



The Granite State Granger

Volume 46

Number 3 2016

September



Christine and Duane Hamp
State Grange Session 2016
by Chris Heath, State Master

I hope that many of you are planning on joining me at State Session this year. This year it will be held at The Fireside Inn and Suites which is conveniently located right off of Interstate 89 in West Lebanon NH. Now is a good time to get your reservation in. Chris Hamp, National Grange Lady Assistant Steward, will be our National Grange representative. She will be accompanied by her husband Duane Hamp, Past State Master of the Washington State Grange. Let's give them a warm New Hampshire welcome.

I hope that we can get delegates from all of our Subordinate and Pomona Granges. The delegates are the voting members of State Grange. They decide which resolutions are adopted or defeated and determine who gets elected to the offices for the next two years. Typically the Master and their spouse are the delegates for Subordinate and Pomona Granges. If they cannot attend, the Grange can vote to appoint other members to be delegates.

September Area Meetings

The New Hampshire State Grange will be hosting four area meetings around the state in the month of September. These meetings are open for all to attend and will be geared at training for those who currently hold or are thinking of being a Master or Secretary. The State Master and State Secretary will be going over the responsibilities of the positions, providing the tools needed to do the offices, and answering questions. The meetings will run for approximately two hours.

The first meeting will be held at Granite Grange in Milford on Saturday, September 10th, starting at 10 am. Coffee and Donuts will be served by donation and members of Watatic Grange will be providing a lunch for all those interested. Reservations for lunch are to be made to Cam Twiss @ 603-673-5359.

The second meeting will be held at Jeremiah Smith Grange on Sunday, September 11th, starting at 10 am. Again coffee and donuts will be available and a light lunch will be served by Centennial Grange. Make reservations for lunch to Chris Heath @ 603-988-9703.

The third meeting will be held on September 17th at Harmony Grange in the Northfield Town Hall starting at 10 am. Coffee and donuts will be available prior to the meeting and a light lunch will be served after the meeting ends. Please make reservations for lunch with Virginia Blackmer @ 603-934-6476.

The fourth and final meeting will be held on September 18th at Mohawk Grange starting at 10 am. Coffee and donuts will be served and a light lunch will be available. Please reserve for lunch with Ann Woodard @ 602-237-4219.

If you are planning on coming just for the meeting and not eating lunch, you do not need to RSVP.

Dr. Francis R. Gouin

Environmental Horticulturalist

University of Maryland

Maximize Your Garden's Production

Monday, September 19th

6:30 p.m.

Wicwas Lake Grange #292,

Meredith Center, NH

No Cost

Dr. Francis R. Gouin, better known as "Dr. G." around the University of Maryland and in the numerous professional groups the organizations to which he belongs, will be giving a talk on Monday, September 19th, at 6:30 p.m. at the Wicwas Lake Grange #292 in Meredith Centre. A New Hampshire native, Dr. G began his career in horticulture with a B.S. degree from UNH. He continued on to receive his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, where he would go on to teach and perform research for 33 years. With a focus on soils, compost, plant selection & culture, and organic waste recycling Dr. G. has been able to spread his knowledge both inside and outside of the classroom through column series, essays, and books. This free talk is a great opportunity for you to learn about a wide range of gardening topics and to have your gardening questions answered by the expert author of Enough Said!: A Guide to Gardening Through the Seasons.

Grange Visitation Contest

The contest ended on August 31st . Your books are due to the State Master as soon as possible. Send them to:

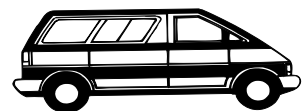
Chris Heath

28 Penny Lane

Barrington, NH 03825.

If you don't send in your book, you won't have a chance to win!

A friendship that can end never really began.~Publilius Syrus



**Family & Community
Department
Deb Patten**

WOW!!! Where has the summer gone? We are off to a very busy fall with State Grange just around the corner. This means a lot of our 2016 work is wrapping up.

Needlework

Entries submitted to me were judged on August 13. Thanks to all who participated. The first place entries for each of the New England categories will be sent to Eastern States for judging there as well. Then all these first place entries are returned to me and will be on display at State Grange in West Lebanon in October. Items will be returned to owners at State Grange but will need to be signed for before these are turned back.

I have received some beautiful entries. I am in awe of your talents. It is not too early to start on items for next year's contest. Very likely the categories will remain the same as they haven't changed for several years. Remember, non-members can enter as well. This is a good way to encourage others to do work for your Grange and perhaps they will be interested enough to join your Grange.

Baking Contest

The contest for this year was Blueberry muffins. Hopefully each Grange participated in this contest and the first place winner from each Grange took their winning entry to Pomona. I would like all first place winners from each Pomona to be sure their entries are at State Grange by noon on Friday, October 23. Please have 6 on a plate with name and Grange under the plate, and please be sure to indicate if there are nuts in the muffins or not. Thanks.

Eastern States

Remember we support the New England Grange Building at Eastern States by donating handmade items such as dishcloths, slippers, scrubbies, towels, mittens, gloves, hats, scarves etc. Anything that can be sold is very gratefully appreciated. It isn't too late to get items to

me. I will coordinate the delivery of the items with someone going to the Big E. Thanks for your continued support.

Project Night Night

I have ordered the special sacks for this project. Each sack will have a blanket, a children's book and a stuffed animal. These sacks will be distributed throughout the state to homeless shelters and domestic violence shelters. Most often when children are subject to going to a shelter, they leave their home with just the clothes on their backs. This sack is meant to give them comfort – a blanket and stuffed animal to call their own and a bedtime book to read. I am hopeful to fill 50 sacks in October. I have several blankets, mostly handmade fleece but also some store purchased blankets. But I don't have enough to fill 50 sacks. Anything you can do to help with this project please bring them to State Grange.

We have a committee member getting us the books and many stuffed animals have been donated. But, we need more stuffed animals as well. Only new stuffed toys please!

Other Reminders

Galoshes from Grangers – Please remember to bring two pair of boots per Grange to State Grange

Mountain of Mittens – Please bring mittens/gloves/hats to State Grange for our Mountain of Mittens. We need to keep this worthwhile project going to keep the hands and heads of our children in this state warm.

Reports – Please be sure to submit your Family & Community Service report. We want to know what you are working so hard on in your Grange and in your Communities. Reports are due by September 15. Thank you.

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



L-R Laurie Jolin, Wally Hooper, State Master Chris Heath, Frances Towne

Joe English Grange #53

At the June meeting of Joe English Grange #53 four members were presented with membership awards by State Master Chris Heath. Laurie Jolin was awarded a 40 year membership certificate and her father, Wally Hooper, received a 75 year seal. Calvin Clark was given a 35 year certificate. Frances Towne received a 75 year seal.

