



The Granite State Granger

Volume 40

Number 4

2010

December

Time to File Your Grange's Annual IRS Tax Return

This is a reminder to all Granges in NH that your fiscal year ended September 30, 2010, and you now have until February 15, 2011 to file your annual 990-N electronic tax return with the IRS. Failure to file for three consecutive years can result in a loss of your non-profit status.

The website address to file at is <http://epostcard.form990.org> and complete filing instructions were mailed to every Grange in May of 2008. If you have lost your instructions or just need help please contact NH State Grange Treasurer Gail Turcotte, 107 Oak Hill Road, Barrington, NH 03825-3823 telephone 603-664-5584 or E-mail gturcotte@myfairpoint.net.

If your Grange is unable to file on line then you may contact Gail for a paper copy of the 990-EZ form, and she will mail one to you. The paper version is also due to the IRS by February 15, 2011.

Northeast Leaders' Conference

Host: New York State Grange

January 7, 8 & 9, 2011

Holiday Inn Express and Suites

400 Old Loudon Road, Latham, NY

(Just north of Albany)

Make reservations directly with the hotel at 518-7183-6161 no later than December 7, 2010. Be sure to mention New York State Grange when reserving.

Conference fee is \$10.00 per person (check payable to NY State Grange).

Send with reservation form by

December 7 to

Mrs. Debbie Vail

6 DeForest Lane

LaGrangeville, NY 12540

(845) 724-5417

Further details and reservation form are available on line at www.nhgrange.org

Who Kissed the Pig?

Actually, no one has kissed the pig - yet. The pig was unable to attend our State Session in Keene. Seeing an opportunity for raising even more funds, our State Master has postponed the event until Spring Fling in April. At that time there should be a greater choice of pigs of the proper size to be transported to a Grange event. At State Session it was suggested that our State Master elect might stand in for the pig. He responded by offering to exchange a kiss for a monetary donation in his name.

The contest is still open for donations. Whether you sponsor the State Master or someone else on the list, remember that half of the proceeds will benefit the NH State Grange and the other half will be awarded to the favorite Grange charity of each participant.

Mail your donations to State Treasurer Gail Turcotte, 53 Oak Hill Road, Barrington, NH 03825. Please note that your money is for the Kiss the Pig contest and name the "Kisser" you wish to sponsor.

The would-be pig kissers and their charities are listed below.

Beth Merrill – Name Protection legal expenses

Arthur Merrill – Name Protection expenses

Jim Tetreault – Youth Department & Legislative Department

Hannah West – Granite State Granger

Lester Gibbs – Dictionary Project

Stephen Tracy – Membership Department

Tricia Taylor – Name Protection legal expenses

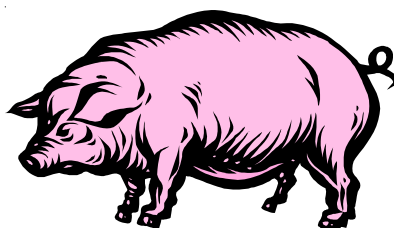
Gail Turcotte – NH State Grange Trust Fund

Marie Hall – Lecturer's Talent Fund

Dan Bascom - Name Protection legal expenses

Jane Trombi - Jodi Bailey Youth Fund

Kathy Yardley - National Grange Youth Leadership



Dear Members of the NH State Grange:

Words cannot be expressed to convey my appreciation for the opportunity to serve as your State Master for the past four years. One person alone could never be successful in carrying out the duties of the office, and I am grateful for the contributions of my support team: the Officers, Deputies, Directors, Committees, volunteers, and family members who made personal sacrifices and served the Order with love and dedication.

I regret there are some goals that were not fulfilled during my term, yet we truly did accomplish some amazing things in the last four years. When I visited Granges around the state I was greeted with typical Grange hospitality, for which I owe many thanks! I tried to serve as a positive example and hope that you also believe in the future growth of the Grange and realize that our ritual, performed with careful preparation, does have an important role for our organization – especially in current times.

Serving as your State Master has given me many opportunities for travel, expanded leadership training, and personal growth. During these experiences, the worthiness of the NH Grange membership has revealed itself again and again and has given me many proud moments as your leader.

I can never repay all the blessings that you have bestowed upon me, but I will continue to serve our Order to the best of my abilities and look forward to exploring whatever future paths await us.

Fraternally yours,

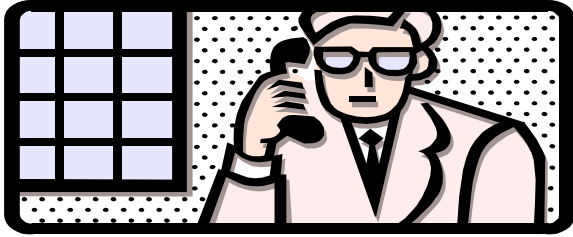
Beth Merrill, Past Master

NH State Grange

2006-2010

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

James Tetreault State Master



Outside My Window on Keene Rd

We just returned from a very successful National Grange session in Charlotte, North Carolina, graciously hosted by members of the North Carolina State Grange. I am thinking about the fatigue I feel having gotten up at 4:00 AM on Sunday to travel home, but I am also thinking about the excitement I am feeling about Grange here in the state of New Hampshire. We are hearing some great reports about new members being taken in around the state. Even though reports are good, we can't afford to sit back and just let a few Granges carry the water for the majority of Granges.

At my installation I laid out a set of priorities for 2010 – 2011. They are as follows.

Grange Growth

We are asking Pomona Masters to help us by appointing a Pomona Grange Growth Team, to help revitalize Granges within their Pomona jurisdiction. We are planning a membership conference during the month of March to train these teams. This conference will be open to all members, not just members of the Pomona Grange Growth Teams. I have also appointed an Organizing Deputy who will be responsible for organizing new Granges through out the state as well as helping struggling Granges, to achieve new members. If you would like Steve Tracy's assistance, please contact General Deputy Arthur Merrill. But, the State Grange can't do it alone. **WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU ASKED SOMEONE TO JOIN THE GRANGE?** Remember someone asked you to join. As part of membership growth I have set a policy that no Grange in the state of NH will close with out first meeting with a Grange Growth Team.

Focus on Ritualism

We hear that members miss the ritualistic part of the Grange. Deputies will go back to making spring instructions, instructing each Grange on the proper exemplification of the opening and closing,

as well as two selected pieces of the secret work. We are also asking the Pomona Granges to either do the First Degree or the Fifth Degree. On your fall score sheet you will either get the points for doing it or not. In the fall your Deputy will not only inspect your financial records but will also inspect your Granges on the opening and closing and ask your members to exemplify the two pieces of secret work that your Deputy did during the spring visit.

Fundraising

By delegate action at State Grange in October we have set a goal of \$5,000 to raise this year. Help your State Grange meet its goal. I have appointed a Fundraising chairman who will be outlining how we are going to meet this goal.

