Volume 37 Number 1 2007 March

Letting the World Know We're Alive

Is your Grange doing worthwhile things in your community? Do you deserve public recognition for what you do? Help is on the way!

This year the NH State Grange has created a new position called the "Publicist." State Master Beth Merrill appointed her predecessor, John West, to the new job. His responsibilities are to connect Granges and Grangers with news publications and to find ways to let the public know that this great organization is very much alive, doing good things, and worthy of recognition and support. State and community Grange doings are getting reported as they happen, and newspapers are taking notice all over the state.

As Publicist, John West encourages all Granges to first make serious efforts to publicize their own special events, their community projects, and their contributions to the well being of their towns and villages. If it doesn't seem to be working, he will provide advice and help whenever and wherever Granges need it. First and foremost, all Granges must recognize that successful promotional news items that actually get printed are about truly newsworthy activities. "We met, we had a few readings, we sang a song, we ate lunch, and we went home," is NOT NEWS and is not worth printing. However, when Grangers do important, worthwhile things the public finds interesting, newspapers respond!

Feel free to e-mail John at gowest@tds.net, call him at 798-5783, or write him at 3 Depot Road, Chichester, NH 03258. He can't guarantee results, but he'll do his best. Why not give it a try?

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



No Fooling! Ed Lutrell, National Membership Director, Coming to New Hampshire on April 1

Do you want your Grange to grow and prosper? Do you need a boost in the membership department? Are you committed to helping the NH State Grange achieve a net gain in membership this year? Ed Luttrell, Membership Director of the National Grange will be in New Hampshire one day only to offer a membership-related workshop to

all interested Grangers on Sunday, April 1st. That's no joke, and, yes, that's Palm Sunday!

Please mark this important date on your calendar. Granges will receive a letter soon with details about time and place. Make the effort to attend, and your Grange will be stronger as a result.

New England Leaders' Conference

NH State Grange Master Beth Merrill and her team joined National President Bill Steel, National Chaplain John West, and more than 100 other Grange officials at the New England Grange Leaders' Conference in Newport, Rhode Island, on January 12 to 14. Workshops on Marketing the Grange, Conflict Management, Grange History, and Agritourism raised people's consciousness levels. NH personnel participating in conference work were Lecturer Marie Hall, Legislative Director James Tetreault, Family & Community Director Nancy Bean, Youth Director Chris Heath, Junior Director Sherrill Bokousky, and thirteen others from throughout the state.

Rhode Island is to be commended for arranging excellent workshops, good food, and fine entertainment. Even the weather cooperated with the colder temperatures holding off until Sunday. In 2008 NH will host this important annual conference.



Leaders' Conference Attendees

Standing (I to r): Chris Heath, Gloria Davis, Lester Gibbs, Jim Tetreault, Tricia Taylor, Matt Haefner, Bob Haefner, Katherine Umberhind, Anne West, Hannah West, John West, Alice Tuck. Front: Mark Collins, Arthur Merrill, Diane Collins, Phyllis Taylor, Beth Merrill, Marrie Hall, Nancy Bean. Missing from photo: Sherrill Bokousky.

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Net Gain Challenge

We all know the membership challenges that the Grange has been experiencing for quite some time now. It is a common question among Grangers to ask, "What can we do to get new members?" If your Grange has been waiting for the State Membership Director to come up with the magic formula, then I guess it's a bit too late now, since your new State Master has opted not to appoint someone to serve in that capacity. Instead, the task falls to each and every Grange and Grange member to evaluate the benefits it offers potential new members (see the General Deputy's article in this issue) and investigate ways to attract those people to your Grange.

I attended a workshop at National Grange session in November that caused me to rededicate my focus to the task of increasing membership. It was impressed upon my mentality that the Grange is a duesbased organization. As such, it is unfair for us members to expect continued high quality programs and services from our state and national Granges, when we are not respecting the fact that they are reliant upon us to maintain/ increase our membership levels that help pay for such things.

National Grange has been tightening its belt and figuring new ways to balance its budget, but it's now coming down to thoughts/plans that are more noticeable to the general Grange membership. This year will be the first time that National Grange will not pay the travel expenses of a national representative to attend our state convention. It is also exploring the possibility of cutting the reimbursement of delegates' travel and/or hotel expenses at the national convention. This would mean an additional strain on our already depleted State Grange budget to cover the expenses for our State Master and spouse to represent us at the National Session.

To somewhat offset the current situation, the delegates last year voted to

approve a dues increase, which, if it passes a second vote at the 2007 convention, will go into effect in January 2008. I believe the Grange is a great bargain for the amount of dues we currently pay, but that doesn't mean I'm happy to inform you of this imminent dues increase. It does, however, help in my challenge to you to gain a new realization of the impact that our membership numbers has on the quality of our grange experience.

We've been talking about it for years now. It's been at the back of our minds and low on our list of Grange priorities to initiate that idea for a membership drive. There's been an unwritten list of potential new members that we've been meaning to ask to join our local Grange. If there's ever been a time to act on these thoughts and ideas, NOW IS THE TIME!

So, I'm issuing this challenge to you, the members of the New Hampshire State Grange. I want us to achieve a net gain in membership this year! Yes, I said a net gain in membership! It is achievable, and I offer these suggestions in support of this statement. 1) Believe it is possible and set your goal. 2) Surround yourself with inspirational things and positive-minded people. 3) Don't listen to the "neighsayers"! (See this issue's inspirational message.) 4) Keep track of your own Grange membership – don't worry about the big picture.

If every Grange in NH gains one new member for each one it loses this year, it will take only ONE of those Granges to bring in ONE extra member to achieve this goal. We can do it, but we need to get started now! The Grange membership year ends on June 30th, so time is of the essence. I will offer periodic updates and encouragement on this project via the website and our new recorded phone

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

message system. Also, please find elsewhere in this publication details on a workshop that will be presented by Ed Luttrell, Membership Director of the National Grange on April 1st. We're very fortunate to have him come on this occasion, so I hope you will make a serious effort to attend.

Until the next time, may the horse be with you!

Inspirational Message

Once upon a time there were some horses that organized a running competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very steep and rocky mountain. A big crowd had gathered around the course to see the race and cheer on the contestants. The race began...

Honestly, no one in the crowd really believed that the horses could possibly traverse such treacherous terrain. You heard such statements as:

"Oh, way too difficult!"

"They will never make it to the top."

