

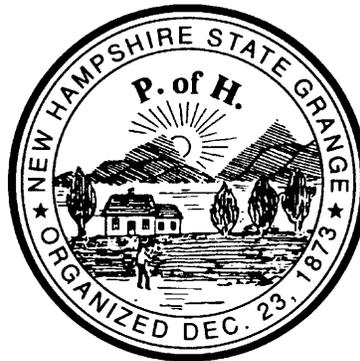
PROCEEDINGS

Of the

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SECOND  
ANNUAL SESSION

**New Hampshire  
State Grange**

*Of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry*



Held at

Fireside Inn & Suites  
West Lebanon, NH

October 16 ~ 18, 2025

Mary West, Secretary

## STATE GRANGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Organized December 23, 1873

Incorporated July 2, 1875

### ROLL OF HONOR PAST MASTERS

1873	Dudley T. Chase*	Claremont
1879	George A. Wason*	New Boston
1883	William H. Stinson*	Goffstown
1886	Charles McDaniels*	Springfield
1891	Nahum J. Batchelder*	East Andover
1903	Herbert O. Hadley*	Peterborough
1909	Richard Pattee*	Laconia
1913	Wesley Adams*	Londonderry
1917	Fred A. Rogers*	Meriden
1921	Herbert N. Sawyer*	Atkinson
1925	James C. Farmer*	Keene
1929	John A. Hammons*	Gilford
1933	Arthur W. McDaniel*	East Barrington
1937	William J. Neal*	Meredith
1943	Charles A. Rollins*	West Alton
1947	Charles R. Eastman*	Kensington
1953	J. Thornton Tripp*	Rochester
1955	George F. Clement*	Landaff
1959	Asa H. Morgan*	Bow
1963	Carl S. Adams*	Lebanon
1967	John L. Saturley*	Chichester
1971	E. Norris Hall*	Nashua
1975	Alton F. Carpenter*	Canaan, VT
1977	B. Franklin Hayes*	East Rochester
1980	Philip A. Shattuck*	Brookline
1984	Everett H. Poore*	Littleton
1988	Philip J. Estes*	Rochester
1990	Paul W. Davis, Sr.*	Loudon
1994	Richard W. Patten *	Concord
1998	Daniel P. Bascom †	Rochester
2002	John H. West*	Chichester
2006	Beth Merrill †	Antrim
2010	James Tetreault †	Arlington
2014	Christopher E. Heath †	Barrington
2020	Robert Trombi †	Keene

\* *Deceased*

† *Present during Session*

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**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
OF THE ORDER OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY  
Fireside Inn & Suites, West Lebanon, NH**

After a festive Thursday evening including the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Grange Foundation, candy bingo hosted by State Lecturer Matt Clark and an ice cream social, the first full day of the 152nd annual session of the New Hampshire State Grange was opened in the Sixth Degree at 8:40 am, on Friday, October 17, with Worthy Master Tricia Taylor and the officers of the New Hampshire State Grange.

The officer slate was:

Master	Tricia J. Taylor
Overseer	Arthur Merrill
Lecturer	Matthew Clark
Steward	Norman Brandt
Assistant Steward	Andrew Savage
Lady Assistant Steward	Sarah Leclerc
Chaplain	Kathy Yardley
Treasurer	Daniel P. Bascom
Secretary	Mary West
Gatekeeper	Adam Terrell
Ceres	Gloria Davis
Pomona	Emilie Leclerc
Flora	Lynn Clark
Executive Committee	Beth Merrill
	B. Richard Bailey
	Anne Boisvert
	Lester Gibbs
	Gerald J. Leclerc
Musician	Lester Gibbs

Roll call of officers found all present. Roll call of Granges found a quorum present.

The Grange was then lowered to the Fourth Degree. Unfortunately, there were no honored guests as our scheduled National Grange Representative had a conflict.

Introduction of Master's Address Committee: Pat Bailey, Diane Collins, and Kimber Bascom

Introduction of Resolutions Committee: Leroy Watson, Christopher Heath, and Scott Burns

The Standing Rules for the 152<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session were read. A motion was made by Christopher Heath of Centennial Grange and seconded by Sarah Leclerc of Hillsborough County Pomona to adopt the rules. It was a vote in the affirmative.