Improve Communication

I have asked each of the Directors that I have appointed to send quarterly letters to their Community and Pomona counterparts to keep them informed of State Grange activities. We will also attempt to publicize Grange activities in local newspapers as well as on the website and face book. We are planning area meetings in the New Year to give you all an opportunity to meet the State Grange family in person and ask questions about the programming aspect of each of the Departments. Keep these dates in mind: January 15, at Riverside Grange in Dalton, January 22 at Rochester, January 29 at the State Grange Building. All of these meetings start at 9:00 a.m. with coffee and donuts, and the actual meetings start at 9:30. Lunch will also be available at all of these meetings.

I hope every Grange and Granger is as fired up as I am about the new Grange year, and I hope that you all have a great holiday season.

Newly Installed Officers of WicWas Lake Grange



Front: LAS Kristen Durand-Schwarz; O, Barry Ladd; M, Steve Durand; L, Bob Greemore; GK, Tim Paquin. **2nd row:** S, Brian Phelps; EC, Linda Phelps, EC, Dawn Durand; EC, Jan Joslin; Ch, Dana Lowe; AS, Dennis Boulanger. **Back Row:** T, Cookie Boulanger; Sec'y, Helga Paquin; F, Jeanne Lowrey; P, Jane Greemore; C, Kimberly Durand.

Officers of WicWas Lake Grange of Meredith were installed prior to their November 8 meeting by State Lecturer Hannah West. Assisted by State Membership Director Anne Boisvert, Past State Master Paul Davis, Past State Ceres Rhoda Davis, and Deputy Ida Hutchins, the Worthy State Lecturer utilized the revised Installation Ceremony, providing the Officers, most of whom are new members, with a fine example of a Grange ceremony.

During the meeting following, the Grange received three more members. Deputy Ida Hutchins conducted the Official Welcoming Ceremony.

The Installation of Officers completed another step in the process of revitalizing Wicwas Lake Grange. At earlier meetings, under the direction of Deputy Arthur Merrill, 22 new members were obligated, and a complete slate of officers was elected.

Between the three meetings held since September, the new members have begun the process of cleaning and organizing various storage areas in the hall and correcting problems that had been neglected for some time.

On November 6 the Grange sponsored its first fund raising event- a very successful Barn Dance. They look forward to making the Grange Hall the focal point of activities and events in the community of Meredith Center.

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
Patrick Bailey**

I hope by now you have all received your 2011 Youth Programs. If you have not, please contact a member of the Youth Committee, and we will get one out to your Grange as soon as we can. The members of your 2011 youth team are Robert Varnum, Larissa Grant, Allissa Estes, and Sarah Leclerc.

We had a full slate of state youth officers attend state session this year. The Youth did a splendid job with the opening of session on Saturday morning. The officers were filled as follows: Master – Andrew Savage; Overseer – Davi Penny; Lecturer – Allissa Estes; Steward – Anne Boisvert; Assistant Steward – Patrick Bailey; Lady Assistant Steward – Lynn Clark; Chaplain – Jen Tedford; Treasurer – Larissa Grant; Secretary - Robert Varnum; Gatekeeper – Ethan Lampman; Ceres – Sarah Leclerc; Pomona – Emilie Leclerc; Flora – Tabitha Gregoire; Executive Committee - Norman Brandt, Arthur Tedford, and Adam Paquin. I would like to thank all of them for participating in performing the opening for the Saturday session.

Our next planned event of the year will be Winter Youth Rally. As of right now we have not selected a date but please keep checking the State Grange website at www.nhgrange.org for more information. There also will be a mailing coming out in January with all the information for upcoming events. The State Master has planned three area meetings for January 15th in Dalton, January 22nd at Rochester Grange, and January 29th at the New Hampshire State Grange Building. Members of the Youth Committee will be at all three meetings to answer any questions you have.

New this year if your Grange wants to host a youth event we will give you 5 extra bonus points. Your event doesn't have to be winter or summer youth rally it could be any type of event during the year. If you

choose to host an event, we ask that half of the proceeds from a supper or meal be donated to the Youth Department. At Winter Rally we will have youth officer and ambassador testing. We did not have any ambassadors this year I would like to see if we can get at least one to travel to national session next November in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Hope to see you all at one of the area meetings and at wWinter Rally.



**Grange Services
Lois Enman**

Hello to all, we are off to a new Grange year.

As a member of the Grange you are eligible for a number of Grange Services.

**US Pharmacy Card
Medical Air Services
Beltone Hearing Aids
Prescription Drug Discount Card
(Scrip)**

There are many other programs available to you so please check them out on the National Grange web site: www.nationalgrange.org.

On the State Grange level I want to remind any high school seniors that they can apply for a Grange scholarship grant for college. The application form can be found on the State Grange web site www.nhgrange.org under Grange Services. Be aware there are two (2) pages: application form and criteria used in judging applications. **Due Date July 1st.**

We also offer a scholarship grant for High School Equivalency Assistance.

Please contact me if you have any questions about Grange Services that I might help you with. My email is lljen@myfairpoint.net.

Support the ELF!
Please send your
Educational Loan Fund
donations to:
Rodney Huntoon
8 Pine Acres Rd., Suite 808
Concord, NH 03301




**NH State Grange Building
Marty Boisvert, Manager**

As your building manager I am pleased that the delegates chose not to sell the State Grange building. I believe that this building is a valuable asset to the NH Grangers. As pointed out by the study committee, the building is not perfect, but with some TLC and small improvements it can be very useful for everybody.

With that said, I would welcome any ideas that you have about what you would like to see for the building. My goal this year is to try to cut the cost of utilities and make the building more efficient. Plans are underway to remove the durable medical products and try and tidy up the basement a little. There is a lot of history stored down there, and I intend to see that that history is not lost to improper storage. The study committee's recommendations about working with the NH Historical Society and digitizing records will be pursued.

If you or someone you know needs space for a function, consider using the State Grange building for a donation of \$150. State Grange events or committee meetings are at no cost. Contact Hannah West to reserve the building.

As our National Master Ed Lutrell stated in the rededication ceremony of the National Grange building, "This is your building." Let's not forget this and work toward making this place a strong home for the NH State Grange today and into the future.

State Grange Building Fund
This fund is used for repairs and replacements at the State Grange Building. Expenditures are authorized by the State Grange Executive Committee. Checks should be made payable to New Hampshire State Grange (labeled Building Fund) and sent to
Carolyn Ross
80 East Road
East Kingston, NH 03827-2005.



**Legislative
James Tetreault**

This is my final report as Legislative Director of the New Hampshire State Grange. I have been your Legislative Director for 10 years, and have enjoyed every moment of the job. I want to share with you what I consider some of our accomplishments over the past 10 years.