"Not a chance that they will succeed. The mountain is too high!"

Sure enough, the horses began collapsing, one by one. Except for those who, after a vet check and a short rest, were climbing higher and higher.

The crowd continued to yell, "It is too difficult! No one will make it!"

More horses pulled up lame and gave up. But one little pony kept on galloping, scrambling over loose rocks, leaping over fallen logs. This pony just wouldn't give up!

In the end, all contestants had given up climbing the mountain except for the little pony that, after one last huge leap, was the only one to finish the race. Naturally, all of the other horses wanted to know how this one pony managed to do it. They asked him how he had found the strength to succeed and reach the top. It turned out.... The winning pony was deaf!

The wisdom of this story is: Don't listen to other people's tendencies to be negative or pessimistic because they'll take your dreams and wishes away from you. Always think of the power words have, because everything you hear and read will affect your actions. Always be positive, and above all, be DEAF when people tell you that you cannot achieve your dreams!





Cocheco Grange Celebrates 130 Years

Cocheco Grange #81 of Dover celebrated its 130th birthday on October 22, 2006, with a three-part event in the Grange Hall. The celebration began in the upstairs hall with music, ceremonies, and skits. Master Raymond Bailey opened the meeting in the Fourth Degree. The Lord's Prayer was sung by Joan Garland, Lecturer of Henry Wilson Grange in Farmington. The flag was presented. The meeting closed with "For the Beauty of the Earth" sung by Sheila Rainey of Crown Point Grange. Three hilarious skits were performed by Beulla and Glen Eldridge.

For the second part of the celebration the group adjourned to the dining hall for demonstrations and exhibits arranged by the Home Economics Department under the direction of Dorothy Breuere. The first demonstration, presented by Master Bailey, included the preparation of meatballs in a new way (see photo). Secretary Edythe Grover demonstrated The Impossible Pie, which was then served to all by Glen Eldridge. Crafts and collections were displayed: Mittens and Hats by Beatrice Menard; Afghans by Lucille Hadfield; Embroidery by Irene Morin; 100 year old Grange Badges by Leo Scott; Greeting Cards, Canned Goods, and Clothing by Dorothy Betts. Elmer Eldridge displayed two model airplanes, each with a wingspan of five feet. Elaine Thivierge gave a speech on health, which included a display. Wesley Pierce gave a speech about the stone walls throughout New Hampshire. Glen Eldridge read an article about the origin of the Purple Heart Award in the time of George

Washington. Historian Phyllis Smith-Pierce gave an interesting talk about the history of the Grange, including pictures and a scrapbook.

The final segment of the celebration was a Chowder Fest. Several gallons of seafood chowder arrived via an off-site caterer by the name of Ern Grover, who is known best for his exquisite cuisine served on the Appalachian Trail to his hiking group called Get Outdoors New England.

The celebration was planned by Cocheco Secretary Edythe Grover and her son Ern, who also made the invitations that were sent to State Officers as well as twenty guests. Many thanks go to Deneiker Grover, Irene Morin, and Ella Sweeney for their help waiting on tables and making everything a success. Elaine Thivierge had charge of the guest book, and Glen Eldridge captured the event on a VCR camcorder.

Deadline

Send copy for the June issue of the <u>Granite State Granger</u> to Hannah West by May 4, 2007. Report on events of February, March, and April. Look ahead to June, July, and August.

Calendar of Events

March 3 - Moon Stomp, Merrill property, Antrim 6 p.m.

March 11 - Bowling, Lakeside Lanes, Manchester, register 11 a.m. Bowl 12 noon to 3 p.m.

April 1 - Membership Workshop with Ed Lutrell, Time & Place TBA

April 20 - Youth Glow Bowling

April 22 - NE Grange Building Trustees, Springfield, MA, 1 p.m.

April 25 - NH State Executive Committee, Hooksett 1 p.m.

April 28 - Grange Celebration Banquet, Beaver Meadow Golf Course, Concord

April 30 - May 1 - National Grange Legislative Fly-In

May 1 - Song Writing Contest entries due to State Lecturer

May 5 - VT/NH Night, Vermont hosts

May 12 - Family Fun Fair, Nashua

May 19 - ME/NH Night @ Gilman Grange, Exeter, Bean Supper 5 - 6:30 p.m.

May 26 - Deadline to Register for

CPR & Talent Contests

June 2 - NH Lecturers' Conference

9 to noon, Hooksett

June 2 - Spotlight NH - 2 p.m. Hooksett

June 22-24 - Grange Family Weekend

June 24 - NE Go to Church Sunday, Cathedral of the Pines

Photo Scavenger Hunt 2007

Directions: You must first figure out what the clue wants you to take a picture of. Then you must have a camera and within your town, county, state, you should take pictures of the places you have come up with for the answers. Then you will develop the pictures and put them into a photo album. Two of the pictures must include you or someone else from your Grange. Send the photo album and the list of answers to the Youth Team Director by September 10th.

- Where you go to send a letter, pick up a letter and raise a flag.
 People that work here, sleep, hear the alarm, then slide down the pole.
 Go here if you need a snooze on your travels.
 This place is packed in the summer with sand, water, and people.
 Kids like to go here to slide and swing.
 This is a place where people raise animals.
 Adults go here to teach, kids go here to learn.
- 8) This is the place where prices are rolled back.
- 9) _____ You'll find cells here, none of which are living.
 10) Praying, singing, and preaching can be found here.
- 11) You can find lots of volumes here, but none of them can be measured.
- 12) _____ Where you go to get your body fixed, but not your auto body.
- Driving through me will get you out of a storm (for a few seconds).
- 14) Legal ones will heal you, illegal ones will jail you.
- 15) _____ I have a lot of bills, but none you have to pay.
- 16) You visit me to get rid of your trash.
- 17) Some people use me for shopping, others use me for walking.
- 18) _____ Take man's best friend here to get well.
- 19) Fill 'er up here.
- 20) Use your plastic here to get a Jackson.

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The Family and Services Committee met at Contoocook Grange to hash out and explain changes in the forms, rules, and dates for the current year and to start planning for next year.

To make it easy to remember, all contest entries are due August 1, 2007. Forms were mailed to Subordinate Family & Community Chairpersons to spark starting early to get projects finished by the deadline. The State Family & Community Committee is here to help Subordinates with problems, or questions, and we need your help in choosing the NH Charities to support in 2008.

