

## Outstanding Granger 2024

The Outstanding Granger award is presented to Grange members who have been nominated to receive the award. It has been several years since we have had a nomination for the award.

This year's nominee has been a Grange member for over 50 years. This year's nominee faithfully says "yes" when asked to volunteer each year. Rarely does she take a break for herself. She arrives early to assure that everything is in working order and all is prepared. She stays as long as needed. She can be relied on to see and forsee needs.

This person has been instrumental in making items for the Grange's raffle for many years and would rather work in the background than be in the spotlight. Our outstanding Granger is Karen Baxter.

Karen has made quilts for the Grange's raffle and for her church's prayer quilts project, as well as donated quilts to other organizations. Karen is the Co-Family Activities Director. She is the Assistant Children's Supervisor for Bible Study Fellowship in Durango, and works with the volunteers.

Karen was the first Matron of Mt. Allison Junior Grange when it was chartered in the 1970s. She always



**Outstanding Granger Karen Baxter receiving award from Gary Wardle.**

helps out at the La Plata Pomona Grange concession at the County Fair, during the fair and after the fair cleaning up. She has managed the Pomona Grange's exhibit day for Family activities many times.

We are delighted to honor Karen as Outstanding Granger for 2024.



**Quilt of Valor recipient Ralph Phelps, 92, with Cindy and Harry Greer.**

## Quilts Of Valor

Four Quilts of Valor were presented at the Final Banquet of the Colorado State Grange in Durango in September. Quilts were presented to:

Ralph Phelps, a member of Mt. Allison Grange #308, served in the Army during the Korean War from Feb 13, 1953-February 16, 1955, as a surgical technician. His rank was Corporal. Ralph is a 50-year member, he has served as Master of Mt. Allison Grange and was a state Deputy for the La Plata Pomona area.

Otis Sikes, a member of Lewis Grange and currently Master, was also in the Army. He served as a Sergeant for three years, one in Vietnam in the first infantry division.

Marcus Chapman is the son of

Steve and Yvonne Chapman of Mt. Allison Grange. Yvonne is currently Master of Mt. Allsion Grange. Marcus was in the Marines from September 2018 to November 2022. He was a Lance Corporal. Marcus is engaged to be married in the near future.

Dylan Simons is the son-in-law of



**Marcus Chapman with his Quilt of Valor, with Trish Corman, Karen Baxter, and Norma Conley.**

Larry and Trish Corman. Larry was recently elected Assistant Steward for the State Grange. Dylan was in the Navy as a Petty officer 2nd class. He was in active duty from 2007 to 2011 and in the Reserves from 2014 – 2017. He currently lives in San Antonio, Texas, with his wife Beth and four children.

## Upcoming Events

*Call individual Granges for more information.*

- Nov. 11

Florissant Meeting.
- Nov. 9

Pine Needle Basket Class, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Florissant Christmas Gourd Art Class at Florissant
- Nov. 12-16

National Grange Convention in Iowa.
- Nov. 13

Enterprise Grange — Thanksgiving Dinner, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 14

Golden Gate Grange — Meeting 3 p.m.
- Nov. 22

Enterprise Grange — Pre-Stocking Stuffing Day, 10 a.m.
- Nov. 22-  
Dec. 2

Golden Gate Grange — Jeffco CASA Giving Tree Holiday Gift Donations.
- Nov. 27

Florissant — Free Annual Thanksgiving Dinner.
- Nov. 30

Marvel Grange — Community Breakfast, 8 to 10 a.m.
- Nov. 30

Mt. Allison — Christmas Bazaar.
- Dec. 2

Enterprise Grange — Stocking Stuffing Day, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Dec. 6

Marvel Grange — Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7

Enterprise Grange — Santa Picture Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Dec. 7

Golden Gate Grange — Wreath Making, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Dec. 7

Tentative date for Community Christmas Breakfast.
- Dec. 7-8

Florissant Christmas Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the 7th, 12 to 3 p.m. on the 8th.
- Dec. 8

Sunflower DC – Farm Bureau Holiday Brunch Potluck.
- Dec. 9

Florissant Meeting.
- Dec. 14

Darden Pomona — Christmas Dinner and Santa at Enterprise, 5 to 8 p.m.
- Dec. 14

Sunflower — Sedalia Winterfest town celebration.
- Dec. 16

Mt. Allison — Business Meeting at 4:30 p.m.
- Dec. 20

Marvel Grange — Adventure to Cowboy Church Dinner and Show with Bar-D Wranglers.
- Dec. 31

Marvel Grange — New Year's Eve Party, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 3

Marvel Grange — Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 8

Enterprise Grange — Potluck, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 18

Marvel Grange — Chili Cook-off and Dessert Auction.
- Marvel Grange –

Line Dancing on Monday, 9-10 a.m.
- Golden Gate Grange – AA –

Every Tuesday, from 7 p.m.
- Golden Gate Grange – Yoga –

Wednesdays, from 3-4 p.m.
- Florissant – Gift Shop is Open

Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday weekly.
- Florissant – Every Thursday is

Community Potluck and Music.
- Sunflower – Third Thursdays —

Local History Book Club Meets at BMan's BBQ at 1 p.m.

## Colorado Granger OPTIONS form

How would you prefer to receive *The Colorado Granger*? Paper, email or not at all?

Please complete the form below and either mail it or email it to the Colorado State Grange *only if you have not responded before or if you would like to make a change.*

\_\_\_\_\_ I (We) prefer to receive an **emailed** copy.

\_\_\_\_\_ I (We) prefer to receive a **paper** copy.

\_\_\_\_\_ I (We) do not want to receive *The Colorado Granger*.

Your personal information (we want to be sure that we have your correct information)

Grange \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to Colorado State Grange, 7629 County Road 100, Hesperus, CO. 81326 or email the information to [costategrange@gmail.com](mailto:costategrange@gmail.com).



# Master's Message

**Gary Wardle, State Master**  
8606 Holman Circle, Arvada, CO 80005  
303-349-7390 • Email: cograngepresident@gmail.com



**2024 Annual Report of the President of Colorado State Grange**

Brothers and Sisters of the Colorado State Grange, fellow Officers and Directors, and National Grange Lecturer Tom Gwin.

Welcome to the 151st Annual Convention of the Colorado State Grange in Durango, Colorado. It is my honor to serve as the President of the Colorado State Grange for the past two years. I want to thank you all for your support and work for the Grange.

As we begin a new year, I hope you will continue to celebrate the 150 years of the Colorado State Grange. Thank you to all that had celebrations this past year. We need to make membership development a priority each year. Our community service projects could include cooperating with other organizations. Promote the events and have membership information available.

I am happy to report that we did not lose any Granges this past year. Again, this past year we had five Granges with a net gain in membership; good work. I am working with a group of new Grangers in Sterling, Colorado, to start a new Grange, Platte Valley Grange. I hope they will have 13 members soon so they can get a charter. This year the State Grange received a grant from the Rural Life Initiative to help host our booth at the Colorado State Fair. The grant provided funding to man the booth for eight days of the fair. The funding provided funds for lodging, food, travel, and monitors to show videos. Cindy and Harry manned the first four days of the fair and Kathy and I manned the last four days of the fair. The Rural Life Initiative provided a video and printed information to hand out at the fair. We also showed the video from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute or PCORI grant. Thank you, Cindy, for making the display and delivering it to Pueblo.

**National Grange**

In November, Kathy and I attended the National Grange convention held in Niagara Falls, New York. Congratulations to Cindy Greer for her work as the Ceres of the National Grange. The National Grange Executive Committee accepted a contract to sell the National Grange headquarters building. The sale was completed in the spring of 2024. The National Grange has signed a lease agreement to lease the Third floor of the National Grange building. The National Grange will continue to have a presence in Washington, D.C., and be in the National Grange building.

Kathy and I attended the Masters Conference in Myrtle Beach, North Carolina. We also attended the Great Plains Regional Conference held in Coffeyville, Oklahoma. Colorado will host the Great Plains in 2025. I hope you will plan to attend.

The National Grange has received a grant from the Pfizer company, The Rural Life Initiative. This grant is to support Granges that want to have a program promoting rural life but do not have the funding for the program. The grant will not just provide funding for capital building improvements but will provide funding to promote membership in the Grange. The grant program is open to all Granges. If you have a program you would like to complete, give the details to the State Grange and we will support sending the application to the National Grange. The information and video provided for the State Fair are available to show at your event.

**Legislative**

Thank you to Mike Lackey for his work at the Legislature this past year.