We have established contact with our Congressional Representatives in Washington, DC, bringing the Grange position to them and letting them know how Grange members feel about different issues concerning our State and Country. Some of the tools we have employed are our own Legislative Policy booklet, the National Grange "Blue Print for Rural America", and yearly participation in the Legislative Fly-In hosted by the National Grange

We have consolidated our positions into a "New Hampshire State Grange Legislative Policy booklet" which can be found on our State Grange website

We have worked in coalition with other organizations such as the Farm Bureau on important issues like the value of having a Commissioner of Agriculture in the State of New Hampshire. We have worked with the other Northeast State Granges on the Northeast Dairy Compact.

We have established an awards program recognizing outstanding members of the NH House and Senate and established an Award in Memory of longtime State Senator from Keene, Clesson "Junie" Blaisdell, in recognition of outstanding service to the citizens of NH. We also established an award in memory of Robert "Bob" Bodwell for Granges and Grange members who excel in the legislative field.

We have re-established a lobbying program in Concord, lobbying the Legislature on issues that are once again important to us. One of the comments we heard was that it was great that the Grange was active in Concord again.

We have worked with other State Granges in the region to build correspond-

ing policies so when we are in DC we work together. We have the ability to tag team and let Members of Congress know that the members of the Grange in NH believe in this along with the members of the Granges in the other states.

We also hosted two Legislative Fly-Ins here in NH focused on the NH Primary. Participants had the opportunity to participate in an educational portion of the program and then volunteer on an actual Presidential campaign and share the experience. We have had people come all the way from Ohio. Ask Lisa Tharpe from Ohio how cold it can really be when you can toss your cup of coffee in the air and it freezes in the air.

We as an organization have had some great successes. I don't believe that the Grange is just a social organization. We are an organization that stands for important issues, and we have to be willing to use the authority that comes from the Grassroots and the delegate body of this State Grange. I want to thank you all for your support over the last 10 years.

I want to remember some of my past committee members who have passed away, my dear friends Bob Bodwell and George Everard. Both of these men served with me during most my of tenure as your Legislative Director I also want to thank Barbara Frangione and Dee Joslyn who are past members of my committee, and served the State Grange long and faithfully.

I also want to thank my legislative mentor, Past National Grange Legislative Director Leroy Watson, who encouraged me, taught me, and is a close friend whom I admire, respect and appreciate

Finally, I want to thank Past State Masters Dan Bascom, John West, and Beth Merrill for having placed their confidence in me to serve as your Legislative Director.

**The Legislative Department
has been renamed the
Legislative & Agriculture Department.
Robert Haefner will serve as director,
writing future columns in this paper.**



Deerfield Fair Grange Building

Joann Brandt, Superintendent

I am new at being a superintendent for a fair building. After this year I have some ideas for the future, and I would also appreciate any suggestions that Grangers may have about how to improve the display area and attract more viewers.

It was great to have sixteen Granges participate in the fair displays this year. Seven had Blue ribbons and \$100; seven had Red ribbons and \$85; and one had a white ribbon and \$75. I was proud to say I was a Granger, seeing the nice displays everyone had. The comments, such as "Best displays this year!" and "Nice work!" were very good to hear.

Thanks to the three who did Traditional displays: East Rockingham Pomona (Top in Division), Rochester Grange. and Henry Wilson Grange. Those Granges in the Theme Division, thank you, also: Watatic; Hillsboro County Pomona; Wingold (Top in Division); Antrim; Rockingham; Centennial; Chichester; New Hampshire State Grange; Suncook Valley Pomona; New Hampshire State Grange Youth; Granite, and Daniel Webster Granges.

Questions asked about "What is the Grange?" really were many, which means to me that we must really get into our neighborhoods and let them know we are there. I had a map of New Hampshire with a title, "Where is the Grange?" Many stopped to check it out. Of course, I didn't have them marked off, so I could ask what town they were interested in and give them the closest Grange to them. Also, I posted a little write-up about "What is the Grange?" Many stopped and read more from that article.

There are 23-24 booths that can be used for Grange Displays. With National Grange coming to New Hampshire in 2013, do you think we can fill them all by 2013?

Be sure to check the website for Deerfield Fair in the spring One change will be that all displays will need the American Flag.

Start to get your ideas together and plan to be with us next year.

It isn't the whistle that pulls the train.— Vermont Proverb



Pembroke Grange Celebrates 125th Anniversary

Pembroke Grange #111 recently celebrated its 125th Anniversary. The Grange was organized on December 30, 1885, with 19 Charter Members. Can you imagine those folks venturing out on a cold winter evening just before the new year to organize a Grange? They must have traveled on foot or by horse and sleigh.

The 125th celebration started with a float (pictured above) in the Pembroke Old Home Day Parade. The float - created by Florence Woods, John L. Saturley, and James R. Bachelder - won the Marshall's Choice Award. Pembroke Grange originally started the Pembroke Old Home Day activities many years ago.

On Saturday, October 2, the members, their families, family members of deceased Grange members, and friends of the Grange gathered at the Pembroke Congregational Church for a Celebration Dinner. This delicious ham dinner was prepared and served by the Bibbins Family. Dessert was a very nice Anniversary Cake provided by John and Doris Saturley.

NH State Master and Lady Assistant Steward of the National Grange Beth Merrill and her husband Arthur were the honored guests. Beth assisted in the presentation of membership certificates and seals, which included a 50 Golden Sheaf Certificate to Doris Saturley, a 65 year seal to Paul Davis, 60 year seals to Louraine Martell and Sandra Baker, and 55 year seals to Richard Chase, Constance Boudreau, Laurice and Stanley Richardson, and Rhoda Davis.

Local humorist Rebecca Rule entertained with her funny stories of New Hampshire life. Some were true and some maybe not so true. James R. Bachelder added to the 100 year history of Pembroke Grange with "Growing Up Grange," his

thoughts about growing up in a Grange family and with Grange neighbors.

A beautiful quilt, made by folks in the Grange, was one of many items in the Grange Raffle. Proceeds from the raffle made it possible to offer a complimentary meal to all who attended.

Congregational Church organist George Bozeman provided music, and Pastor Jim Howard gave the Benediction.

Pembroke Grange met in the Pembroke Town Hall before it burned and now meets in the Little Brick Schoolhouse. We meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday. This time suits the needs of our current active members. If there was enough interest for evening meetings this could very well change. Visitors are always welcome.



Blazing Star Grange #71

The Grange Fair is always a big September event in the town of Danbury. This year the weather was gorgeous, and the fair was a great success with throngs of people throughout the day. We had a large participation in the parade with our "America the Beautiful" theme and the fund raising auctions did very well. As you can see from the picture above, the bed race was a lot of fun, too.

Before Cardigan Mt. Tradition performed their blue grass music, we had a lighting ceremony and made a special announcement about our newly refurbished light fixtures. The renovations of the fixtures were made possible by gifts from the estate of Mary Brownell and Ralene Currier.

