused by water damage. This information was compiled by the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety,* based on water related claims from a multi-company study. Included in this information are some tips on how to prevent or reduce the severity of losses caused by the rupture of piping material, water heater failure and washing machine leaks. (See chart below.)

A review of ruptured pipe claims shows that homes 16 to 40 years of age represented the largest proportion of piping material failure. While frozen pipes resulted in more severe losses, failure of the piping material is the most frequent cause of loss. The best prevention for reducing frequency and severity of these losses is closely monitoring water bills for excess usage and visually inspecting wall, ceiling and floor areas for visible signs of moisture. This is especially true in areas such as basements and under sinks. Reduction of frozen pipe losses is best attained by properly insulating exposed pipes and removing hoses from outside faucet bibs.

The study on failed water heaters shows that 75 percent of the claims occurred on appliances that were less than 13 years old. There is a steady rise in the number of claims by age

group starting at age five with appliances with longer warranties lasting longer. Since a major reason for bursting or rupture of the tank is rust and corrosion, one method of reducing losses is to have a plumbing professional inspect the anode rod annually or semi-annually once the manufacturer's warranty expires. These rods can be replaced to increase the life of the appliance. Flushing your tank every six months will also aid in reducing the sediment that can lead to tank failure.

Washing machine related water losses were most commonly caused by leaking or the complete failure of the hoses connecting the appliance to the home water system. Proper installation combined with routine inspections of supply lines and areas around the appliance are the best ways to deter claims. It is recommended that supply lines be replaced every five years. Hoses with blisters, stress cracks or loose connections that cannot be tightened should be replaced immediately.

Observation and planned maintenance of the water supply system in your home can prevent insurance claims and the inconvenience that occurs with having costly repairs made. For more information on this topic or other risk hazards of home ownership please visit www.disastersafety.org

We, at Grange Insurance Association, are very pleased to serve the needs of all of our policyholders, and we hope that some of this information will be helpful in keeping your property safe and protected from potential loss.

Type of Water Loss	Ranking of all Water Related Causes of Loss	Average Loss Amount per Incident	Interesting Fact
Unexpected and Sudden rupture of pipes	Highest ranked water damage cause of loss	\$5,092 After Deductibles	65% of rupture was failure of material vs frozen pipes
Water Heating Failure	In the top 5 causes of loss	\$4,444 After Deductibles	The average age of a failed Hot Water heater is 10.7 years
Washing Machine Failure	In the top 10 causes of loss	\$5,308 After Deductibles	Average age of hose that caused loss was 8.7 years.

* Information used with permission

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