



The Granite State Granger

Volume 37

Number 4

2007

December

Racing to Success

Northeast Leaders' Conference

January 11, 12, & 13, 2008

National Master Ed Luttrell is our
Special Guest.

Place: Best Western Wynwood Hotel &
Suites

580 U.S. Hwy 1 Bypass, Interstate
Traffic Circle, Portsmouth, NH

I-95 Exit 5, hotel is right off the

Portsmouth Traffic circle

Make your own hotel reservations at
603-436-7600 no later than Dec. 21, 2007.
Mention NH State Grange, New England
Leaders' Conference.

Room Rates: \$71.95 + 8% tax
single or double. Each additional person
would be \$5.00 + 8% tax.

Meals: Meals are on your own Friday
night, Saturday morning and Sunday
morning. Bickford's Family Restaurant is
right next door and opens at 7:00 AM.

Saturday buffet luncheon is \$19.00
and Saturday buffet banquet is \$25.00. We
apologize if these prices seem high, but the
cost includes state meals tax and gratuity.
Please keep in mind that meal costs help to
cover overall conference expenses.

Registration fee: \$10.00 per person.
Everyone must register.

Total due for both Saturday meals
and registration is \$54.00 per person and
is due no later than December 21, 2007.
Please make checks payable to: NH State
Grange and send meal reservations and
registrations to:

Gail M. Turcotte

53 Oak Hill Road

Barrington, NH 03825-3822

Go to www.nhgrange.org for a
detailed schedule of events and/or a
registration form for the conference.

Visit the National Grange website at
www.nationalgrange.org.



NH Has 3 National Officers!

Three NH Grangers were elected to
National Grange office the same year. At
the National Grange Convention held in
Reno/Sparks, NV, in November, NH's State
Grange Master Beth Merrill from Antrim
was chosen for a two-year term as the
National Grange Lady Assistant Steward.
At the same time Past State Master John H.
West from Chichester was re-elected
National Chaplain, and Past State Master
Daniel P. Bascom from Rochester was
named Priest Archon of the Assembly of
Demeter. The new National Master is Ed
Luttrell, Past Master of the Oregon State
Grange. Other officers come from NC, TN,
TX, KS, NE, IL, DE, MI, OK, MA, MT,
PA, NJ, CT, IN, and NY, but only NH has
three!

At the Evening of Excellence talent
program during the convention, Matthew
Clark from Surry presented his winning
public speaking entry, Marie Hall from
Brentwood demonstrated a fine sign-a-song
number, and Linda Lauer from Bath
performed brilliantly on a mountain
dulcimer. Matthew Clark and his wife Lynn
also served as officers in the Youth Opening
ceremony on Thursday morning of the
convention.

Among hundreds of Grangers NH
people clearly demonstrated the many skills
and talents for which the Grange is so well
known. In 2008 the convention comes to
New England and is scheduled to convene
in Cromwell, CT, from November 11-15.

A Message from the State Master

Our organization is on the threshold
of a new movement. Whether it is a new
resurgence of energy and positivism, or it's
the final descent into obscurity and
extinction, well, that determination is really
up to us, isn't it? I often think of our
predecessors in the Grange and wonder and
marvel at the sacrifices they made for the
good of our Order. What were their financial
struggles, their family sacrifices, or their
health risks? I try my best to let their efforts
not be in vain, to ensure that the benefits of
Grange membership will be available for
generations to come.

On this page you will find a schedule
and reservation information for the
upcoming Northeast Grange Leaders'
Conference, which will be held January 11-
13 in Portsmouth, NH. The newly elected
and installed National Grange Master will
be on hand to share with us his plan and
vision for where the Grange needs to go and
what it needs to do. I'm asking you to
seriously consider attending this important
conference. If a financial issue challenges
your ability to attend, then please ask your
Grange to offer some assistance. If your
schedule doesn't allow this sort of time
commitment, then ask someone else from
your Grange to attend in your place. If your
Grange doesn't have enough funds to assist
you, then perhaps it's time for your members
to activate and go forth into your
community with a fundraiser for that
purpose.

What are you willing to do for the
survival of your Grange? Now is the time
for a renewal of intent and purpose within
the Grange, and what better way to offer/
receive support in this focus than to unite
with like-minded brothers and sisters to
share ideas and make plans for the future?
I'm looking forward to seeing you in
Portsmouth!