March of Dimes Beanie Ponies have arrived and so has the Beanie Bear with his New Hampshire Grange T-shirt. Ponies, available in three colors, sell for \$6.00 apiece and Grange Bears for \$7.00 each. They make great gifts or collectibles and benefit the March of Dimes as well.

For those of you who may have missed it last time, we are reprinting the recipe for Mini-Donut Muffins in this issue.

Don't forget to work on items to be sold at the Big E in September. The New England Grange Building depends on the income it receives from the sale of hand made mittens, hats, baby items, and afghans. Small craft items and Christmas tree ornaments also sell well, as do Red Hat items. Do you make hand-stamped cards? Birthday, get well, sympathy, and holiday cards with envelopes could be sold as well.

The Glencliff Home sent a thank you for the 107 Christmas packets of cookies, candy, notepads, pens, pencils, candy canes, etc. that were packaged at Deputy School and delivered by Christine Woods.

Twelve Christmas stockings were filled with toys and such for the children at the Philbrick Center in Concord who were not free to go home for Christmas.

Breathe, Exercise, Stretch, Dance, Walk, Ski, Skate - keep moving and keep young and healthy.

Doughnut Muffins

1 egg 2 tsp.baking powder 1/3 cup oil 1/2 tsp.salt (or less) 1/2 cup milk 1/2 tsp.nutmeg 1 1/2 cups flour 1/2 cup sugar

Using a fork, beat egg in mixing bowl. Add oil and milk. Continue beating with fork. Sift flour, measure and sift with sugar, baking powder, salt and nutmeg. Add to mixture and stir with fork, very lightly. Turn into 12 greased muffin tins. This will make 12 medium sized muffins. Sprinkle each muffin with a mixture of sugar and cinnamon and put a dot of butter or margarine on top of each. Bake at 400 degrees for about 20 minutes. (For mini muffins 15 minutes)



Beanie Bears - \$7.00 each Where's the Log?

National Grange has a monetary award for Community Service and your Grange could win the cash.

We all help our community in many different ways, yet for most, there is no record of it <u>all</u> for the Community Service Chair to use when the forms are sent in (or not sent in).

Solution: Get a notebook or spiral-bound notepad and pass it along at each Grange meeting for your members to write what they have done and the hours it took.

Result: The end of the year report will be easy to fill out and may lead to recognition and <u>cash.</u>

Grange History Books

Richard Patten, State Historian, has Grange histories. If there is a neighboring community that doesn't have a Grange, you might think about donating a set to that town library or historical society.

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

Joe English Grange

Joe English Grange of New Boston presented dictionaries to about 125 third graders in New Boston Central School and the Mont Vernon Elementary School this year. The expression on the children's faces when they are told the books belong to them and the eagerness with which they look through the dictionaries and ask questions is reward enough to continue to earn the money and carry on the project.



Howard Towne, Arlene Dodge, and Frances Towne with third grade students from New Boston Central School and their dictionaries

Winthrop Grange

On March 14th at the regular meeting of Winthrop Grange in Shelburne we will be obligating our newest and youngest member, Gabrielle Van Sant. She is 13 1/2 and is in the 8th grade at the Gorham Middle/High School. She has been attending Grange meetings for the past six years (since her parents joined). Gabrielle has a younger sister, Rachelle, who is 11 and is looking forward to joining in a couple of years.

Winthrop Grange sponsored the Edward Fenn Elementary School, Berlin Schools, Milan Village School, and the Errol School with the distribution of dictionaries. That is close to 200 students that will be getting a dictionary through the Dictionary Project from Winthrop Grange.

At our February meeting we had guest speakers from the Gorham Police Department that talked on the ongoing problem of "scams". This meeting had to be moved from the 14th to the 20th because of the big snowstorm.

On April 11th we will be having our Citizen of the Year presentation. We will be honoring one of the officers from the Gorham Police Department.



Legislative Fly-In

The 10th annual National Grange Legislative Fly-In will take place April 30th and May 1st, 2007, in Washington, DC. The exciting two-day conference will include informative workshops, congressional visits, and effective networking opportunities with Grange political activists from across the nation. Attendees will be meeting with Congressional leaders to discuss issues such as immigration reform, rural health care, energy security, rural telecommunications, eminent domain, and agricultural prosperity.

To make your reservation for the Fly-In, fill out the reservation form no later than **March 9, 2007**. Once again Potomac Grange #1 in Washington, DC, is offering a limited number of scholarships for Grange members to attend the Fly-In. All forms for the Fly-In can be found on the National Grange website, www.nationalgrange.org under Legislation or you can contact Samantha Johnson, Administrative Assistant, by phone at 202-628-3507, ext. 109, by fax at 202-347-1091, or by e-mail at sjohnson@nationalgrange.org if you have any questions.

Hotel Reservations are the individual responsibility of each Fly-In 2007 participant. For Grange members who will need a convenient place to stay while in Washington, DC, the National Grange has reserved a block of rooms at the Club Quarters Hotel (839 17th Street NW), just 1.5 blocks from the National Grange headquarters building. To make reservations at the Club Quarters, contact the hotel at 212-575-0006 and mention National Grange Fly-In 2007 code NG0429 to receive the special room rate of \$139+tax per night for standard executive type room or \$159+tax per night for a standard director type room. There is an extra \$15 charger per extra guest per room per day. Parking costs are not included. Reservations at the Club Quarters must be made by March 16, 2007.

Work Party at Kelley Farm

Would you like to join a work party at the Kelley Farm for a long weekend in late April or early May? Work may involve painting tables, fixing fences, cutting wood, or clearing hiking trails. If interested, please contact Bill Steel at bsteel@nationalgrange.org.

2007 Digest of Laws Now Available

The 2007 Digest of Laws is now available on the website and through the Sales Department in hard copy. To download a copy of the Digest, visit the Member Resources section of the National Grange website at www.nationalgrange.org. Hard copies of the Digest can be ordered by calling 888-447-2643.



Farm & Forest Exposition

On Friday, February 2, and Saturday, February 3, 2007, the NH State Grange hosted an informational booth at the NH Farm & Forest Exposition at the Center of NH-Radisson Manchester. Deputy Mark Collins coordinated the display along with State Master Beth Merrill. Promotional displays included information about Grange legislative work, the Dictionary Project, the Meth program, membership issues, craft projects, and community service possibilities. Many NH State Grange brochures and pencils were distributed by the welcoming team of Grangers who hosted the booth throughout the fair as they responded to inquiries about the past, present, and future of the organization from interested visitors from throughout the state and region. Representatives of the Youth and Junior Department offered craft classes on Saturday to young people during the Kids' Day activities in the Armory. This annual indoor country fair has become a very important tradition for the State Grange.