**List your Grange event
On the NH Grange website.
Contact Wayne Turcotte:
bfdw2@myfairpoint.net**



Happy holidays to all. As you can see I lost part of my title but gained a larger job in Grange work. I wish the new Membership Director well and look forward to working as a team.

As you read this I believe I will have a Christmas present for all of you in the form of a new Claremont Grange. The entire Claremont Farmer's Market is contacting me continually about meetings. I also have more prospective members for Claremont waiting in the wings.

Croydon Grange is growing in leaps and bounds in many aspects. They continuously look for ways to be active in the community and show they are alive. I gave them a challenge of getting four new members before the end of 2010. Someone donated a hand crocheted afghan of the American flag to the Grange, and they raffled it off and drew a winner at the Town's Honoring Veteran's Dinner. In just three weeks time they made over \$200 on the raffle. They donated a grocery gift certificate to the church to be given to a needy senior in town for Thanksgiving and will be putting together a full basket of food for someone at Christmas.

Mascoma Valley Pomona has decided to have the Visioning Deputy-Bob Trombi come and speak to them. This is a positive move for them. They are also looking into organizing a 5th Degree Degree Day for the entire state to work on and attend. More on this in the future.

A Hearty Grange Welcome to the Following New Members

Maudette Taylor	Aurora Grange
Kerrienne Nightingale	Centennial Grange
Linda Robinson	Chichester Grange
Samantha Brown	Rochester Grange
John Babson	Walpole Grange
John Hansel	Walpole Grange
Fran Hansel	Walpole Grange
Robert Kimball	Walpole Grange
Annette Wilson	Walpole Grange
Glenn Yardley	Walpole Grange
Kathie Brown	Walpole Grange

State Grange Bowling

Sunday, March 13, 2011

11 a.m.

Lakeside Lanes, Manchester

Cost \$12.00 for three strings & shoes

All bowlers must register by March 1.

Send forms to Chris Heath, 28 Penny

Lane, Barrington, NH 03825

Registration forms will be mailed to Granges

or can be downloaded from State Grange

website www.nhgrange.org.**Watatic Grange**

Watatic Grange held their October meeting in their recently completed Grange Hall located in the basement at the Twiss home. The area was finished during the summer and, although not spacious, is large enough to do floor work, accommodate officers stations, and seat about 20 people. Members are happily looking forward to hosting Pomona during the coming year. "It's good to have our own little hall," said one member.

Daniel Webster Grange

Daniel Webster Grange in Webster has been especially busy during August, September and October. We attended the NorthEast Lecturers' Conference; two meetings of Wicwas Lake Grange; served lunch at the two primaries, one in September and then again in November; and four members attended the N.H.State Grange session in Keene . Our dictionaries for Boscawen ,Salisbury, and Webster schools have been ordered and we will be presenting them in the next few weeks.

On December 3, we will be filling 10 to 12 dozen Christmas coffee mugs with packets of cocoa and cheese & crackers or cookies, wrapping them in transparent gift wrap and then distributing them to residents of the N.H. Hospital , Merrimack County Nursing Home, Maplewood Nursing Home, The McKenna House. and the Austin Home.

On Sunday, December 12 at the Town hall at 2:00 pm, there will be a double installation of officers (Merrimack County Pomona and Daniel Webster Grange) by Lynn Clark and her installing suite. Yes, we know we are late in doing this.

Cookbooks for Sale!

by Winthrop Grange in Shelburne

\$8.00 apiece

Contact Mary Tyler

e-mail: oldcrow@megalink.net

cell phone: 603-455-7530

Has Your Grange Renewed Its Incorporation with the State of NH?

A check of the Secretary of State's website on November 30, 2010, shows that several Granges in NH have not yet renewed their incorporation status as a non-profit organization. Every Grange in NH must file every five years, and 2010 is the year to file. Most NH Granges have already successfully completed this process, but our State Treasurer is concerned that some may not realize how important the December 31st deadline is and how soon it will arrive.

The Secretary of State's website is www.sos.nh.gov/corporate and a letter explaining how to file was mailed to every Grange Master in January of this year by Treasurer Turcotte. If you have lost the letter or simply need help filing please contact Gail Turcotte as soon as possible. Her address is 107 Oak Hill Road, Barrington, NH 03825 Telephone 603-664-5584 or E-mail gturcotte@myfairpoint.net.

These are the Granges that still need to file before December 31, 2010 or chance losing their non-profit status with the State of NH: **Cheshire County Pomona #6, Hillsborough County Pomona #1, Mascoma Valley Pomona #7, Brookline #211, Centennial #185, Cocheco #81, Dorchester #280, Hudson #11, Londonderry #44, Mohawk # 217, Mont Calm #70, Mt Pistareen #145, Peterborough #35, Prentice Hill #257, Somersworth #264, Squam Lake #258, Stratford #238, Walpole #125, Warren Pond #47, Watatic #36, Wingold #308.** We hope that these Granges have paperwork in progress, so that by December 31st all New Hampshire Granges will have successfully preserved their non-profit status.

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

Grange Bu**Brunch with Santa**

On Saturday, Dec.18, Daniel Webster Grange will be sponsoring a Brunch with Santa from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (Snow date, December 19) at the Webster Town Hall. The menu will be Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes, Bagel Station, Fresh Fruit, Pizza, English Muffins, Hot Dogs, Macaroni & Cheese. Santa will be there from 9:30 to 12:30. Bring your cameras. Each child seeing Santa will receive a small gift. There will be Make-it crafts for all ages and a coloring contest.

There will be a small Craft and Gift Fair from 10 to 4 pm. If you are interested in setting up a craft / gift table, cost is \$5.00. E-mail Lorna or Bob Bates at ljbates55@hotmail.com or call 648-2580.

Aurora Grange

On Wednesday, November 3, 2010, Aurora Grange met with the Pittsburg Historical Society for its annual joint potluck Thanksgiving dinner. There were 14 present at the meal, and, as always, there was an abundance of food to be shared. Everyone had a wonderful time with the Grange providing the program, which followed the meal. The program consisted of a reading about Veterans' Day and some quotes from our U. S. presidents. Roy Amey also discussed the movie he's having made about Bernice Fish and her memories of growing up in Pittsburg.

Granite Grange Public Suppers

23 Webster Street

Milford, NH

5 to 6:30 p.m.

Adults - \$8.00

Children under 6 - \$4.00

December 11**Turkey & Trimmings**

Assorted Pies

January 8

Beef Stew

Biscuits

Bread Pudding

Bulletin Board

Merrimack County Pomona

Merrimack County Pomona Grange will meet with Harmony Grange in Sanbornton on Monday, Dec.6, for their annual Christmas program. The evening will begin with a pot luck supper at 6:30 pm (Harmony Grange will be providing the dessert) and a short meeting at 7:30 followed by the Christmas program with an exchange of gifts and cards. A collection of items for the food pantry will also be taking place.

