

This guide is published as a source of information for current North Carolina Grange officers and leaders, as well as local Grange members, regarding the 2017 contests and programs of the NC State Grange as well as contest from the National Grange. Information from each department is included with specific instructions and rules. Please keep this guide handy as it is the ONLY reference material you will receive. Please note that any programs, information and instructions that have been updated, changed and/or added are so noted throughout this guide. Please make this information and copies of forms available to Grange members. If you have questions regarding the National Grange contests, please contact the National Grange office.

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GRANGE/GRANGER RECOGNITION AWARDS

NOMINATIONS

Each year awards are given to honor and recognize the most outstanding Granges and Grange members who are nominated for their dedication and excellence in serving their communities and/or their local Granges. All local Granges are encouraged to make nominations.

RULES

The following rules apply to ALL nominations for the annual Grange recognition awards:

- The qualifying period for each nomination is August 16, 2016 to August 15, 2017. All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover.
- 2. A contest form must accompany each nomination submitted. The contest form must serve as the cover page for the report.
- 3. Contest forms must be signed by the president of the local Grange sponsoring the nomination.

 All contest forms must be submitted to the State Grange office for review by the selection committee and must be received by AUGUST 15, 2017

AWARDS

Grange Recognition Awards will be presented at the annual NC State Grange Convention. Nominations must be received at the State Grange by **AUGUST 15, 2017**.

GRANGE OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the Grange membership and the public, those outstanding Granges that are involved in the life of their communities with an emphasis on Grange activities.

ELIGIBILITY

Local Granges and Grangers in the state of North Carolina.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

Granges are to complete the Grange of the Year form. Your Grange must enter a Family Living Report, Community Service Report and Program Director Report to be eligible for the Grange of the Year contest. These three reports will be gathered and considered when judging Grange of the Year.

There are two categories for this prize: Small Grange of the Year and Large Grange of the Year. Small is a Grange with a membership of 50 members or less and large is 51 or more at the June 2017 quarterly report.

MONETARY AWARDS: \$300 EACH

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize a Grange family of their outstanding accomplishments and involvement in their local Grange and community activities.

ELIGIBILITY

A local Grange may nominate any family with membership in that local Grange. The activities of immediate family members (parents and/or children) will be considered. Nominations must be made by the local Grange where the Grange family's membership exists.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 2.

- 1. Names of family members
- 2. Address of head of family
- 3. Grange name and number
- 4. Length of Grange membership of each family member
- 5. List local, state, and/or national offices held by any of the family members
- 6. Describe family members' involvement and accomplishments in Grange activities
- 7. Describe family members' involvement and accomplishments in non-Grange activities and organizations
- 8. List previous awards received by family members, both Grange and non-Grange

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

GRANGE FARM OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership, farming families for their commitment to agriculture, their local Granges, and their communities.

ELIGIBILITY

A local Grange may nominate any farming family whose membership is in that local Grange. The activities of immediate family members (parents and/or children) will be considered.

NFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 2.

- 1. Name of farm
 - a. Owner
 - b. Spouse
 - c. Children
 - d. Parents
- 2. Address of farm/owner
- 3. Grange name and number
- 4. Length of Grange membership of each family member
- 5. List local, state, and/or national offices held by any of the family members
- 6. Describe family members' involvement and activities on the family's farm
- 7. For crop producers: list crops along with acreage for each crop
- 8. For livestock producers: list livestock amount raised
- 9. For horticulture producers: list types of horticulture enter prizes and the size of each operation
- 10. List each farm building along with its purpose
- 11. List any conservation practices incorporated into the opera-
- 12. List management practices for environmental protection
- 13. List major pieces of machinery used in the operation
- 14. Describe new innovations adopted during the year (e.g. new technology, management or cultural practices, new machinery or equipment)
- List previous awards received by family members, both Grange and non-Grange
- 16. Include any additional information about your farm you wish

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

GRANGER OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership those outstanding Grange members who are involved in the life of their communities with an emphasis on Grange activities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any adult members nominated by a local Grange are eligible. A local Grange may nominate one adult person in the Granger of the Year contest. Nominations must be made by the Grange where the Granger's membership exists.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 2.

- 1. Grange name and number
- 2. Length of Grange membership
- 3. Offices held in local, state, and/or National Grange

- 4. Membership and/or offices held in other organizations
- 5. Briefly describe accomplishments and activities in the Grange
- Briefly describe accomplishments and activities in non-Grange activities or organizations. List any previous awards received.

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

YOUTH GRANGER OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the Grange and the public one exemplary Youth Granger who is involved in Grange activities as well as their communities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any Grange youth, ages 14-20, who is a dues paying member of a local Grange in North Carolina. There is no limit to the number of applicants that may come from one local Grange. Nominations may come from Grange members or a youth may self-nominate.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE ON REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 2.

- 1. Age of youth
- 2. Mailing address and email address
- 3. Parent or guardian name and phone number
- 4. Name of local Grange and length of membership
- 5. Name of school attending and current grade
- 6. List all local, state, and National Grange offices held as a youth member
- 7. List all local, state, and National Grange events/activities participated in as a youth member
- 8. List any Grange awards and recognition received on state, local and national levels as a youth member
- 9. List any community and/or school awards received as a youth member
- 10. Describe Grange community service projects involved in over the past year on the local, state and national levels.
- 11. Include an essay by the youth nominee on the topic 'The impact the Grange has made on my life.' The essay must be a minimum of one paragraph and a maximum of one page. This page can serve as an additional page to the report.
- 12. Include one letter of recommendation from a Grange member. This letter should not exceed one page and can serve as an additional page to the report.