Blow-Me-Down Grange

Blow-Me-Down Grange on Route 12A in Plainfield is in the process of initiating a GAME CLUB at our hall on a bi-weekly basis if there is enough interest. We will get together from 1-4 pm on a Wednesday or Thursday to play Cribbage or board games. Please call 603/675-6903 or 603/448-0773 for more information.

Regretfully we missed the printing of the 2007 Roster published by the NH State Grange and wish to notify all Granges that our Master for 2007 is Merylene M. Simonds, 21 William Gage Road, Enfield, NH, 03748 (Tel: 603-448-0773). Our Lecturer, Pat Rondeau, had to withdraw from her position due to health reasons so all Lecturer information should be mailed to the Master.

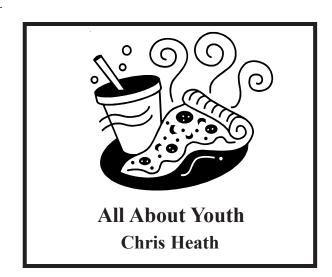
We do meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month. However, during the winter months we meet at the home of Alice Jordan, 228 Westgate Road, Plainfield, instead of our usual meeting place - our Grange Hall.



Frances and Howard Towne

Frances and Howard Towne Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

On December 8, 2006, Howard and Frances Towne celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary at a dinner hosted by their family at the Mile-Away Restaurant in Milford. Howard and Frances were married December 8, 1946, at the home of Frances' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse W. Byam, in New Boston. The Townes have four sons, four grandchildren, and six (soon to be seven) great-grandchildren.



The Youth Team has held two successful events already and there is a lot more to come in the next few months. Please be sure to check out what is happening with the Youth. You can find information on the Youth page on the State Grange website at www.nhgrange.org/youth.

Included in this issue of the GSG is a list of clues for the Photo Scavenger Hunt and a list of upcoming Youth Nights. If you would like to have your Youth Night publicized on the Youth Web Page, please inform the Youth Team Director as soon as possible. Also, you should inform your Youth Team representative of the date of your Youth Night so they can attend. Please support the Youth in New Hampshire by attending a youth night, making a donation to the Youth fund, or by just giving the youth words of encouragement. Remember that they are the future of the Grange.

Farm & Forest Expo

At the Farm and Forest Expo, the Youth and Junior Department had an activity table for the young people in attendance. The Youth Team made and distributed 125 buttons to the kids that attended the day.



Chris Heath at Farm & Forest



Snowball Relay Winter Youth Rally

The next event was Winter Youth Rally, which was held February 10th at the New Hampshire State Grange Building. We had around 30 people register at the start of the day, and more kept arriving. The day started at 10 am with a personality questionnaire and a time of getting to know each other. Next there was a workshop led by General Deputy, Tricia Taylor. Tricia instructed all the youth and 'young at heart' Grangers in proper way to conduct a traditional opening in the Fourth Degree. She also instructed the group in draping the charter, receiving honored guests, altar presentations and closing the Grange. At 11 am the Youth Officer and Grange Knowledge tests were administered to all that wanted to participate. The youth that did not wish to take the test were given a chance to learn more about the Grange by going over the test. I would like to give a big thanks to Matt Clark for leading this activity.

The group broke for lunch at 11:30. The meal was prepared and served by Junior Director Sherrill Bokousky, Joanne Brandt, and Sondra Farrell. The day continued at 1 pm with a workshop led by Youth team members Rachel Bailey and Lynn French. The workshop was on Memory Pages, Collages, and create-a-card contests. They brought in materials so that the youth could create their entries for the contests. This workshop was very popular and will probably be repeated next year. Plan now to bring your ideas and materials for next year's rally.

After a short period of free time, the new drill coach, Matt Clark, met with the youth that were interested in being on the drill team. They discussed the plan for this years drill and set a schedule for practice dates. Next, Sherrill Bokousky and Matt Haefner presented a short workshop. Sherrill gave an example of an elevator speech. Matt asked people to pick a theme out of a hat and give an impromptu speech about what was on the paper. At 5:30, dinner was served to 59 people. Thanks to everyone who came to support this fund raising event.



Paige Beckert, Laura Brandt, and Stephanie Lambert with Beanie Ponies and Bears

After dinner the New Hampshire State Grange Youth Association held their first meeting for the year. Youth Lecturer, Anne Louise West, and her helpers presented a wonderful literary program to the 56 people in attendance. A raffle was held to help the Youth fund. State Master Beth Merrill spoke under suggestions for the good of the order and informed all present that her goal for membership this year is to have a net gain. She informed us membership that is everyone's responsibility and we should do our part in getting the Grange's name out to the public. The Youth want to send a big thank you to Marion T. Jones for providing the music for the evening meeting. Marion has been a long time supporter of the Youth and she is greatly appreciated.



Taking the Grange Knowledge Test

Drill Team Schedule

Here is the schedule of practices for this year. Not everyone will be able to make all the practices. However, do all you can to make the last 3 practices before NE Youth Rally. Please contact Coach Matt Clark by email or by phone (603-209-1995) if you are unable to attend any rehearsal.

March 3 (4pm-6pm) - Antrim Grange before Moonlight Stomp, bring ideas for dress and music

March 24 (4pm-7pm) - State Grange Building Hooksett

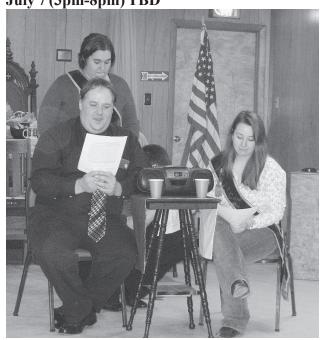
April 14 (4pm-7pm) TBD

April 20 (6:30pm-9:00pm) - State Grange Building Hooksett before Bowling

May 12 (3pm-7pm) - Granite Grange Milford June 2 (10am-12noon) - Daniel Webster

Grange before Spotlight NH June 9 after meeting at June Youth Rally June 23 at Family weekend TBD