A Change of Policy

The Trustees of the Trust Funds will not be loaning out Health Care Equipment any longer. The equipment is getting old and some items do not appear to be serviceable, thus posing a risk to our fellow Grangers. Therefore, the decision was made to cancel this part of our program. We will still service your requests for financial assistance.

The Trustees of the Trust Funds

Officers Installed

On Saturday, November 6th, officers of Mohawk Grange #217 and Stratford Grange #238 gathered at Mohawk Grange for their installation of officers for the upcoming year. Mohawk's Worthy Overseer, Russell Woodard, installed Master Michelle Hyde, and then she installed all the rest - assisted by her daughter, April, who ushered all the installees back and forth. One point was very interesting as three generations stood there - Michelle, April, and April's grandmother, June Fleury, an officer of Stratford Grange.

Following the installation, all had a good visit as they enjoyed a great buffet of snack food in the comfy warmth provided by the wood stove.

Support the Granite State Granger with your donation.



State Youth Director Patrick Bailey and Ashley Jobin were married on October 2, 2010 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Londonderry, NH. Patrick is the son of Pat and Rick Bailey of Hudson and Ashley is the daughter of Joyce and William Jobin also of Hudson. The couple honeymooned in North Conway and reside in Londonderry.



In Memoriam

Dana Ordway	GS	Chichester
Mary Quimby	GS	Chichester
Marilyn Stevens		Chichester
Dorothy Noyes	PM	Granite
Elizabeth Powell	GS	Hampton Falls
Isabel Hartford	GS	Henry Wilson
Bea McCreaton	GS	Lower Intervale
Lester Heath	GS	Mt. Livermore
Barbara Dessert	GS, PM	Mont Calm
Diana LaMontagne		Ocean Side
Edward Grenier	GS	Pineconia
Kate Donovan		Pine Grove
Dawne Barrett		Rochester
Nelta Grant	GS	Rochester
Mildred Hanson		Rochester
Orrin Wilson	GS	Rochester
Richard B. Sanborn		Rockingham
Christine Carkin		West Thornton
Richard A. Smith, Sr.	GS, PM	Wingold

Deadline

Send copy for the March issue of the Granite State Granger to Hannah West by February 5, 2011. Report on events of November, December, and January. Look ahead to March, April, and May.



Lancaster Fair

What is a Grange year without a fair exhibit or two? Ginger Jannenga took this picture of Grange exhibits at the Lancaster Fair. Left to Right the exhibitors are Daniel Webster Grange from Webster, Stratford Grange, and Mohawk Grange from Colebrook. Notice the tall exhibit space. It takes a lot to fill up a space like that and all these Granges have done the organization proud. If I'm not mistaken that is a best of show ribbon on the Stratford exhibit, and it is well deserved.



Left to right Pat Hayward, Ms Akpan (teacher), Nick Cohen, Stephen Tracy, Cody Kangas and Bap Kresse.

In May, 2010. members of Croyden Grange pictured above presented dictionaries provided by the NH Dictionary Project to third graders at their local elementary school. Later in the day it was reported by a friend who visited the school to read to the children that four hours after the dictionaries had been presented the children were still reading them. The teacher was elated with the dictionaries.

Greg and Verla Dimick

Verla Perkins Dimick 70 Year Granger

On August 6, 2010, a special event took place at the Grafton County Nursing Home in North Haverhill. Verla Perkins Dimick, age 84, received a lovely pin in recognition of 70 years of continuous membership in the Grange.

For most of those 70 years Verla was a member of Morning Star Grange #62 in Lyme, NH. She received the first and second degrees on April 24, 1940, and the third and fourth degrees on May 8, 1940. She served as Lady Assistant Steward, as well as other offices. Her husband, Ken, was Treasurer for over 30 years, and, after his death in 1991, Verla held that office until the Grange closed about ten years later. Since then, she has been a member of Grafton Star #60 in Hanover.

Verla especially enjoyed the 12 years that she spent as Lecturer at Morning Star, receiving numerous state awards and ribbons for her outstanding programs. She often sang solos during degree work and installations and participated in many tableaux.

Gathered for the presentation were Verla's two sons and their wives, Gary and Rev. Gail of Orford, and Rev. Greg and Bobbie of White Horse (Gap, PA) along with her two grandsons: Mark of Lebanon, PA, and Nathaniel of Orford. With the gracious consent of Brother Lester Gibbs, Master of Grafton Star, the pin was presented by Rev. Greg Dimick, who is the last surviving Master of Morning Star #62. Greg wore the Master's sash that he wore when he served as Master in 1965/66, as well as when he worked on Degree teams and Installation teams under Deputy Harry E. Cain, a highly respected and beloved State official. Greg remains a member of Grafton Star, as well as Mascoma Valley Pomona, the NH State Grange, and The Agate Past Masters Club.

The family members enjoyed being present for this special occasion. Unfortunately Verla has experienced some memory loss, but she perked up at the mention of "the Grange." She thought that the pin was "very pretty." At the close of the time together, with Greg's help, Verla was able to share in the Salutation.



Park Grange

Park Grange's September meeting had a guest speaker. Dick Cyr, founder of David's House came to speak. David's House is located in Lebanon, NH, and will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in January, 2011. This is a home away from home and support for families with children receiving treatment through Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Dick talked about his son, David, who passed away at the age of five from leukemia, and how it was David's dream to have this house. The first donation was \$300.78 from the money David had put away from money he had received in his short life. Dick spoke about how this dream turned into reality and has helped so many children/families and still does. He spoke about how recipients cannot believe this house runs so smoothly and the donations that are given throughout the year. Dick mentioned that no federal or state funds are used to support this house, which is funded strictly by private donations.

At the meeting, Dick was presented with 5 large boxes of food and non food items from the David's House wish list that members of Park Grange had collected during the summer months. Connie Brown, lecturer, presented 2 gift cards from area stores. Park Grange donated \$150, which came from the profits of their monthly breakfasts. Blow-Me-Down Grange members donated \$50.

Dick was pleasantly surprised by the large donations, both monetary and wish list items, presented to him for David's House. For more info about David's House, please check out the web site at www.davidshouse.org.



**Membership Department
Anne Boisvert**

As those of you who were at State Grange Session or who have received a recent mailing may already know, Grange Growth is the official top priority for our new State Master. Grange Growth should, of course, be a top priority for us all the time, if only as a survival instinct; but we are trying to make a special focus on it right now.

The focus on the state level will begin with the formation of Grange Growth Teams at the Pomona level to give some local support and encouragement to Community Granges throughout the state. There will be a training weekend for these teams on March 18, 19, and 20. Later in the spring there will be a Degree Day. Details on that should be available after the New Year.