State Session was well attended and ran smoothly because of the help and participation by so many Grangers. I was happy to welcome Leroy Watson, National Grange Legislative Director, as National Representative to our session. The contribution he made during our work on resolutions was appreciated and the workshop he presented on the Grange's risk with youth and youth members was invaluable. I must say that I was extremely disappointed with the low attendance at this workshop. I would have thought that more members would have felt a duty and responsibility to their Grange and the Order to attend and educate themselves on this vitally important issue.

The resignation of Brother Dick Patten, Secretary of the New Hampshire State Grange, while regrettable, is recognized as a selfless act at this difficult time in Brother Patten's life. I commend him for his service and dedication to the Grange, extend my congratulations and best wishes upon his election as a Concord City Councilor, and wish him Godspeed in his personal challenges.

Some highlights for me during the session were: a surprise visit from Past National Master Kermit Richardson and his wife, Margaret; recognizing two Past State Masters John Saturley and Carl Adams, the latter to whom I was privileged to present his 75 year Grange certificate and pin; and dining with the retiring NH Commissioner of Agriculture, Steve Taylor and his wife Gretchen, who were thrilled with the Junie Blaisdell Award presented to him during the Awards Banquet. State Grange Photographer, Mark Collins has put together a wonderfully thorough pictorial record of the entire session, which you can access on the State Grange website.

What a blast we had in Reno at the 141st Annual Convention of the National Grange. Eighteen hearty souls represented New Hampshire throughout the session, including talent winner, Linda Lauer of Bath

Grange, sign-a-song winner, Marie Hall of Gilman Grange, public speaking contestant Matt Clark, of Prentice Hill Grange, who also, with his wife, Lynn, served as officers when the youth opened the session on Friday morning. They all did New Hampshire proud!

In part of my Master's Address this year, I challenged all members to work on improving their manhood and womanhood by getting out of their comfort zone and trying new things. In answer to my own challenge, I served as the secretary of the Conservation Committee at the National Convention. I'm not very good with taking minutes, nor a highly trained computer expert, but I found that with some determination and help from the Legislative Department, I became an effective secretary for my committee and was happy to learn some new skills along the way.

Our state forwarded three resolutions for consideration by the delegates, and all three were passed. Yes, folks, our invitation to host the 147th Annual National Grange Convention in 2013 has been accepted, so start thinking now about what you'd like to do to help out. The resolution to increase our dues was passed for the required second year. Although dues to National Grange will go up as of January 1st, 2008, by vote of the delegates at our State Session, the dues increase for New Hampshire members won't go into effect until the quarter ending March 31st, 2009.

This was an election year, and with the prior announcement by National Master Bill Steel that he would not be a candidate for reelection, the door was left open for a lot of change in officers. Ed Luttrell, who made two trips to New Hampshire this past year in his role as our National Membership/Leadership Director, was elected the 22nd Master of the National Grange, only the

second person from west of the Mississippi to ever be voted into the position. A record-setting three people from NH were elected to National office, including Past State Master, Dan Bascom as Priest Archon; Past State Master, John West, re-elected as Chaplain; and your current State Master as Lady Assistant Steward. What a thrill for all of us and such an honor to bring back three gold sashes to our great state!

While in Reno, the Masters of the seven Northeast Region states met to discuss some particulars on how we will divide the hosting duties at the 2008 National Convention to be held in Cromwell, CT. At this point in time, we know that NH will be responsible for hosting duties on Monday, November 10th, including registration set-up, and production room assistance. Each state is asked to provide and partially decorate one Christmas tree which will be completed with ornament donations from around the country and then donated to a worth charity following the close of the convention. The host banquet will need some volunteers from our corps of State Officers to act as hosts at several tables designated as "NH tables". More details will follow, but this is a small start to get you thinking about how you'd like to participate. A cotton throw with the regional logo printed on it is for sale for \$40. Some will be available for purchase at the Northeast Leaders' Conference in January.

I hope you will seek out the article in this publication giving details on the 2008 Northeast Grange Leaders' Conference. I want to stress that **all members** are more than **welcome** to attend this important event, and I highly encourage you to do so. And, if that's not enough to keep you busy, there's also the Primary Fly-In at the end of December. Please note that the Fly-In is open to non-members as well, so perhaps you'd like to pass along this information to your local high school and/or college to stir up some interest.