June 30 (3pm-7pm) TBD July 7 (3pm-8pm) TBD



The Snowday Skit

2007 Youth Nights

March 9th - Wingold Grange

April 10th - Hooksett Grange 1:30 pm

April 11th - Suncook Valley Pomona
(a) Chichester

April 17th - Pembroke Grange 1:30 pm

April 18th - Somersworth Grange

April 21st - Rochester Grange

April 24th - Jeremiah Smith Grange

May 2nd - Chichester Grange

May 4th - Prentice Hill Grange

May 12th - Pemi Valley Pomona

(a) Squam Lake Grange

May 15th - Daniel Webster Grange

June 7th - Centennial Grange

June 19th - Crown Point Grange

June 22nd - Baker's River Grange

June 23rd - Eastern NH Pomona

Upcoming Activities

Our next event will be the Moon Stomp, which will be held on Saturday March 3rd. The event takes place at the home of Beth and Arthur Merrill in Antrim, NH, and will start at 6 pm. Please remember that this event includes a 'Moon-light Stomp' outside and that you should dress appropriately.

On Friday, April 20th, the Youth will have their annual Glow Bowling. This is the Caroline Hall Granger's Care fundraising activity. This year 75% of the money raised from this fundraiser will be donated to the NH Food Bank. The Food Bank supplies food to families in need throughout the state. Please watch the mail more details on this event.

In May, there will be two Youth Team events. The first is the Family Fun Fair in Nashua on May 12th. This event is held in conjunction with the Junior Committee. This year we will be handing out potted plants to the young people in attendance in hopes that they will give the flowers to their mothers for Mother's Day. This is an opportunity for the Grange to get exposure to the public. The second event, which is being finalized, will be a miniature golf tournament. Please watch the mail for more information.

In June, Worthy Lecturer, Marie Hall has invited the youth hold the Public Speaking and Sign-a-Song contests at Spotlight New Hampshire. June Youth rally will be held on June 9th at the New Hampshire State Grange Building. This year will only be a one-day event. The day will consist of two workshops, lunch, and a meeting of the Youth Association. More information will be sent out on this event.

Youth Donations Requested

Donations to the Randall Richardson fund, Jodi Bailey, and Youth Fund are accepted at any time. Please make sure to send the check to the State Youth Team Leader and include a note on how the money is to be distributed among the different funds.

The Youth Drill Team is still accepting members. Anyone interested in participating on the Drill Team, should contact Matt Clark for more information.



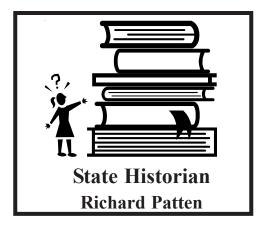
At this time we have two Junior Granges at work in NH. I am hoping to increase that number this year or at least to increase the number of members we now have. Please let me know if you know of any children who would like to participate.

Some fun activities are planned for this year. The Junior Department, along with the Youth Department, attended Kid's Day at Farm and Forest on February 3rd in Manchester. The activity we had was to make bookmarks with a Valentine theme. The next event will be to go to the state bowling tournament in March. Granite Junior will be the host for the Hillsborough County Pomona supper on March 17. Brookline Junior is busy working on merit badges. Junior meetings include work on the craft contests from the program and learning about Grange. Along with that Juniors are encouraged to get involved in community service.

From the National Grange Junior Department the 2007 program will include Building a Healthier You. This program has topics highlighting keeping yourself healthy. Also in the program will be Small World Country study, which for 2007 will be Mexico. The Host Study State is Nevada.



Sherrill Bokousky at Farm & Forest



Eighty years ago it was 1927. State Master James Farmer recommended in his Master's Address that a State Grange Agricultural Committee be appointed. It was further recommended that each Subordinate and Pomona Grange appoint an agricultural committee of three to work with the state committee in encouraging and developing agricultural work in our Grange communities and that each committee annually prepare a written report of the work accomplished and submit it to the state committee on or before November 1st. Master Farmer also recommended that the State Grange offer a suitable medal to be awarded yearly to the master farmer in our state under such regulations as may be authorized by the State Grange Executive Committee. It was further recommended that the State Executive Committee be authorized to investigate, devise, and promote new methods of creating more active interest in agricultural work in New Hampshire and solicit the co-operation of other interested organizations.

The NH State Grange took a major step in 1927 with the organization of the first Juvenile Grange in the state. Under the direction of Mrs. Mary A. Farmer, Ceres of the State Grange, Mountain Laurel Juvenile Grange was organized on July 26, 1927, with 26 active and 42 honorary members. At the time of the State Session, it was reported to have 34 active juvenile and 46 honorary members.

The Educational Loan Fund began its first full year in 1927. It was established at the State Grange Session in December 1926. It was decided that the State Grange Executive Committee would be in charge of this fund. It was further voted that the State Treasurer would serve as treasurer for the fund and be empowered to disburse all monies when ordered by the loan committee. The rules for governing the fund

were adopted. These included the purpose, origin, administration, loan committee, loans, interest, maturity, application, and amendments. No loan would be made in excess of one hundred dollars in any one year during the completion of the course.

It was voted at the 1927 session that one thousand dollars be appropriated for the purpose of maintaining the **New Hampshire**State Grange Journal and the State Lecturer be authorized as business manager of the paper. The State Grange Journal was the forerunner of the Granite State Granger. The State Master noted, "the paper covers a wide field of Grange activities and every Grange family should support the publication by their subscriptions."

Lower Intervale Grange

Dale MacDonald and her niece Jessica King, both of Lower Intervale Grange in Plymouth, made and donated twenty pairs of mittens to Caroline Varin, nurse at the Plymouth Elementary School. Dale also made and donated ten pairs of mittens to the New Hampton Community School, which her grandson Trevor MacDonald attends. At the Grange Christmas party in December, instead of exchanging gifts members brought in canned food which was donated to the local food pantry.

The next three meetings will be held in members' homes while the Grange Hall is closed for the winter months.