Master Tricia Taylor read a proclamation from Governor Kelly Ayotte honoring our Session. Members then viewed a video message from National Grange President Christine Hamp, which

included shout-outs to Wilber and Jane Heath, Bob and Jane Trombi, and Leroy Watson. She announced Grange Engage, National's new membership software and spoke of Project Sustenance, growing food security, self sustainability, and resilience in America's hometowns, as well as the Rural Life Initiative and the upcoming National Conference. She encouraged us to "kick it up another notch", change what isn't working and shine a light on what is.

Norman Brandt was escorted to the Master's Station to share the report of the Agriculture Committee. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Master Tricia Taylor mentioned that this will be a slower paced Session, and declared a brief recess.

Beth Merrill presented the report of the NH Trustees of the New England Grange Building. Members were encouraged to share their guesses of how much money was raised for St. Jude's Children's Hospital to Beth during Session. The winning guess, without going over, will win a prize. She mentioned that donations of crafting supplies, such as yarn and fabric are welcome. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Bingo cards were passed out to those who were not in attendance last night, so the games could continue, with Lecturer Matt Clark calling numbers.

Gerald J. Leclerc, Session Coordinator, presented his report. The hospitality room is Room 112, and will be open at lunch. While there will not be an evaluation form this year, attendees are encouraged to share comments or concerns with the Session Coordinator. Members were asked to block October 15-18, 2026, on their calendars for next year's State Session at the Fireside Inn & Suites. Brother Leclerc then presented a brief report on his work as an Executive Committee member. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Master Tricia Taylor declared a five-minute recess for Memorial Service rehearsal. When session resumed, Mary West announced that colored pencils are available at the back of the room for those who wish to use the coloring page included in their Session program.

Mary West presented her report as Webmaster. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Steward Norman Brandt announced honored guest Shawn Jasper, NH Commissioner of Agriculture. Commissioner Jasper was escorted to the Master's office for remarks. He was honored to join us, and mentioned that a picture of Past State Master, Past National Master and Past NH Governor Nahum Batchelder's barn is going to be the new homepage of the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture's website. He shared about Brother Batchelder's years of service, and his desire to do a better job of honoring him. Since 1870, there have only been nine commissioners of agriculture! Past and current NH agriculture news include potato and tobacco farming and poultry farming. He highlighted the work of the Hubbard family, and Pete and Gerry's. NH is moving into hydroponics and pick-your-own, which will keep young people involved in agriculture. He advocated that agriculture is viable in New Hampshire but not in the traditional methods. He's excited about agriculture in New Hampshire despite labor shortages, as

we are innovative. The Commission is currently well-staffed and has hired Dr. Prescott as our new state veterinarian. They are working to battle consumer fraud and update technology, and are concerned about an increase in pet vending and its effect on health.

Master Tricia Taylor declared an 11-minute recess to set up for the Memorial Service. Sister Kim Bascom announced that the silent auction is now open. Bid high and bid often! The hospitality room will be open for lunch at noon. Banquet ticket payments should be given to State Ceres Gloria Davis.

At 11 am, the gates were closed for the annual Memorial Service, under the direction of State Chaplain Kathy Yardley. *The program was ordered printed in the Journal.*

Master Tricia Taylor declared a recess until 1:30 pm.

The afternoon session was called to order at 1:34 pm. Beth Merrill introduced State Master Tricia Taylor to give the Master's address. *The report was accepted, ordered printed in the Journal and turned over to the Master's Address Committee.*

Diane Collins, Chair of the Trustees of Trust Funds, gave her annual report from the Overseer's station. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

B. Richard Bailey presented his report as Historian and Executive Committee member. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.* He then shared his fascinating presentation "Grange: The Role of the Grange in the Development of Today's Society".

The State Lecturer called six more Bingo numbers prior to a ten-minute recess.

The Grange was called back to order at 2:52 pm. The Lady Assistant Steward escorted Andrew Savage to the Master's station to give his report as Youth Director. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Master Tricia Taylor was pleased to announce that she's already had someone volunteer to assist with fair displays next season.