In the meantime, don't be discouraged if your Grange is having a little trouble. Two new Granges in the state have been formed in the past four years, and several others have made a significant comeback. Try a combination of creativity and common sense to make your meetings and programs as inviting and productive as you can. Make sure your meetings and events are well publicized and preferably held in a hall or building where a perspective new member could find you if they wished to attend. Visit other Granges for ideas. If things are going well at your Grange, share that information with the State Master, the Membership Director, and other Grangers in your area.

Are you wondering what happened to Stephen Tracy who seemed to be having quite a bit of success with Grange Growth? He is still a major player in his newly created position as an "Organizing Deputy."

If you have any ideas, thoughts, or suggestions for me as the new Membership Director, please let me know.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the many entries in the State Grange projects. Our display tables were overloaded at State Grange with all the beautiful items that everyone entered in our numerous State contests.

We were also overwhelmed with donations for the Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention. They had to bring two vehicles to pick up all the items that were donated. The mitten tree netted 206 hats and mittens, and we were able to return numerous pairs of mittens to the Granges present so that they could take them back to their communities and distribute there.

The 2011 Family & Community packets were distributed to the Pomona and Subordinate Grange representatives that were there. If you did not receive your packets, they will be in the mail shortly. They are being sent to the State Secretary so she can include other items when she sends them along.

I look forward to working with my committee in the coming year. If you have any questions about the upcoming contests please feel free to contact me. I will try this coming year to get to as many Granges as I can. I look forward to receiving your invitations and making a real effort to get to as many as possible.

The Family & Community Committee will be holding a raffle this year. Jane and Wilber Heath displayed two quilts at State Grange. We will be selling tickets on them to help us build up our funds for the coming year. I currently have the raffle tickets, but I am waiting for a picture of the items so that everyone can see what we are raffling off. Once I have the pictures, I will be sending them along with a batch of tickets for the members to sell. I am tentatively planning to end the sales in time for the Spring Fling on April 2nd, so we can draw the winning tickets there. There will be at least six items: two quilts, throw pillows, and two table runners.

Needlework Winners

Afghan

- 1st – Gail M. Turcotte, Rochester
 2nd – Noreen Crawford, Squam Lake
 3rd – Roberta Sliva, Hampton Falls

Doilies

- 1st – Joan DeButts, Crown Point
 2nd – Gail Turcotte, Rochester
 3rd – Joan Garland, Henry Wilson

Embroidery

- 1st – Jeanie Houghton, Hampton Falls
 2nd – Ann Leger, Winthrop
 3rd – Barbara Wilson, Henry Wilson

Three Piece Baby Set

- 1st – Joan DeButts, Crown Point
 2nd – Roberta Sliva, Hampton Falls
 3rd – Judith McNally Hampton Falls

Plastic Canvas

- 1st – Claire Gagnon Hudson
 2nd – Ann Leger Winthrop
 3rd – Sandra Fogarty Somersworth

F) Counted Cross Stitch

- 1st – Ann Leger Winthrop
 2nd – Pat Izzo Wingold
 3rd – Rose Marie Van Sant Winthrop

Adult Garment

- 1st – Barbara Wentworth Henry Wilson
 2nd – Marjorie Burnett Wingold
 3rd – Claire Gagnon Hudson

Latch Hook

- 1st – Ann Leger Winthrop
Quilted Wall Hanging

- 1st – Beth Merrill Antrim
Stuffed Toy

- 1st – Gail Turcotte Rochester
 2nd – Jane Morrill Lower Intervale
 3rd – Camilie Twiss Watatic

Woodworking

- 1st – Richard Bailey Hudson
 2nd – Tim Goulette Watatic
 3rd – Pat Izzo Gilman

Sewn Garment

- 1st – Lois Enman Rochester
 2nd – Dorinda Louise Henry Wilson
 3rd – Norma Neary Pembroke

Quilts

- 1st – Dorinda Louise Henry Wilson
 2nd – April Farewell Mont Calm
 3rd – Katherine Umberhind Hampton Falls

Miscellaneous

- 1st – Dorinda Louise Henry Wilson
 2nd – Gail Turcotte Rochester
 3rd – Camilie Twiss Watatic

There were 225 stuffed toys given to the Shriners Hospital.

The Glencliff Home is looking forward to the gift bags that we will be presenting at Christmas time. We currently have body wash for the bags but need other toilet articles to place in the bag. If your Grange is willing to make donations, the Committee can purchase the items needed to fill these bags. We have also been asked to fill stockings for the Philbrick Center in Concord. This is a home that houses children that are in transition. If you could include a little extra with your donations for the Glencliff Home, we can also purchase these items.

The Family & Community Department also presented the following awards at the State Grange Celebration Banquet on October 30, 2010.

Police Officer of the Year - David Cayton, Hudson

Firefighter of the Year - Robert Haggerty, Hudson

Educator of the Year - Stephen Heath, Ashland

Military Veteran - Joseph Kenick, Exeter

State Police Trooper - Gary Ingham

Agricultural Awards

200 Year Farm - Bickford's Diamond B, New Durham

Century Farm - Courser Farm, Warner

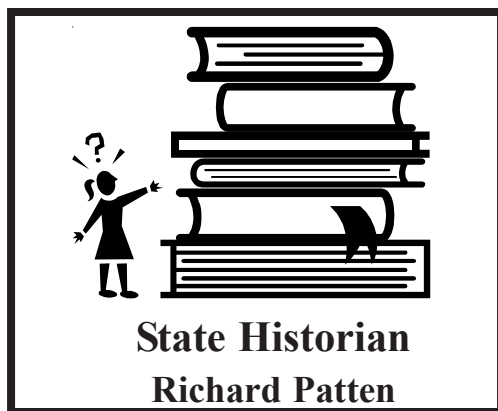
Young Farmer of the Year - Walker Fitch, Milford

Granite Grange #7

In September (yes we were late) we awarded our Community Citizen Award to our two "Knights in Shining Armor," Sirs Timothy and Glenn. These two gentlemen repaired the roof of the Granite Grange Hall, which was damaged in a windstorm, charging only the amount the insurance company was willing to pay. They also completed an inside painting project, removing the regalia, pictures, and ribbon cases from the walls, painting the walls, replacing everything on the walls, and cleaning up after themselves. Granite Grange paid for the materials, but all that labor was a donation.

Members have been very busy making warm mittens for our Mittens for Munchkins community service event for the Share Program in Milford. All involved enjoyed making the mittens and have a warm feeling for serving our community.

Granite is beginning to work on its annual Irish Festival to be held in March, 2011. Anyone who would like to perform may contact John at 603-487-3116 or email at lgleagle45@comcast.net.



