

GRANGE 2.0



The Official Publication of the National Grange Youth Program

June 2008

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Regional Youth Conferences

Summer is almost here and its Regional Youth Conference time for the Great Plains, Mid-West, Northeastern and Western regions! Pack your bags and join your fellow Youth for a weekend of teambuilding, friendship and Grange fellowship.



More than 60 people attended this year's Eastern Regional Youth Conference

Eastern Regional Conference Wrap-Up

The Eastern Regional Youth Conference last month hosted more than 60 Grangers in Tennessee. Let's see what region can meet or exceed these numbers. During the Eastern Regional Conference, Youth earned achievement certificates in the drill, public speaking, and Sign-A-Song programs. Representing the Eastern Region at the 2008 National Grange Session is Patty Swing of North Carolina for public speaking. Also, in a very close contest, showcasing their talent in the Sign-A-Song program is the trio of Juli and Tina Grafton and Nichole Swigart.

The Countdown is on for National Session

Connecticut and the rest of the Northeastern States are pulling out the stops for a fantastic Youth program at the 2008 session. As plans come together, there has been a change with the Youth Tour. We will be going to the New England Air Museum for the Youth Tour and then working on a service project at a local School for the Deaf. The host committee is looking to see if it would be possible for the Grange Youth to enjoy their lunch at the Deaf School with the students. Stay tuned here for more details.

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Congratulations to March and April Youth Achievement Award Winners!

April was a busy month for issuing achievement awards. The Youth receiving an award are as follows by program and state:

ITSPY (Ireland, Trimble, Thompson, and Saunders) Achievement Award

Gold Level

New York

Emily Thomas for the design of a Junior Grange Website (www.bethlehemjrgrange.wetpaint.com)

Ruby Level

(Participation at Regional Conference contest)

Ohio

Tina Grafton
Juli Grafton
Nichole Swigart
Stephanie McFarland
Jill Hugus

Pennsylvania

Jodi Keith

Oliver Hudson Kelly Achievement Award

Ruby Level

(Participation at Regional public speaking contest)

North Carolina

Solomon Drake
Katie Stevens
Cody Stevens
Brittany Beshears
Winslow Dixon
Patty Swing

Ohio

Juli Grafton
Tyler King
Jill Fulks
Melanie Fitch

Pennsylvania

Jodi Keith
Martha Ebersole

Drill Achievement Award

Silver Level

(Participate in a drill at the Regional conference)

North Carolina

Cody Stevens
Brittany Beshears
Caroline Tart
Andrew Martin
Katie Stevens
Solomon Drake
Winslow Dixon

Ohio

Joyce Blosser
Ashley Piondini
Stephanie McFarland
Robert Livingood
Tina Grafton
Melanie Fitch
Wayne Spencer
Justeaphanie Chandler
Tiffany Paul
Jill Fulks
Hope Murphy
Nichole Swigart
Tyler King
Stephen Murphy
Mason Taylor
Carson Yost
Stephen Yost
Myron Sinclair

Pennsylvania

Jodi Keith
Martha Ebersole



Winning the Best in Show was the entry performed by Juli and Tina Grafton and Nichole Swigart of Ohio.

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Visit us at www.NationalGrangeYouth.org



Youth Idea Spotlight: California State Grange Fair Program

A program that has met great success in this state has been the adaptation of their local Grange Youth program to allow Grangers to participate in fair competitions with Grange projects. The concept is simple, the Grangers can exhibit their project at the fair under the Grange with the same recognition as 4-H or FFA. The program includes livestock, dairy, science and home arts projects.

Now in its 20th year, the California State Grange Youth Director Ed Komski said he would be happy to work with any State Grange interested in working with their state fair organization to get the Grange recognized as its own fair department.

This program has been a great recruitment tool in the state for Youth members. To see the program, visit the California State Grange's Website, www.californiagrangegrage.org. Ed can be reached at 760-310-6500.

Youth Program Spotlight: John Trimble Legislative Experience

National Convention Youth Legislative Experience will provide opportunities for six Grange Youth, between the ages 16 – 24 with an interest in the legislative aspect of the National Grange to see the inner workings of committees and the grass roots legislative policy development effort at the National Grange Convention

Convention Countdown Cont' d

Also, before long, it is going to be time to select the Grange Youth for the National Youth Officer Team, the John Trimble Legislative Experience and the Horizon Leadership Experience. Keep working on those applications. For youth with questions, contact your state master or youth director for assistance. Rules, applications and deadlines are on the National Grange Youth Website, www.nationalgrangeyouth.org.

Questions?

Contact National Grange Youth Director **Charlene Espenshade** at 717-361-2844 or youth@nationalgrange.org

Each Youth will serve on one of the legislative committees reviewing resolutions as a voting member of the committee and as a Youth staff assistant to the National Grange Legislative Director. Participants will watch the delegate body take action on the resolutions and assist in other ways.

As a Youth staff assistant they will be assigned some additional logistical duties so that they can see how the back room production process works at the convention. These duties will not conflict with the opportunities of seeing the National Delegates work on the floor.

Applications will be submitted to the National Youth Development Director, who will share applications with National Legislative Director in making selection of participants and assignment to committee. The deadline is Sept. 10.