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

JUNIOR GRANGER OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the Grange and the public one exemplary junior Granger who is involved in their communities, with an emphasis on Grange activities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any local junior Grange member ages 5-13 in North Carolina. Nominations must be made by the local Grange where the junior Granger's membership exists.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 2.

- 1. Age of junior
- 2. Address
- 3. Parent or guardian's name and phone number
- 4. Length of Grange membership
- 5. List local and/or state Grange offices held by Junior Granger
- 6. List Grange activities participated
- 7. Name of school attending and current grade
- 8. Describe community service projects involved in over past year (see qualifying period), in your local Grange, at the state level and National level.
- 9. List hobbies and other interests
- 10. Include essay by junior nominee on the National Grange 2017 writing topic. It can be found at www.nationalgrange.org (topic should be released January 2017). The essay must be a minimum of one paragraph and a maximum of one page. This page can serve as an additional page to the report.

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

JUNIOR GRANGE OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor one exemplary Junior Granges that is involved in their schools and communities, with an emphasis on Grange activities.

ELIGIBILITY

All local junior Granges in North Carolina.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 2.

- 1. List of officers
- 2. List how many new members joined since August 15, 2016
- 3. List how many members were dropped since August 15, 2016
- 4. List any membership programs you complete each month
- 5. List meeting times and dates
- 6. Is there an exchange of programs with other organizations?
- 7. List special programs

- 8. Approximate participation in State Family Living Activities programs
- 9. List and describe the activities of the Junior Grange
- 10. Does the Junior Grange have an ongoing Community Service Program?
- 11. List the Junior Grange's Community Service projects
- 12. Does your Junior Grange participate in the Badge Program?
- 13. List other pertinent information

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$300

GRANGE MONTH

The month of April is designated as Grange Month by the National Grange. Each year during the month of April, local Granges of North Carolina are encouraged to participate in Grange Month by hosting specially designed programs and events that promote the Grange and Grange activities.

Recognition for the Grange Month awards is based on the reports submitted by Granges that carry out the most outstanding Grange Month programs and events in their communities. The awards will be presented at the Annual State Grange Convention.

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover.

MONETARY AWARDS:

First Place \$50 Second Place \$35 Third Place \$25

Grange Month forms must be received by AUGUST 15, 2017.

RECRUITER OF THE YEAR

Recruiter of the Year is designed to recognize the Grange member who has shown the greatest success in building the Grange via their efforts to bring in new, reinstated or associate members. This Grange member expends extra effort to share the Grange with others. The Grange relies on the success of these Grange members, which boosts the growth and vitality of the Grange. In order to receive this honor, the nominated Granger must have successfully recruited a minimum of five persons into membership in a local Grange between August 16, 2016 and August 15, 2017. Submit an entry form (no supplemental information is necessary) it must be received by AUGUST 15, 2017. Recognition will be made at the State Convention.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

Presented annually at State Convention, this recognition award is given to the local Grange Secretary who demonstrates the most outstanding organizational and record-keeping skills in his/her local Grange. This recognition is based on the timely manner in which the Secretary files his/her quarterly reports and the accuracy of those reports.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Director: Joyce Clodfelter

Email: community@ncgrange.com

Community Service, a long-standing Grange tradition, is the very heart of the Grange in local communities. Local North Carolina Granges set and maintain high standards of excellence in meeting and serving the needs of their communities. It is our goal to maintain this tradition of excellence in 2017.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Annually, the State Grange recognizes the top four entries for Grange Community service. This award, like the Grange of the Year will be separated into 2 categories: Small & Large (50 or less members at the June 2017 quarterly report and 51 or more members at the June 2017 quarterly report). Each category will have a first, second, third and fourth place. There is also a junior Grange community service award, presented only to first place.

All who report their community service accomplishments on the entry form will be recognized with a certificate at State Convention.

To enter your Grange please answer the following questions about EACH of your community service projects. All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. Please submit a copy of your June 2017 quarterly (report, not roster) with your entry.

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

- 1. Grange name
- 2. Number of members in your Grange
- 3. Chairperson of the project
- 4. Project chairperson's phone and email
- 5. Project name
- 6. Purpose of this project.
- 7. How did you plan and implement your project?
- 8. How many of your members worked on this project?
- 9. How many man hours did your Grange members contribute?
- 10. On what day(s) was the project completed?
- 11. Did you partner with any other organizations to complete this project?
- 12. What challenges did you face completing this project?
- 13. Did your Grange analyze the success of the project? Will you do it again? If so what changes would you make to this project in the future?

MONETARY AWARDS:

First Place \$250 Second Place \$200

Third Place \$150

Junior Grange

First Place \$250

Reports must be received in the State Grange office by AUGUST 15,

GRANGE COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS

NOMINATIONS

Each year awards are given to honor and recognize the most outstanding individuals and organizations who are nominated by local Granges for their dedication and excellence in serving their communities. All local Granges are encouraged to make nominations.