Please keep the date of March 29th open for a brand new State Grange event on which more details will be coming in the near future. I wish you a wonderful holiday season with friends and family, and be sure to get some rest. You're going to need it, if you're going to keep up with this wagon train as we pioneer our way into new Grange territory in 2008!

THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER
 This is a free* publication to keep Grange members informed of past and up-coming events.
 *(However, donations are accepted.)
 This paper is printed quarterly.
 Postmaster or anyone else:
 Please send all related correspondence to
 Hannah West
 3 Depot Road
 Chichester, NH 03258



All About Youth Chris Heath

An exciting new year is upon us and this year the Youth Team is going to try something new to help increase Youth participation in all Grange events. This year we have a themed competition for individuals and Granges alike. It is called Survivor-Grange. The Youth department will be awarding one prize to the individual who completes all the requirements for Survivor-Grange and scores the most points. Please be sure to ask your youth committee chairman for the details if you are interested. A second award will be given to the Grange that earns the most points throughout the year. There is a new contest that is being offered as part of the Survivor-Grange contest. This contest is called the Presentation of Hobby / Talent / Interest. Please see the details for this contest in the Youth Program.

Speaking of the Youth Program, your Grange should be receiving a packet in the mail if you have not already received it. In the packet, you will find all the information about the youth program and the rules for all the contests. If you do not receive a packet or your Grange loses their copy, you can download the information from the New Hampshire State Grange web site at www.nhgrange.org/youth and click on the link that says 2008 Youth Program.

We would like to welcome three new additions to the Youth Team; Gloria Davis, Alyssa Estes and Sandra Bokousky. They will be a welcomed addition. We look forward to working with them in the coming year. Youth Event Dates and committee assignments will be mailed as soon as they are determined. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team.

**As you go the way of life you
will see a great chasm. Jump.
It is not as wide as you think.
— Native American Proverb**

The Team has also put a challenge out to all Granges. If your Grange would like to have a Youth Night and get Youth into your Grange Hall, contact the NH State Grange Youth Team Leader to set up a date and time, and we will come to your meeting and present a Youth Program. This is an opportunity for you to invite the public and prospective members to come to your Grange. Please be sure to give us plenty of time to prepare for such an event. Programs are only successful when preparation is made.

At State session, the winners of the Photo Scavenger Hunt, Memory Book Page, Collage and Pumpkin Decorating contests were announced and they are as follows.

Photo Scavenger Hunt

1. Alice Tuck – Rochester Grange
2. Mike Hayes – Rochester Grange
3. Ida Hutchins – Baker's River Grange

Memory Page Grange

1. Claire Gagnon – Hudson Grange
2. Pauline Lucas – Hudson Grange
3. Sherrill Bokousky – Hudson Grange

Memory Page Open

1. Alice Tuck – Rochester Grange
2. Alice Tuck – Rochester Grange
3. Claire Gagne – Hooksett Grange

Collage

1. Claire Gagne – Hooksett Grange
2. Alice Tuck – Rochester Grange
3. Alice Cate – Hooksett Grange

Pumpkin Decorating

1. Alyssa Estes
2. Sherrill Bokousky
3. Sandra Bokousky

Youth Report in Notebook Form Pomona

1. Suncook Valley Pomona
Subordinate
1. Chichester
2. Jeremiah Smith
3. Watanick

Highest Youth Score from Reports Pomona: Suncook Valley Subordinate: Hudson Grange

New Members for the September Quarter

Dorothea Chagnon	Blackwater
Bernard Smith (reinstated)	Harmony
June Smith (reinstated)	Harmony
Peggy Haynes	Mohawk
Haven Haynes	Mohawk
Kevin Taylor (reinstated)	Watatic

News from Aurora Grange, Pittsburg, NH



Aurora Grange Master, Donald Mitchell, and Secretary Joanne Mitchell are shown above with the third graders at Pittsburg School. The third graders received their very own dictionaries on September 27 as part of the statewide Dictionary Project. Aurora Grange #235 distributes dictionaries to third graders at both Pittsburg School and Stewartstown Community School each year.

Bernice Fish - 75 Year Member



Aurora Grange Master, Donald Mitchell, is seen presenting Bernice Fish with her 75-year membership certificate. Bernice joined the Grange in 1932 and has been an active member ever since. On Friday night, September 14, family members and local Grange members from Stratford Grange, Mohawk Grange in Colebrook, and Aurora Grange in Pittsburg gathered to congratulate Bernice on reaching this highpoint and to share a delicious cake with her.

