

2023-2024
FAMILY ACTIVITY
TELEGRAPH

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CO-DIRECTORS

Family Activities Directors

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Our Committee Members

Jan & Wayne Doner, Mercer County

Katelyn Fullmer, Stark County

Staci Miller, Stark County

Debbie & Mike Russell, Miami County

Harry Traxler, Wyandot County

Important Dates

State Baking Contest – May 4, 2024

At Highwater United Church of Christ,

Spring Fling

April 13, 20, 27, 2024 at Valley College Grange, in
Wayne County

April 13, 20, 27, 2024 at Frontline Church of God in
Amanda, Ohio

Hosted by Clearcreek Grange in Fairfield County

Subordinate Reports are due to US by September 1,
2024

Check with your Deputy as to if they want the
reports.

State Grange Convention – October ??-??, 2024

Family Activities

Mercantile Store

Neighborhood Assist Program

Quilt of Valor

This year, the Family Activities, Lecturer and Community Service Directors are coming together to sponsor "Quilt of Valor" Quilts. We know that every quilter has a stash of red, white and blue material sitting around waiting for that special quilt block. The Lecturer has the list of deserving Grange members. These quilts will be put together and handed out at the 2024 Ohio State Grange Convention in October.

The requirements will be as followed:

12 ½ inches by 12 ½ inches
unfinished (12 ½" x 12 ½") – *this includes
the ¼ inch seam allowance*

Your own designs

Colors: Red, White and Blue

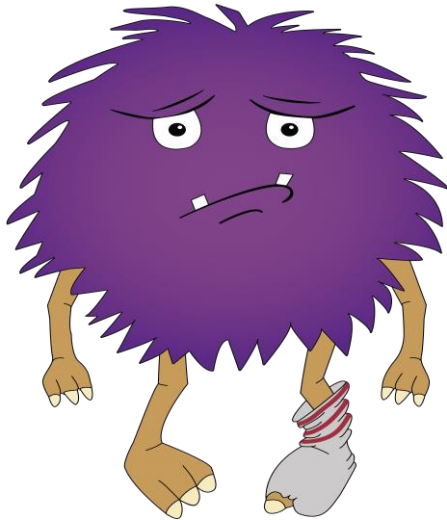
Deadline will be May 4, 2024 at State Baking Contest/Deputies/Officers meeting, except for the one you want to enter in the contest (VII. Comfort & Warmth – Class B Quilt of Valor Block). Keep that one and send to State Convention to be judged. But if you just want to do it for fun, then send it to us. You may turn it into the Family Activities Directors, at Spring Fling or mail it to us. They will be placed on our Facebook page.

The Sock Monster

for

"99 4 the One"

SOCKLESS MONSTER



The Sockless Monster Collection of socks for the homeless or friends in need. You can collect socks and bring them to any State Grange FA function for "99 4 The One" or you can give them to an organization in your area. Please keep track on your report. "99 4 The One" will also take your single sock, your clean holy socks, mismatched socks they use these by soaking them in rubbing alcohol and Vaseline and

them put it in a mason jar and set it on fire for about eight hours of light at night.

VOSH

VOSH is the longest running project for the Ohio State Grange Women's Activity and Family Activity. VOSH is Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity. VOSH-Ohio has served 16 countries since 1987. Your county could have an ice cream social just by collecting the most unwanted prescription eyeglasses, Columbiana County received the ice cream social in March 2023. Ask optometrists offices, Wall Mart optometric, etc. to save glasses for your Grange.

Cases for Smiles

Cases for Smiles pillowcases is another one of our biggest community service projects. You have been putting smiles on children's faces for 16 years. These simple pillowcases bring a

great joy to the children with cancer or another terminal illness, and their parents. This little bit of brightness adds a lot to their day. The pattern is simple: see attachment.

Note: Make sure to wash the pillowcase for the protection of the children with suppressed immunity and do not use any softener. In addition, please place each pillowcase in its own zip lock bag.

Drop off sites – please check their website “casesforsmiles.org”

Here are few frequently asked questions about Cases For Smiles and their work.

Do you take cash donations?

We prefer checks, which can be made payable to Case for Smiles. You can also go online to support our mission and donate. It's easy and secure.

Where do I send the check made out to Case for Smiles?

Checks can be given to your Regional Coordinator or mailed directly to:

+Case for Smiles

c/o Cheryl Ferraioli

295 E. Swedesford Road #396

Wayne, PA 19087

What can I donate other than fabric?

- Unscented detergent
- Ziploc plastic bags: 1 quart size (each pillowcase smile is delivered in its own Ziploc bag)
- Monetary donations are also welcomed! It currently costs about \$11.00 to make a pillowcase. Donations can easily and securely be made online.