> A Hearty Grange Welcome to the Following New Members

Linda Lauer Pine Grove Karen Fesler Pine Grove **Anthony Nadeau Rockingham** Jarrod Lane Rockingham Mary Dowes Halloween Jeannine Lawall **Tuftonborough** Peter Lawall Tuftonborough Barbara Lawrence Mohawk **James Lawrence** Mohawk Dean Woodard-Neary Mohawk **Crystal Goodrich** Lake Shore Carrie Pelletier Hudson Jarod Normand Arlington Arlington **Arthur Tedford** Jennifer Tedford **Arlington** William Burynski Arlington **Marcia Newethy Blackwater**

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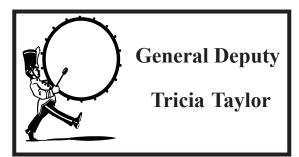
Meriden

Philip Tacy

Sandy Tacy

Kevin Paul

Audrey Tacy



Sometimes we are too close to our own Grange "forest" to clearly see the "trees." To help your Grange get an honest assessment of its strengths and weaknesses and how it fits into the needs of your community, your Deputy is prepared to come to one of your meetings and conduct an unbiased, no-holds barred survey of where you're at. It would be advantageous for your Grange to schedule an entire meeting toward this process, or plan on two shorter sessions, depending on the mutual schedule of you and your deputy. If you've already planned your meetings to the point where there's no room on the agenda for a deputy visit, I would highly recommend that you consider setting up a special meeting to do so.

This survey was created at the National Grange level but tweaked slightly to make it more useful for New Hampshire. Your Deputy has multiple copies for your Grange to work from. It is important that your Grange work through this survey as a group, allowing all to be part of the discussion and share the information. The survey has multiple purposes. One is to give the State Grange the information normally collected on the 'green' sheet that has been used in the past. It is also intended to create an opportunity for you to evaluate your own Grange and its viability while determining where and how you want your Grange to move forward. At the State Grange level we are also hoping to use the data you give us to create a booklet we can share across the state containing community service ideas and information concerning non-traditional Granges. Please help us by creating the opportunities for meeting with your deputy. If you have any questions feel free to email me at jdno7tt@yahoo.com, or call 603-630-0159 to speak with me.

A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.

Huntoon Farm Celebrates 150 Years

A weekend last fall saw many people at the Huntoon Farm in Danbury, NH, to help celebrate 150 years of existence as "One Farm, One Family." Saturday was cold and windy, but Sunday was a better day with sunshine. The Bakery was open, so many walked away this their favorite foods. Exhibits of family members were on display in the barn floor along with baby chicks and farm memorabilia such as an ox shoe for winter use; wash tub, wash board, and wringer; and butter churns.

There were surveys for people to make out, paper for a mailing list, and even a chance to make butter and try some on crackers. The Rails to Trails people were on hand to talk about expansion. Phyllis Taylor and Tom Frantz of Andover were there to answer questions.

Lana Petty had sheep and dogs and gave a demonstration of the working dogs. She had yarn to sell that she had dyed by hand. Delicious refreshments were on sale: mulled cider, beef stew, and baked beans. Hayrides were given to view the scenery.

Mary Lyn Ray, children's book author, was also present to sign and sell her books.

A Little Farm History

The main farm land and building supplies were purchased by Harvey Huntoon in December, 1856. He later purchased small parcels of land from other nearby farms, segmented from the building of the railroad, to add to his hillside farm. He and his wife Abby had four children: Will, John, Ada, and Emma.

In 1903 at Harvey's death, Will Huntoon took over the farm. He married Eva Perkins, daughter of Dexter Perkins, a man with a unique history of his own.

Dexter was sold as a young ward of the town, bringing a very high price. By age 21 he had accumulated enough money to purchase his own farm. At one time he was the wealthiest man in town, due to the amount of land he had acquired. His humble beginnings were not something Dexter wished to discuss.

Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.

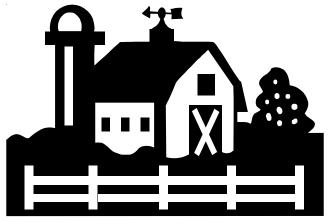
In 1940, Will added the Gould property to the farm. Eva and Will had one son, Willard. Willard left high school to help his mother carry on the farm when his father died. Willard and his mother now had a dairy farm and shipped milk to H. P. Hood Company in Boston. Eva died in 1950.

Willard married Marjorie Currier and they had two children, Alan and Donna. Willard and Marjorie farmed the land until Willard's death in 1988. Marjorie worked by his side, pitching hay, and running the hay fork.

As each generation took over, improvements were made. During the 1950's, tractors replaced horses on the farm. Willard missed his horses, but he had steers to help with getting in winter wood. In the beginning, forty quart milk jugs were taken to the station and shipped on the train to Boston. At the farm the jugs were kept in a drop-in cooler in water that had to be maintained at a certain temperature. Later the milk was stored in a bulk tank and a truck pumped it out. The Hood Company wrote an article about the farm, one of its oldest shippers, in a publication called "The Milk Pail."

In 1988, Willard and Marjorie's daughter Donna married Phil Sprague, and they, together with their son Dustin, are keepers of the family farm. They are preserving the farm from sub-division and development. Through events like this 150-year celebration, they hope to share farm life with those who no longer have access to a family farm.

Marjorie Huntoon, who sent in the information for this article, still helps where she can on the farm. Old age is catching up with her and she can't do what she would like to, but she enjoys the heritage. As she phrases it, "We are plugging along. Not much money, but it's a life we all like."



Yankee Candle Fundraiser – Opportunity for NH Granges

Your Grange Secretary should soon receive a packet from the Yankee Candle Company. In it is some general information, catalogs, and order forms for a potential fundraiser for your Grange, sponsored by the NH State Grange. It is the decision of you and your Grange whether or not you wish to take advantage of this opportunity. Neighboring State Granges have participated in this program with great success.

The Yankee Candle Company, Inc. is the leading designer, manufacturer, retailer, and wholesaler of premium, scented candles in the U.S. Forty percent of the price of the product is coming straight back to us, and the State Grange will return 40% of the total profit back to the Granges that participate in this fundraiser. You can find more information about this fundraiser at www.yankeefundraising.com, or call State Grange Fundraising Director, John Palumbo, at 487-3116 or our Yankee Candle fundraising representative, Jim Boccia at 505-5993.

Our sale runs from the time that you receive your sales packet until May 18th. Your Grange's order and all money collected is due to the State Grange Fundraising Director not later than May 21st. When you place your order, be sure to have your Grange keep the pink copy of the order form. Send the rest of the order form and all money to John Palumbo, NH State Grange Fundraising Director, 19 Joe English Road, New Boston, NH 03070.