**Thank you, everyone, for all the
cards, phone calls, visits, etc. while I
was in the hospital and after I re-
turned home. You just don't realize
how much these mean to folks, until
you are the one receiving them.**

Paul W. Davis, Sr.



It's time to make the Gingerbread! You may use the recipe we chose or your own. Just remember it is cake, not gingerbread men or cookies.

Thank you very much for sending your community service reports on time. The percentage was enough to qualify for National Grange awards. Each Grange reporting has been rewarded with a certificate. First prize of \$100.00 went to Pine Grove #298, second prize of \$75.00 to Watatic #327, third prize \$50.00 to Joe English #53 and fourth prize of \$25.00 to Aurora #335.

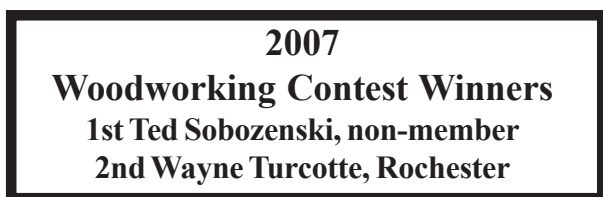
At State Convention, each Grange received a packet of material for the year including forms for End of the Year. Please give them to the person who will be responsible for filling them out and sending them in at the proper time. New this year is a category for the number of volunteer hours your Grangers give. If you keep a log and report at each meeting, it will be easier when it is time to send in the forms on September 15, 2008.

Here is the suggested recipe for the 2008 baking contest. You may use any recipe. If you do not use this suggested recipe, please write out the recipe you used.

Gingerbread

- ½ c. boiling water 1 ½ c. flour
- ½ c. shortening ½ tsp. salt
- ½ c. brown sugar ½ tsp. baking powder
- ½ c. light molasses ¾ tsp. baking soda
- 1 well-beaten egg ¾ tsp. ginger
- ¾ tsp. cinnamon

Pour water over shortening; add sugar, molasses, and egg. Beat well. Add sifted dry ingredients and beat until smooth. Bake in a waxed paper lined 8-inch square pan in a 350 degree oven for 35 minutes. Cool in pan.



New Hampshire Grange 2007 Needlework Contest Winners

Afghan

1st	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
2nd	RobertaSliva	Hampton Falls
3rd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester

Doilies

1st	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
2nd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester

Embroidery

1st	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
2nd	GailTurcotte	Rochester
3rd	Beverly Woods	Pine Grove

3 Piece Baby Set

1st	Gail Turcotte	Rochester
2nd	Joan DeButts	Crown Point
3rd	Mary Rasmussen	Hampton Falls

Plastic Canvas

1st	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
2nd	AnnLeger	Winthrop
3rd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester

Counted Cross Stitch

1st	Ann Leger	Winthrop
2nd	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
3rd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester

Adult Garment

1st	Yvonne Crocker	Pineconia
1st	Ann Leger	Winthrop
2nd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester

Latch Hook

1st	Ann Leger	Winthrop
2nd	AnnettePierce	Cocheco
3rd	Burton Meyers	Winthrop

Quilted Wall Hanging with Pole

1st	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
2nd	Dale MacDonald	Lower Intervale
3rd	Betty Andersen	Crown Point

Stuffed Toy

1st	Betsy Bean	Contoocook
2nd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester
3rd	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
4th	Claire Gagne	Hooksett
5th	Connie Carr	Grafton Star

New Hampshire Grange 2007 State Contest Winners

Tied Quilt

1st	Dale MacDonald	Lower Intervale
2nd	Linda Lauer	Pine Grove
3rd	April Farewell	Mont Calm

Sewn Garment

1st	Dawn Dean	Pine Grove
2nd	Lucille Hadfield	Cocheco
3rd	Gail Turcotte	Rochester
4th	Lucy Knowles	Hampton Falls
5th	Priscilla Meyers	Winthrop

Miscellaneous

1st	Gail Turcotte	Rochester
2nd	Dariel Peterson	Oak Hill
3rd	Barbara Dessert	Mont Calm

New Hampshire Home Economics Awards

- 1st Rochester #86
- 2nd Cocheco # 81
- 3rd Hampton Falls #171
- 4th Chichester #132