Joann Brandt, was escorted to the Master's Station to give the Junior Director's report. She presented a Junior Grange graduation certificate to Rebecca Boisvert, and shared certificates to be passed along to Lily Ricker, Jacob Scanzani, and Georgiani Farrell. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Beth Merrill reminded members that she's accepting guesses as to how much money was raised by the Big E Trustee's quilt raffle.

Matthew Clark called six more Bingo numbers, resulting in Bingo for State Overseer Arthur Merrill, before presenting his report as State Lecturer. Make note that State Grange Bowling will take place on *Saturday*, March 28, at 12 noon, at Lakeside Lanes, in Manchester. Prize envelopes

were awarded for winning contest entries. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Anne Boisvert, presented her report as the State Grange building manager. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Sherrill Bokousky, Grange Services Director, was escorted to the Master's station to give her report. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Mary West requested that any sixth-degree candidates submit their paperwork as soon as possible. Kathy Yardley announced that baking contest entries must be received by tomorrow morning. The hospitality room is open until 4:00 pm. If you are interested in filling a State office for Saturday's opening, please notify Arthur Merrill. A random drawing will be conducted this evening. The silent auction and display room are still open. Andrew Savage needs to know the identity of wreath contest participants.

With no further business to conduct, Worthy Master Tricia Taylor raised the Grange to the sixth degree and declared the Grange at ease at 3:30 pm, until 7:30 pm.

After fifth degree obligation, the Friday evening session opened at 7:30pm with a procession by the officers of the New Hampshire State Grange. Roll call of officers found all present. State Secretary Mary West announced that Rebecca Boisvert of Chichester Grange #132, Janel Hopkins Pierson of Rochester Grange #86, and Bridgid Stiller of Blow Me Down Grange #234, were seeking admission to the Court of Flora.

The Sixth Degree was exemplified by the officers of the New Hampshire State Grange.

Flora's Court

*State Flora:* Lynn Clark      *Personal Attendants:* Alanna Bellville, Arlington Grange  
Virginia Clark, in memoriam

*State Pomona:* Emilie Leclerc      *Personal Attendants:* Francine Leclerc, Hudson Grange  
Patricia Bailey, Hudson Grange

*State Ceres:* Gloria Davis      *Personal Attendants:* Diane Collins, Claremont Grange  
Joann Brandt, Wingold Grange

*Soloist:* Mary West      *Lighting:* Adam Terrell

*Marching candidates:* Rebecca Boisvert, Janel Hopkins Pierson, Bridgid Stiller, Seth Clark and Trevor Clark

*Honor Court:*

Beth Merrill      Past Master, Overseer, Lecturer, Lady Asst Steward, Natl.  
Lady Asst Steward, Assembly of Demeter  
Hannah West      Past Lecturer, Ceres, Exec Comm, GSG Editor, Assembly

	of Demeter
Kathy Yardley	Past State Ceres, Lady Asst. Steward, Gatekeeper
Mary West	Past State Flora
Jane Trombi	Past State Ceres, Past Lecturer, Past Lady Asst Steward, Assembly of Demeter
Diane Collins	Past State Flora
Sarah Leclerc	Past State Pomona
Patrice Lawlor	Past State Flora, Past Lady Asst. Steward
Joann Brandt	Past Lady Asst. Steward, Past Flora
B. Richard Bailey	Past State Steward, Assistant Steward
Gerald Leclerc	Past State Secretary, Lecturer, Steward, Asst Steward
Patricia Bailey	Past State Flora, Lady Asst Steward
Kimber Bascom	Past State Flora, Ceres, Lady Asst. Steward, Assembly of Demeter
Wilber Heath	Past State Executive Committee, Assembly of Demeter
Arthur Merrill	Past Steward, Asst. Steward, Exec Committee, Assembly of Demeter
Matthew Clark	Past Chaplain, Asst. Steward, Gatekeeper
Andrew Savage	Past State Gatekeeper, Past General Deputy
Norman Brandt	Past Gatekeeper, Asst. Steward
Dan Bascom	Past Master, Overseer, Asst. Steward, Gatekeeper, Exec Comm, Past Natl Gatekeeper, Past Priest Archon, Past High Priest of Demeter pro temps
Christopher Heath	Past Master, Overseer, Steward, Asst. Steward, Gatekeeper, Exec. Committee, Assembly of Demeter
Mark Collins	Past Steward, Assistant Steward, Exec Committee
Lester Gibbs	Past State VT Master, Assembly of Demeter
Tricia Taylor	Past Secretary, Lady Asst. Steward, Ceres, Overseer, Exec Comm
Anne Boisvert	Current Executive Committee
Adam Terrell	Current Gatekeeper
James Tetreault	Past Asst. Steward, Steward, Lecturer, Overseer, Master, Natl Lecturer, Assembly of Demeter