(Continued at right)

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We would appreciate your following these guidelines when writing an article.

- Name of Grange
- Contact person (with phone number)
- Upcoming dates
- Brief summary of what has been happening at your Grange — DO NOT SEND MINUTES
- Community Service Projects
- In Memoriam (Grangers who have passed away)
- Thinking of You
- (Grangers who are sick and shut in — include address if they would enjoy cards)
- Hats Off (Grangers to be recognized)
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# Notes From The Secretary

**Cindy Greer, State Master**  
7629 CR 100, Hesperus, CO 81316  
719-748-5008  
Email: costategrange@gmail.com



**December 15 — Articles for the January-February 2025 issue of The Colorado Granger due to State office.**

**December 31 — End of the Fourth Quarter for 2024.**

**January 30 — Fourth quarter Dues Report Due to State office along with payment.**

**February 15 — Articles for the March-April issue of The Colorado Granger due to State office.**

**March 31 — End of First quarter for 2025.**

With this being the beginning of the New Grange Year, we have some new people stepping up to take on the secretary duties for some local Granges. Welcome! You have a very important job as you are the one who keeps the records of your Grange meetings, where decisions are made. In many cases you are also responsible for collecting dues for your Grange. By now you should have sent out your first notice to members that their dues are due January 1. If you haven't done that yet it might be something you need to make a priority. People need reminding to pay their dues, sometimes several times.

State Session is complete and the Journal of proceedings is complete and will be sent out soon to each Grange. The State Roster is almost complete, we try to wait until after the National convention to print so that the list is as current as possible.

**STATE FAIR EXHIBIT** — The state Grange received a grant that al-



**The Colorado State Grange's display at the Colorado State Fair.**

**2024 Annual Report of the President of Colorado State Grange**

(Continued from first column)

There are measures on the ballot this year that the Colorado State Grange urges Grangers to follow closely. One ballot measure will stop the hunting of Mountain Lions. We should all become knowledgeable on the ballot measures and vote in November.

The National 2024 Farm Bill has passed the House of Representatives but will have a difficult time in the Senate.

Colorado agricultural fact. Colorado is home to 946 species of pollinators, bees, butterflies, moths, flies, wasps, and beetles. Colorado ranks 6th in the U.S. in peach production with over 2,400 acres of peach orchards. Peaches account for 75% of fruit production in Colorado. Colorado is #5 in the nation in growing potatoes, 2 billion pounds each year. 832,000 hogs are marketed across Colorado on 1,227 farms. Almost half of the land in Colorado is used for farming. The Ag industry brings into Colorado 170,000 jobs and over \$40 billion every year.

I would like to thank all who assisted me this past year. Thank you to Cindy Greer for her assistance and work as secretary. I would like to thank the Executive Committee: Tom Campion, John Cruz, Roger Ayers, and Harry Greer for their work this past year. Thanks to Sheryl Ayers for her work as treasurer. Thanks to the department directors: Dave McCord, Agriculture; Lisa Mittan, Community Service; Idella Lewis and Karen Baxter, Family Activities; Legislative/Real Estate, Mike Lackey; Lecturer, BJ Bushman; and Health, Louetta Phelps. A special thanks to Kathy Wardle for assistance with Junior Grange and planning for the convention this year.

Fraternally,  
Gary Wardle, President, Colorado State Grange

Let us be ever mindful of our motto:  
IN ESSENTIALS UNITY, IN NON-ESSENTIALS LIBERTY,  
IN ALL THINGS CHARITY.



# P.I.C.K.

**People Improving Communities And Kids**

**Cindy Greer, Secretary/Treasurer**  
7629 CR 100, Hesperus, CO 81316  
970-588-3386 • Fax 970-588-3871  
Email: hcrdgreer@frontier.net

Greer, Sheryl & Roger Ayers, Tom Campion, Jon Kullman, Karen Baxter, Gary Wardle, and Trish Corman (Via Zoom).

Cindy reviewed the report and the proposed budget.

Tom Campion was wondering if the state of Colorado has any grant possibility like the state of Washington.

Cindy reported that we have subscribed to Grant Station. Sheryl asked what that did for us and it was shared that it gives us access to a data base of Foundations that offer grants and searching for specific grants is easier.

PICK is doing two breakfasts at this session. Silent Auction is going. Sheryl said she was bothered that checks written to Children's Hospital were not cashed for Mandy recip-

ients. It would be interesting to know why? Cindy shared that one family was waiting for additional funding and the other one said the check had been given to Children's Hospital. We don't know if they lost the check or gave the family credit for the money and just never deposited the check.

Colorado is hosting the Regional conference and there might be some opportunities to utilize funds for that.

Discussion was held on reaching out. We as members need to reach out to others and not rely on advertising on social media venues.

Meeting adjourned.

The silent auction brought in \$422. Thank you to everyone who donated items and to those who purchased items. The Breakfasts made PICK \$186.92, for a total of \$608.92.

lowed us to semi-man the State Fair Display, purchase two TV monitors, and print materials to be given out from Pfizer for the Rural Initiative project. If your Grange has a need to use a TV monitor for a program, please contact the State office or Gary Wardle to make arrangements to use the TV Monitors. We have several zip drives with videos from the Rural Initiative project that should be shared in your community. Maybe you have an upcoming event like a breakfast or dinner where several community members attend where you could share those videos. The videos are looped so they run continuously without your having to be right there to move on to the next one. We also have lots of handouts to share. All you have to do is ask.

I hope to have a zoom meeting for secretaries to review some of the forms and answer questions and I hope many of you will be able to participate. When it's set up I'll let each of you know.

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5. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	6. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	7. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	8. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
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# The Colorado Granger

**Vol. 100, No. 4 November-December 2024**

**The Colorado Granger**  
**USPS: 123-040 • ISSN: 1094-0022**  
**is printed bi-monthly**  
**for 6 issues annually**  
**by the COLORADO STATE GRANGE**  
**Phone: 719-748-5008**  
**Office of Publications & Editorial Office**  
**7629 County Road 100**  
**Hesperus, CO 81326**  
**Email: costategrange@gmail.com**  
**Periodicals Postage Paid at**  
**Durango, Colorado**  
**and additional mailing offices.**  
**A portion of your annual membership**  
**dues pays your "Colorado Granger"**  
**subscription for one year.**

Views and opinions in articles are not to be taken as official expressions of the Colorado State Grange's policy unless so stated.

**POSTMASTER: Send address change form 3579 to: THE COLORADO GRANGER, 7629 County Road 100, Hesperus, CO 81326.**

EDITORIAL STAFF	
Gary Wardle.....	Editor
7629 County Road 100,	
Hesperus, CO 81326	
Email - costategrange@gmail.com	
Phone - 719-748-5008	
Cindy Greer.....	Managing Editor
BUSINESS STAFF	
Gary Wardle .....	Grange Master
Cindy Greer .....	Secretary
COLORADO STATE GRANGE OFFICERS	
Master.....	Gary Wardle
Overseer.....	Harry Greer
Lecturer.....	BJ Bushman
Steward.....	Kendall Spoor
Assistant Steward.....	Larry Corman
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,	
Roger Ayers,	
Tom Campion, Mike Lackey	





## Lecturer

**BJ Bushman, State Lecturer**  
303-550-7901  
bushman.bj@gmail.com  
8033 Sabino Lane  
Castle Rock CO 80108

Our Spirit of the West Gala was filled with fun, food, photos, and fillies! Galloping into the night on stick ponies to start our celebration were Kathy Wardle, Dee Dee Ramstetter, Ruth Wilson, and BJ Bushman. A nacho bar was enjoyed while sitting at tables adorned with fall color and a western focus. Serious, cute, and fun pics were snapped at the photo booth to capture the atmosphere and folks in their western garb.

Star Awards and Lecturer's Contest winners were celebrated by the ringing of a cowbell while we congratulated the recipients as they accepted awards!

\*Cowboy\* Hats Off to the Subordinate Granges and the one Pomona who submitted Star Awards detailing their amazing accomplishments for this year! Hurray and kudos to you all!

How wonderful to have our National Lecturer, Tom Gwin, attend our State Session! He was gracious enough to share with us the Lecturer's Contest for 2025. We will be following the National Contest Categories, so keep that in consideration when planning your contest submissions. The Contest submissions for 2024 were such a delight to see and marvel over! Thank you for sharing your talent! Watch for updates and changes to our categories as we shift and move with the times!