New England Needlework Winners

First place winners in the Needlework Contest from each New England state are sent on for further judging at the Big E in September. Here is how the New Hampshire contestants placed:

- 1st Afghan: Lucille Hadfield
- 1st Embroidery: Lucille Hadfield
- 2nd Quilted Wall Hanging: Lucille Hadfield
- 2nd Counted Cross Stitch: Ann Leger
- 2nd Latch Hook: Ann Leger
- 3rd Three Piece Baby Set: Gail Turcotte

Trooper of the Year

Each year at the State Grange Celebration Banquet the NH State Grange gives the Trooper of the Year Award to a recipient selected by the NH State Troopers. This year a team was nominated for their work and volunteer hours spent in a 3-year investigation of methamphetamine labs with the final result being conviction of 300 on drug arrests and the closure of three labs. These Troopers took it upon themselves to study the process of illegal drug manufacturing and what common, everyday household items are used and in what quantities. Armed with this knowledge, they began an intelligence data base with information obtained from civilians, local merchants, local police officers and other Troopers which resulted in the final convictions.

The use and production of meth was relatively unheard of in New Hampshire and in most of New England until recent years. In and around the year 2005, there were approximately eighteen methamphetamine labs seized in New England. Twelve of the eighteen were in New Hampshire alone. Of those twelve labs in NH, seven were located in Southern Grafton County and their detection and subsequent seizure was due, in good measure if not directly, to the efforts of these three Troopers. Trooper First Class Peter D. Todd, Trooper Gary A. Prince and Trooper David Appleby were nominated by Sergeant Robert H. Terhune #557 Troop F and agreed upon by Colonel Frederick H. Booth.



141st National Grange Annual Convention

More than 500 Grange members and rural leaders from across the country were given a warm welcome to Reno, Nevada for their 141st Annual Convention. The week-long celebration, full of workshops, tours, junior & youth events, business meetings, and more all took place at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel in suburban Sparks, Nevada. Oregon business executive Edward L. (Ed) Luttrell was elected the 22nd President of the National Grange. Luttrell joins a long line of noted rural business entrepreneurs to lead the nation's oldest national agricultural and rural community organization during its 140-year tenure. In addition, a new slate of national officers was elected.

National Grange Membership Tip Do Something Exciting

Remember being a little child and waiting on Christmas Eve for Santa? When was the last time you felt that way about your Grange? You and every member should feel that way at least once every year about something at your Grange if you want to attract new members.

If you don't ever feel that anticipation and excitement, you need to do something exciting in your Grange. Doing something exciting doesn't have to be big. Just suggest that the Grange do something that you are passionate about or something you've always wanted to try. Each member should have at least one activity or event that they feel excited about. When our members are excited by something in our Grange, they will have enthusiasm for that activity. Their enthusiasm will carry over into other parts of the Grange.

The most important aspect is that they will talk about their activity to others. When people see excitement and enthusiasm about a Grange activity, they will be intrigued by it. That opens the door to recruiting a possible new member.

Past National Master and First Lady Inducted into Vermont Agricultural Hall of Fame

The Vermont Farm Bureau inducted five new members into its Agricultural Hall of Fame on August 29th, 2007. Two of those members were Past National Grange Master Kermit Richardson and his wife, Margaret. They were honored for their significant contributions to rural life in the state of Vermont. Between them, Kermit and Margaret have 120 years of service to their local Grange, Riverside Grange #455 in West Topsham, Vermont.

Margaret Richardson spoke to Jack Hurston from WCAX News about farmers being the backbone of Vermont. She said, "They are a precious breed of people. They are committed to what they do. And they believe in it. They know if it wasn't for a farmer, we wouldn't be eating this meal today."

Kermit and Margaret both served as Masters of the Vermont State Grange, Kermit from 1970 to 1974, and Margaret from 1984 to 1991. Margaret paved the way by being the first Lady Master for the Vermont State Grange. Prior to these positions, they were selected as the 1957 Vermont State Grange Young Couple of the Year.

Kermit took leadership roles in the National Grange as Chaplain, Lecturer, and Overseer, which eventually culminated in his election as the 20th Master of the National Grange in 1995. In addition to his work through the Grange, Kermit also served several terms as a member of the Vermont State Legislature.

This is the fifth year that the Vermont Farm Bureau have honored individuals for their Agricultural Hall of Fame. Vt. Gov. James H. Douglas was on hand to make the presentation of a framed print of a Champlain Valley farm by artist Deborah Holmes to the new members and or their family.