Yankee Candle offers a 3% prepay discount when the order is paid before shipment. For every \$20 worth of product that each member sells, his or her name will go into a "hat." At the conclusion of the sale, one name will be drawn and that lucky salesperson will receive a check in the amount of whatever the prepay discount amount is.

Your State Grange Executive Committee has determined that the State Grange's portion of the profits from this sale will go toward our financial obligation (\$3,000) to help host the 2008 National Grange Session in Connecticut.

We wish you good luck for a successful sales campaign!

 \perp



Note: This legislative column is being guest-written by Mark Lathrop, Chairman of the New Hampshire Hemp Council.

Jim Tetreault has asked me to write about the benefits of hemp and why Grange should be behind HB424-FN-A and the relegalization of hemp and it's re-introduction to American agriculture. It's not complicated. There are two things that anyone with an agricultural background will easily understand: Botany and Economics.

First the botany: Believed to be indigenous to the Himalayan region and carried worldwide, Cannabis Ruderalis is the original plant now referred to as feral hemp. Useful for it's long, strong fiber, and nutritious seed, early man started hybridizing toward those traits. The resulting strains were eventually named Cannabis Sativa L.

Early man also realized that the resin left on his hands from handling the plant, when mixed with milk, made an intoxicating drink called "Bhang" and started hybridizing in that direction eventually resulting in Cannabis Indica.

There is no such thing as a "marijuana plant". Marijuana is a modern commodity. It is the flowering tops of Cannabis Indica and some strains of Cannabis Sativa that are genetically predisposed to create higher THC levels when deliberately grown in female isolation.

Although there are a couple of strains that are monoecious, the vast majority of cannabis is dioecious (having separate male and female plants). TetraHydroCannabinol (THC) is the intoxicant in cannabis. THC's primary purpose in the plant is as a sticky resin in the female flower that collects male pollen. In conjunction with the plant's fragrance, some also believe THC acts as a natural pesticide and protects the plant from excessive UV light. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) considers 3% THC content to be the point at which cannabis becomes psychoactive. There are many

strains of Cannabis Sativa that are genetically predisposed to test significantly lower than 0.3% THC. These are recognized by the EU and Canada as non-psychoactive industrial fiber or oilseed hemp.

Growing marijuana is a deliberate act of horticulture. One must cull male plants denying female flowers of pollen forcing higher THC production. If someone were to try to grow marijuana from a Sativa strain with a proven genetic potential to produce higher THC levels with the male plants present, the males would mature before the females releasing pollen. As the female flowered she would readily find pollen, shut down THC production and put energy into curing seed resulting in a low potency marijuana, full of seed that contained hemp genetics, virtually unsaleable on the street. Now we're talking economics.

Hemp's pollen is genetically dominant and would frustrate outdoor marijuana cultivation. The DEA refuses to publicly recognize this simple science as they have no intention of winning the "drug war". They simply want to continue to spend our tax money fighting their war. They know that if we reintroduce hemp to American agriculture, hemp pollen will frustrate and eventually eradicate outdoor marijuana cultivation and force them to recognize non-psychoactive feral hemp, cutting into their annual enforcement budgets.

Hemp is such a versatile, natural resource that it will quickly find a very broad range of industrial markets. Immediately it could augment forest harvest for the production of paper and building materials, be feedstock for bio-fuels and plastics, and serve as an organic rotation crop for other more chemically intensive agriculture. Hemp grows with such a tall, dense canopy that it will clear a field of weeds reducing the need and expense of herbicides. It's natural resistance to mold and mildew eliminate the need for fungicides. And insects don't seem to like it much so pesticides are unnecessary. Although not a nitrogen fixer, it uses very little and field retting or a fall spreading of manure will return it.

Hemp grain and seed oil markets are already booming. Over the past several years, hempseed oil and foods have seen an annual 20%+/- growth in US markets.

All of which is currently imported from Canada while domestic farmer's hands are tied behind their back unable to compete in our own markets.

The rest of the world is on this. The longer the US government leaves it's head buried "in the sand", lying about marijuana, the more US farmers will be beholden to foreign germplasms and processing technologies unable to take advantage of the botanical and economic opportunities that hemp agriculture and industry has to offer.

Crafters Needed! WicWas Lake Grange of Meredith, NH is hosting The '07 Spring Fling Craft Bazaar April 21st 2007 8am - 3pm Set up begins at 5am for your convenience. WicWas Lake Grange Hall Meredith Ctr. Road, Meredith, NH Some Spaces are still available! Get yours before they are gone. Call: 603-707-1757, 603-707-1754 email: follansbeefamily@yahoo.com for your registration form today! 6' x 4' - \$10.00 6' x 8' Stage spot - \$10.00 6' x 8' - \$15.00

Ocean Side Grange

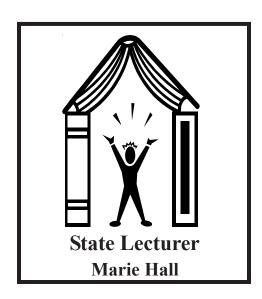
Corner spot - \$20.00

A \$5.00 non-refundable table deposit is

required at the time of the reservation.

Ocean Side Grange of Hampton has been holding its monthly meeting in the afternoon in a member's home. Shortly before he passed away on January 4, 2007, William I. Elliot celebrated his 85th year as a Granger. He received a letter from the National Master congratulating him on this honor. Brother Elliot was 101 years old. Other long term members recognized in December were Marion Leach, 70 years; and Laura Eld and Russell Merrill, 65 years.

As a result of letters and membership cards sent out to Golden Sheaf members at Christmas, Dennis Blain, Secretary of Ocean Side Grange has received letters from a couple of members who have been out of touch for a long time. Holiday greetings are one way to update membership lists.



As a new State Lecturer (like all Lecturers), I am finding that things don't always end up the way that one has planned. You will notice that there are some date changes that have had to be made for major events that will be taking place.

Bowling this year will be on March 11, 2007 in Manchester. Registration begins at 11:00 AM and bowling will begin promptly at 12 noon. I want to encourage as many people as possible to attend this year as our number of attendees has been getting smaller. Even if you have never bowled in your life come and try it. The fun part of the event is getting to know other Grange members across the state while participating in a friendly competition. See your Lecturer for the registration form. Please try to get them back to me the week before so I will be able to set up the scoring cards before-hand.