RULES

The following rules apply to ALL nominations for the annual Community Recognition Awards:

- 1. The qualifying period for each nomination is August 16, 2016 to August 15, 2017.
- 2. All questions must be briefly answered in a typed 3 page report (double sided is two pages), and may include one page of three photographs) for a maximum of four pages (two pages double sided).
- 3. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover.
- 4. A Nomination form MUST accompany each nomination submitted.
- 5. Nominees may be, but do not have to be Grange members.
- 6. Nomination forms MUST be signed by the President of the local Grange sponsoring the nominations.
- 7. Previous winners are exempt from being nominated for the next five years. IE: The 2016 winners cannot be nominated again until 2022.

State Grange Community Recognition Awards will be presented at the NC State Convention. Nominations must be submitted to and received by the State Grange office by **AUGUST 15, 2017**.

CHURCH OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership, churches for their outstanding interest, dedication, and labor to the spiritual life and well-being of their communities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any church nominated by a local Grange in North Carolina is eligible for an award. Only one nomination is allowed per Grange. A Grange's nomination can be from only one of the following three categories:

- 1. 250+ members
- 2. 101 249 members
- 3. 100 or less members

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 6.

- 1. Name of pastor
- 2. Church address
- 3. Denomination (if any affiliation)
- 4. Membership of church (see eligibility)
- 5. Date organized
- 6. Briefly describe how the church ministers to the spiritual life of its members (SUGGESTIONS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING)

Worship service

Teaching the Bible

Music

Church membership training

Fellowship

Specialized ministries

- 7. Church administration/organization
 - a. List staff, officers, and workers
 - b. Sunday school development
 - c. Stewardship growth and development
 - Describe the church in the community.

(SUGGESTIONS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING)

Health/retirement work

Underprivileged/special needs

Denomination/interdenominational activities

World and home missions

Stewardship

9. Include any additional information about the church.

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD \$250

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership, an educator who has excelled above their peers with their labor and dedication in the education and well-being of students.

ELIGIBILITY

Any educator nominated by a local Grange in North Carolina.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 7.

- 1. Name of school/college/institute where the educator is employed
- 2. Address of school/college/institute
- 3. Number of years at current school
- 4. Grade or subject taught
- 5. Certifications
- 6. Total number of years as an educator
- 7. Membership in professional organizations
- 8. Positions held since beginning of career as an educator
- 9. Training attended during the past year
- 10. Honors/recognitions received as an educator
- 11. Special initiatives or projects in which the educator has participated
- 12. Special sucess story

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$100

FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and Grange membership, a fire department for their outstanding dedication and labor to the safety of their communities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any fire department in North Carolina.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See "Rules" on page 6

- 1. Name of chief
- 2. Fire department address
- 3. Number of members
- 4. Number of volunteer firefighters
- 5. Number of paid firefighters
- 6. Brief description of:
 - a. History of department
 - b. Physical plant and equipment
 - c. Training programs
 - d. Fire prevention and education programs

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$250

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership, a North Carolina firefighter who has excelled above their peers to their dedication and labor for the safety of their communities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any firefighter who is nominated by a local Grange in North Carolina.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 6.

- 1. Address of department
- 2. Name of department chief/supervisor
- 3. Years of service
- 4. Volunteerism of the firefighter
- 5. Membership in professional organizations
- 6. Positions or departments served since beginning as a firefighter
- 7. Training attended during the past year
- 8. Honors / recognitions received as a firefighter
- 9. Special initiatives or projects in which the firefighter has been a participant
- 10. Special success story

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This

information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$100

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership, a law enforcement officer in North Carolina who has excelled above their peers in their dedication and labor to the safety of their communities.

ELIGIBILITY

Any law enforcement officer nominated by a local Grange in North Carolina.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 6.

- 1. Officer's department, division, and rank
- 2. Length of service in law enforcement
- 3. Special training received
- 4. Membership in professional organizations
- 5. Other positions held during career
- 6. Training attended during the past year
- 7. Honors/recognitions received as a law enforcement officer
- 8. Special initiatives or projects in which the law enforement officer has been a participant
- 9. Special success story

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. This information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$100

MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE YEAR

(ACTIVE OR VETERAN)

PURPOSE

To recognize and honor before the public and the Grange membership, military personnel (active duty or veteran military personnel) from North Carolina who has excelled above their peers in their dedication and service to our nation.

ELIGIBILITY

Any member of the United States Armed Forces nominated by a local Grange in North Carolina. Military person must be from North Carolina, originally.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

All questions must be briefly answered in a typed three page report. Double sided pages will be considered two pages. The report may be accompanied by one page of three photographs. Please submit this entry in a 3-prong report cover. See rules on page 6.

- 1. Member's rank, division, and branch
- 2. Length of service in the Armed Forces
- 3. Other positions held during career

- 4. Honors/recognitions received as a member of the US Armed
- Special initiatives or projects in which the applicant has been a participant
- Membership in professional organizations
- Special success story

Please include a short 3-4 sentence summary of your nominee. information will be read at the awards ceremony if the nominee is the recipient of the award.

MONETARY AWARD: \$100

FAMILY LIVING

Director: Joyce Clodfelter community@ncgrange.com

The purpose of the Family Living Activities Department is to promote and support healthy activities of the mind, body, and spirit that strengthen family relationships. Craft and Baking/Cooking contests are sponsored each year at the State Convention to encourage the development and sharing of various personal and family-related skills.

FAMILY LIVING REPORT

Each year, the State Grange recognizes the Family Living Activities undertaken by local Granges based on the reports filed by the local chairs. Reports are due for review by a selection committee and must be received by AUGUST 15, 2017. Reports should be the answers to the questions on the entry form in a maximum 1 page report with 1 page of three photos (totaling 1 page double sided) for each Family Living project completed.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

All Granges are encouraged to send in their annual reports on time and must be received by AUGUST 15, 2017.