It was my sincere pleasure to pore over all your stories submitted in your Star Reports and to see how deeply you are impacting your communities. I urge you to do an intense examination of your programs, events, and partnerships. How can they be molded and altered to be even greater, serve wider, expanded upon, or even re-invented? As you meet, consider a strategic planning session, or at least plan to carve out even a bit of time to look over the past year's calendar of events and then align them to the categories of the Star Awards — being mindful of that wider reach and greater service.

Again, many thanks to all the Granges and Pomonas for all your hard work! Another \*Cowboy\* Hats Off to all of those who shared their creativity with our members! Keep up the great work!

### Lecturers Contest Winners For 2024

#### HOBBY CORNER

##### Holiday Items:

- 1st – Paulina Ford, Florida: Beaded Lights  
2nd – Cindy Greer, Marvel: Nativity Bead Art  
3rd – Merle Sachse, Golden Gate: Rabbits Ceramic

##### Miscellaneous:

- 1st – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Wooden Fish  
2nd – Carol Lackey, Enterprise: Stained Glass Mosaic  
3rd – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Earrings  
**Special Gifts:**  
1st – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Wooden Horse  
2nd – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Butterflies  
3rd – Cindy Greer, Marvel: Trivet

#### WORKBENCH

##### Woodworking:

- 1st – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Wooden Ducks  
2nd – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Wooden Chest  
3rd – Roger Ayers, Marvel: Horse in Frame

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

##### Abandoned Buildings:

- 1st – Elizabeth Simons, Mt. Allison: Roman Colosseum  
2nd – Cindy Greer, Marvel: Flowers Against Old Building  
3rd – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison: Old Abandoned Shop

##### Clouds:

- 1st – Larry Corman, Mt. Allison: Sunset Clouds  
2nd – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison: Clouds Reflecting in Mountain Lake  
3rd – Elizabeth Simons, Mt. Allison: Moon and Clouds

##### Monuments:

- 1st – Elizabeth Simons, Mt. Allison, Cathedral  
2nd – Vickie Gallegos -Mt. Allison, Niagara Falls  
**State, County, or Community Fair:**  
1st – Kirk Ramstetter, Golden Gate: State Fair  
2nd – Vickie Gallegos, Mt. Allison: Southern Ute Fair

#### PEN IN HAND

- 1st – Sheryl Ayers  
Lecturers Star Awards were presented to the following Granges: Enterprise Grange, Florida Grange, Golden Gate Grange, Maple Grove Grange, Marvel Grange, Mt. Allison Grange, Sunflower Grange, and Darden Pomona.



## Family Activities

**Idella Lewis and Karen Baxter, State Activities Co-Directors**  
Idella Lewis, 303-274-9390  
Email: idellamlewis@gmail.com  
Karen Baxter, 14857 CR 240, Bayfield, CO 81122  
970-259-1595



We had a very successful year in the Family Activities entries at the Colorado State Grange Convention in Durango. There was a total of 30 entries in the baking and food preservation events and 30 entries in the needlework events. Following the judging of the baked goods, a bake sale was held and \$53 was raised which will go toward the prize money for the events. Thank you to everyone who bought baked goods!

The following Granges participated in the events with their number of entries;

- Mt. Allison 20  
Marvel 17  
Golden Gate 16  
Lewis 10  
Green Valley 2  
Enterprise 1  
Florida 1  
Sunflower 1

#### BAKING AND FOOD PRESERVATION

##### Yeast Bread

- 1st – Cindy Greer, Marvel  
2nd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Sweet Rolls

- 1st – Cindy Greer, Marvel

##### Drop Cookies

- 1st – Cindy Greer, Marvel  
2nd – Kayla, Mt. Allison  
3rd – Norma Conley, Mt. Allison

##### Bar Cookies

- 1st – Norma Conley, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Quick Bread

- 1st – Karen Baxter, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Sheryl Ayers, Marvel

##### 3rd – Sharon Nossaman, Mt. Allison

##### Fudge

- 1st – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Other Candy

- 1st – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Gluten Free Cookies

- 1st – Karen Baxter, Mt. Allison

##### Canned Foods

- 1st – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
3rd – Vickie Sutton Gallegos, Mt. Allison

##### Jams

- 1st – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate  
2nd – Pam Campbell, Enterprise  
3rd – Sheryl Ayers, Marvel

##### Juices

- 1st – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Sheryl Ayers, Marvel

##### Salsas

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
2nd – Vickie Sutton Gallegos, Mt. Allison  
3rd – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison

##### Pickles

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Gallegos, Mt. Allison

##### 3rd – Trish Corman, Mt. Allison

##### Dried Foods

- 1st – Vickie Sutton Gallegos, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Sheryl Ayers, Marvel

#### NEEDLEWORK

##### Afghans

- 1st – Pauline Ford, Florida

##### Sweaters

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis

##### Miscellaneous Crochet

- 1st – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Hand Embroidery

- 1st – Karen Baxter, Mt. Allison

##### Machine Embroidery

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
2nd – Harry Greer, Marvel  
3rd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Decorator Pillow

- 1st – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Miscellaneous Needlework

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
2nd – Merle Sachse, Golden Gate  
3rd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Recycled Items

- 1st – BJ Bushman, Sunflower  
2nd – Becky Riley, Green Valley

##### Machine Quilting

- 1st – Karen Baxter, Mt. Allison  
2nd – Cindy Greer, Marvel  
3rd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Table Runner

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
2nd – Karen Baxter, Mt. Allison  
3rd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

##### Wall Hanging

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
2nd – Cindy Greer, Marvel

##### Adult Garment

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis

##### Aprons

- 1st – Merle Sachse, Golden Gate

##### Stuffed Toys

- 1st – Cindy Greer, Marvel

##### Quilt Block

- 1st – Noel Tambre, Marvel  
2nd – Karen Baxter, Mt. Allison  
3rd – Joni Bender, Marvel

##### Miscellaneous

- 1st – Ruth Wilson Fransisco, Lewis  
2nd – Merle Sachse, Goilden Gate  
3rd – Alyn Hanson, Golden Gate

## Colorado State Grange Leadership And Scholarship Foundation

by Jim Miller

Dear Delegates to the 2024 Colorado State Grange:

It is a pleasure to present to you this Annual Report. I am pleased to announce that the Foundation is in a strong position to continue our mission. That mission is providing financial assistance to deserving students of post-secondary education and technical training.

This year, the Foundation was able to offer four scholarships of \$2,500 each to the following students:

- Ms. Ashley Hoery**, attending Colorado State University  
**Ms. Paige Nicholas**, attending Colorado State University  
**Mr. Ian Harlan**, attending Metropolitan State University, and  
**Ms. Katrina Borsch**, attending the

University of Colorado

It is also my pleasure to report that Colorado State Grange President Gary Wardle will also be serving as president of the Foundation, and Colorado State Grange Treasurer Sheryl Ayers has taken over the duties as treasurer of the Foundation as well.

It has been my distinct honor to have served as treasurer of the Foundation for these past several years as well as acting president upon the retirement of my very good friend, Jeanne Davies. Jeanne and I will continue to serve on the board of the directors as Founding Members of the Foundation.

A meeting of the Foundation was held at State session with the following being elected: President – Gary Wardle; Secretary – Nick Maydew;

and Treasurer – Sheryl Ayers. The Foundation is a 501c3 organization which helps individuals take tax deductions for donations made to the foundation. Donations can be sent to 7629 C.R. 100, Hesperus, CO 81326. Checks need to be made out to **Colorado State Grange Leadership/Scholarship Foundation**.

#### Colorado State Grange Website

Larry Corman takes care of the web page for the State Grange. He is requesting that Officers and Directors contact him with updates for their departments.

He would like to link the web page of each Grange to the State Grange site. Please contact him to have this done so Grange members and others can easily access your page for information.

Larry Corman: larry\_corman@hotmail.com or 970-749-8438.

## Chaplain's Corner

**Amy Peterson State Chaplain**  
970-749-9374  
amyloupeterson@gmail.com



Recently we celebrated the Colorado State Grange annual convention in Durango. It was a really great time to fellowship with other Grangers from around the state. We enjoyed hearing others' ideas on resolutions, the wonderful meals we ate together, and just the great fellowship we shared.

Fellowship was also enjoyed by Jesus and His followers. Acts 2:42 tells us "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer." (NIV).

I look forward to next year's convention where we can get together again and celebrate Grange again. Like Acts 2:44 states "All believers were together and had everything in Common." (NIV). Just like Grangers do.