Wally Hooper joined Prospect Grange in Mont Vernon at the age of 14. He went on to join the Pomona, State, and National Grange. Over the years he held many Grange offices, including Master of Prospect Grange and Pomona Master. Wally was also a State Grange Deputy for over 30 years. He continues to be an active member of Joe English Grange where his expertise in the traditions of the Grange as well as his wisdom and sense of humor are invaluable.

Frances Towne joined Joe English Grange in 1941 at age 14 and has been an active member ever since. She has held many offices, including that of Master. She has also been active in the Pomona, State, and National Granges. At the State level she has been Director of Home Economics, State Flora, State Lecturer, and a Pomona Deputy. She was a member of the National Grange Women's Activities Committee for four years, travelling with her husband Howard to National Conventions and regional meetings. Her experience is an invaluable asset to Joe English Grange.

Support the ELF!

Please send your Educational Loan Fund

donations to:

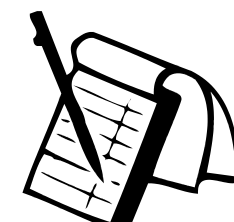
Patrice Lawlor

P.O. Box 386

Pelham, NH 03076



**Lecturer's Lines
State Lecturer
Jane Trombi**



Fall is almost upon us and with that comes the end of our Grange year. It's almost deadline time for the Lecturer's contests. All entries are due to me by October 1st, except the Art Contest, which will be due on Thursday at 3 p.m. of State Session. The contests include the Create-A-Card with the classes of Wedding, Thank You and Father's Day. The Art Contest includes the categories of Oils & Acrylics, Watercolors, Charcoal, Pastels, Markers and Pencil or Mixed Media.

The Creative Writing contest includes Poetry: Haiku (Seasons/Nature), Tell the Story (My Favorite Spot in NH), and Read the Book. The Photography contest includes the categories of Grange Selfie, My Favorite Spot to Relax, Where am I?, NH Attractions and Four Seasons. Be sure to check the contest rules. Your Lecturer has the information or you can contact me directly at 357-8540 or trombi.jane@gmail.com

Northeast Lecturer's Conference

The North East Lecturer's Conference was held in August at the Bridgewater State University Campus in Bridgewater, Mass. and hosted by the state of Rhode Island. It was a great conference with many informative workshops and state programs. All the states had a program about visiting their states. I am grateful for the help of our NH members: Beth Merrill, Mary West, Hannah West, Joyce Martin, Gary Ford, Judith Chase, Anna Murphy, Bob Trombi and Lester Gibbs. State Master Chris Heath and State Ceres Kerriann Heath attended for Spirt Night. I am so thankful to the NH Granges and Grangers for their donations to my gift. Again, I am overwhelmed with the generosity. Next year we will be in Vermont, so plan now to attend and have a great time. The theme will be "School Days".

Talent Fund

Thank you to those who have donated to the talent fund. It's not too late to donate. We have Adam Terrell from Walpole Grange who will be representing NH at the Night of Excellence at National

Grange in November. Please help to send him to Washington DC.

Our Own Backyard

It's time to send in your "Our Own Backyard" report. Your final report is due to me October 1st. You will need to print out the pictures and make a collage no larger than half a piece of posterboard. That's 14 X 11 inches or smaller. It is OK to include items like programs and ticket stubs in the collage with the pictures. Have fun with it!

Honor Lecturer

This is a new program this year. I'm hoping that we have many entries. There is a form to fill out that includes the following:

Grange _____ # _____

Lecturer _____

(To be considered for Honor Lecturer, please fill out the following and send to the State Lecturer by Oct. 1, 2016)

Have you had an appropriate program at every meeting? _____

Did you file your End of Year Report by Oct. 1, 2016? _____

Did your Grange participate in the "Our Own Backyard" program? _____

How many did your Grange complete? _____

Did your Grange have an entry in the Talent/Variety Show? _____

Who? _____

Entry? _____

Did your Grange have any entries in the Lecturer's Contests?

Create-a-Card _____

Photo _____

Creative Writing _____

Art _____

Did you have a program on NH? _____

Did you submit your program to the State Lecturer by June 30, 2016? _____

Did you share any program ideas with the State Lecturer? _____

Did you attend North East Lecturers' Conference? _____

Did anyone else from your Grange attend? _____

Grange Master

Lecturer

Support the Granite State Granger

with your donation.



Joann Brandt, Director

How was your summer? We certainly had lots of very warm days to do activities whether at the beach, in water or traveling.

I was disappointed that our Family Fun Day did not draw enough interest to gather in Hudson. The temperatures were probably part of this, as pools trumped hiking trails and playgrounds.

Do you and your Juniors have an activity you would like to work with other Juniors in the state? We want to join with other Juniors to keep our Juniors growing and learning along with socializing. I remember my children going to different functions and making new friends. Now many are State officers and this all began many years ago as they learned the Grange work. Others are now on committees promoting the important work of their department.

Our vision is to work with our Junior Grangers to keep them interested in continuing on into our Granges then later become our future leaders as our past Juniors are currently doing.

I was able to attend Family Camp weekend and bring activities and crafts to make. We went on a Nature walk and many photos were taken of animals (frogs and Blue Heron were the favorites) and flowers.

Remember the different contests the Juniors may enter and send to State Grange with someone attending October 20-23. Chocolate Chip Cookies (6 on a plate) include recipe with name, Grange and age on back of the recipe, sewing a pillow or stuffed toy, felt craft, recycled something from nothing, make a card for someone. Remember the state Lecturer has photo and drawing and painting contests if it is not too late to enter.

We look forward to State Grange and the the beginning of another year and hope you will all grow with our Juniors.

Cookies are made of butter and love.

~Norwegian Proverb



What a summer it has been! After my tom turkey decided to raid my garden and eat anything that was not a weed coming up, I decided to move the garden onto the gas line. The animals tend not to go out there because it is mostly golden rod and ragweed, and the grass will keep the animals to the field and the back yard.

Well, it turns out we are having the worst dry spell in my memory, which means carting water to the raised bed as the ponds have dried up already. I will say the water melons were coming along great, pepper plants were flowering and producing, the beans were starting to flower, the cantaloupe were flowing and doing great, and the weeds were doing awesome!

Then came that fateful day when I went up to dump the 60 gallons of water on the beds to find good news the geese had found the raised beds and decided to weed for me! They took out the watermelon and cantaloupe, pulled up the onions, ate the pepper plants, leveled the squash plants, flattened the cukes, ate the tops off the carrots, but left the beets and the sweet potatoes :). I really can't blame them. The grass had stopped growing and geese like their greens. Meanwhile, the goats are more than happy getting the golden rod and ragweed, poison ivy and burdocks. Just goes to show you with all planning sometimes it just doesn't happen.