Deadline

Send copy for the March issue of the Granite State Granger to Hannah West by February 5, 2008. Report on events of November, December, and January. Look ahead to March, April, and May.



It was a great State Grange Session. In my report I neglected to include information about some of our services. We have several items that are available to lend out. They include walkers, crutches, and comodes; and I have just acquired a hospital bed that is remote controlled and has a new mattress.

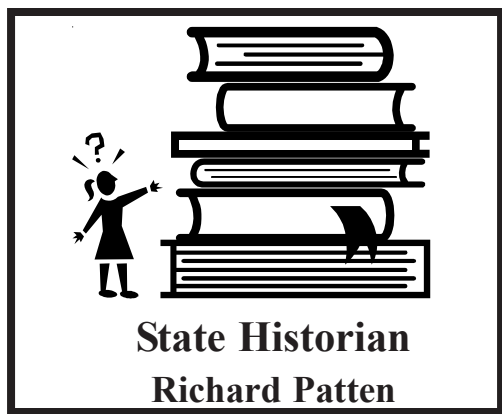
We have educational loan funds, scholarship grants, and Grange high school equivalency assistance. There is also the State Grange Trust Fund for financial assistance. For more information, contact the Grange Services Director, or any member of the committee. The Deputies should also have applications.

National Grange has joined with Life Line Screening. This testing only takes about an hour. It will be able to identify vascular disease and osteoporosis in people without symptoms. Stroke/Carotid Artery screening will screen for buildup of fatty plaque. Pre-registration is required, Call 1-800-697-9701 for more information.

Anniversary

November 22nd was the 60th wedding anniversary of Ruth and Ken Pelton of Hampton Falls Grange. They are the parents of five daughters, ten grandchildren, and fifteen great-grandchildren.





Another Holiday Season is upon us. Here are a few seasonal items from years past. In 1978 the delegates to the 105th annual session deliberated on Resolution # 17, which was submitted by Rochester Grange. The resolution read:

Whereas there is a growing concern for the movement which would detract from the religious aspect and true meaning of Christmas, and

Whereas our children should know that Christmas is not only the excitement of Santa Claus, presents, and snow, but the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, and **Whereas** we believe that the holiday will be more meaningful to all who would return Christmas to its proper perspective by giving emphasis to Christ,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Grange be in favor of keeping Christ in Christmas, and urging all who enjoy the Christmas Season to avoid the current trend of spelling Christmas by the x-ing out of Christ. The committee recommended adoption. Delegates voted in favor of resolution # 17, the resolution passed.

Unfortunately we still see people talking about Christmas spelled X-mas.

I was reading in the GSG in February of 1955 how many Granges held their Installation of Officers in December and January. Winnepesaukee Grange, Garnet Hill Grange, Junior Grange, Uncanoonuc Grange, Weare Grange, Wyoming Grange, and Narragansett Grange were some who featured special activities during the Installation of Officers. Strawberry Bank Grange visited Henry Wilson Grange and brought home the Traveling Plaque. The Grange who got the Traveling Plaque kept it until another Grange visited them with at least five members to claim it.

The best memory is that which forgets nothing but injuries. Write kindness in marble and write injuries in the dust.
— Persian Proverb

Speaking of Grange events during the holidays, here's one! The annual Deputy School of Instruction was held in the Boscawen Town Hall at 10:30 on January 1st, New Year's Day. Instead of watching the beautiful Tournament of Roses Parade and then football after an evening of partying (maybe), a Grange function was held. A new record for attendance was set as all Deputies (Pomona, Special, Subordinate, and Juvenile) were in attendance. Sixty-six deputies attended. The representative from the National Grange was John Hervey, Deputy of the National Grange. The members of Ezekiel Webster Grange served dinner and supper. New Deputies introduced included John L. Saturley.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year in 2008.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their cards of support, telephone calls, and speaking with me at State Session. It has been a very difficult time for my family and myself since July 14, and I have tried to be strong for them. However, your support has helped me. My mother would also say thank you if she could. She loved the Grange so much and enjoyed cooking many meals or helping where she could. Thanks again for lending your shoulder or ear.