It was a great pleasure to meet Tom Gwinn, the National Grange Lecturer, from Washington State. He too has Grange as an important organization for rural and city living.

Church fellowships are important also for rural and city living.

We need to have a fellowship with Jesus too. 1 John 1:6-7 says "If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." (NIV).

Let's all get out and fellowship with our Granges and churches this week.

#### COLORADO STATE GRANGE MEMORIALS

Memorial donations to honor members and past members who have passed away should be made payable to **CSG Leadership/Scholarship** and mailed to the State Grange office, 7629 County Road 100, Hesperus, CO 81326. Memorial donations are listed in the Book of Memories and included in the Memorial Service at the State convention.

## 2025 Grange Revival 4.0 – Torrey, Utah

#### Lodging Options

##### Primary Gathering Spot:

**Thousand Lakes RV Park, Campground and Cabins**  
1110 UT-24, Torrey UT 84775  
435-425-3500 or 800-355-8995  
www.thousandlakesrvpark.com  
Email RV size or request for tent site or cabin to Tammy at: reservations@thousandlakesrvpark.com

##### Also booking in advance:

**Sandcreek RV Park and Campground**  
540 UT-24, Torrey UT 84775

435-425-3577  
www.sandcreekrv.com  
Harry (owner) – call and say you are with the Grange

##### Also know we are coming:

**Cowboy Homestead Guest Cabins**  
2100 UT-12, Torrey UT 84775  
435-691-4384 or 888-854-5871  
www.cowboyhomesteadcabins.com

There are many, many additional campgrounds, motels, and resorts in the immediate vicinity with all types of cabins, rooms, yurts, glamping tents, and more!

Another option is to look into renting an RV as the Thousand Lakes RV Park, Campground and Cabins has more than enough RV spaces.







# Agriculture Report

David H. McCord, State Director  
David • 303-388-1259  
Email: dmccord60@earthlink.net

**Farm Bill.** As I write this, (mid-Oct.) the Congress has yet to pass the Farm Bill that provides for billions of \$\$ in commodity, nutrition, and conservation programs (they missed September 30 deadline). Ob-

# Junior, Youth And Young Adult

Kathy Wardle, Director  
720-354-1196  
8606 Holman Circle, Arvada, CO 80005  
artklw@aol.com



**JUNIORAWARDDWINNERS2024**  
**Nature Crafts – Under 5**

None  
**Nature Crafts – 5-9**  
First place: Sierra Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Second place: Ruger Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Third place: Henry Greer, Marvel Junior Grange

**Nature Crafts – 10-14**  
First place: Jacob Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
Second place: Brianna Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
**Miscellaneous – Under 5**  
First place: Phoenix Cordero, Enterprise Grange

**Miscellaneous – 5-9**  
First place: Sierra Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Second place: Sofia Cordero, Enterprise Grange  
Third place: Henry Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
**Miscellaneous – 10-14**  
First place: Jeremiah Shields, Enterprise Grange  
Second place: Brianna Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
Third place: Emmett Greer, Marvel Junior Grange

**Work of Art – 5-7**  
First place: Elayna Simons, Mount Allison Grange  
Second place: Elayna Simons, Mount Allison Grange  
Third place: Ruger Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
**Work of Art – 10-14**  
First place: Zion Simons, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Second place: Abbey Koeslke, Marvel Junior Grange



# Community Service

Lisa Mittan, State Director  
4956 W. 66th Ave., Arvada, CO 80003  
Email: mittan42@msn.com

Four combined reports were submitted, with three additional reports submitted as stand-alone Community Service reports. There were a lot of good and worthy programs and activities described in the reports submitted that would certainly merit recognition for community service. This year, we only had one report submitted that had a lot of great programs being reported, but that does not meet the requirements of National Grange to give the consistency that will allow it to be measured with the Community Service winners from other states. Our Colorado State Grange sends our winning Community Service report to the annual National Grange conference that is held later in autumn, following our annual Colorado State Grange session. National Grange requires the front page of the report to be the informational form and that there are no more than four exhibits (photographs, flyers, etc.) for each event reported. These instructions are provided on the Combined Reports form, which is emailed to key members of each active subordinate Grange within the state of Colorado. The instructions are also provided in the

Third place: Zion Simons, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
**Holiday Decoration – 5-7**  
First place: Ruger Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Second place: Sierra Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
**Holiday Decoration – 10-14**  
First place: Zion Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Second place: Cayden Simons, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
**National Deaf Art – 5-14**  
First place: Brianna Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
Second place: Abbey Koeslke, Marvel Junior Grange  
Third place: Henry Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
**Corn Art – 5-9**  
First place: Taven Koeslke, Marvel Junior Grange  
Second place: Henry Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
**Corn Art – 10-14**  
First place: Brianna Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
Second place: Jacob Greer, Marvel Junior Grange  
**Special Gift – 5-9**  
First place: Elayna Simons, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Second place: Henry Greer, Marvel Junior Grange, and Taven Koeslke, Marvel Junior Grange  
Third place: Ruger Phelps, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
**Special Gift – 10-14**  
First place: Jeremiah Shields, Enterprise Grange  
Second place: Zion Simons, Mount Allison Junior Grange  
Third place: Abbey Koeslke, Marvel Junior Grange

annual Handbook included in *The Colorado Granger* newspaper and on the Colorado State Grange website. The Community Service director’s contact information is also provided on the form, in the handbook, and repeated in articles within *The Colorado Granger* newspaper. Additionally provided are offers of assistance with understanding or using the forms, and an offer to mail paper copies of the Combined Reports Form upon request for any Grange with members who do not want to use a computer to report on their Community Service activities and/or participate in the Lecturer Star categories contests. It does appear that many of the active Granges within the state of Colorado are conducting community service programs and events. It also appears that most of these Granges do not want to report on these programs at the State Grange level, regardless of the opportunities for recognition, including monetary awards. **Community Service report winners were:** Enterprise Grange – First Place; Florida Grange – 2nd Place; and Marvel Grange – 3rd Place

stacles include extremist’s demands to cut funding for food assistance and climate initiatives even given our present climate conditions, I believe an intelligent look at our politics will define what happens post November 5 elections. Which party won and what will they do? Absent a short-term fund extension before the end-of-year, food prices may escalate in 2025. **NISP.** Colorado State Grange has long supported the Northern Integrated Supply Project to store water from the Cache la Poudre in two reservoirs, one near Ted’s Place on Hwy 287 and Hwy 14 and the other east of Hwy 85, Galeton. Project work was to have begun about 8 years ago but continued court challenges have prevented initiation. A local advocacy group challenged the decision of the then commissioners for their approval of the project’s permits. The commissioner decision was upheld at the County District Court then appealed to the Court of Appeals where it was affirmed, discretion was not abused in approving the permit. The NEPA processes are essential to good decisions but why is there not a time limit to endless challenges? The water is

# Resolutions At State Convention 2024

The following Resolutions received a favorable ballot at the annual state convention. Only the resolved section of the resolution is provided here. The full resolutions will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings which each Grange will receive.  
**Ag 1 – Oppose Proposition 127 – to outlaw hunting and trapping of mountain lion, bobcat and lynx**  
RESOLVED that Colorado State Grange urges voters to vote no on Proposition 127 on the November 5, 2024 ballot.  
**AG 2 – Opposes ban on fur sales in Denver**  
RESOLVED that Colorado State Grange opposes the initiative to ban the manufacture, distribution, display, sale, or trade of animal fur products in the City and County of Denver.  
**AG 3 – Opposes ban on slaughterhouses in Denver**  
RESOLVED that Colorado State Grange opposes the initiative to ban slaughterhouses in the City and County of Denver.  
**GA 1 – Contest Deadlines**  
RESOLVED, that all Colorado State Grange directors and officers set all contest report deadlines to be postmarked or emailed by September 3.  
**GA 2 – Quilt Block Contest**  
RESOLVED, that the Colorado State Grange Family Activities Committee add two quilt block contests, open to members and non-members. One would be a Colorado-themed block and one a Quilt of Valor block. The blocks should measure 12 1/2 inches unfinished. The Colorado-themed block must prominently feature the entrant’s Grange name, either embroidered or written; and be it further  
RESOLVED, that the blocks submitted to these contests will be owned by the Colorado State Grange and will be utilized to create quilts, one for potential raffling and the other designated as a Quilt of Valor to honor a veteran; and be it further  
RESOLVED, that the Family Activity directors will select the patterns and publish the contest rules and patterns in the handbook and *The Colorado Granger*.  
**GA 3 – Colorado Quilts of Valor**  
RESOLVED, that nominations must be submitted to the State Office by September 3rd, and each nom-

locally owned.  
**Ag related resolutions approved by the Grange Delegates at the recent Session in Durango:**  
**1)** Resolution to oppose Denver’s initiative to ban the sale of fur and fur products in the City and County of Denver put forth by animal rights radicals. Approval of this outrageous effort would stick a knife in the heart of the National Western Stock Show – cowboy hats are an integral element of the show’s heritage and many vendors offer cowboy hats for sale. The hats are made from beaver and rabbit fur and would be banned.  
RESOLVED that Colorado State Grange opposes the initiative to ban the manufacture, distribution, display, sale, or trade of animal fur products in the City and County of Denver.  
**2)** Resolution to oppose proposed ban on slaughterhouses in the City and County of Denver from the same radicals. One major slaughterhouse remains in Denver that processes lambs from Colorado’s lamb producers. Its demise could mean a direct and indirect economic loss of over \$700 million to our agriculture.  
RESOLVED that Colorado State