Speaking of just not happening, I'm going to tell you all about my trip to Rumney. Baker's River invited me and the Jr. Director to come up to a membership drive they were having in Rumney. They put out invites all over town to a free luncheon. They cleaned up their hall and made some great food, I'm telling you, maybe Beth has something about the Pack of Hogs instead of Patrons of Husbandry! They set tables ready for anyone willing to come to eat. And, as my gardening story shows, sometimes it just doesn't happen. I was there, the Jr.

Director was there, and a group of their members were there. So we chatted for a little while hoping people would come but THEY TRIED!

Since we didn't have any guests I took the time to go over some ideas and brain stormed with them. We discussed the proper use of rip cards and talking with people versus trying to push people into joining. My biggest hope is that they do not get discouraged over this attempt and that they will keep hoping and persevering.

I can speak for Stratham Fair. We had eight Grange booths full - one red ribbon and the rest blue. That means the least any Grange got for entering this fair was \$50. Set-up Day was great, nice cool weather (not a predictor for the days to come for the fair). All during the fair I had to keep unplugging the heat lights to keep the baby birds from hatching. This year for the 4-H I built an incubator out of 1/2 inch acrylic, about 30"X13"X15". I had stocked my cabinet incubator with around 25 guinea fowl eggs, 40 duck eggs, 30 partridge eggs, 36 chicken eggs, 120 coturnix quail eggs, and 60 button quail eggs. We had lots of hatching this year. First year I have actually had to take babies home each night to make room for the next day's hatch.

Well, I'm getting wordy so I'm ending it here. See you all soon.

Thoughts on the Grange Degrees
by Dawne D. Hugron, Antrim Grange

After reading Norman Brandt's article about Degree Days and the tableaux in the **June Granite State Granger**, I thought maybe I could write something in regards to Norman's article. I am a fairly new Granger. I joined in 2012. The Antrim Grange is very familiar to our family. When our Mom and Dad would go to Grange meetings, they would often bring my two brothers and myself, but I didn't actually join until years later.

After joining I would read my Subordinate manual as often as I could. I did not realize that in between the front and back of this book was written information that really made me stop and think about life, family, the farm home, and belief in our Creator. Being written so many years ago, it truly sets me to thinking. This writ-

ing, if read and thought about, could be woven beautifully into our lives today. Some writings never grow old.

My first experience understanding the Degrees was in 2014 when our Grange was to do the First Degree. Being the person that I am, I raised my hand and said, "I would like to try and build the tableau." So off I went, reading and asking questions. The day of our First Degree came. When the time came, we opened our curtain on our stage, and there my first tableau was! I guess I did a fairly good job. Everyone said, "Wow," and smiled. I must admit my husband "Sonny" is a very helpful and willing helper in my endeavors. I thank him.

So here we are in 2016. We have completed the Second and Third Degrees, and each time I have learned more and respected the Grange and how it encourages its members to grow in mind and body and to dig deep in being creative in any new project we are interested in. If I had not joined our Grange, I never would have had the opportunity to realize I had talent enough to sew, write, or even my most important challenge - to be able to memorize the Chaplain's part for our three Degrees.

Building tableaux still today have been created for a reason. I know it takes time and effort to put them together, but they complete the Degrees. We read and speak the words at every Grange meeting. The tableaux, whether we build them the first time or perhaps the ninth or tenth time, give a visual view for us to see what the farm home and each season teaches us about our lives. I will continue to build our tableaux, and to dig deep into Grange history, and to live a better life.



In Memoriam

<p>Bernice Fish George Musler Ruth Adams Ester Morrell Ruth Gray Marion Stone Geraldine Chase Harvey Bascom Gerianne McAllister Shirley Stewart</p>	<p>Aurora Centennial Golden Rod Lower Intervale Meriden Park Rochester Walpole Wicwas Lake Wingold</p>
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I realize many Granges have been in recess for the summer. However, it is time to get back to business and send in your Community Service Books for judging. The National Grange is once again awarding prize money of \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, \$50 for third place, and \$25 for fourth place. I hope each Grange has worked on community projects this past year and will send in a report.

There is much to do in the last quarter of this year. Most schools have reopened, but it would be nice to check with the school(s) in your community to see if there is a student who might need supplies such as notebooks, pens, pencils, backpack, etc. I know there are other organizations that may be doing this, but it wouldn't hurt to check with not only public schools, but talk with charter schools, private parochial schools and Christian schools.

I have been hearing that some towns do not want the dictionaries anymore. We are still hoping your Grange will support this project, but again talk with the third grade teachers or principals and see if they are needed. There might be something else you can do in its place. The State Grange has always been committed to Education in our history. From 1873 to now, the Grange was in the forefront whether it was at the University of NH, or our primary or secondary schools.

We are also in a very serious Election time. I realize the Grange is non-partisan, but there are things that you as Grange members can do. You could offer rides to your elderly neighbors to vote, go to city hall to get them an absentee ballot application. You can not handle the absentee ballot; this must be sent in by the mail to the city or town clerk. This is an important election for President, Governor, Senator, US Representative, and all the state and county races. Please, as a Grange encourage the members to get out to vote or offer a ride to someone who has no transportation.

Don't forget Halloween is around the corner. Your Grange might hold a Halloween party for youth in your community and include the parents no matter what their age to join in the fun. Plan some games, prizes for best costumes, and possibly some music. Have all kinds of treats for the trick or treaters to enjoy. It could be a good membership tool. The Grange Hall was the center of action for many activities in the community.

You also may want to think ahead to Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Don't forget to send Halloween cards to veterans at Liberty House or NH Tilton Soldiers Home. Also think about senior citizens who live alone or in a nursing home who have no family; they would enjoy a funny card.

We will be doing a Make a Difference Day project in Lebanon. This year I would like to collect items for Personal Hygiene Packs such as shampoo, razors, bug spray, sunblock, deodorant, and soap. They also need crackers (all sorts), raisins, nuts, Granola bars, cereal bars, pop-top puddings, pop top fruit cups, juice boxes, small boxes of cereal, Dinty Moore products, Chef Boyardee products, Campbell's soup at hand, Vienna sausages, tuna fish in pop top cans, and canned veggies.

I am also asking Granges to please donate gift cards for the Santa Remembers Teens at Christmas. Gift cards can be for Target, Best Buy, Wal-Mart, McDonald's, Burger King, Pizza Hut, Sears, I tunes, Super Cuts, and many others. Please bring them to the State Session so we can put them on the tree. These will go to the area which they were donated from. We will be working with Operation Santa Claus and Friends for Forgotten Children. This is the third year for this project and the Grange has brought many smiles to teenagers at Christmas who otherwise wouldn't receive a gift. Thank you!