How do I wash the pillowcases?

- Most chapters suggest the use of an unscented detergent in cold water with no fabric softener.
- Tampa hospitals require the pillowcases to be washed in vinegar and water
- Dry the case – no scented dryer sheets
- Iron pillowcase and place in a Ziploc plastic bag

Can I deliver the pillowcases myself?

No. The hospitals each have standards we must follow, especially due to the children's low

immunity while under treatment. Additionally, many facilities have limited storage and we deliver based on available space.

Is it okay to put a note in the pillowcase?

Yes, a personal note may be inserted (no pins) into the plastic Ziploc bag. Personal notes cannot be of a religious nature.

Do you accept seasonal pillowcases?

Yes, the children love them. In fact, during Halloween, we have seen the children use their pillowcases as Trick or Treat bags. Please note seasonal bags cannot be of a religious nature or theme.

Can I receive a tax credit for sewing pillowcases?

Yes. We are a charitable, 501(c)3 organization. Provide your Regional Coordinator with your name, mailing address and number of pillowcases sewn and we will provide a letter reflecting your donation. All requests must be received by January 15th.

Sadly, I don't sew, but I DO have many other talents!

What can I do to 'help'?

Everyone has a talent that is needed to help

with the pillowcases!

- Fabric needs to be cut and washed
- Pillowcases need to be ironed
- Pillowcases need to be picked up from drop-off sites
- Fundraising is necessary to purchase additional fabric, thread, and supplies.

**Reach out to your Regional Coordinator to see what 'talents' are needed in your specific geography.

My school, scout troop, church group, youth group, etc. want to HOST a sewing event. HOW and what do we do to get this going?

This PDF contains some general guidelines to get you started organizing a sewing event for your local organization.

What kind of fabric can I use to sew pillowcases?

- Fabric needs to be 100% cotton
- Remember to use fun, colorful novelty prints!
- Check with local coordinator for local hospitals specific requirements

for example: often time hospitals don't allow flannel and RED pillowcases tend to bleed.

- We do not accept 'No-sew pillowcases'. See PDF for full list of guidelines.

What pattern can I use to sew pillowcases?

Hospitals use standard size pillowcases (20 x 26 inches)

Choose a bright and colorful fabric style:

- Border: $\frac{1}{3}$ of a yard of fabric cut into a strip: 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
- Case: $\frac{3}{4}$ of a yard: 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
- Please see the PDF for detailed instructions

Fleece Blankets for Children

In talking with Akron Children's Hospital - their patients prefer the fleece blankets. We will also work with "Linus Blankets". Check with your local hospitals on the "Wish List" for the kids.

Below are the instructions from Diana Stump, Columbus Area, Ohio Chapter Coordinator. Check with your Family Activity Chairperson for the full colored instruction.

Project Linus

No-Sew Fleece –“slip fringe through slit”

Blanket Instructions

You will need...

...1&1/2 to 2 yards of a single layer

“blizzard” or “anti-pill” fleece.

(please do not use “make-it and give it kits” —fabric too thin)

...Sharp fabric scissors, masking tape, pen or marker, ruler

Step 1: Using sharp scissors, remove both selvage edges along the length of the fleece. The salvege edge sometimes has words printed on it. Salvege edges may seem “hidden” and not obvious. Look for small holes the length of the fabric. The trimmed edge should be straight and smooth.

(Fabric rolls, does not look nice if the selvage is left on)

Step 2: Cut a 4 inch square out of each corner of the fleece. This allows the blanket to lay flat.

Step 3: With the fabric laying flat on a table, place masking tape from one side to the other, 4 inches up from the bottom edge of the fabric. Use the 4" corner cut outs as a guide.

Step 4: Using a ruler as a guide, mark lines every inch along the masking tape with a pen or pencil. **Do not mark directly on the fabric.

Step 5: Starting from one side, cut a straight line up to the tape at each mark. The fringe will measure 1" wide by 4" long. After cutting the first side, pick up the tape, and place it on the next side. Continue cutting the fringe on all other sides of the blanket.

Fringe lengths and widths should be the same on all sides of the blanket.

Step 6: fold the fringe up to the edge of the blanket
Step 7: snip a TINY slit in the fringe at the fold.

Step 7: From the underside of the blanket, push the fringe into the slit and gently pull through. Using a small crochet hook, or the end of a pencil might help push the fringe corner into the slit to start pulling it through. DS 7/2023

Family Activities

Mercantile Contests

- I. Spring Fling – only those that attended may enter - Members and Potential Members

Tentative dates April ??, 2024 at Valley College Grange in Wooster,

Ohio, Wayne County or on April ??, 2024 at Frontline Church of God, Amanda, Ohio, Fairfield County, hosted by Clearcreek Grange. Below you will find a tentative schedule for that day.