Grange opposes the initiative to ban slaughterhouses in the City and County of Denver.  
**3)** Resolution to oppose Proposition 127 to outlaw hunting and trapping of mountain lion, bobcat, and lynx. The proponents assert “trophy hunting”, which is not legal anyway, all game animals taken must be prepared for human food. Should 127 be approved, cats would no longer be game animals and any losses and damage by mountain lions to farm and ranch livestock would not be compensated by the State.  
RESOLVED that Colorado State Grange urges voters to vote no on Proposition 127 on the November 5 ballot.  
**4)** Resolution to support Colorado Department of Transportation, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CDOT/CPW) construction and funding for highway over and under passes and fencing to protect vehicles and Colorado wildlife.  
RESOLVED that Colorado State Grange supports the CDOT/CPW program for highway over and under passes and fencing to improve vehicle safety and protect wildlife from harm.  
ment, Junior Grange, membership, communications, marketing and benefits director, and congressional legislative liaison.  
**Good of the Order #4 - Changing the Dates of the State Session**  
Resolved, The Colorado State Grange Executive Committee study implementing a change to the Colorado State Grange session dates and make a recommendation back to the 2025 State Grange Session.  
**HWY & T #1 - Support wildlife highway over and underpasses and fencing**  
RESOLVED, that Colorado State Grange supports the CDOT/CPW program for highway over and under passes and fencing to improve vehicle safety and protect wildlife from harm.  
The following Resolution was tabled until 2025.  
**GOTO 3 - Colorado State Grange Convention**  
RESOLVED, that the Colorado State Grange annual meeting (convention) be shortened to two full days (possibly Friday and Saturday).

# Mandy Project

Cindy Greer, Coordinator  
970-588-3386 • Email: hcrdgreer@frontier.net

This year has been pretty uneventful for the Mandy project. We had two that were previously awarded funds that checks were never cleared through the bank, so those funds were put back into the Mandy project.  
As Grange members, whenever we encounter a child with hearing loss we can reach out to the parents to tell them about the Mandy project, so that when they have needs that arise we can help. Children grow so fast and so much that ear molds have to be replaced often and hearing aids wear out and new ones have to be purchased to replace them to insure the child’s continued success.  
The Mandy project has tried to help 145 families for the last 26 years. You should be proud of your contributions to this project. It’s the one way that we get the Grange name out to the public. Thank you for your continued support and promotion of this project.  
Thank you to Amy Peterson, Audrey Maydew, and Ruth Wilson Francisco for serving on the committee to review applications. Email makes sending copies of the applications and information easy and that is how we discuss and make decisions.  
I shared information about the Mandy project and the Deaf Awareness program that the National Grange had with a group of Grangers via zoom on the first Monday in September. The point of the discus-

sion was to see if that group thought the National Grange (all Granges) needed one specific project that when people heard the name they knew who sponsored it. Something like the Lions Club has or how St. Jude is associated with the Thomas’, or the Shriners with Pediatric hospital care, the list goes on and on. The Grange doesn’t have one specific project that is really identifying.  
I think the Mandy project started out that way, but people were too concerned that the need was greater than we could meet, so they limited the project so much that it didn’t get a good foundation and it was eventually dropped by the National Grange.  
I can’t say that the Colorado State Grange is known because of the Mandy project, but that may be because we haven’t really promoted it since its beginning. In the beginning we did send out letters informing audiologists and schools about the project so that they could share the information with their clients or students in need. Some were delighted to receive the material, others had no idea what to do with it. Insurance has changed since we started the project and the insurance companies now cover more of the costs than they used to, at least in Colorado. But there are still people who live in Colorado and insured in other states that the laws here don’t apply. So your promotion of the project is essential.

# Deadline for the January-February 2024 Issue Of The Colorado Granger Newspaper Is December 15, 2024.





State Officers at the 151st State Session of the Colorado State Grange.



Founders Skit performed at State Session in Durango.

**Scenes From The 2024 Colorado State Grange Session In Durango**



Marlon and Moana Greer provided entertainment at the Gala.



State Chaplain Amy Peterson conducting the Memorial Service during State Session.



National Representative to the Colorado State Grange Session Tom Gwin, National Lecturer.



Sheryl Ayers giving the Treasurer's Report.



5th and 6th Degree Candidates with the Graces at State Session.



Idella Lewis captures the Western theme at the photo booth.



Ruth Wilson Francisco, Lewis Grange, took home several prizes in the Family Activities contents.



Marlon Greer entertaining.

**MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8.**



Graces: Idella Lewis - Pomona; Dee Dee Ramstetter - Flora; and Jean Willits - Ceres.



Installation of Officer Larry Corman, Assistant Steward, at State Session by National Lecturer Tom Gwin.



BJ Bushman, Idella Lewis, and Kathy Wardle judged all the entries in their respective contest categories.



BJ Bushman, Sunflower Grange, with her award-winning rug.



Karen Baxter and Norma Conley setting up the Junior luncheon.



Larry Corman and Sheryl Ayers crunching numbers.



Redlands Mesa presentation by Barry Willits.





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

November 2 — Darden Pomona meets at Enterprise Grange, 3 p.m. Potluck to follow.

December 14 — Annual Christmas Party at Enterprise Grange, 5 p.m.

The quarterly meeting of Darden Pomona Grange was held at Maple Grove Grange in September with Marlys Halbeisen leading the meeting. Mike and Carol Lackey were selected to be delegates to the State Grange Convention in Durango.

The annual Darden Pomona Christmas Party will be held Dec. 14 with Christmas dinner served at 5 p.m. Bring a covered dish to share. Christmas party to follow with Santa and a pinata.

This is always an exciting event to start the Christmas season. Everyone welcome to attend! In addition to Grange members and their families, guests will be attending from The Carin’ Clinic, an agency which serves underprivileged families in Arvada.

Idella Lewis

Enterprise Grange

Contact Carol Lackey, carollackeyhomes@gmail.com, or 303-521-4477, for further information.

November 13th, Wednesday — Thanksgiving potluck at 6 p.m. Carin’ Clinic and Shannon’s Hope clients will join us along with any Granger, friends and family who wish to attend. All are welcomed. Our Thanksgiving feast is a traditional potluck with turkey and all the trimmings. Turkey, beverages, and desserts are provided by the Enterprise Grange. Attendees bring a small dish to share. Hope to see you all there!

November 22nd, Friday — 10 a.m. to about 2 p.m. Pre-Stocking Stuffing Day. We will be doing this at the Enterprise Grange building. This is the day to sort and stuff candies and toiletries into individual small bags and open any boxes that hold individual items. These are things that need to be completed for adding them to the Christmas Stockings on stuffing day. The 212 Christmas cards usually completed at this time are being written by Nancy Sells daughter and her bible study group. Be sure to add this morning to your calendars and come join in

the fun!

December 2nd, Monday — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stocking Stuffing Day. We will be gathering at the Enterprise Grange to fill the 212 Stockings for Seniors and Disadvantaged Families. This can go pretty quickly but it’s also a fun time for fellowship. Hope to see you all there.

December 7th, Saturday — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Santa Picture Day. This event is held in the Arvada Community Room located at 7601 Grandview Ave, Arvada, CO 80002 just a couple of shops west from Old Wadsworth Blvd. Everyone is welcome to come over and get their special time with Santa; cats, dogs, children, grandchildren, mothers, fathers, families, Grandpas and Grandmas! Hot chocolate, cider and cookies are served. The kids color and write letters to Santa. Then everyone walks away with a professional photo of their time on Santa’s lap.