I can remember my first official Deputy School and Leaders Conference in New Hampshire. I had attended an earlier one when I was selected as State Prince, but being appointed a Junior Deputy by Past State Master Alton Carpenter was an honor. I remember arriving at the Conference Center in Pembroke on a sunny Saturday morning in early December, where I met several other new committee members or deputies.

The Junior Deputies would be meeting with Virginia Hayes, who was the Junior Director. Ginny was so down to earth and friendly, always greeting you with a smile. The other Junior Deputies included: Rhoda Davis, Elizabeth Cournoyer, and Carolee Barrett. Rhoda had been State Director previously but now was serving a dual role as Subordinate and Junior Deputy. Elizabeth Cournoyer, or Betty as I knew her, was a personal friend for many years and served as a Juvenile Deputy in the 1950's. Carolee, I had met when she and Roland were honored as the new Grange Young Couple. We were assigned a district. My Junior District had Rochester, Cochecho, Brookline, Banner, Sandown, and Mountain Laurel Junior Granges. The next year saw me traveling to White Mountain Jr. in Littleton, and Groveton and Lower Intervale Junior Granges. Even though I was a Juvenile Grange member at 5 years old, I hadn't been to a Junior Grange meeting or seen the Junior Degree for several years. The first time I saw the Junior Degree was at State Grange with Bartlett Junior Grange of Salisbury doing it. Junior Grange Matron Dorothy Bartlett was a top notch leader whose Junior Grange won major awards each year.

After a general session in the morning we broke into individual meetings. It was there I received my first pink sash. Wow, what an honor, to attend a meeting and be

recognized as a member of the Pink Sash family. This meeting also gave me a chance to meet so many other members of the State Grange family.

Calling this year's session to order as State Master, I am sure Jim Tetreault felt an awe that only those who have served as State Master can understand. As State Master, you get to see all the members you have appointed to serve in your administration. It was tradition for the State Master to give a review of the recent National Grange session, showing the book containing all the resolutions that National Delegates have to look at and discuss.

As State Master, I got the chance to go and attend each committee meeting and offer greetings and possibly some ideas of what I would like the department to do. I also received Christmas cards from Grange friends. My first year I had no idea about the cards, so I didn't take any. However, from that point on, I made sure to take my cards. It is interesting that, as you advance up the ladder the amount of cards increases. I love cards, so I enjoyed getting more and more each year. Then it was time to adjourn and start the new Grange year.

For many years, Ezekiel Webster Grange in Boscawen hosted the annual State Leaders meeting. The members would serve a beautiful dinner and lunch if needed. The conference has also meet in Tuftonborough, Exeter, NH Technical Institute, NH Fire Academy, and Chichester. I could write on and on, but you can wait to read the book when it comes out.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, too.

New Webmaster

Wayne Turcotte has agreed to manage the NH State Grange Webpage. If you have items that you would like to have posted on the website, contact him at bfdw2@myfairpoint.net. Wayne takes over from Mark Collins, who has worked hard over the past several years to keep the web page active.

The State Grange website is an excellent outreach to non-members as well as a source of support for members who are accustomed to using the internet in their daily lives. Help Wayne to make it a success by frequently feeding him data to post.

Pine Grove Grange #298

As the year winds down, the members of Pine Grove Grange in Bath are busy planning not just one, but TWO, Christmas parties. In addition to our own party at the Grange Hall, we will be hosting a party at the Grafton County Nursing Home for current and past Grange members that are currently residing at the Home. We have held quarterly meetings at the nursing home this year in order to allow the resident Grangers a chance to participate and have been overwhelmed by the positive response.

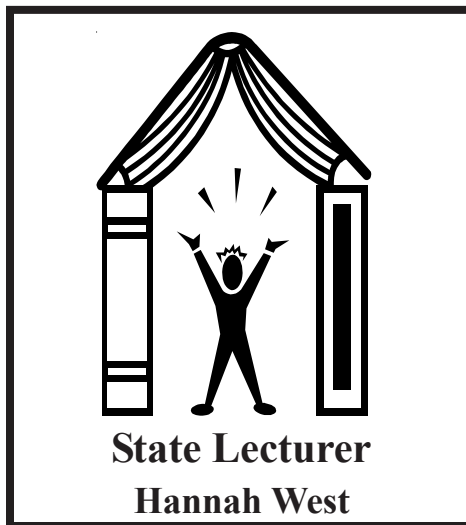
At our November 15 meeting, we shared an early Thanksgiving feast with several honored guests, including New Hampshire State Representatives Bob Haefner, Tara Sad, and Rick Ladd and his wife, Margaret. During the meeting that followed, Rep. Haefner, who is also a NH State Grange Executive Committee Member and NH State Grange Director of the Legislative and Agriculture Department, along with Rep. Sad, Chair of the State Environmental and Agricultural Committee and member of the NH State Grange Legislative and Agricultural Committee, presented Rep. Ladd with the New Hampshire State Grange Legislative Award.

A special congratulation goes out to Mike Amsden, principal of the Bath Village School and recipient of the 2009 NH State Grange Educator of the Year Award. Bath Village School was recently named as one of only 305 of over 133,000 eligible schools in the country to be named a Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education. The Blue Ribbon Designation is considered to be the highest honor that an American school can achieve.

Finally, we'd like to extend an invitation to our Grange friends to visit our new blog to follow our activities and achievements. We can be found on line at www.pinegrovegrange.blogspot.com.

**Love is what's in the room with you
at Christmas if you stop opening
presents and listen.**

Author unknown, attributed to a
7-year-old named Bobby



State Lecturer
Hannah West

Welcome to a new Grange year and new faces in the Lecturer's Department. I hope all the Granges have received a Lecturer's packet. Most were distributed at State Session in Keene and the remaining few were mailed out in November. I have a few extras if you need them.

Goals

My main goal for this year is increased participation at State Lecturer's events, and in contest entries. If an event or a contest does not attract reasonable participation, I will seriously consider removing it from the Lecturer's work. If bowling, or art, or creative writing is your joy, please talk it up among the Grangers you meet, or it may not be available for you in 2012.

Reports

New this year is quarterly reporting in the Lecturer's Department. I didn't think this one up, but it seems reasonable to report on activities as they happen. Four colorful forms were included in the Lecturer's packet. The first one should be mailed on January 10. There may not be too much to check off by that date, but you could make a donation to the Talent Fund and check off number 5. It's the **2011** Talent Fund. Correct the misprint and remember that National Grange will be in Tulsa, Oklahoma, so try to dig a little deeper into your Grange budget this year. Personal donations will be accepted as well, if you are not a regular Grange attendee but have a soft spot in your heart for talent. I'm hoping to see numbers 1, 2, and 3 checked off for sure and maybe 7 or 11 as well. How about number 10 – you should be able to fill in that one on every report! Make a couple of copies of the report before you mail it in. Send one to your Pomona Lecturer and keep the other one, so you can remember what you reported.