The Grange Celebration Banquet this year will be on April 28, 2007. It will be at the Beaver Hill Golf Course in Concord, NH starting at 6:00 PM. The price is \$23.00 per person. This will include a buffet meal with Steak tips, Chicken, Potato, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Rolls, Dessert, and Coffee. Soda and other drinks will be available for a nominal fee. Directions will be mailed out to all Lecturers by the end of March, beginning of April. Reservations are to be made with me by April 22, 2007. Anyone wanting to make reservations from this point forward please mail to me with a check made out to: NH State Grange Lecturer's Fund.

Talent Fund Contributions can be mailed to the State Lecturer at any time. Please help send the winner/s to New England State Lecturer's Conference and National Grange Night of Excellence. At this time I would like to request that all Grange members put their thinking caps on and help provide me with some skits, poems, program ideas, etc. I have some, but would like more input from all so that I can put a booklet together of programs that have worked out and have it available for Lecturer's and/or anyone that would like to have one.

I would like to thank all those who have sent me a copy of their program. This gives me a good idea of what is being used, and I hope that if you have any questions or need any help that you will get in contact with me. If I'm not at home at the time you call, please leave me a message and I will get back to you.

Please note that the zip code for me, under State Lecturer, in the roster is incorrect. My correct zip code is 03833.

IMPORTANT DATES 2007

March 11, 2007 - Bowling Tournament
Lakeside Lanes Manchester
Registration - 11:00 AM
Bowling - 12:00 Noon - 3:00 PM
April 28, 2007 - Grange Month Celebration
Banquet - Beaver Meadow Golf Course,
Concord, NH

May 1, 2007 - Song Writing Contest Due May 5, 2007 - Vermont/NH Night – hosted by Vermont

May 19, 2007 - Maine/NH Night – hosted by NH at Gilman Grange, Exeter Bean supper: 5:00 – 6:30 PM \$6.00 Please reserve with Marie Hall by Tuesday, May 15, 2007

May 26, 2007 - CPR Contest Registration due to Lecturer Talent Contest Registration due

to Lecturer

June 2, 2007 - <u>State Lecturer's Conference</u> – 9:00 AM Registration 10:00 AM meeting – (to help discuss next year's program & aid Lecturers)

Place: State Grange Building – Hooksett
June 2, 2007 - Spot Light NH – State Grange
Building - Hooksett 2:00 PM
August 6-9, 2007 - New England Lecturer's
Conference, Dudley MA
August 15, 2007 - Art Contest, Photography
Contest, Create A Card Contest

Due to State Lecturer September 1, 2007 - Creative Writing Contest Due to State Lecturer

Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.



In Memoriam

Nancy Crowne Antrim Ina Mae Smith **Ashuelot** Lillian Baker **Bakers River** Willis Nowell **PM** Blackwater Alice Drake GS, PM Cocheco **Beatrice Menard** Cocheco Donald Kelsey, Sr. **Crown Point** George Barter PM, Past Dir. State Contact Committee **Daniel Webster Anita Harvey Fidelity Dolly Green Granite State Annie Barker** Halloween **Albert Smith** GS Harmony Mary Russell **PM Henry Wilson** Charles H. Brady GS, PM Jeremiah Smith May McBride GS,PM Lake Shore William Hadley **Mount Hope** Lyle Thompson Mt. Livermore Arlene Yeaton GS, PM **Oceanside** Charles Blakslee GS, PM Riverside Emma McFarlin Riverside **Florence Perkins PM Tuftonborough Cora Simpson** Wattannick **Helen Morris** GS Wattannick

Antrim Grange Awards Night to Feature Noted Speaker

Rebecca Rule, noted NH author and humorist, will be the keynote speaker at Antrim Community Grange's Awards Night on Wednesday, May 16, 2007. The 7:00 p.m. meeting will be held at the Antrim Grange Hall on Rt. 31. Antrim/Bennington citizens will be recognized as Grange award recipients in the categories of Citizen, Educator, Law Officer, Fire/Rescue, and Agriculturalist. The 2007 recipient of the Antrim Grange \$500 scholarship will also be announced. All are welcome to attend this festive event!



Please be sure your Grange has sent in their recent Quarterly Report! If you don't have the 2007 password, it is a good indication your December report was not received.

Ashuelot Grange is meeting once a month. Call ahead to check on meeting date.

Grange Bulletin Board

Daniel Webster Grange
Home Ec & Youth Night
Saturday. May 26
Webster Town Hall,
Chicken Barbecue - 4:30 to 6:00pm
Penny Sale
Tickets go on sale at 4:00 pm
Tickets pulled at 7:00pm
Short meeting at 8:00

Home Economics Night
Eastern NH Pomona #2
Saturday, March 24,
Barrington Congregational Church
Route 9 - across from Centennial Grange
Hall
Program at 7:00 p.m.
5th Degree Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Lunch to follow
Hosted by Centennial Grange #185

Corrections

Connie Carr's e-mail was incorrect in the Program Booklet. It should be ccarr3518@aol.com. The roster is correct.

Deputy Dorothy Haskins' correct mailing address is 1487 Battle Street, Webster, N.H. 03303.

Granite Grange Monthly Suppers 2nd Saturday: 5-6:30 p.m. **Adults \$7.00** Children under six \$3.50 23 Webster Street, Milford March 10th - Corned Beef & Cabbage Potatoes, Turnips, Carrots, Onions **Assorted Cakes April 14th - Turkey Dinner** Stuffing, Potato, & Gravy **Squash & Cranberry Sauce** Apple Pie & Ice Cream May 12th - Roast Pork Dinner Potatoes, Peas & Applesauce **Tapioca Pudding & Fruit**

Indoor Yard Sale
March 16 & 17
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Blow-Me-Down Grange Hall
Route 12A, Plainfield, NH

Wic Was Lake Grange Craft Bazaar April 21 See page 10 Turkey Supper
April 14, 2006
New Boston Central School
Tom Mansfield Gym
Adults \$8.00
Seniors \$6.00
Ages 6-12 \$5.00
Children under 6 free
Family Rate \$25.00
(2 adults & 2 or more children 6-12)
Sponsored by Joe English Grange
for their scholarship fund
which makes a \$600 scholarship available
to a graduating senior each year

Scrap Booking Session
with Creative Memories
March 9
at Granite Grange Hall
23 Webster Street
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Bring your treasured photos and
preserve them.
Refreshments are available.
\$10.00 per person per session
To join the fun with us, contact John at 603487-3116 for more information.
After March, we will be scrapping on the first
Friday of each month.

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