I will be sending out a letter to all Granges to remind them of what is needed for State Session and hopefully you or your delegates will bring them.

Remember, someone asked you to join the Grange. Don't forget to ask someone to share the same opportunities that you have received.



"Fun for the Whole Herd" is the theme for this year's fair exhibit. The premiums raised will go towards further youth programming via the State Youth Fund. Speaking of which, as the Grange year is winding down, may I remind your Grange to consider making a donation to one or more of the four youth funds that need your support: State Youth Fund, Randall Richardson Memorial Fund, Jodi Bailey Youth Fund, and the National Youth Fund. Thanks go to Pembroke, Hooksett, Joe English, Suncook Valley Pomona, and Merrimack County Pomona Granges for already having done so.

The State Youth Committee met in August to review the youth program booklet and start plans for 2017.

Report forms will be due soon! Please remember to send a copy of your report form to your Pomona Youth Chairman by September 20th! Pomona and Subordinate report forms and booklets (if you choose to do that option) are to be postmarked no later than September 25th. If you could, it would be greatly appreciated if you would include the name, age, address, and email of all youth members of your Grange when you send in your report. Thanks so much for your assistance in establishing a data base of the NH Grange youth members! Please mail reports to: Beth Merrill, Youth Director, 107 West Street, Antrim, NH 03440.

Entries for the Photo Scavenger Hunt, Paper Craft, and Duct Tape Craft contests are due by 10 a.m. at State Session on October 21st.

As of the due date for this article, we are still working on bus transportation to the National Grange convention and expect to have a few youth members among the passengers. Check back with this column in the next issue to hear about all those adventures!

Visit the State Grange website at www.nhgrange.org

Harmony Grange Garden Tour

[The information for this article was excerpted from a newspaper article by Donna Rhodes of Salmon Press.]

Sanbornton's first Garden Tour, a fundraiser for both the Harmony Grange and the Sanbornton Public Library, was truly a "blooming" success. Organizers were very pleased with the large number of people from all over the Lakes Region and beyond who purchased tickets and maps for the tour, then traveled all across the town to admire the gardens and learn about floriculture and agriculture along the way. At each stop they also enjoyed refreshments from the property owners and were able to register for a number of door prizes that included potted plants, lilac bushes, cut flowers, honey, fresh blueberries and more.

On Upper Bay Road, Kris Rathjen introduced visitors to the vegetables and berries that her family grows at KREBS Farm and spoke about how they are all grown.

Downhill from there was a stop at Linda Presby's home on Lower Bay Road where people could wander through her beautiful perennial gardens. Eunymous, honeysuckle, huge, sturdy daisies and mountain hydrangea were just a few of the flowers found along the meandering paths in her yard.

From there the tour moved to Faith and Bill Tobin's home on Knox Mountain Road where a woodland wonderland awaited. For more than 20 years, Faith Tobin has worked to transform her rocky land into beautiful and sometimes whimsical gardens on their 25 acres of land.

Next up was the home of Steve and Karen Ober where Karen, a Master Gardener, showed guests a piece of property they own, across from their home, where invasive species were readily found. On her tour, she explained what an invasive species was and discussed their individual pros and cons.

The final stop was the historic Joshua Lane Farm on the Sanbornton/Tilton town line along Route 132 where brilliant stalks of gladiolas have been a part of the Sellar family since 1991.

Harmony Grange and the Library realized over a thousand dollars each for sponsoring this very successful event.

Deadline

The next issue of the Granite State Granger will be mailed in December, 2016. Please send items for the paper to Hannah West on or before November 7, 2016. Report on events of August, September and October. Look ahead to events of January, February, and March.



At the annual picnic of Eastern NH Pomona #2 and Suncook Valley #12 on 8/10/16, State Master Chris Heath presented Jane Cooper Fall with her Lifetime Achievement Award. She was involved with the Educational Loan Fund for 25 years as secretary. She is a lifetime member of Henry Wilson Grange # 205 and also ENH Pomona # 2. Jane was recognized as citizen of the year in Rochester in 2015. She has been involved with the YMCA of Strafford county as a board member for 20 years. She had a vision and leadership in the Rochester Rural District VNA. Plus she has served on the board of Frisbie Memorial Hospital for 34 Years. She is the daughter of the late Lillian Cooper.

Cocheco Grange
is turning 140 years old.
An Open House Celebration
will be held on
September 10th, 2016,
at the Masonic Hall in Dover, NH.

Grange Bulletin Board

N.H. State Grange Banquet Saturday, October 22, 2016

Fire Side Inn & Suites,
West Lebanon, NH
\$35.00 per person

Roast Turkey

Served with Homemade Stuffing
Or

Baked Manicotti

Served with a Basil Marinara

Dessert: Seasonal Cheesecake

Main course selections are served with a

Fresh Garden Salad,

Basket of Warm Rolls,

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables,

Coffee, Tea, Decaffeinated coffee

All reservations must be made with Kerriann Heath, State Ceres, at 603-703-4912

Or E-mail: kerriann@gmail.com

All reservations must be made and paid in full by October 1, 2016 (no exceptions)

Please let Kerriann know of any dietary needs at the time of placing your order

Kid's options are available!

Concord Christmas Tree Lighting

Concord Grange invites you to attend the 30th annual Concord Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration held on Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, at the State House Plaza. Dick Patten is the coordinator for this event, his 38th year of organizing the Christmas Scene at the Plaza. The celebration begins at 4 p.m. with lighting of a special tree in Eagle Square dedicated to our Armed Forces who can't be home for Christmas.

There are horse drawn wagon rides, a petting zoo, and pony rides for kids to enjoy. Brian Waldron and Band will sing Christmas songs to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Santa Claus will arrive courtesy of the Concord Fire Department. He will visit with boys and girls and listen to their wishes for Christmas. You can enjoy hot chocolate, hot apple cider, cookies, and more.

The Creche is lighted, following a Blessing of the Tree and the Nativity by a local priest. The countdown to light the tree is at 5:59, and then fireworks light the skies over Concord.

Official Program & Order of Business (May be subject to change)

New Hampshire State Grange
143rd Annual State Session
October 20-23

Fireside Inn & Suites

25 Airport Road

West Lebanon, NH

Special & Invited Guests

Christine Hamp, National Grange Lady
Assistant Steward & her husband Duane
Hamp, Master of the Washington State
Grange

Governor Maggie Hassan

Georgia A Tuttle, Mayor of Lebanon

Thursday October 20, 2016

Registration opens at 6:00 P.M.