CONTESTS

Entrants must be dues-paying Grange members in good standing to participate in any Grange contest.

ADULT BAKING CONTESTS

DIVISIONS

1. Apples 2. Nuts (any nut) Categories: Categories: a. Cakes a. Cakes b. Cookies b. Cookies c. Pies c. Pies d. Candies

3. Sweet Potatoes

4. Berries Categories: Categories: a. Cakes a. Cakes b. Cookies b. Cookies c. Pies c. Pies

ADULT BAKING CONTESTS

Adults ages 21 and over

RULES

- 1. Recipes using boxed mixes will be disqualified. All entries must be homemade by the baker. Pre-made pie crusts are no longer accepted.
- 2. The MAIN ingredient, proportionately, must be apples, nuts (or nut butter), berries, or sweet potatoes. If the recipe does not consist appropriately of the main ingredient, it will be disqualified from contest judging.
- 3. Only one entry per person per division and per category. Participants may enter up to 13 items by entering an item in each category for each division.
- 4. Entries must be submitted online prior to convention, and no later than midnight September 12, 2017. To submit your entry online visit www.ncgrange.com.
- 5. A copy of your entry will be automatically emailed to the email address you provide. Print a copy of the form, sign the form and bring it with your entry to Convention.
- 6. An identification label must be attached to the bottom of the platter/ container of each contest entry.
- 7. Individuals may not submit a previous winning recipe.
- 8. Baked goods must arrive on disposable containers. Any nondisposable containers used and left will not be returned to owner.
- 9. No entries will be refrigerated, do not submit any entries that require refrigeration.

Entries will be judged on flavor, texture, appearance, creativity, and adherence to contest entry rules. Judges are non-Grange members and judges decisions are final. Entries will be made available by Grange members during the Annual Tasting Party!

All recipes become the property of the NC State Grange and selected recipes will be published in Grange News.

MONETARY AWARDS:

Winners will be awarded in each age category, per division based on merit according to the judging criteria.

Adults

1st \$45 2nd \$35 3rd \$25

Best of Show: \$50

One Best of Show will be awarded to one of the adult first place winners in the baking Contest.

YOUTH & JUNIOR BAKING CONTESTS

AGE GROUPS

Junior (5-13)

Youth (14-20)

DIVISIONS

Chocolate Chip Cookies
 Mini Chocolate Cupcakes
 Any Nut Cookies
 Mini Nut Cupcakes

RULES:

Same rules as adult entries, but items must arrive, pre-registered online for judging by 9 a.m., Saturday morning of convention.

Juniors		Youth		
1st	\$20	1st	\$25	
2nd	\$15	2nd	\$20	
3rd	\$10	3rd	\$15	

Best of Show: \$50

One Best of Show will be awarded to one of the youth/junior first place winners in the baking contests.

CRAFT CONTESTS

Entrants must be dues-paying Grange members in good standing to participate in any Grange contest.

DIVISIONS

- 1. Baskets
- 2. Ceramics (hand constructed/poured molds)
- 3. Holiday Craft
- 4. Jewelry
- 5. Knitting
- 6. Crochet
- 7. Needlework (cross stitch, embroidery, needlepoint, etc.)
- 8. Quilts
- 9. Sculpture (metal, stone, clay, wood, no poured molds.)
- 10. Sewing
- 11. Woodwork
- 12. Recycled Craft
- 13. Miscellaneous (leather, glass blowing, stained glass, decoupage, mosaic, etc.) Items entered into this category must not fit into any other category.

AGE GROUPS

Juniors I ages 5-8

Juniors II ages 9-13

Youth ages 14-20

Adults ages 21 and over

RULES

- 1. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE HANDMADE BY THE ENTRANT. Craft work from kits and commercially or mass produced items are NOT ACCEPTABLE and will be disqualified.
- 2. Crafts must have been completed since September 1, 2016.
- 3. Entries must be submitted online prior to convention, and no later than midnight September 12, 2017. To submit your entry on-

line visit www.ncgrange.com.

- 4. Only ONE entry per person, per division. You may enter up to 13 items by entering an item in each category for each division.
- 5. All entries MUST be submitted at the designated crafts contest location at the NC State Grange Convention by 10:00 a.m. on that Friday. The location will likely be open Thursday and Friday morning (subject to hotel space availability, consult a convention schedule closer to the dates for more accurate times)
- 6. Entries submitted for "miscellaneous" cannot fit into another category.

Crafts will be judged on workmanship, attention to detail, creativity/ originality, aesthetic quality, and adherence to the contest entry rules. Judges are non-Grange members and judges decisions are final.

MONETARY AWARDS

Winners will be awarded in each division and by age group based on judging criteria.

Juniors	S	Youth		Adults	
1st	\$20	1st	\$25	1st	\$45
2nd	\$15	2nd	\$20	2nd	\$35
3rd	\$10	3rd	\$15	3rd	\$25

Honorable Mention: Ribbon

Best of Show: \$50

One Best of Show will be awarded to one of the adult first place winners in the Craft Contest.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Director: Laurie Barnhart llbarnhart@ncgrange.com

919-539-5821

The State Grange encourages Granges to be active in the Legislative Department.