After a drawing of volunteers to open Saturday's meeting, the first day of the 152nd Annual New Hampshire State Grange Session was closed in the Fourth Degree at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary West, Secretary, New Hampshire State Grange

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**

The second day of the 152<sup>nd</sup> Annual State Grange Session was opened in the Fourth Degree by Master pro temps Norman Brandt at 8:30 am.

The volunteer officers for the opening were:

Master	Norman Brandt
Overseer	Emilie Leclerc
Lecturer	Joyce Martin
Steward	Adam Terrell
Assistant Steward	Jared Clark
Lady Assistant Steward	Trevor Clark
Chaplain	Brian Twiss
Treasurer	Gerald Leclerc
Secretary	Mary West
Gatekeeper	Arthur Merrill
Ceres	Sarah Leclerc
Pomona	Francine Leclerc
Flora	Janel Hopkins Pierson
Executive Committee	Seth Clark
	Lynn Clark
	Rebecca Boisvert
Musician	Lester Gibbs

Roll call of both volunteer and elected officers found all present. Roll call of Granges found a quorum present. The minutes of yesterday's session were read, approved, and ordered printed in the Journal. Master pro temps Norman Brandt then declared a brief recess so the elected officers could take their places.

The Standing Rules of the 152<sup>nd</sup> Session were read for reference only.

Daniel Bascom presented the State Treasurer's report. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

After a brief recess, we reconvened at 9:30 am for election of officers. Appointed tellers were Glen Eldredge, Brian Twiss, and Deb Patten. With 37 votes cast, 20 votes were needed for election.

Beth Merrill announced that \$8,806 were raised for St. Jude's Children's Hospital with the NH Trustees of the New England Grange building quilt raffle. Jane Heath was recognized for helping with the quilt and for her lofty guess. Anne Boisvert had the winning guess. Both received a jar of fruit preserves from the New England Grange building. Beth also mentioned that she does not wish to be re-elected to the Executive Committee.

After Glen Eldredge's name was suggested for office, Trevor Clark was swapped in as an appointed teller.

Sarah Leclerc escorted herself to the State Master's station to give her report as State Lady Assistant Steward. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

With 34 votes cast, Glen Eldredge was unanimously elected. Brother Eldredge accepted and Master Tricia Taylor declared him elected to the State Grange Executive Committee for the constitutional term of three years.

Mary West presented the State Secretary's report. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Arthur Merrill approached the Master's station and presented the report of the State Grange Executive Committee as well as a report on State Officer visits. Nearly 3000 miles were traveled. State Officers were asked to share their requests for next year's visit assignments. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Brother Dan Bascom spoke in his role as Past State Master. He encouraged support of Granges, even those that seem small, giving the example of Wicwas Lake, which was struggling when he was State Master 25 years ago, but is now our biggest Grange. He advised us to hang in there, do the best we can, and try to get some new members.

General Deputy Wilber Heath presented his annual report as General Deputy. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Emilie Leclerc presented her report as State Pomona. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Adam Terrell presented his report as State Gatekeeper. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Members viewed a video clip about the NH Preservation Alliance's Seven to Save, featuring Golden Rod Grange Hall, in Swanzey. More Bingo numbers were read unproductively.