December 14th, Saturday — 5 to 8 p.m. The Darden Pomona Old-Fashioned Christmas Dinner starts with a potluck for Friends and Family of the all the Granges and Disadvantaged Children referred from the Carin’ Clinic and Shannon’s Hope. Main course, beverages, and desserts are provided by the Grange. Attendees bring a small dish to share. The Program after includes Christmas Carol sing-a-longs, children performances, and reading of the “Night Before Christmas.” Santa Claus arrives and everyone sits on Santa’s lap, gets a small gift, and tells him their Christmas wishes. The evening ends with a piñata for the children. Please join us with your children and grandchildren for a festive holiday evening.

January 8th, Wednesday — Potluck at 6 p.m. Following potluck we will hold a short meeting to plan activities for the rest of the year. Dorothy Dannels will have a program that is TBD.

On September 20th, we joined another organization called AWR SAY to sponsor a movie called “Join or Die”... It is about why people should join a club — and why the fate of America depends on it. It is a documentary that follows the journey of the social scientist Robert Putnam. His research called “Bowling Alone” looks into America’s decades-long decline in community connections. He feels that this could hold the answers to our democracy’s present crisis.

In it Bob explores three urgent civic questions: What makes democ-

racy work? Why is American democracy in crisis? And, most importantly... What can we do about it? It was held at the Arvada Community Center and their advertising drew about 100 people interested in joining a club. We had a booth and gave out bags with candy and wildflower seeds. We were fortunate to talk to quite a few other organizations and people interested in joining an organization that fits them. We promoted our chili dinner and hopefully found some that are planning to attend.

Enterprise Grange members that attended the Colorado State Grange convention in Durango this year were Mike and Carol Lackey and Gary and Kathy Wardle. We all had such a wonderful time. We requested toiletries from all the Grangers at the meeting from their hotel room. Many Grangers contributed. Carol Thompson came with a huge bag that she had been collecting for other purposes that were no longer needed. SCORE! What a wonderful surprise. Toiletries are one of the hardest to collect. So think of us when you are going through your travels. This is one of our community service projects that we do every year so we are always in need! Many thanks to all the Grangers!

During the State Fellowship time Mike and Carol Lackey, Gary and Kathey Wardle, Idella Lewis, BJ Bushman, Dick and Cherry Ellis, and Ruth Wilson-Francisco, along with the National Representative Tom Gwinn went to the Train Museum. It was free and fascinating. We ran into a young man that works there who decided to be our tour guide. He was very informative and took us to a building called the Grange. Gary Wardle is looking into donating some of the items from our Grange Museum that is closing down. It turned out to be our lucky day.

During our October 9th meeting our potluck theme was Pumpkins and Halloween. We enjoyed Pumpkin Gnocchi with Sausage, Pumpkin Mousse, and Pumpkin Bars. After the potluck, we had a speaker, Daine Hegeman, one of the directors of AWR SAY, an acronym for Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth. Kimberly Tutor has been attending their meetings for several months and this is giving us the opportunity to join.

This organization strives to ensure that youth who otherwise might go unrecognized, who have overcome adversity in their personal or student life are given recognition

and ongoing opportunities to help them achieve their potential. Each year the middle school children receive a scholarship for camps, classes, and student activities they may not be able to afford. Scholarships to Red Rocks Community College are also given to those graduating from high school. The organization also fosters community engagement between many of the various service organizations. We are looking forward to be a part of this wonderful organization.

Every year we put together stockings and larger bags of items for disadvantaged and disabled seniors and low income families. Did you know that 50% of seniors living in nursing homes never receive a visitor? Will you help us fill Christmas stockings and bags for local low income seniors & disabled adults? When you fill a Christmas stocking, you fill a heart. Our goal this year is 212 stockings and 36 bags. These are things we are collecting:

- Items Needed to Stuff Stockings
- Left-over Halloween Candy
  - Men’s and women’s crew socks, gloves or mittens
  - Men’s and women’s stocking hats
  - Decks of Cards
  - Non-perishable food & snacks – individual size containers such as pudding, fruit cups, cheese & crackers, granola bars, etc.
  - Small packets of facial tissues
  - Chapstick, lip balm
  - Large print puzzle books like crossword, search words, Christmas pins or fun jewelry, watches, etc.
  - Toiletries, i.e. shaving cream, combs, nail polish, body wash, hair conditioner, body lotion, etc...
  - Regular sized toothpaste
  - Individually wrapped candy, chocolates (including sugar free), tea bags or instant coffee
  - Face masks and sanitizers
  - Boxed Christmas Cards

Additional larger items needed for the bags:

- Lap blankets
- Regular sized Shampoo, Conditioner combination
- Note pads
- Antiperspirant

We are also collecting non-perishable food items for baskets to be given out to families in need.

Tubs will be left in the lobby to put any items you would wish to donate. We very much appreciate your help, especially this year. So many are in need. Thank you for any amount of help you can give.

We would be happy to pick up any items you have. Call Dorothy Dannels at 303-425-0111 or Ashley Lackey at 720-309-5090 or Carol Lackey at 303-521-4477 for pick-up or for further information.

Carol Lackey

Maple Grove

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

Maple Grove Grange had a successful fundraiser breakfast in October. Breakfast burritos were served along with pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, potatoes, chili, orange juice, and coffee. The breakfast cost was by donation and funds helped pay the insurance bill which increased tremendously.

A food drive was held in Novem-

ber to help replenish the food donations at the Action Center.

Delegate to the State Grange Convention in Durango was Idella Lewis, who gave a report at the October meeting. Resolutions from the State Grange Convention were discussed. Activities were reported from the convention.

Idella Lewis

Golden Gate

Contact Terri Costeldia, terri costeldia@hotmail.com, 970-640-7185, for further information.

Grange Meeting — Thursday, November 14 at 3 p.m.

Jeffco CASA Giving Tree Holiday Gift Donations — 11/22 through 12/2.

Wreath Making — Saturday, December 7 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Grange Meeting — Thursday, December 12 at 3 p.m.

Yoga — Wednesdays, from 3 to 4 p.m.

AA — Every Tuesday, from 7 p.m.

Our Autumn Community Brunch was an inspiring event. This free event included a great buffet, including pancakes, sausage, bagel and cream cheese, yogurt, granola, quiche, fruit, coffee, tea, juice, and more! A Flag and Pinning Ceremony was held to honor the six new recruits to our Golden Gate Fire Protection roster! We were happy to be able to join with the Golden Gate Auxiliary for this special community event!

In late November to early December, we will partner with CASA of Jefferson County’s Giving Tree to donate gifts to children and teens in foster care or in need. We will choose a number of tags from the Giving Tree. Keep an eye out for more information which will be sent by email outlining the tags we will commit to fulfill. CASA was very appreciative of our support for their efforts last year.

Wreath Making is a favorite activity in early December. We will supply the native greens and other supplies for you to make a beautiful wreath. You can bring your own wreath frame or buy one for \$5. This is free (other than the cost for a wreath frame) for Grange members. Non-Grange members will be asked for a \$5 donation for attending. It is best to RSVP if you plan to attend but walk-ins are welcome.

We started collecting old and damaged flags in June. A Friend of the Grange, Bill Frueh, has volunteered to retire the flags in a proper manner. This will be a year-round project, so bring us any flags that you would like to have a flag retired in a respectful manner.

Yoga is held on Wednesdays from 3 to 4 p.m. If you haven’t been to a class before Instructors, Judy and Susan, will provide a class that will offer alternatives for all levels.

Website: www.GoldenGateGrange.com/Facebook: Golden Gate Canyon Community.

Grange phone: 303-273-9516. Jayne Ruesch

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Metrum Community Credit Union

Currently The Colorado State Grange has two accounts at the Metrum Community Credit Union in Centennial. Any Grange member who might be interested in opening an account at Metrum can utilize their Grange membership to qualify for an account.

Since 1946, Metrum Community Credit Union, a Centennial, Colorado credit union, has been providing quality financial services to members. We provide savings, checking, and loan services to fit individual member needs. Whether you’re looking to refinance your home, purchase a new car, or build a nest egg for retirement, we can help you reach your goals. We are a local Centennial, Colorado Credit Union and are here to serve our community.

What Is A Credit Union?

When you search online for a “credit union near me,” what exactly are you searching for? What makes us stand out from other financial institutions? Let’s break down what it means to be a Centennial, Colorado, credit union:

Not-for-Profit – While most financial institutions operate to make a profit for their stockholders, your Credit Union operates for the benefit of its membership.