Ocean Side Grange

Master Laura Eld and Secretary Dennis Blain of Ocean Side Grange in Hampton recently presented dictionaries to third graders at the Marston School. The presentation was acknowledged not only by grateful students but by an excellent article with a picture in the Atlantic News. This is the fifth year Ocean Side has participated in the Dictionary Project, and the original recipients of dictionaries are now in the eighth grade. The Grange hopes to continue the project as long as they are able.

Ocean Side keeps going with a regular meeting once a month. The Grange has made donations to the Salvation Army and the Visiting Nurses Association. The nurses have been very helpful to many of Ocean Side's members. They have also donated to the State Educational Loan Fund.

Visit the State Grange Website at www.nhgrange.org.

 <i>In Memoriam</i>		
Richard Ford		Arlington
Elsie Pinard		Blazing Star
Eleanor Ambbs	PM	Chichester
Russell Newell		Cocheco
Raymond Watson		Cocheco
Dorothy Kulisek		Danville
Earle Fitch	GS, PM	Granite
Roy Holmes	GS, PM	Halestown
Tessie Starvich		Hampton Falls
Virginia Huckins	GS	Harmony
Katherine Stewart		Harmony
Gideon Marcoux	GS, PM	Henry Wilson
Cecile Philibotte	GS	Hooksett
William Benotti		Miller
Pauline Eaton		Mount Hope
Delma Glines		Mount Hope
Virginia Twombly	GS	Oak Hill
Vera LaFleur		Prentice Hill
James Todd		Reunion
Gordon Kendall	GS	Rochester
Madeline Towle		Walpole
Ronald Stinson	PM, Past Dep	White Mountain
Ruth Palmer	GS	Wingold
Marilyn Huff		Winthrop
Nancy Philbrook		Winthrop

Winthrop Grange

Sgt. Brian Lamarre, who was unable to attend the State Grange Celebration Banquet received his State Grange award for Outstanding Citizen at the November meeting of Winthrop Grange. Many from the community came out to congratulate Brian on his award.



Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.



Happy Holidays from the Legislative Department:

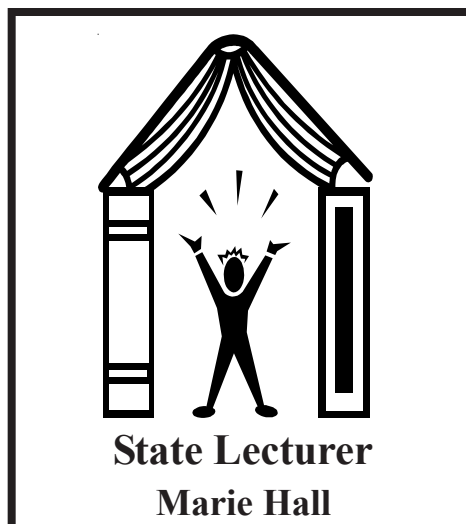
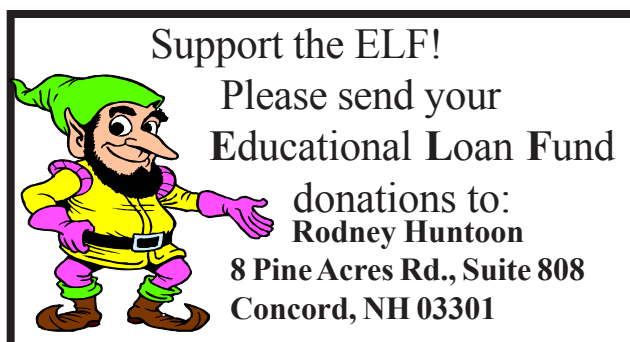
I want to take the opportunity to welcome two new members of the Legislative Team, George Lambert and Lorna Bates.

At the recently completed State Grange Session we had the opportunity to pass resolutions that are now in our policy handbook, which will be available on the web at the 1st of the year.

We had the great opportunity to have Leroy Watson, Legislative Director of the National Grange, as our representative this year. I feel that people really learned a lot about what the National Grange Legislative program is all about.

The Legislative Awards continue to be popular. This year award recipients were as follows: James Phinzy of Acworth, Tim O'Connell of Milford, and Peter Burling of Cornish. The winner of the Clesson "Junie" Blaisdell Award for Excellence in Government was Steve Taylor who is the retiring Commissioner of Agriculture. The Robert Bodwell Memorial Award was awarded to Walpole Grange for their "Walpole Leadership Academy" which gave local residents an opportunity to learn what local boards and commissions do in the town of Walpole.