9:30	Social Time
10:00	Greeting & introduction of committee and special guest. talk about our projects & Community service projects.
10:15	Speaker
11:15	Start your craft
Noon	Lunch
1:00	Speaker
1:45	Work on Craft
2:30/3:00	Spring Fling is roughly over

II. Gristmill – Members only

Class A - Men's – Vanilla Rich Chip Cake

1 pkg (18 ¼ oz) yellow cake mix

1 pkg (3 ½ oz) instant vanilla
pudding mix

1 cup sour cream

½ cup water

1 Tbl vanilla

½ cup vegetable oil

4 eggs

1 cup mini chocolate chips

Powdered Sugar

Beat all ingredients, except chips, in large bowl with mixer on low speed just to moisten. Beat on medium speed for 2 minutes. Stir in chips. Pour into greased and floured 12 cup Bundt pan. Bake in 350 degree oven for 50 minutes or until the toothpick inserted comes out clean. Cool in pan for 10 minutes. Invert cake onto wire rack or plate. Cool Completely sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Note: 2 pieces – 2½ inch x 2 1/2 inch

Class B - Orange Cookie with icing –
your own recipe

Note: Your recipe

- 3 cookies on 6 inch disposable
plate- wrapped in
saran wrap or in container

Class C - Raisin Bread – mini loaf – your
own recipe

Note: – your recipe

- the WHOLE loaf of bread
- mini loaf pan size is 5x3inch (5
¾”x3 ¾”)

or holds 2 cups of batter
- on 8 inch disposable plate –
wrapped in saran

Wrap or in container

Class D - Healthy, Gluten free, Diabetic
Bar – your own recipe

Note: – your recipe

-3 bars – 1 inch by 3 inches on 6
inch disposable plate

or in container

NOTES:

Please bring to State Baking Contest on

May 4, 2024 at Highwater United Church of Christ, Knox County.

-Your information please tape (one piece – PLEASE) to top on entry.

-One entry per county at State for Subordinate entries.

Thank you.

-Juniors all entries comes to state.

Thank you.

III. Porch – Member only

Class A – Rain Chain

- No Longer than 8 feet
- Use of any items – new or used

IV. Hardware Store – Members and/or Potential Members

Class A – Phone Stand Holder



- any medium material
- No bigger than 10 inches by 10 inches

Class B – Trivet for Hot Dish

- any material
- No bigger than 10 inches x 10 inches x 1 inch

Class C – Welcome Sign

- 5 feet tall x 12 inches wide x 2 inches thick

Class D – Misc Hardware Sculpture



- Using nails, bolts and etc

- No bigger than 6 inches x 6 inches x 6 inches
- You DO NOT need to be a welder. You can use "JBweld"



V. Needle and Thread – Members only
Class A – Sewing

A1 - Outfit (clothes) to fit 18
inch Doll

- Such as American



Doll

A2 - Bum Bag or fanny pack or purse
that you wear across

the front of your
body (NOT on the
side of your body.
You may have seen

ladies or gentlemen



wearing them this
last summer.)

Class B – Comfort Toy

B1 – Subordinate

B2 – Juniors – 5 to 14 years

of Age – they all come
to State for judging

NOTE:

COMFORT TOYS – Toys must be soft sculpture, filled with a commercial fiberfill. Entries must conform to U.S. Safety Regulations with no sharp edges that might injure a child; trimmings must be secure with **NO** buttons or glue-on eyes. Only one toy per person is allowed for judging. All judging will be done at State Level. Toys are judged on cleanliness, safety, general appearance and workmanship. Only the comfort toy winning your county contest will be

accepted at convention. All toys received will be donated to a local hospital to comfort the children who must be there for treatment or come into the emergency room..

Class C – Embroidery – Your choice of item. May be any type or style of embroidered item: Crewel, Huck/Swedish weaving, needlepoint and etc....

C1 – Subordinate

C2 – Juniors – 5 to 14 years of Age – they all come to State for judging

Class D – Counted Cross Stitch – Item may be mounted or framed, if appropriated.

Class E – Plastic Canvas – Any item made with any pattern using any yarn or thread product. Each entry is limited to 3 pieces or less.

VI. Sheep to Shawl

Class A – Amigurimi Toy

Meaning of "amigurumi" -The word is a blend of the words ami (編) meaning **crocheted** or **knitted**, and nuigurumi a small, stuffed doll. Although the exact origin of crochet dolls is difficult to place, historians agree that the art probably came from China with records of knitted dolls dating back to the Shang dynasty.

What is the difference between regular crochet and amigurumi?



Amigurumi uses smaller hooks than regular crochet projects.