PROGRAMS IDEAS

- Attend city or county governmental meetings, (town council, county commissioners, board of health, board of education meetings, etc.). Keep a record of types of meetings and topics discussed.
- 2. Report current and relevant governmental or legislative information at your local Grange meetings.
- 3. Host or co-sponsor a "Meet the Candidates" night or debate.
- 4. With direction from State Grange or National Grange, write a letter concerning a state or national issue to your Congressman and submit a copy of it to the State Grange Legislative Director.
- 5. Submit resolutions 60-days PRIOR to State Convention.
- 6. Attend North Carolina General Assembly committee meetings.
- 7. Submit an article describing how your Grange's political activity has been of benefit to your community, North Carolina, or the nation.
- 8. Honor any public official, appointed or elected, which you feel is worthy of recognition.
- 9. Submit governmental affairs articles for potential publication in *Grange News*.
- 10. Submit any additional legislative or governmental efforts to be

considered.

RESOLUTIONS

Grange members may actively participate in the formation and development of North Carolina State Grange policy by submitting resolutions on issues of state, national or internal Grange concern. It is very important to present facts when writing your resolutions. Please check current Grange policy and local, state, or federal laws to make certain you clearly identify the issue you want to address. Resolutions which inadvertently include incorrect information may injure the Grange's credibility when policy is presented to the General Assembly, Congress, or other organizations.

Resolutions will be considered by the following standing committees.

☐ Agriculture and Environment
☐ Grange Law and Programs
☐ Health, Education and Welfare
☐ Legislative and Taxation

Please make sure all resolutions are submitted in the proper form.

- 1. Each resolution has a clear, concise title.
- 2. In the first WHEREAS paragraph, state the problem (only supportable facts—not opinions). Use a semicolon followed by "and" at the end of paragraph.
- 3. Each additional WHEREAS should state a fact (not opinion), that further explains the cause of the problem. Each fact (there may be several), is a separate paragraph. Use a semicolon at end of the last WHEREAS paragraph, followed by "therefore be it."
- 4. The RESOLVED paragraph states the action you wish to see taken. If there is more than one solution, tie them together with a semicolon at the end of each RESOLVED paragraph followed by "and be it further resolved." Properly written, this section could stand alone. It will relate to the problem already stated, and clearly articulate the action desired to correct that problem.

Send resolutions to: 1734 Wilkesboro Hwy, Statesville, NC 28625 All Granges are required to send their resolutions in 60 days prior to State Convention.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The State Grange recognizes the legislative activities achieved by local Granges based on the reports filed by the local chairs. All local Granges reporting will be recognized at the State Grange Convention.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

Legislative Reports should be submitted in a 3-prong folder with no limit on the number of pages.

The Legislative Department reports should be sent in for review by a selection committee and must be received by September 1, 2017.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Director: Laurie Barnhart llbarnhart@ncgrange.com 919-539-5821

MISSION

It shall be the mission of the Program Directors to work with other

officers in planning and carrying out programs and contests that will stimulate interest in the Grange and attract new members of all ages.

GOALS

A. To create valuable and significant programs for members and their communities.

B. To revitalize local Granges by increasing participation of existing Grange members.

C. To promote the Grange and Grange values.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS REPORT

This award is presented to the Program Director who has demonstrated outstanding variety, relevance, importance, interest, and enthusiasm in carrying out programming for their local Grange each year.

Recognition will be given at the 88th annual State Convention, to all Program Directors who have submitted a report for their Grange.

MONETARY AWARD: \$150

Please describe the following items in a 15 page report (ideally 1 page front & back per month and up to three pages for your Grange Month activities). However, the 15 pages may be used as you wish.

- ☐ Monthly meetings, a brief description and/or agenda from meeting ☐ Preparation and planning
- ☐ Handouts by those giving a special program
- ☐ Celebration of Grange Month

Reports are due for review by a selection committee and must be received by **AUGUST 15, 2017**.

CONTESTS

Entrants must be dues-paying Grange members in good standing to participate in any Grange contest.

ART CONTEST

DIVISIONS

- 1. Oils and acrylics
- 2. Pencil, pen & ink
- 3. Pastels, charcoal
- 4. Watercolor

AGE GROUPS

Juniors I ages 5-8

Juniors II ages 9-13

Youth ages 14-20

Adults ages 21 and over

RULES

- 1. All entries must be the original work of the entrant.
- 2. Only one entry per person per division. You may enter up to six pieces of artwork by entering an item in each division.
- 3. Entries submitted for judging must have been completed since September 1, 2016.
- 4. All entries must have a title.
- 5. All entries must be mounted or matted for stability

6. Entries must be submitted online prior to convention, and no later than midnight September 12, 2017. To submit your entry online visit www.ncgrange.com.

All entries MUST be submitted at the designated Art Contest location by 10:00 a.m. on Friday at the 89th annual State Convention. The location will likely be open Thursday and Friday morning (subject to hotel space availability, consult a convention schedule closer to the dates for more accurate times).

Entries will be judged based on use of medium selected, craftsmanship and skill, composition, presentation of subject, originality, and adherence to contest entry rules. Judges are non-Grange members, and the decisions of the judges are final.

MONETARY AWARDS

Winners will be awarded in each division by age group based on judging criteria.

Junior	S	Youth		Adults	
1st	\$20	1st	\$25	1st	\$45
2nd	\$15	2nd	\$20	2nd	\$35
3rd	\$10	3rd	\$15	3rd	\$25

Best of Show: \$50.

ONE Best of Show will be awarded by the judges to one of the adult first place winners in the Art Contest.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

DIVISIONS

Photography must be based on the following subjects.