Member-Owned – Every Metrum Community Credit Union member is an owner, not just a customer. In fact, membership is one of the key differences between credit unions and other financial institutions. All credit unions are not-for-profit organizations owned by those who save and borrow there. The Credit Union returns surplus funds, in excess of expenses and required reserves, to the membership in the form of better rates, services, and dividend payments.

Volunteers Make the Difference – Metrum Community Credit Union is governed by the Supervisory Committee and the Board of Directors, which are comprised of members who are elected democratically and serve without compensation. The Board of Directors sets policies and directs the Credit Union’s efforts to ensure the best interests of the membership are met.

Safety and Soundness – Your money is safe at the credit union. We are a state-chartered financial institution that is regulated and administered by the State of Colorado Division of Financial Services.

More information about the Credit Union is available on their website metrumcu.org.



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**Sunflower**

Contact Cherry Ellis, 303-581-7672, [cherryellis5@yahoo.com](mailto:cherryellis5@yahoo.com), [sunflowergrange.org](http://sunflowergrange.org), P.O. Box 221, Sedalia CO 80135, for further information.

**November 9 — Grange Meeting, 1 to 3 p.m. at the Firehouse in Sedalia. Planning the 2025 Calendar.**

**December 7 — Progressive Pomona Meeting. Time and place TBD.**

**December 8 — Sunflower-DC Farm Bureau Holiday Brunch Potluck at Meadows Grange 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**December 14 — Sedalia Wintertown celebration. Santa and Mrs. Santa (Dennis and Margaret Ellis), stockings and toys at BMan's BBQ. Tractor Taxi with Don Person. Get kits from Home Depot for gifts.**

Since I sent Sunflower's August *Granger* article to the wrong email address, some old news first.

Sunflower's agricultural speaker series continued in June with Heirloom Tomato Farmer and artist Tracy Weil, <https://www.heirloomtomatofarms.com/>. Tracy grew heirloom tomato plants for himself and friends for many years, which led to selling plants. Each year the number of plants increased, and all sold out in one day! Now Tracy the Heirloom Farmer does pop-up sales out of a van and has moved to Pine, Colorado (heads up, Pleasant Park Grange!), where he's building a two-story greenhouse for growing bazillions of heirlooms. He gave us Chocolate Stripe Tomato plants — winner at his Tastings. We look forward to heirloom events with Tracy.

In July, Fire Chief John Oravez presented this year's Fire Fighter of the Year award to Jason Staadt, with his whole family, parents and in-laws looking on. Jason was nominated by Jami Lopeman and Amber Staadt "... in recognition of his exceptional dedication, leadership, and service to the West Douglas Fire Protection District (WDFPD) and the community of Sedalia." Jason began as a volunteer firefighter five years ago, became an EMT, and in 2023 was promoted to Training Officer. In that capacity he created comprehensive training programs for fellow firefighters and EMTs. He's involved with the Sedalia Artists Community and the children's ministry at his church, and spends quality time with family and friends. "His unwavering commitment to serving others, both within the fire station and throughout the community, makes him a deserving candidate for Firefighter of the Year."



BMan's BBQ's 5th Anniversary party with Bruce Hier and Sideways Seven performing.



Fire Chief John Oravez presenting Jason Staadt the Fire Fighter of the Year award.

Kathy Hulley also spoke at the July meeting on Animal-Assisted Therapy (AAT). Kathy, a Licensed Professional Counselor, started the non-profit Mane Mission with her husband Mike to help people who have experienced trauma, like those involved in the 2019 STEM School shooting in Highlands Ranch, <https://www.themanemission.com>.

AAT is "the planned inclusion of an animal in a client's counseling treatment plan." Animals can improve people's moods, take their minds off troubles for a little while, stimulate conversation, and reduce anxiety, agitation, and sadness. They make people happy. Individual or group counseling using horses, goats, cats, and Bruno the Wonder Dog, promotes mental health, healing and well-being and can be more effective than therapy within four walls. This therapy is well-suited to rural folks.

BMan's BBQ threw a BIG party July 20 to celebrate their Fifth Anniversary. Bruce Hier and Sideways Seven provided the music for the crowd of 250-300. Brianna, Alyssa, and Naomi treated everyone to decorated cupcakes and cookies. Everyone ate, enjoyed the great music, and danced... until 8:20 p.m. when the rain drove the drenched musicians and electronic equipment inside. The band spread everything out to dry, and the next day Bruce reported the instruments — and band — were ok. Thanks to Roxann, Brian, Brianna, Alyssa, Naomi, Spike, Dawson, Roxann's mom, and all the other folks who pitch in for their events. Thanks for five years of pork sliders, Taco Thursdays, homemade cakes, and community in Sedalia. Since Sunflower re-organized in October 2019 a few months after BMan's opened, they've hosted most of our events. Grangers are BMan's biggest boosters.

An August Election Potluck was cancelled due to insane scheduling — same time as a Bronco's game. Instead, volunteers for all offices were announced and approved by members in email. Members approved/welcome the new officers: President/Master Ben Reutter, Lecturer Diana Horner Bates, Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Ray, and Executive Committee (3-year) Bruce Hier. Thank you all for keeping the Grange moving!

Many thanks to Jim Weglarz of Historic Douglas County for sharing the History booth at Douglas County Fair with Sunflower and six other historic organizations. Sandi Hier and Cherry Ellis were there to meet visitors with our brochures and extra copies of the *Granger* on the last very hot day of the Fair.

In September, Jim led a Louviers (a neighboring town) tour for 40 members of various historical orga-



Kathy Hulley spoke in July about Animal-Assisted Therapy and introduced Bruno the Wonder Dog.

nizations. He described dynamite production, fatal dynamite plant explosions, and construction of a tiered "company town" with small worker cottages on "the flats," larger homes mid-hill for higher ranking employees, and three large homes for the elite plant managers and doctor at the top of "Capital Hill." The employees' houses were sold in 1961, the dynamite plant closed in 1989, and cleanup of the EPA site was completed in 2023. At the end of the tour, we enjoyed a picnic at the pavilion in Louviers' park. <https://www.douglas.co.us/museum/vex16/index.htm>

State Grange Lecturer BJ Bushman, and Dick and Cherry Ellis attended the State Session held at the Masonic Hall in beautiful Durango. Each day was filled from breakfast to dinner with Grange business, ceremony, and social time. Put this event on your calendars Grange members — it is so worthwhile. Thanks to the Granges on the Western Slope for great food and Grange knowledge. BJ won a prize for her braided rug, and Sunflower received recognition for adding five new members. Next year we'll all try to enter the contests!

In keeping with voting/elections/government that are on our minds this fall, at October's meeting Colorado Farm Bureau's Ashley House and Travis Grant talked about pending legislation and how to talk to legislators. Our representative form of government works best when we engage with the representatives, so they recommended getting and staying in touch with them. BJ brought a big bowl full of heirloom tomatoes from her garden (Pink Ping-Pongs out-produced other kinds), and Carrie Thompson brought Lion's Mane, oyster, and other exotic mushrooms to share.

2024 has been a great year for our Grange; we look forward to 2025 and new ventures.

Cherry Ellis



Roxann and Alyssa volunteer to help at BMan's BBQ events.



Lecturer Diana Horner Bates, Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Ray, and President-Master Ben Reutter.

**Pikes Peak**  
El Paso and Teller Counties

**Florissant**

Contact Renee Caldwell, 719-748-5004, [florissantgrange@gmail.com](mailto:florissantgrange@gmail.com), for further information.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Every Thursday is Community Potluck and Music.**

**Every Tuesday the Quilters meet to make Quilts of Valor.**

**Gift Shop is open Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday weekly.**

**November 11 — Monthly Meeting.**

**November 9 — Pine Needle Basket Class, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Christmas Gourd Art Class**

**November 27 — Free Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner 6 to 8 p.m.**

**December 9 — Monthly Meeting**

**December 7 — Christmas Bazaar 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**December 8 — Christmas Bazaar, 12 to 3 p.m.**

**December 21 — Annual Christmas Party with Santa, 1 to 2:30 p.m.**

Monthly Craft classes are still going strong. We will continue the advanced basketmaking classes in conjunction with newbies learning as well. Learning new stitches and techniques has been a fun experience for all basket makers.