Take two projects - an amigurumi and non-amigurumi project - and use the same yarn. You'll want to crochet amigurumi with a smaller

hook than the non-amigurumi project, so that your stitches come out tighter.

A1 - Crochet

A2 - Knitted

NOTES:

No bigger than 12 inches high x 18 inches wide

You may have a set or single

Class B - Afghan - No size limit. The afghan may be made using any yarn suitable to entry. It must be knitted or crocheted, using your choice of pattern.

B1 - Crochet

B2 - Knit

Class C – Something to Wear – You may use any pattern for knitted or crocheted article of clothing or three piece set: hat, scarf and gloves (or mitten).

C1 – Crochet

C2 – Knit

Class D – Baby Afghan – The baby afghan may be made using any yarn suitable for entry. It must be knitted or crocheted, using your choice of pattern. **NO BIGGER THEN 45”x45”**

D1 – Crochet

D2 – Knit

Class E – Rock-A-Bye Baby – You may use any pattern and any yarn suitable for your knitted or crocheted entry. TWO pieces minimum baby set may include a pair of booties as part of the set. (A pair of booties is considered one item in the set.)

E1 - Crochet

E2 - Knit

Class F - For the Table - Is to be created by crochet or knitted or tatted. You may use any pattern or design to make a doily, luncheon cloth, table runner or 4 piece placement set. NO SIZE LIMITED.

F1 - Crochet

F2 - Knit

F3 - Tatting

VIII. Comfort and Warmth - Members only

Class A Sewing - Make something using:

-2 tea towels or hand towels and material

- useful in the kitchen

Class B - Quilt of Valor - judging one block

-use red, white and blue material

-12 ½ inch x 12 ½ inch - includes the
¼ inch seam

Class C – Quilt by an Individual

C1 – Hand Quilted

C2 – Machine Quilted

Class D – Quilt by a Group

– Sponsored by a Grange

D1 – Hand Quilted

D2 – Machine Quilted

ENTRY FORMS

I. Spring Fling --- Members and Potential Members

That attended April 13, 2024 or

April 20, 2024

County Name &

No. _____

Grange/Sponsoring Grange Name &

No. _____

Exhibitor's

Name _____

II. Gristmill --- Subordinate --- Members Only

Class A: Men's Vanilla Rich Chip Cake = 2 slices -
 $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick

Class B: Orange Cookies with icing = 3 cookies

Class C: Raisin Bread - Mini Loaf = whole loaf

-pan size 5"x3" or

5 $\frac{3}{4}$ "x3 $\frac{3}{4}$ "

Class D: Healthy - gluten free - diabetic bar = 3
bars - 1 inch x 3 inches

(Circle the correct Class for this entry.)

County Name & Number

Grange Name & Number

Exhibitor's

Name _____

III. Porch -- Subordinate ---- Members Only

Class A - Rain Chain

County Name & Number

Grange Name & Number

Exhibitor's

Name _____

IV. Hardware Store --- Members and/or
Potential Members

Class A - Phone Holder Stand

Class B - Trivet for Hot Dish

Class C – Welcome Sign

Class D – Misc Hardware Sculpture

County Name & Number

Grange Name & Number

Exhibitor's

Name _____

V. Needle and Thread --- Members Only

Class A – Sewing

Class B – Comfort Toy

A1 – Outfit for 18 inch Doll

B1 – Subordinate

A2 – Bum Bag or Fanny Pack

B2 – Juniors

Class C – Embroidery

C1 Subordinate

C2 Juniors

Class D – Counted Cross Stitch

C1 – Subordinate

Class E - Plastic Canvas

County Name & Number

Grange Name & Number

Exhibitor's

Name _____

VI. Sheep to Shawl --- Members Only

Class A - Amigurimi Toy

A1 - Crochet

A2 - Knit

Class B - Afghan

B1 - Crochet

B2 - Knit

Class C - Something to Wear

C1 - Crochet

C2 - Knit

Class D - Baby Afghan

D1 - Crochet

D2 - Knit

Class E - Rock-A-Bye Baby

E1 - Crochet

E2 - Knit

Class F - For the Table

F1 - Crochet

F2 - Knit

F3 - Tatted

County Name & Number

Grange Name & Number

Exhibitor's

Name _____

VI. Comfort and Warmth --- Members Only

Class A - Sewing

A1 - Make something using:

Class B - Quilt of Valor Block - judging 1 block

Class C - Quilt by an Individual

C1 - Hand Quilted

C2 - Machine Quilted

Class D - Quilted by a Group - Sponsored by
a Grange

D1 - Hand Quilted

D2 - Machine Quilted

County Name & Number

Grange Name & Number

Exhibitor's

Name _____