- 1. Feathered Friends
- 2. Easter Traditions
- 3. Bridges of NC
- 4. Still life: Fruit

AGE GROUPS

Juniors I ages 5-8

Juniors II ages 9-13

Youth ages 14-20

Adults ages 21 and over

RULES

- 1. All entries must be the original work of the contestant.
- 2. Only ONE entry per person, per division. You may enter up to four photographs by entering an item in each division.
- 3. All entries MUST be a 5x7 photograph and matted in a white 8x10 mat. Do not frame the photo.
- 4. Entries submitted for judging must have been completed since September 1, 2016.
- 5. Entries must be submitted online prior to convention, and no later than midnight September 12, 2017. To submit your entry online visit www.ncgrange.com.

All entries mustbe submitted at the designated Photography Contest location by 10:00 a.m. on Friday at the 89th Annual State Convention. The location will likely be open Thursday and Friday morning (subject to hotel space availability, consult a convention schedule closer to the dates for more accurate times).

Entries will be judged based on composition and arrangement, interest, presentation, quality, and adherence to the contest entry rules. Judges are non-Grange members and decisions of the judges are final.

MONETARY AWARDS

Monetary prizes will be awarded in each age category, per division based on participation.

Juniors		Youth		Adults	
1st	\$20	1st	\$25	1st	\$45
2nd	\$15	2nd	\$20	2nd	\$35
3rd	\$10	3rd	\$15	3rd	\$25

Best of Show: \$50.

One Best of Show will be awarded by the judges to one of the first place adult winners in the Photography Contest.

INSTAGRAM PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

A. Instagram photography must be based on the following subject: **DAYBREAK**

Instagram is a photo application used on smart phones such as iPhones and Androids.

RULES

- 1. All entries must be the original work of the contestant.
- 2. All entrants must be current Grange members in good standing at the time of State Convention.
- 3. Only ONE entry per person, there are no age groups.
- 4. Entries submitted for judging must have been completed since September 1, 2016.
- 5. Entries must be tagged with the user @NCGrange and the hashtag #2017GrangePhotoContest must be used in the caption
- 6. Instagram entries are not eligible for the Best of Show
- 7. All entries must be uploaded by 10 a.m. on the Friday of State Convention.
- 8. Instagram accounts must be public accounts in order to be judged.
- 9. Entry forms must be submitted online prior to convention, and no later than midnight September 12, 2017. To submit your entry online visit www.ncgrange.com.

AWARDS

Only one winner is selected, and they will be provided a \$50 Best Buy gift card.

TALENT CONTEST

The Talent contest is open to Grange members of all ages, as individuals or as groups. Groups can be comprised of members of one Grange or several Granges.

NOTE: If a group is comprised of any combination of different ages, it will be judged and awarded based on the age group of the lead role in the performance.

NOTE: Sign language performances are ineligible in the talent contest. For those who may be interested, there is a Sign Language Contest at the Annual Winter Youth Conference.

DIVISIONS

- 1. Vocal
- 2. Instrumental
- 3. Variety (dance, novelty, skits, etc.)

AGE GROUPS

Juniors Ages 5-13

RULES

- 1. All contestants must be Grange members
- 2. Only one entry per person.
- Maximum time is five minutes. There is no minimum time limit, but a maximum time limit is five minutes. For performances lasting longer than five minutes, two points will be deducted per minute, or portion therof, the per performance runs over.
- 4. Each entry must be submitted with a talent contest entry form. Entries submitted without an entry form will be disqualified from the contest judging.
- 5. Talent winners cannot win best of show consecutive years, and are not eligible for five years. I.E.: The 2016 winner cannot win again until 2022.

Talent Contest entries must be submitted to the NC State Grange office, 1734 Wilkesboro Hwy, Statesville, NC and must be received by FEBRUARY 15, 2017, as the 2017 Talent Show will be hosted at FAMILY CONFERENCE at Carolina Beach, NC, March 3-5, 2017.

Performances will be judged on the following criteria, with 1-10 points being awarded in each area.

- 1. Stage presence
- 2. Appropriateness of dress or costume
- 3. Preparation and skill of presentation
- 4. Suitability of act
- 5. Audience appeal

MONETARY AWARDS

Winners will be awarded in the three age categories based on merit according to the judging criteria.

Juniors		Youth		Adults	
1st	\$20	1st	\$25	1st	\$45
2nd	\$15	2nd	\$20	2nd	\$35
3rd	\$10	3rd	\$15	3rd	\$25

Best of show: \$50

Best of Show will be presented to one of the first place winner(s) in the talent contest. The Best of Show winner will perform at the 2017 National Grange Convention during the Evening of Excellence.

WRITING CONTEST

DIVISIONS

Poetry

Creative writing

AGE GROUPS

Junior I ages 5-8

Junior II ages 9-13

Youth ages 14-19

Adults ages 20 and over

TOPIC (NC Grange writing, not National Grange)

"How can we remain thankful for what we have in a world of Facebook window dressing & illusion?...."

RULES

- 1. All entries must be the original work of the contestant.
- 2. Only one entry per person per division. You may enter up to two writing pieces by entering an item in each division.
- 3. Writings submitted for judging must have been completed since September 1, 2016.
- 4. Each entry must be a minimum of 1 page and a maximum of two pages in length.
- 5. All entries must be typed and double spaced and the theme must be typed at the top of the first page.
- 6. All entries must stick to the provided topic.
- 7. Each entry must be submitted with a writing contest entry form. Entries submitted without an entry form will be disqualified.
- 8. Writing Contest entries must be submitted to: NC State Grange, 1734 Wilkesboro Hwy, Statesville, NC 28625 and must be received by **AUGUST 15, 2017**.