Jim Tetreault was escorted to the Master's Station where he was joined by Gloria Davis to present the Membership Committee report. He encouraged members to take membership brochures home. They're available on the Membership table in the display room. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Gloria Davis shared her report as State Ceres. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Pat Bailey and Pat Lawlor sneaked to the Master's Station from credentials, to present the annual report of the Granite State Granger. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

After a ten-minute recess, Kathy Yardley and Joyce Martin, Family and Community Committee Directors, were escorted to the Master's station to give their annual report. They presented awards for needlework, woodworking, community service notebooks and reports, and the baking

contest. The remaining mini cheesecakes are available in the hospitality room. Next year's baking contest will be quiche! *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Kathy Yardley remained to share her report as State Chaplain. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Lynn Clark approached the Secretary's Station to present the report of the State Flora. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Lester Gibbs shared the report of the State Musician. He advised that he's glad to help out with music for Grange degrees and award ceremonies and encouraged Granges to reach out. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Another round of Bingo numbers resulted in two winners: Chris Heath and Joyce Martin.

Anne Boisvert approached the Master's Station to share her report as a State Executive Committee member. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Beth Merrill approached the Master's Station to share her report as a State Executive Committee member. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Master Tricia Taylor reminded members that the hospitality room 112 will be open for lunch. Mary recommended that program packets can be signed out from her during afternoon session. The silent auction is still open! After playing Bingo until there were winners: Andrew Savage and Sandra Marcoux, we recessed for lunch until 1:30. There may be changes to the budget, so don't be late!

After a recess for lunch, the session reconvened at 1:32 pm. Arthur Merrill, Chairman of the State Executive Committee, approached the Master's station to present the 2025-2026 Income and Expense Budgets. State Treasurer Dan Bascom shared that this will be the second year for a vote on a dues increase at National Grange. If it passes, we will need to pay \$20 per member to National Grange each year, effective January 1. He'd also like to add reimbursement of mileage for officer visits. The proposed "National Session 2028" amount was in error and should be \$0.00. A motion was made by Lynn Clark and seconded by Jerry Leclerc of Hudson Grange to approve the Budget as corrected during discussion. It was a vote in the affirmative. *The income and expense reports were accepted and ordered printed in the journal.*

Leroy Watson, Chair of the Resolutions Committee approached the Master's station to present his report.

Resolution #1 - Submitted by Blow Me Down Grange #234

Subject: *Including Past State Masters and Spouses as Voting Delegates to State Session*

The committee recommended that the resolution not be passed. Motion made by Don Ross of Wingold Grange and seconded by Andrew Savage of Wingold Grange. It was a vote in the affirmative. The resolution failed.

*The report of the Resolutions Committee was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Brother Jim Tetreault shared remarks in his role as Past State Master. He was pleased to be back with us this year and to support the Clark family. He congratulated Tricia Taylor on a session well-run and congratulated Beth Merrill on her retirement from the Executive Committee. He thanked Leroy Watson for transporting him.

Brother Bob Trombi shared remarks as the most recent Past State Master. He's happy to be here, and promised that despite three strokes he was not planning to strike out.

Pat Bailey, Diane Collins, and Kimber Bascom approached the Master's station to give the report of the State Master's Annual Address Committee. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Pat Bailey was then joined by Pat Lawlor to present the report of the credentials committee. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

Sister Beth Merrill shared remarks in her role as Past State Master. She mentioned her pet peeve that outside organizations confuse a "Grange Hall" with the "Grange". She asked us to correct that misnomer when possible. She also encouraged members to contribute exhibits to local fairs. She commended this morning's opening, which was on the youthful side. She's hopeful we can re-create a well-banded youth in the State and even have a slate of youth officers to open Saturday's session next year. Finally, she thinks there may be National Grange plans for next year's 250th celebration for America. Look for details on the website and in Good Day magazine about photo submission for the celebration and perhaps reach out to organizations in your community about planning celebrations at a local level.

Glen Eldredge was escorted to the altar where Arthur Merrill installed him as a State Executive Committee member for the constitutional term of three years. Beth Merrill served as Marshall. Brother Eldredge thanked us for the privilege and shared a few words of wisdom.