(\$10.00 Registration Fee for
each Delegate)

(\$5.00 Registration Fee for all
other attendees)

Opening Session~ 7:00 p.m.

Procession of State Officers

Opening in the Sixth Degree

Calling the Roll of Officers

Grange lowered to the Fourth Degree

Calling the Roll of Granges

Introduction of Special Guests

Reports:

Legislative/Agriculture -.Robert Haefner

Family Weekend- .Robert Trombi

Community Service Award - .

presented by Richard Patten

Closing the Grange

Friday, OCTOBER 21, 2016

Morning Session ~ 8:00 a.m.

Opening in the Fourth Degree

Calling the Roll of Officers

Calling the Roll of Granges

Reading the Minutes from

Thursday Session

Announcement of Session Committees

Reading NEW Resolutions &

2016 Convention Rules

Reports:

Fundraising - Kimber Bascom

Trustees of Trust Funds - Diane Collins

Eastern States Trustees - .Matt Clark

Webmaster/Publicity - James Tetreault

Grange Memorial Service

11:00 a.m.

Chaplain, Matthew Clark

(Gates and Registration will be closed)

Afternoon Session ~ 1:30 p.m..

State Master's Address

Christopher E. Heath

Reports:

Treasurer - Daniel P. Bascom

Secretary - Gerald J. Leclerc

Executive Committee - Robert Trombi

General Deputy - .Andrew Savage

Lecturer - Jane Trombi

Historian - Richard Patten

New Hampshire Grange Foundation

3:00 p.m..

Annual Meeting by Foundation

Directors and Officers

Note: All Delegates please be present.

Fifth Degree Obligation ~ 7:10 p. m..

Candidates are to meet in the Hotel Lobby

Evening Session~ 7:30 p.m.

Conferral of the Sixth Degree

Introduction of Guests

Introduction ~ Assembly of Demeter

Members

Parade of Deputies

Closing in the Fourth Degree

State Officers receiving line

following the closing

Saturday, October 22, 2016

Morning Session ~ 8:00 a.m.

Opening in the Fourth Degree

Calling the Roll of State Officers

Calling the Roll of Youth Officers

Calling the Roll of Granges

Reading the Minutes from Friday Session

Informational reading of

Convention Rules

FFA Visit - FFA State Officers

Reports:

Youth Director - Beth Merrill

Junior Director - Joann Brandt

Granite State Grange - Hannah West

State Grange Building - Anne & Marty

Boisvert

Grange Services -Lois Enman

9:30 a.m. Election of State Officers

Reports:

Membership - Norman Brandt

Family Committee - Debra Patten

Community Service - Richard Patten

Outreach Deputy - Stephen Tracy

Publicity - James Tetreault

Afternoon Session ~ 1:30 p.m.

Budget 1:30 p.m.

Reports:

Resolutions Committee -.Tara Sad

Master's Address

Credentials Committees - Lynn Clark

Unfinished Business

3:30 p.m. Closing the Grange

Evening Session ~ 6:00 p.m.

Annual NH State Grange Banquet

Program:

Introduction of Dignitaries

Recognition Awards

50/50 Raffle Winner/Conclusion of

Silent Auction

Start of new 1/20 Club

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Grange Church Service ~ 9:00 a.m.

Chaplain, Matthew Clark

Installation of Officers 10:00 a.m.

New Hampshire State Grange

Fireside Inn & Suites

25 Airport Road

West Lebanon, NH

603-298-5900

2016 State Session Room Rates:

Single/Double \$109.95

Triple \$119.95

Quad \$129.95

Room Rates are per night and include a Breakfast Buffet. Room Rates do not include the 9% NH State Room Tax

When making your reservations, please indicate to the hotel Reservation Department that you will be attending the NH State Grange Annual Session. **Please be sure to make your reservations prior to September 19, 2016.** Rates may change following that date.

State Grange Directors

Agriculture/Legislative - Robert Haefner

Community Service - Richard Patten

Family Service - Debra Patten

Grange Services - Lois Enman

Youth - Beth Merrill

Junior - Joann Brandt

Membership - Norman Brandt

Publicity - James Tetreault

Fundraising - Kim Bascom

Webmaster - James Tetreault

GSG - Hannah West

Building - Anne & Marty Boisvert

Photographer - Mark Collins

Family Weekend - Robert Trombi

Resolutions and By-laws - Tara Sad



*From my pad
to your pad*

**Christopher Heath
NH State Grange Master**

I have seen many of you during my travels these past three months and I hope to see more of you before State Session. In June the General Deputy and I redistricted the Pomona Granges. It was not an easy decision but it was necessary to move our organization forward. During this redistricting, two Pomona Granges were closed. In case you were unaware, Merrimack County Pomona and Upper Coos County Pomona are officially closed as of June 30th.

On June 3rd I was able to visit with the members of Pemigewasset Valley Pomona Grange at Baker's River. They are working hard on their Grange projects and had a wonderful meeting. After the night was over I headed to Copper Cannon Camp in Franconia to join the youth at their Summer Youth Rally from June 3rd to the 5th. Beth Merrill and her committee had an action packed weekend planned for those who were in attendance. One of the activities was to visit the John Thompson Birthplace memorial located on Route 302 in Littleton. The youth trimmed branches, cut the grass, created a bed for flowers, planted flowers, watered and mulched. They did a wonderful job beautifying the memorial. Later in the weekend, they learned some contra dancing steps and had the opportunity to put these "steps" into action.

On June 6th I attended the final meeting of Merrimack County Pomona Grange. I answered their questions concerning the closing of their Pomona Grange and picked up their charter from them. This was one of the hardest things I have had to do this year.

On the 13th of the month I had an opportunity to visit with Wicwas Lake Grange in Meredith Center. They are still the largest Subordinate Grange in the state and average 30 to 35 people at a meeting. It always warms my heart to walk into a crowded Grange hall.

On June 21st I had the pleasure to

present Wallace Hooper Past State Deputy and Francis Towne Past Home Economics Director with their 75 year certificates. What an amazing accomplishment for both of these individuals! Both Wally and Frances have done so much for the State Grange throughout their many years of service.

Later that week on the 23rd, I and the State Executive Committee met at the the State Grange Building. Chairman Bob Trombi did a great job keeping us on schedule and we completed all the work we needed to in record time.

At the end of the month on the 26th, I had the pleasure of participating in the Go to Church service at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, NH. This year New Hampshire was the host and I was honored to welcome all those who ventured out on a hot June day to attend. Attendance was not as good as in past years but those who were there had a very nice service presented by the Chaplains of the New England states.