Entries will be judged based on composition, appeal, use of theme, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and adherence to contest entry rules. Judges are non-Grange members and the judges decisions are final. Writing Contest winners will be awarded at State Grange Convention

MONETARY AWARD

Monetary prizes will be awarded in each age category, per division based on merit according to the judging criteria.

Juniors		Youth		Adults	
1st	\$20	1st	\$25	1st	\$45
2nd	\$15	2nd	\$20	2nd	\$35
3rd	\$10	3rd	\$15	3rd	\$25

Best of Show: \$50

One Best of Show Grand Prize will be awarded by the judges to one of the adult first place winners in the writing contest.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST & SIGN-A-SONG CONTEST

See youth section for rules. Both contests are held at Winter Youth Conference. These contests are open to all ages even though it's held at a youth event.

JUNIOR GRANGE DEPARTMENT

Director: Emily Hartsell junior@ncgrange.com

The State Grange encourages local Granges to promote and support Junior membership and activities. If your Grange does not have a Junior Grange and you are interested in starting one, please call Jessica Horton, State Membership Director.

STATE GRANGE EVENTS

Programs are available for junior participation at the following events:

Family Conference

Southeastern Regional Conference

Grange Camp

NATIONAL JUNIOR GRANGE PROGRAMS AND CONTESTS At the time of this publication, the 2017 Junior Guidebook has not been published. It will be found at www.nationalgrange.org.

JUNIOR GRANGER OF THE YEAR

See page 5 for details of the award for Junior Grange Community Service, and page 4 for Junior Granger and Junior Grange of the Year awards.

PROJECTS

Purpose: To provide juniors with the opportunity to learn the values and pride of participating in assistance projects. To help teach them the value of volunteerism and promote a lifelong commitment to service among juniors

CAN TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Juniors are asked to collect as many can tabs as they can as a service project in 2016. Juniors can turn tabs in at any State Grange Youth event, and tabs will be collected all year long. Juniors collecting the most tabs in 2015-2016 will receive special recognition and an award at the State Convention in September. Tabs collected to support families whose children are seriously ill and helps pay for family housing while these children are receiving medical treatment.

Some charities and organizations you can help out are: American Foster Association, Wigs For Kids, Red Cross, Grange Disaster Fund, Newborns In Need, Cancer Research, Youth Crisis Centers, St. Jude's Children's Hospital etc.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Director: Jennie Gentry jenniegentry@ncgrange.com

PROGRAMS

YOUTH AMBASSADORS

Purpose

To provide two youth with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate leadership and communication skills and to represent NC at the National Grange Convention. This is the top leadership honor of the youth program.

Requirements

- a. Must have been a Grange member for a minimum of 1 year.
- b. Must be 16-20 years old
- c. Must be able to attend State Convention, Winter Youth Conference, Family Conference, Eastern Regional Youth Conference, Grange Camp, and National Convention.
- d. Must complete application with a paragraph on "What Makes You a Good Leader." Applications are available through Jennie Gentry, State Youth Director.
- e. Applicants must attend Winter Youth Conference for the interview portion of the application process and to prove Grange knowledge.
- f. Youth Ambassadors can only serve for one year. They MUST be able to attend the 2016 National Grange Convention.
- g. Only two youth are chosen: one male and one female
- h. Must follow the National rules (found at www.nationalgrange.

org).

Youth Ambassadors are determined by the State Grange Youth Committee based on applications and the interview process and selected at the Winter Youth Conference.

YOUTH TEAM

Purpose

To provide youth with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate leadership and communication skills. To enable them to become positive role models to younger Grange members as well as other youth. To promote the NC State Grange Youth Program to youth across the state.

Requirements

- a. Must be a Grange member
- b. Must be 15 20 years old
- c. Must be able to attend State Convention, Winter Youth Confence, Family Conference, Grange Camp, and Youth Team Caravan.
- d. Must complete application with a paragraph on what qualifies you to be on the Youth Team. Applications are available through Jennie Gentry, State Director.
- e. Applicants must attend Winter Youth Conference for the interview portion of the application process.
- f. Youth Team members can serve up to two years on the team and must reapply for their second year.

The Youth Team is determined by the State Grange Youth Committee based on applications and the interview process and selected at Winter Youth Conference.

GRANGE STATE YOUTH OFFICERS

All youth Grange members have the opportunity to serve as a Grange Youth Officer. Being a Youth Officer gives the youth an opportunity to learn the business of the Grange, building communication skills and leadership skills. Being a Grange Youth Officer also helps youth to become future Grange leaders. Elections are held each year at Winter Youth Conference.

PROJECTS

Purpose

To provide youth with the opportunity to learn the values and pride of participating in assistance projects. To help teach them the value of volunteerism and promote a lifelong committment to service among youth.

CAN TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Youth are asked to collect as many can tabs as they can as a service project in 2017. Youth can turn tabs in at any State Grange Youth event, and tabs will be collected all year long. Youth collecting the most tabs in 2017 will receive special recognition and an award at the State Convention in September. Tabs collected to support families whose children are seriously ill and helps pay for family housing while these children are receiving medical treatment.