Bowling

State Grange Bowling is coming up on March 13, at 11 a.m. at Lakeside Lanes in Manchester. State Overseer Chris Heath will be organizing this event with publicity and financial assistance from the Lecturer's Department. Feel free to include family and friends in this activity, whether they are Grange members or not. However, you will need to sign everyone up prior to the event.

Contest of the Season

Why wait until the last minute to work on your contest entries? Winter is a good time for crafts, so let's **Create a Card**. The classes this year are: A. Holiday, B. Birthday, and C. Thinking of You. All are a good fit for the winter months. Cards should be no bigger than 8 ½ X 5 ½. You may use your stamping skills or draw them by hand (Category I); use the computer (Category II); or decorate them by hand with lace, cross stitch, photos, or stickers (Category III).

If you feel you might misplace your completed entry before October 1st, you are welcome to send it in early. Mail to: Hannah West, 3 Depot Road, Chichester, NH 03258, or hand-deliver it at some Grange event. Label it with your Name, Grange, Category, and Class.

Creative Writing

Winter is also a good time for reading and writing, so let's try a small experiment. While the snowflakes drift by your window, take some time to read. When you have finished a book you really enjoyed, write a short (400 words or less) essay on "Why I Would Recommend This Book to Someone Else." Mail it in to me: Hannah West, 3 Depot Road, Chichester, NH 03258 by the end of February. I'll let you know in the March issue of the GSG what the response has been. Put your name, address, Grange name and number on the back of the page.

A Special Request

For the New Hampshire program at New England Lecturer's Conference in August I am going to need some elevator speeches. An elevator speech is a ninety-second response to the question, "What is the Grange?" Write your thoughts down, time the finished effort, adjust it a bit, and send it to me. Be sincere, but be creative, too. I want to use several elevator speeches in one number on the program, so a variety of thoughts would be helpful.

Calendar of Events 2011

- Jan. 7-9 - Northeast Leaders Conference
Latham, NY
- Jan. 10 - Lecturers' Quarterly Reports due
- Jan. 15 - Area Meeting, Dalton
- Jan. 22 - Area Meeting, Rochester
- Jan. 29 - Area Meeting, State Grange
Building, Hooksett
- Feb 4-5 - Farm and Forest Expo, Manchester
- Feb. 9 - Deadline for March GSG
- Feb. 15 - Grange 990-N Reports due to IRS
- Feb. 19 - Winter Youth Rally, State Grange
Building
- March 13 - Bowling, Lakeside Lanes,
Manchester, 11 a.m.
- March 18-20 - Grange Growth Training,
State Grange Building
- April 2 - Spring Fling, Belmont Middle
School
- April 10 - Lecturers' Quarterly Reports due
- May 1 - Jodi Bailey Applications due
- May 10 - Deadline for June GSG
- May 21 - ME/NH Night, NH hosts
- June 1 - Lecturer's Song Writing entries due
- June 4 - Lecturer's Talent Show, State Grange
Building
- June 10 -12 - Summer Youth Weekend
- June 26 - NE Go-to-Church Sunday
- July 1 - Scholarship Applications due
- July 8 - 10 - Northeast Youth Conference,
Maine
- July 10 - Lecturers' Quarterly Reports due
- July 29-31 - Family Camping Weekend,
Gunstock Camping Area
- Aug. 1 - Needlework entries and Big E items
due to F&C Committee
- Aug. 1-4 - Northeast Lecturer's
Conference, Bridgewater, MA
- Aug. 15 - Youth Donations due
- Aug. 13 - Harvest Moon Stomp
- Sept. 1 - Deadline for Youth and Family &
Community Reports
- Sept. 1 - Deadline for F& C State Awards &
Lecturer's Community Citizen Award
- Sept. 16 - Oct. 2 - Big E, Springfield, MA
- Sept. 24 - NH Day at Big E
- Sept. 26 - Grange Day at Big E
- Oct. 1 - Lecturer's Contest entries due
- Oct. 8 - Reservations due for State Grange
Session
- Oct. 10 - Lecturers' Quarterly report due
- Oct. 14 - Reservations due for State Grange
Banquet
- Oct. 27-29 - NH State Grange Session,
Town & Country, Gorham
- Nov. 8-12 - National Grange Session,
Tulsa, OK
- Dec. 10 - Deputy School

This Calendar is a work in progress.
There will be additions and changes
as the year progresses.



The Chicken Pie Supper at Mohawk Grange #217 is always a BIG draw for locals and tourists. I'm pretty sure three of our Grange families had three generations helping serve the meal, and another Grange family had three generations enjoying the meal! It's one of those events where you see just about everybody you know.

On the Tuesday before some of us washed the floor and windows, and set up the displays. On Friday another bunch of us peeled several buckets of potatoes and squash and got the tables set for the first seating.

Our Chaplain, Eleanor Lyons, always organizes the event and she's got it right down to a science. she reads her to-do list, and we all obey!!

Anyway, the "great local event" was a success again this year. As you can see from the line of folks waiting to come in for the second seating.

Fresh Start

[Adapted from a Leadership Tip by Rusty Hunt, National Grange Leadership/Membership Director]

Wouldn't you like to have a fresh start? As leaders in the Grange, we sometimes find our ideas and ourselves in a rut. We have the same activities and programs. We have the same officers, the same members, and we meet at the same time each month. We even have the same members at every meeting. How can we go about making a fresh start?

Try any or all of these tips:

1) Go out into your Grange's community and talk to the Selectmen, Police Chief, or School Board. Find out what is going on in the community and ask them how the Grange could help with those things. With this information you can then begin a new project or activity.

2) Ask somebody to join the Grange and then, when they do, find out what is important to them. Encourage your Grange to start a fresh program or activity to help that member accomplish their goals.

3) Work with one of your State Grange membership teams to organize, recognize, or revitalize a Grange.

All three of the things listed above can be done by a Grange member of any age. They are easy to do and can be done, in most cases, with little or no money. There are no special skills needed, just a desire and some initiative.

For Leaders, the fresh start comes by trying something new. The fresh start comes when we see one of these things through the eyes of a new member or someone that has never seen them happen before. The fresh start comes as we see a new and better way to accomplish our goals, and we appreciate that learning and adventure come from trying something new.

Leaders need to experience a fresh start every now and then to help us avoid burn-out or fatigue. We need to listen to the new members so we can remember when the Grange was fresh to us and we were itching to start those first projects and activities. We need to have a chance to recharge our passions for the Grange and keep our energy up for those that look to us for leadership.

Where are you today? Have you experienced a fresh start in the Grange lately, or do you need one now? Do you know someone that could use a fresh start - either a brand new member or a long time Granger? This is the beginning of a new Grange year with a new State Master. Can you help him to help us make a fresh start?

Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds.
Theodore Roosevelt

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