Announcements: The hospitality room has food to be taken home. A round of applause was shared by the room in appreciation of the hospitality room, hosted by Blow Me Down and Park Granges. Motion made by Alice Tuck of Rochester Grange and seconded by Gloria Davis of Antrim Grange that the State Grange donate \$200 to Park Grange to reimburse. Amendment suggested by Chris Heath of Centennial Grange and seconded by Emilie Leclerc of Hudson Grange to raise the amount to \$400. Amendment passed. Amended motion passed. Blow Me Down and Park Grange have already offered to manage the hospitality room at next year's session. Matthew Clark and Kathy Yardley reminded members to collect their items from the exhibit room. Kimber Bascom announced that the silent auction bidding will end at 3 pm. Mary West asked members to please take commemorative session ribbons home, collect program packets and return their name badge holders for reuse.

Andrew Savage quickly shared his Assistant Steward report. *The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.*

A motion was made by Matthew Clark of Arlington Grange and seconded by Christopher Heath of Centennial Grange that the Executive Committee approve the minutes for today's session. It was a vote in the affirmative.

With no further business to conduct, the second day of the 152<sup>nd</sup> Annual State Grange Session was closed in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree at 2:42 pm.

The Annual State Grange Banquet was held under the direction of State Ceres, Gloria Davis. After a roast turkey dinner and giant slices of chocolate cake, Kathy Yardley gave a brief handbell lesson. The future Grange handbell choir of Matthew Clark, Seth Clark, Rick Bailey, Robin Doucette, Mary West and Sandra Marcoux performed a few numbers.

Matthew Clark then presented the Granger of the Year award to Beth and Arthur Merrill.

A round of applause was given to Jerry Leclerc for arranging a great Session. Members then joined in a group sing-a-long of familiar tunes. The holiday-themed centerpieces were taken home to be enjoyed by those who wished.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary West, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange

## **2025 MEMORIAL LIST**

Barbara Humphrey - Past Master Hampton Falls Grange #171, Past Subordinate Deputy

Madeline Lowry - Spouse of Past Master William Lowry, III, Centennial Grange #185

Gladys Ray – Past Master Keeneborough Grange

Patricia Izzo – Past Master Wingold Grange #308, Past Master Gilman Grange #1, Past Family and Community Committee

Dorothy Bartlett - Past Master of Bartlett Grange #104, Past Junior Deputy

Ann D. Stearns – Spouse of Past Master George Stearns, Rochester Grange #86

Frances Towne – Past Master of Joe English Grange #53, Past State Lecturer, Past State Pomona, Past Pomona Deputy, Past Special Pomona Deputy, Past Membership Committee member, Past Director Home Economics Committee, Past member of National Grange Women's Activities Council

Ida Hutchins - Past Master of Baker's River Grange #290, Past Master of Grafton County Pomona #13, Past Master of Pemigewasset Valley Pomona #18, Past Deaf Activities Director, Past Home Economics Committee, Past Deputy, Past State Pomona

Virginia Clark - Past Master of Surry Grange #156, Past Junior Deputy, Past Education Committee, Past Contact Committee, Past Family and Community Committee, Past State Pomona

## **NH STATE GRANGE MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Friday, October 17, 2025, 11:00 am – Fireside Inn & Suites, West Lebanon, NH

Welcome and opening prayer – Kathy Yardley, Chaplain

Opening Song: “Pass it On”

Reading: “Whispered Gifts” - Seth Clark

Scripture Reading: First Corinthians 12: 1, 4-11– Matthew Clark, Lecturer

Special Music: “The Gift of Love” – Kathy Yardley and Donna Aldrich on hand bells

Message: “Special Gifts” – Kathy Yardley

Reading: “The Gift that Keeps on Giving” - Anne Boisvert, Exec. Committee

Reading of the Roll – Mary West, Secretary;

flowers by Lynn Clark, Flora,

candle lighting by Gloria Davis, Ceres and Emilie, Pomona

Closing Prayer – Kathy Yardley

Closing Song: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

Benediction: “Go Now in Peace” - Kathy Yardley

Choral Benediction: “God Be With You ‘Til We Meet Again” - pianist Lester Gibbs

## **AGRICULTURE REPORT**

Worthy Master, Brothers, Sisters and Delegates alike.