GRANGERS ON THE GO

Youth are invited to participate in this program to promote exercise and healthy living, while supporting charities. Youth will receive information on 5K races that they can participate in throughout the year. Youth participants can sign up to compete or to leisurely finish the run/walk. 5K races selected for this program will be for charity.

Youth unable to afford the \$20 to \$30 fee per race are asked to contact Jennie Gentry for a sponsorship. Race dates and details will be emailed and promoted on Facebook.

Some charities and organizations you can help out are: American Foster Association, Wigs For Kids, Red Cross, Grange Disaster Fund, Newborns In Need, Cancer Research, Youth Crisis Centers, St. Jude's Children's Hospital etc.

CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS

Programs are available for youth participation at the following events.

Winter Youth Conference

Family Conference

Southeastern Regional Conference

Grange Camp

State Convention

CONTESTS SIGN-A-SONG CONTEST

1. Categories

- a. Novice: Someone who is beginning to learn sign, has had no more than three sign language classes and has entered the sign-asong contest no more than two years.
- b. Hobbyist: Someone who signs on an occasional basis and strictly for fun. One who has entered the sign-a-song contest more than two years.
- c. Group: Two or more people signing
- d. Expert: Someone who signs professionally. Ineligible for Best of Show, but looking for opportunity to encourage others to participate.

2. Rules

- a. Participants must provide their own music. A CD player will be available.
- b. Anyone who is a professional instructor or receives money for signing may only enter in the expert category. Expert category entries are ineligible for Best of Show. If there is a professional signer in a group entry, it is only eligible in the expert category.
- c. Participants must be Grange members
- d. Signers must use total communication techniques. Sign Language, facial expressions, mouthing of words for lip reading, finger spelling if appropriate, and body movement.
- e. Props and costumes are NOT ALLOWED, rhythm is optional.
- f. Only one song may be signed during the competition performance.
- g. Participants must sign their own name and song title.
- h. Participants must inform the audience and judges what type of sign language they will be using (Pidgin, ASL, ESL, etc.)

3. Judging Guidelines

- a. Utilization of total communication skills, sign language ability, Signs clearly with correct interpretation = 32 points
- b. Body expression, display emotion, express key thoughts with body movement, mouth words for lip reading = 30 points
- c. Presentation, interpret with confidence, uniformity (group) = 25 points
- d. Song selection is appropriate, with a clear meaning and is suitable for the participants' signing abilities
 = 10 points
- e. Signed own name = 1 point

- f. Signed title of song = 1 point
- g. Informed judges and audience of type of sign language being used = 1 point
- h. Total = 100 points

AWARDS

- a. 1st place winners in each category receive a complimentary trip to compete at the Regional Youth Conference.
- b. Regional Contest: National Grange will provide ribbons and cash prizes to the top 3 entrants in each division and age category: 1st \$20, 2nd \$15, 3rd \$10. A special award is presented to the Best of Show at the Regional Contest. Best of Show winners win \$25 and are eligible to showcase at National Convention.
- c. Evening of Excellence: Best of Show winners participate in the showcase at the National Convention. Receive a trip to National Convention from the NC State Grange and also receive \$100 at National Convention.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Held at Winter Youth Conference

Age Groups

Ages 13-19

Ages 20-29

Ages 30+

Categories

PREPARED SPEECH

- 1. Topic is Speaker's Choice
- 2. Speakers are required to answer an impromptu question at the end of their speech. Questions will be related to the contestant's chosen speech topic.
- 3. Time Minimum: 4 minutes
- 4. Time Maximum: 7 minutes
- One point deducted for every 30 seconds a participant is under or over the time established. Score sheets will be returned to entrants.

RADIO SPOT CONTEST

A radio spot is an advertisement promoting the Grange. Pretend you are a "DJ" and you're doing a commercial for the Grange. It should be exactly 60 seconds in length and may include music or sound effects in intro and background. (Contestant must provide and operate music.) Contestants must provide a complete written script to the timekeeper. Music / sound effects are included in the 60 seconds. The radio spot should relate to the Grange, be original and must be created by the contestant.

IMPROMPTU SPEECHES

An impromptu speech is delivered without preparation or thought ahead of time. No note cards are used and topics are drawn randomly. Purpose: build confidence and participate in prepared or elevator speech in the future.

- 1. Time minimum: 1 minute
- 2. Time maximum: 7 minute.

Time keeper will hold up a hand when the 1 minute mark has been reached and again when 30 seconds is left.

Participants will draw two topics, select their choice and return the other one.

One point deducted for every 30 seconds a participant is under or over

the time established. Score sheets will be returned to entrants.

Competition will be held at State and Regional Conferences. You need not have participated in a state competition in order to participate at Regional. Participants must notify their State Youth Director of intent to enter prior to the beginning of the contest.

YOUTH GRANGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

See contest rules in State Awards section on page 4 for details of the nomination requirements of the State Grange recognition award for the Youth Granger of the Year.

YOUNG ADULTS DEPARTMENT

Director: Jennie Gentry JennieGentry@ncgrange.com

GRANGERS ON THE GO

Youth are invited to participate in this program to promote exercise and healthy living, while supporting charities. Youth will receive information on 5K races that they can participate in throughout the year. Youth participants can sign up to compete or to leisurely finish the run/walk. 5K races selected for this program will be for charity. Youth unable to afford the \$20 to \$30 fee per race are asked to contact Jennie Gentry for a sponsorship. Race dates and details will be emailed and promoted on Facebook.