The Florissant Grange Quilters awarded 4 more Quilts of Valor in September at the Florissant Grange Potluck and Music Thursday night event. We were also invited to award one special Purple Heart Quilt, at a special Purple Heart Trail event, at the Lake George Charter School. They had the students sing special patriotic songs; some of the older students gave speeches on what it means to live in a free country. The students were the most respectful young people and it was a pleasure to attend this great ceremony and represent our Grange and our Quilters.

We held a craft show and Flea Market in August that was successful and fun. It was the last event of that type for the season. Fall is in full swing here. The colors were spectacular this year and currently most of the leaves have fallen.

The end of July was our Annual Heritage Day Celebration. It was a great success this year with over 300 People attending. The whole community joined in the fun and made it a great day for everyone.

This summer was a great time to be a Harvest Host destination. We hosted over 65 campers from all over the country and some from France, Germany, Canada, and Scotland. It was a super fun summer. When we host campers our Gift Shop also



Don Barton receives his special Quilt of Valor.



Granger and quilter Renee awarding Don Barton with a Purple Heart Quilt of Valor.



Quilters Yvonne and Maria display Purple Heart Quilt.

does very well, and all donations go to the Florissant Grange to help pay the bills and maintain our beautiful Historic Site.

Even though it is fall, the Potluck and Music nights every Thursday have been attracting lots of newcomers to the area and some that have been here forever and still didn't know about the Grange. It is always nice to be able to tell people all about the Grange and our Historic Grange Hall.

Renee Caldwell



With over 300 in attendance, the whole community joined in the fun at Florissant Heritage days.

**Reaching Surgical Seniors Campaign**

There are several documents available to help Seniors facing surgery. If you are interested in any of these documents, please let the state Grange office know and we can send you a copy or email a PDF copy. The topics covered are as follows:

- Planning for My Future Guide (Things your family needs to know)
- Pre-Surgery Guide — Questions Prompt list

There are five videos that were

developed for this program and the National Grange You Tube has additional videos with good advice.

- #1 Advocacy and Shared decision making
- #2 Hospitalizations
- #3 Falls
- #4 Talking to Others
- #5 Questions prompt List And a Promotional Video

Visit their web site at: [www.seniorsurgicalguides.com](http://www.seniorsurgicalguides.com).



La Plata

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

Florida

Contact Melissa Lively, 970-259-7796, [livelymelissa@hotmail.com](mailto:livelymelissa@hotmail.com), for more information.

November 22 — Swing Bees Vintage Swing Dance Lesson (7 to 8 p.m.), and Social (8 to 10 p.m.)

December 14 — Thanksmas Community Holiday Dinner at 1 p.m.

December 20 — Swing Bees Vintage Swing Dance Lesson (7 to 8 p.m.), and Social (8 to 10 p.m.)

On September 21, 2024, the Florida Grange hosted our last free community pancake breakfast of the season. We collaborated with Tracks Across Borders Historic Scenic Byway to offer breakfast to the participants of a self-guided tour. We served 80 breakfasts, then those wishing to participate in the tour of historic sites along the railway in Southern Colorado stayed for a history presentation. After the presentation, visitors were able to follow a self-guided tour to historic sites where they could stop and listen to additional information about the historic site.

We had exciting news in September. The Florida Grange has been a member of the La Plata County Electric Association since 1939. As part of LPEA's 85th Anniversary celebration, they honored the long-standing relationship by making a \$1,500 contribution to the Grange.

On December 14, 2024, we will host our Annual Community Thanksmas Dinner at 1 pm. Community members are invited to enjoy a holiday meal cooked by Grange Members. Attendees will be asked to donate a nonperishable food item to benefit the Durango Food Bank.

We continue to host Swing Dance Lessons and Dance Party every 4th Friday of the month. Member Annika Faye organizes the event.

Melissa Lively

Mt. Allison

Contact Larry Corman, [larry\\_corman@hotmail.com](mailto:larry_corman@hotmail.com), 970-749-8438, for more information.

Upcoming Events:

- November 2 — Harvest Supper, 5 until 6:30 p.m.
- November 30 — Christmas Bazaar.
- December 7 (tentative) — Christmas Community Breakfast.
- December 16 — business meeting at 4:30 p.m.

It seems like we are in the shoulder season for Grange after wrapping up the State Session in Durango. Thanks so much to all those of you that helped in cooking, serving, shopping, organizing, etc. for the 2 meals that were served on Saturday of State Session.

It was an excellent State Session with the highlight being Karen Baxter honored as the Outstanding Granger of the Year. This is definitely a special honor and reflects the time and sweat that she has put into the Grange over her lifetime.

We are looking forward to hosting the Harvest Supper again this November after a hiatus of a few years. We recently installed a double-convection oven so we'll be trying that out at this dinner. Be sure to come on out; we have some special things going on that evening that you don't want to miss.

With sadness, September saw the last of the food distributions that we did in conjunction with Pine River Shares. Funding basically ran out on this program, which is unfortunate for many families in this area.

The grow dome has passed another hurdle on the permitting process. It's been a journey but we are one step closer (again, thanks to Pam Willhoite with Pine River Shares for "bird-dogging" this process).

Enjoy this warm weather; winter will arrive before you know it.

Larry Corman



La Plata County Electric Association honored the long-standing relationship with Florida Grange with a \$1,500 contribution.

Marvel

Contact Cindy Greer, 970-749-8108 or [hcrdgreer@gmail.com](mailto:hcrdgreer@gmail.com) for further information.

November 30 — Community Breakfast 8 to 10 a.m.

December 6 — Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Program: Sheryl Ayers.

December 20 — Adventure to Cowboy Church, Bar D Christmas program.

December 31 — New Year's Eve Party.

2025

January 3 — Business Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Program: Kathy Hogan.

January 18 — Chili cook-off and dessert auction.

In September we had a wonderful program on Lewis and Clark presented by Mike Gallaher. We had 22 in attendance for the program and potluck.

October found many of us at the Colorado State Grange convention. Thank you to Roger Ayers, Dave Mathias, and Harry Greer for moving tables. Thank you to Sandy Valencia for going to help the Lecturer with entries and helping the judges. Thank you to Lila Greer and Frances Horvath for attending the Memorial service.

In October we enjoyed a Fencing Demonstration by the Four Corners Fencing Club. Member Gavin Dougharty is part of that group. We also had a potluck supper prior to the demonstration.

The hall was used by the 4-H, quilters, and Vista De Oro for events. Chairs and tables were rented out or a local wedding.

Roger Ayers (AKA – Shack O'Neal) and Sheryl Ayers (AKA – Gina Rodriguez) presented a version of Lucky Thirteen with Halloween Trivia questions. Dave Mathias and Cindy Greer hit their number. Lila received a prize for her birthday. Jane Westgaard and Diane Delaney also received prizes. Roger made wooden Halloween decorations as the prizes.

Cindy Greer

Marvel JG

Contact Cindy Greer, leader, 970-588-3386 or [hcrdgreer@frontier.net](mailto:hcrdgreer@frontier.net), for further information.



Marvel Junior Grangers, from left to right: Brianna and Henry; Taven K.; and Jacob using watercolors.



The Horvath Family receiving Centennial Farm Award at the State Fair.



Sue and Mike Gallaher presented a program on Lewis and Clark.



Sheryl and Roger Ayers presented a Halloween-themed Lucky 13.

tier.net, for further information.

We met in October and the kids worked on watercolors. The awards from La Plata Pomona Grange Exhibit day and the state convention were given out. We discussed when to meet again but we have yet to determine that. Some of our kids are aging out so our numbers are dwindling. We want to welcome Melissa MacDougall who has stepped up to help as a leader for the Junior Grange.

Cindy Greer



More From The 2024 Colorado State Grange Session



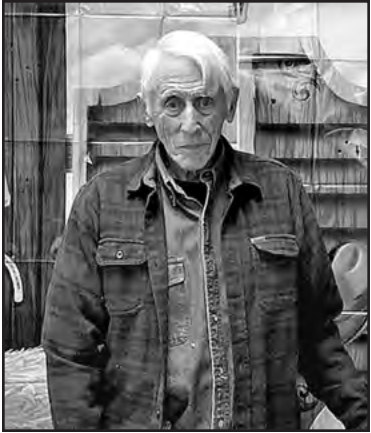
Amy Peterson and National Representative Tom Gwin join in the photo booth fun.



The Mt. Allison Kitchen Crew prepping for meals during State Session in Durango.



Kathy Wardle, DeeDee Ramstetter, and BJ Bushman having fun in the photo booth.



Dick Ellis in the photo booth.



Carol Lackey gets award from BJ.



Grangers getting lunch during State Session in Durango.

Grange Hall Podcast



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