July was a slow month for me and Grange work. The weekend of July 8, 9 and 10 found me attending the Northeast Regional Youth Conference held in Cobleskill, NY. NH was represented well at the conference by Adam Terrell who took first place in his age category for public speaking. Adam's speech was on the benefits to drinking raw goat milk I also had the pleasure of participating in the group sign-a-song contest with Beth Merrill and Kathy Yardley. We took first place for the group division. New Hampshire also was the recipient of the Grange Spirit award this year. Emilie Leclerc and Adam Terrell radiated Grange Spirit the entire weekend and got to bring home the Spirit Stick for the whole year. Congratulations to you both for a job well done.

I visited Mt. Hope Grange in Landaff on the 19th to present membership awards. They provided a cookout for members who attended and had a large delegation from Pine Grove Grange visiting that night. It was really good to see a great group of Grangers supporting each other.

On July 24th I joined my fellow State Masters and other trustees at the New England Grange Building in West

Springfield MA. We worked on cleaning up the building in preparation for the fair. I rid the New Hampshire room of the cobwebs, dust, dirt and trash from the long hard winter. Later in the day we had a trustee's meeting and a North East Connection meeting. Plans for a handicap access to the building were discussed. We also discussed the logo for the 2018 National Session which will be hosted by our region. The session will be held at the Snowflake Inn in Stowe, Vermont. Be on the lookout for t-shirts that will be sold to raise funds to host National.

On July 30th I had the pleasure of going to Gunstock to visit with the Grangers who were attending the Grange Family weekend. They had a great group of people there and the pot luck supper was delicious. Thank you to all of you for feeding me!!

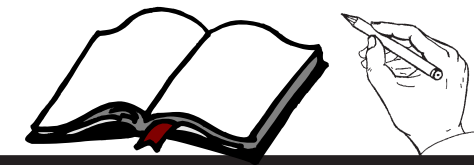
On August 18th I visited with Blazing Star Grange in Danbury. Election of officers was held and I want to wish the new officers the best for the next year. On the 20th, I was delighted to help Rockingham Grange help celebrate the Town of Epping's 275th Anniversary. The Grange members participated in the parade, held an open house inviting the public to come into the hall and provided some history of the Grange. August 25th found me back at the State Grange building for another Executive committee meeting. Final preparations for State session were discussed as well as possible locations for next year's session.

I hope by now that your Grange has submitted any resolutions that involve by-law changes. These were due to the State Secretary by September 1st. If you have any resolutions that are not changes to the bylaws, you still have time to send them in. I am hoping that we will have some good ones for state session.

If you are interested in being involved on a state level by serving in some capacity, please let me know. I hope that you are working on growing your Grange. We all are responsible for asking people to come to our meetings and join us. Will you do your part to grow the Grange? I hope that you have enjoyed your summer and and hope to see many of you in my future travels and at State Session.

State Grange Historian

Richard Patten



I was pleased to receive the Secretary Minute Books and Roll Call Books from Sandown Grange. The Sandown Historical Society did not have the room and felt they were of no use so they brought them to Concord.

It doesn't seem possible that a new State Session is almost here. I hope to see many Grange members attending. This year we will be returning to West Lebanon. The last time was in 2007. West Lebanon has rivaled Lebanon as far as growth with shopping centers, many stores, restaurants, and the airport.

There were two Granges in this area: Lebanon Grange # 117 organized February 1, 1887, and Westboro Grange # 320 organized in West Lebanon on February 3, 1912. Both Granges organized a Juvenile (later known as Junior) Grange: Lebanon Juvenile Grange # 84 on August 9, 1946, and Westboro Juvenile Grange #139 on August 2, 1960. It is sad that we have lost Westboro, Lebanon, Grafton Star, Indian River, Eureka, Mascoma, Blue Mountain, Mont Calm, Mt. Cube, and Cornish Granges.

In the last few months, we have lost two members who were icons to Granges in this area. Past State Pomona, Executive Committee member, State Membership Director Ruth Gray, who also served as State Master in the Florida State Grange has passed away. She was also a former Past Junior Deputy, Past Master of Lebanon Grange, Past Matron of Lebanon Junior Grange. She and her late husband Stanley traveled many miles and will be greatly missed.

Marion Stone was a very faithful Grange member and traveled with the late Jesse Stone, who was a Subordinate Deputy. She went with him to many of his Deputy visits. Marion served as State Education Chairman for many years. She and Jesse are both greatly missed in the Grange.

Lebanon is also the home of Past State Master Carl Adams and his wife

Patricia and family. Carl is the senior of the Past State Masters and many have looked to him for advice or support while they were in the office. Carl's late mother, Clara Adams, served as State Ceres when he was State Master. He will be 100 years old within the next year. I am hoping to surprise him this year on Thursday Night of our State Session with a special evening. He has a very impressive list of accomplishments, both in the Grange, in the State Legislature, and in the town/city of Lebanon. If you are coming Thursday night, please bring a Birthday Card.

I decided to go back to the year 1971 and think about that special year. The 98th session was being held in Concord at the NH Highway Hotel with State Master John L. Saturley presiding. The session began Thursday evening with the Reception for State Officers, Coronation Ball, dancing, and refreshments featured. The youth members from Merrimack County Pomona, Suncook Valley Pomona, Lake and Valley Pomona, and Contoocook Valley Pomona served as ushers and usherettes.

The top ten Subordinate Granges were: Salem, Cornish, Blazing Star, Crown Point, Contoocook, Bow, Somersworth, Mountain Laurel, Daniel Webster & Pineconia (tie), and Harmony Granges.

The top five Pomona Granges were: Pemigewasset Valley, Northern New Hampshire, Sullivan County, Hillsborough County, and West Rockingham Pomona Granges.

The major shock in 1971 was the untimely death of State Secretary Scott Eastman. Scott had served as State Secretary for 29 years. He assumed this office when State Secretary John Hammond died while enroute to the state session. Scott was well liked by everyone and traveled around the state during the Installation season. He installed Pineconia Grange when I went in as Master. It was a shock when it was announced that Scott had passed away due to heart problems. We organized Pineconia Junior Grange as a tribute to Scott on the day of his funeral. Subordinate Deputy Wayne Ingalls was appointed to serve as State Secretary until the next State Session in which he was elected by the delegate body.

June Youth Rally

by Beth Merrill, Youth Director

We had a small, intimate group attend June Youth Rally at Copper Cannon Camp. It was exciting to include two first-timers, teenage members from Antrim and Walpole Granges, who seamlessly fit in with the more seasoned attendees. On Friday evening, after a time of fellowship and board games, Arthur Merrill did a workshop on the Seven Founders, with a focus on the life and contributions of NH's own John Thompson, who was born in the neighboring town of Littleton. This led up to the next morning's activity, which was a trip into town to visit and do some landscaping work at the John Thompson memorial marker. If you happen to be in the area, look for it on your right as you head south on Rt. 302 a short distance past Staples.

