

Keeping Up With **JUNIOR GRANGE**

**February 2008
 National Junior Grange Newsletter**

Ready for Regional Conferences?

What can you do?

- Encourage your Juniors to participate in the Public Speaking Contest!
- Encourage your Juniors to participate in the Sign-a-Song and Manual Spelling Contest!
- Have your Juniors share a talent. We have many talented Juniors. Encourage them to participate.
- Check out NationalJuniorGrange.org for more details on the contests.
- We have some great prizes and cash awards. But most importantly, experiences like these can make such a lasting and powerful impact on your Juniors
- To get your registration and schedules for conferences, check out NationalGrangeyouth.org for specific conference information.
- Make sure you are a part of the conference. We want to recharge your enthusiasm for Junior Grange and the Junior Grange program.
- This year as an extra incentive, you will receive the 2009 National Junior Grange Program and this is the only way you can receive it until September when it will be sent in the mail to State Directors, State Masters, and Leaders.
- This year we would like to see 100% attendance from all State Directors from Across the Nation. Please make this your goal too.

The five regions for 2008 are as follows:

Eastern:	Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Florida, Virginia and New Jersey
Midwest:	Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin
North Eastern:	Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Massachusetts
Great Plains:	Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas
Western:	California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Wyoming

The 2008 Host schedule is as follows:

Region	Host State	Date
Eastern	Tennessee	April 11-12, 2008
Midwest	Wisconsin	June 27-28, 2008
North Eastern	Rhode Island	July 11-12, 2008
Great Plains	Nebraska	July 18-20, 2008
Western	California	August 15-17, 2008*

*Date Pending

2008 National Junior Grange Program

I hope you are working on earning your special Junior Grange bookmarks.

Junior Grange Activity

- January-September 2008.
- Read one book, one magazine, one newspaper, and one food product label (example: box of cereal, canned soup, candy bar wrapper).
- Bring all four of the above to your Junior Grange meeting. This could be all at once or as you read them. Then share one thing you liked or learned about what you read.
- Goal: to appreciate the many different ways we read and why it is important to read.
- Awards: Juniors that complete the project will receive a certificate and a special Junior Grange bookmark.

Camp Activity

- Bring a book to read at camp and pass it on.
- Each Junior that comes to camp would bring a book to read at bedtime during camp. At the end of camp all of the books would be collected and given to a community agency that could utilize the books.

Last year we had 512 participants participate in the Let's Get Exercising program. This was excellent, but let's all work together to make that number grow even bigger this year.

Let's Talk

I know you have lots of great activities going on with your Juniors. Please pass along any great ideas or suggestions to me. Also if you have pictures, please email them to me. I would like to include them in our Junior Program at the National Grange Convention. I am sure that at times it feels like you need to be going in 100 different directions, but what you do for your Junior Grange kids matters and you are providing them with such valuable and important experiences. So keep up the awesome job. And if in any way I can assist you, please let me know.

Ok, if you have read this far into the newsletter you really care about the Junior Grange. This email newsletter is being sent to State Junior Directors and State Masters and in the spirit of "Teamwork" (title of regional workshop with National Youth Director) to all State Youth Directors. It is so important that we all work hand in hand to make *our Grange* the best it can be. We want to show our Juniors the wonderful Grange opportunities that lie in front of them in Grange and in the Grange Youth Program. So the more we know about each others programs, the easier it will be for our Juniors to make the connection into the Grange Youth program. So let's all work together to make our young people the leaders of today and tomorrow.

Take Care,

[Anne Kurburski](#)

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