The next big event will be the Legislative Fly in on December 27th – 30th, 2007. I hope many of you signed up for this opportunity to learn about the NH Primary and to work on an actual Presidential Campaign. The reservation deadline has been extended to December 17. See the National Grange website for details.



State session and National Grange session have come and gone. Those of you who were unable to attend should be very proud of the accomplishments emanating from New Hampshire. Linda Lauer, our talent winner for 2007, performed at National and wowed the crowd that filled the theater. As a new member she has shown the enthusiasm that we all had at one time and need to regain. She took that step and dared to participate and all of us have benefited from it.

A new year of programs has started for the New Hampshire State Grange. I would like to again introduce myself as your State Lecturer and offer any assistance that you may need to make this next year productive for all. I wish to continue to pass on my excitement of this position to all of you with the hope that you may find the position (as a new or established Lecturer) to be one of encouragement and enrichment.

I am asking all Lecturers to send me a copy of their program so that I can have an idea of what is being planned and what subjects are popular with the Granges. This will also give me a chance to be able to visit and to help with ideas on how to go about having your programs come to fruition. By sending me a copy of your program I am able to see and know what you are doing in your Grange and therefore, enable you to get entries of the contest in without worrying about whether or not you have filled out one more "report". Any time that you would like to send me information on a program you presented I will be more than happy to accept it.

I encourage all to print up some type of program booklet or page that is available for your members. I'm sure your Secretary will be willing to include them with the dues

notices. Your members need to know what is going on at your Grange meetings. If they do not know what is going on then how can we expect them to come and participate.

I am asking members of the Grange to support your Lecturer. Participate in the programs that have been planned and help by giving suggestions and clues to your interests. As a member you make or break your Lecturer.

Lecturers, be willing to take suggestions from your Grange members. They are your assets and family and most of the time are willing to help. We are a fraternal organization and need to remember that no one stands alone.

I will be mailing out a list of dates for activities that you can participate in and any forms, rules and regulations that pertain to contests and activities once the Christmas season has passed so that any of these items will not get lost in the shuffle.

Lastly and by no means least, I'm asking that as Lecturers we help each other out by sharing needs, concerns, and suggestions for improvements. I am also asking you not to hesitate in contacting me if you have any concerns, if you need resource help, if you need help with an idea. I will try to accommodate you as quickly as I can. If you have not heard from me within two days please call again. As much as we all rely on electronic equipment, sometimes things do happen and sometimes my mind is at fault and messages get lost in the shuffle.



Steve Taylor, retiring NH Commissioner of Agriculture, was surprised with the Clesson "Junie" Blaisdell Award at the Grange Celebration Banquet on October 27 in Lebanon, NH. He is pictured above with NH State Grange Master Beth Merrill.

Collins - Safford

Anne-Marie Collins, daughter of Mark and Diane Collins of Park Grange, married Nephi Safford at the Stonewall Farm facility in Keene, NH, on August 18th. The weather was perfect for an outdoor ceremony, with a nice temperature and lots of sunshine. Going along with the farm theme, a barbeque dinner was served. Music was provided by our own "Bingo" Bob Varnum. Horse drawn hayrides, conducted by Glen Yardley (Beth Merrills brother), were enjoyed by all. Anne-Marie, Nephi, Diane and Mark would like to thank all of the Grange friends who helped with the wedding. Pictures can be viewed at www.zekesabode.com. Click on the wedding link on bottom left



Brandt - Gotauco

Laura Brandt, daughter of Joann Brandt of Wingold Grange, and Tom Gotauco, member of the Rhode Island State Grange, were married on September 8th, at the Quidnessett Coutry Club in North Kingtown, Rhode Island.



French - Clark

Lynn French, State Grange Youth Master, and Matthew Clark, Assistant Steward of the NH State Grange, were married on September 15, at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Swanzey, NH. A reception with a John Deere theme followed at Hidden Hills in Rindge.



West - Boisvert

Anne Louise West, daughter of John and Hannah West of Chichester Grange, and Martin Boisvert, also a Chichester Grange member, were married on November 3rd at Our Lady of Lourdes church in Pittsfield, NH. Following the ceremony, everyone enjoyed a pancake brunch (with Marty's maple syrup) at the Dell-Lea Country Club in Chichester.



 **2007 : The Year of the Wedding** 

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