Back at camp, we made Father's Day cards for the Lecturer's contest, enjoyed a terrific workshop on identifying various personalities by Kathy Yardley, listened to Adam Terrell's public speaking entry, played Grange Baseball, and tried our hand at some contra dance moves. There was a Sunday inspiration service led by Mary West, a brainstorming session for ideas for the Youth Department's fair exhibit, and a review of the weekend's activities. We headed for home just as the heavens started to let loose! Otherwise, we enjoyed lovely weather and equally lovely accommodations.



L to R: Anna Murphy, Mary West, Beth Merrill, Adam Terrell, Chris Heath, Sarah Leclerc, Emilie Leclerc, Arthur Merrill

**Congratulations to
Emilie LeClerc and Adam Terrill
who brought home the Spirit Stick
from the Northeast Youth Rally in
Cobleskill, NY, in July.**

Home Grown Politics
*Across New Hampshire Farmland
 to Concord and Washington*
Bob Haefner
Legislative and Agriculture Dept.

I sit here writing this column while looking out at the brown grass that used to be my lawn and seeing my stunted peppers and herbs from a hot and dry summer. Thanks to El Nino, it has been a dry year that has really effected the crops, especially hay. However, we are fortunate here in the northeast. I have just returned from a trip to Washington, Idaho, and a visit to my sister-in-law in central California. Talk about dry. The Corps of Engineers is draining Lake McClure, slowly, but steadily to keep the fish alive in the Merced River. In the meantime the farmers are watching their irrigation water flow down the river and not to their crops and, worse, the residents of that area are watching their drinking water flow down the river and out to the ocean. The lake/reservoir dropped about four feet while I was there.

I was going to retire from the NH Legislature after five terms/ten years. I have been pushed to run again, one more time. The Speaker, my Senator, The Vice-Chair of Finance, the Commissioner of Agriculture, several friends in Hudson, and the leadership of the NH Farm Bureau all pushed me to run. I finally caved and will run for one more term in the House. The NH House has no farmers and the Agriculture folks are afraid of losing both Rep. Sad and myself at the same time. The good news is that two or three farmers are running this time.

The long saga of labeling food that contains ingredients grown from Genetically Engineered seeds is coming to an end. The US House and Senate passed a compromise bill requiring labeling at the federal level and the President has signed it. The first thing that happened is that the Vermont labeling law has now been pre-empted by federal law. Now the USDA has two years to write the rules and implement the specifics of the law. Vermont passed their standalone labeling law a couple of years ago. Connecti-

cut passed one with triggers that made it hard to invoke unless NY passed the bill. Maine passed theirs but with a trigger that required New Hampshire to pass a similar bill. We in New Hampshire have killed it twice, saying that it was not only unconstitutional to mandate labeling at the state level, but was a federal issue.

We cannot have 50 slightly different state solutions. That would be an impossible requirement for interstate commerce. The Federal Compromise was the solution. The National Grange Policy is to oppose Labeling, a policy that I happen to agree with. The NH State Grange Policy was to support labeling only at the federal level, and that is exactly what happened. Our State Grange policy is what won out. NH is the only state to outright kill the GMO Labeling legislation in the Legislature, while Maine, Connecticut, and Vermont were the only states to pass it.

The Legislature has passed an Agri-tourism bill to fix a NH Supreme Court decision that said Agri-tourism is not part of the definition of Agriculture. Rep. Sad and I sponsored a House Bill and Senator Boutin also sponsored a Senate bill to fix the court ruling. We ended up after months of work, passing the Senate Bill with a Haefner/Sad amendment. The Governor is doing a public signing at a Farmers Market on Wednesday. I was asked to speak at the signing, but will be out of the country on legislative business. At least the significant issue is now resolved.

I am writing this the day before I leave for the Council of State Governments, Eastern Region Meeting in Quebec. I am a member of the Council of State Governments (CSG) Executive Committee and must be up there on Saturday. Rep. Sad and I represent NH on the CSG Agriculture Policy Committee as well. CSG lost its Agriculture Policy Consultant this year. Sister Tara and I volunteered to put the agriculture program together for the meeting. We have been working on it for the last three months. We think we have a program that Agriculture Legislators will be pleased with. We have two hour breakfasts on Monday and Tuesday to fill with speakers. We have a two hour panel discussion on Monday afternoon and a tour of Quebec Farms on Tuesday

afternoon. We have speakers coming to Quebec City to talk on Avian Influenza, Food Safety Modernization Act and the impact on states, an update from Capitol Hill, a presentation on the Maple industry in Quebec and an overview of the issues facing agriculture in Canada. The highlight will be a panel discussion comparing the management and pricing of Dairy between the US and Canada, with two US and two Canadian dairy farmers. That discussion will also cover the impact on Dairy of the Trans Pacific Pact (TPP). Finally our tour will include a Canadian Dairy Farm, and a grower that has both strawberries and sweet potatoes.

Rep Sad, The Speaker, and I once again were judges for the NH FFA Convention in Nashua, Sister Tara and I will be participating in the annual meeting of State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL), in Baton Rouge in January. Tara's last meeting of SARL. I have been very active in the UNH sponsored Food Alliance and the Sub-Group on Farm and Fisheries Viability.

Concord Christmas Parade

Concord Grange # 322 would like to invite you to join us for the 65th annual Concord Christmas Parade scheduled for Saturday, November 19, at 9:30 a.m. The parade begins forming at 8 a.m. for floats in the parking lot of the State of NH Dept Transportation on Hazen Drive. The theme this year is A Futuristic Christmas. The parade will march from Hazen Drive to Loudon Road and proceed East on Loudon Road to the Steeplegate Mall where it will disband.

This is DickPatten's 45th year as Chairman. Concord Grange has been the main organizer for close to 37 years. The reviewing stand is located in front of the Stove Barn on Loudon Road. The parade features bands, floats, cartoon characters, fire trucks, Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Santa Claus. There is a special Division #1 dedicated to our veterans and this year we are dedicating it to Pearl Harbor Day.

**A Hearty Grange Welcome to
 Our New Junior Members**
Rebecca Boisvert Chichester
Jacob Scanzani Hudson

**Outreach
 Director**
**Stephen
 Tracy**



Most of us are dealing with a summer drought of varying levels in the state. Is your area also dealing with a drought of Grange information in the public view?

With all the activities going on in communities this summer it is a great time to get the word out about Grange. Small or large functions are good for promoting the Grange. It is also a great way to build community by becoming socially active in your community.

Here are some suggested ways to promote your Grange:

- 1) Place Grange flyers with contact information on bulletin boards around town.
- 2) Talk about Grange fun and activities on your social media accounts.
- 3) Always carry applications and a pen with you wherever you go (appointments, shopping, etc.) so you are ready if the opportunity arises during conversations to talk about the Grange.
- 4) Go to public activities and socialize with your neighbors wearing a Grange pin to initiate a conversation. Set up a Grange information table.
- 5) Whether it be news articles, advertisements or Letters to the Editor; get the Grange info out there. Articles of all Grange activities are in the local papers in the North Country and when Stratford Grange had an Open House/Yard Sale a woman came in and her first question was "How do I join?" I asked her what enticed her and she said she had read about all the great things the Grange was doing and she wanted to be a part of it. She had 2 members of her family with her, and she invited them to join also.
- 6) Put a Grange emblem on your vehicle and on the front of your home.
- 7) Find a need in the community or plan a fun activity (talent show?) and join forces with another organization and have a public meeting to discuss how to handle the issue.

Franconia Historical Society is having a summer-long display of a Grange

room. I am working with the Membership Booster Team to have a Grange Day there and hopefully do an Opening and Closing demonstration and advertise it and hopefully generate interest in organizing a Grange there again.

Pomona has needed a boost and the new redistricting may be a sad time but it can be a good thing. With some Pomonas with so few active but interested members unable to hold a meeting and becoming discouraged now have an opportunity to be active in a larger group. Keep the enthusiasm alive. The programs suggested by the State Master are a great way promote Grange viability in the area.

I am working with the local newspapers in the Lebanon area for some pre-State session PR and having a reporter come to the session. In coordination with the State Master I am working on a PR activity with a local social service agency during State Session in the area also. As Maine State Grange's motto under Past Master Vicki Huff promoted, let us "shine, shine, shine" in the community.

Calendar of Events 2016

- Sept. 1-5 - Lancaster Fair
516 Main St., Lancaster
- Sept. 2-5 - Hopkinton State Fair
State Fairgrounds, Contoocook
- Sept. 9-11 - Hillsborough County Fair
15 Hill Dale Lane, New Boston
- Sept. 10 - Area Meeting 10 a.m.
Granite Grange, Milford
- Sept. 11 - Area Meeting 10 a.m.
Jeremiah Smith Grange, Lee
- Sept. 16-25 - Rochester Fair
72 Lafayette St., Rochester
- Sept. 16 - Oct. 2 - The Big E
West Springfield, MA
- Sept. 17 - Area Meeting 10 a.m.
Northfield Town Hall
- Sept. 18 - Area Meeting 10 a.m.
Mohawk Grange, Colebrook
- Sept. 19 - Hotel reservations due for
NH State Session
- Sept. 25 - Grange Day at the Big E
- Sept. 29 - Oct. 2 - Deerfield Fair
Route 43, Deerfield
- Oct. 1 - Youth & Lecturer's Contest
Entries Due
- Oct. 8-10 - Sandwich Fair
Rte. 109 North, Center Sandwich
- Oct. 20-23 - NH State Grange Session
Fireside Inn & Suites
West Lebanon
- Nov. 15 - 19 - 150th National Grange
Convention, Washington, D.C.



**Grange
 Services**
Lois Enman, Director

I hope Summer was good to you. In July our committee met to review applications and award scholarships to:

- Elizabeth Nelson**
Environmental Economics
- Melissa McKinnon**
Medical Research
- Andrew Perry**
National Forest Ranger
- Thomas Perry**- Dentist
- Kathe Wolf**- Nursing

These members have received a scholarship because of donations made to the Educational Loan Fund (ELF) from which we can use the yearly interest to provide scholarships. PLEASE continue to make your donations whether as a Grange or as individuals.

Just a reminder, our Committee is hoping to 'SHOWCASE' a list of the Subordinate and Pomona Granges that award scholarships in their local community. PLEASE have your Secretary or Master send or email the number of scholarships and the total amount given to me so we can "SHOWCASE" these Granges at State Session.

I hope that all Granges are reporting at their meetings the general benefits that we can all have for being a Subordinate member. There is a list of more than 20 programs that offer a discount on the National Grange website, www.national-grange.org. Please have a member check it out for your Grange. These are just a few:

- Hertz Rental Car**
- Life Line Screening**
- True Hearing**
- Safeguard Complete (identity theft & backup for your computer)**
- OFFICE DEPOT**
- Healthcare Exchange**
- National Grange Online Cash-Back Shopping Mall**

I hope to see many of you at our State Session in West Lebanon, NH on October 20-23, 2016 at the Fireside Inn.

Stratford Grange

With great struggle we are breaking out of our comfort zone and getting the Grange members out of the hall and into the community. The results are beginning to show.



We had an Open House and yard sale and one person stepped into the hall and asked, "How do I join?" When asked what intrigued her, she said that it was the articles in the newspaper on the meetings and activities.

Members have been actively going out in the community with applications and asking people to join. We had a family of four and another person attend our meeting on August 8, and they said they will return. We could have a Junior Granger from this family.

We had the local 4-H group come to show their projects and it was a very fun meeting. One girl brought her rabbits which really pleased Frances Pepau. The 4-Her's demonstrated their cooking skills by serving us supper and holding a discussion of vegan eating.



In the past a picnic to Stratford Grange was eating sandwiches around the table in the hall. This year we went to the Pavillion in town and had a real cookout with burgers, dogs, etc. We even had a member show up who has never been to a Grange meeting. Quiet and meek Frances Pepau really let loose when she got on the kids toy rides. She was the hit of the party.



For the last several years Stratford has struggled with a membership around 13. The group that attends is very faithful and active. We recently lost our long time Master of about 25 years, Bob Lovering, and this has gotten members realizing that we need to work on boosting the Grange publically to grow. It is working. There is renewed push to keep the charter.

With the closing of Upper Coos Pomona the active members from Stratford will be showing at the meetings of Northern NH with about 5-6 attending. They have missed being active in Pomona.

Sound and Noise

Written by Adam Terrell at the outdoor Inspirational Service at June Youth Rally.

"To those from the city, the woods have no noise, but to me, it is full of noise and sounds. The birds, squirrels, wind, plants and countless more.

If you send me to the city, all I hear is noise and no sound. I cannot say what the city sounds like to those who live there. I would guess, it sounds like home, But the sounds of woodpeckers, the river flowing and swatting of a bug, feels like home to me.

There is no one who doesn't say the forest is beautiful, but when it comes to living in it that is another story. The hardship of it is too much for some people, but to others the rewards make it all worth it and very enjoyable. "

Official Publication of the
New Hampshire State Grange
Patrons of Husbandry
Managing Editor - Hannah West
3 Depot Road
Chichester, NH 03258
Tel. (603) 798-5783

THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER

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