A year has passed and it is time once again for me to stand before you and give a report. For those that were visiting Mars or the moon this past year we started off wet, with rain every weekend. Seeds were rotting in the fields and people started praying for the rains to stop. And you should always be wary of what you pray for, on the chance they are granted, and they were. We went from too wet to too dry. Drought has moved from the north to the south of NH as the rains stopped. As the rains caused great strawberry and blueberry harvest the lack of rain stunted much of the other harvest. Speaking to the maple producers at the Deerfield Fair, maple production was great if you like dark and very dark syrup because they got a lot of it.

I’m getting ahead of myself. Before Deerfield, there were many other things. Let's start with the Farm, Forest and Garden Expo, at the Deerfield Fairgrounds. Once again NH State Grange had an exhibit at the fair. This year we had a small petting area full of stuffed toys (being right after Easter I saw them 90% off so about a dollar or less an animal so I got quite a few). Using pool noodles we made a little pen and lined it with AstroTurf. We had many coloring pages for people to color while chatting, or while waiting for their kids to leave the petting area. A few times I just said they can take the stuffed animal home with them I don’t mind, to the amazement of the parents. We got quite a few people to stop in and chat with us about the Grange and saw many

familiar faces. This year we had a gentleman from Rockingham Grange in Epping come and volunteer in the booth. Mr. Weaver is very new to Grange but is loving every bit of the Grange he joined. Joann and Gloria Davis also worked the booth and set it up.

If you read my articles you know how the poultry program went, and the poor attendance. We'll have to try something different. That leads me to the surveys that I had sent out to your Granges. Out of all the surveys I sent out I got eight back. With suggestions of programs on apiaries, integrated pest management, spinning, knitting, weaving, crocheting and "absolutely nothing - we would not attend a State Grange thing at all". I was told that getting eight was a great response, and I thought to myself, stamps being 78 cents each now, and the time of folding and delivering them to the post office was the mailing even useful? One response was oral and another was texted to me.

I visited Hudson Grange this year as prescribed by the State Overseer. I enjoyed their meeting quite a bit and loved hearing questions they had on the Ag survey.

I entered an exhibit in the Grange building at Deerfield Fair and got a nice white ribbon and a check for 75 dollars. I'm noticing that there are fewer and fewer Granges using fairs as a way to advertise who they are and that they want members. During the fair Shawn Jasper, Commissioner of Agriculture of New Hampshire, took us up on sitting for a spell. He has come quite a ways from when he was first posted in this position and I had a good time chatting with him this year.

Well I'm at the end of page 3 and I don't want to extend my welcome, so thank you again Tricia for your support and letting me continue for this past year. I will put you all back to sleep next year for my next report.

Submitted by Norman Brandt, Agriculture Director

## **CERES' REPORT**

Worthy Master, Fellow Officers, and Members all,

I started my year off going to Deputy School in December.

I went to the FFA conference with Master Tricia Taylor where we gave out three Best of Show for the flower arrangements. I was told that one of the young ladies was from a school that this was the school's first year entering.

I went to the Junior Grange Day in February where I helped Joann Brandt out for the day. In March, I helped with the Juniors with bowling.

May found me at the Farm, Forest, and Gardening Expo. Then the next two months visiting my two Granges: Blazing Star and Wingold. At one they talked about their Bylaws and at the other they had three in person and four on Zoom.

Thank you for letting me serve as Ceres.

Fraternally submitted,  
Gloria Davis, State Ceres

### **CHAPLAIN'S REPORT**

I visited Wicwas Lake Grange #292 on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> 2025. Worthy Master Steve Durand opened the meeting in the fifth degree, then lowered it to the fourth degree. This was done so that it could be counted as a meeting of Pemi Valley Pomona #18 as well as Wicwas Lake. During the meeting several Wicwas Lake members joined Pemi Valley Pomona, thus helping to boost the Pomona membership. There were 22 Wicwas Lake members present, with myself, State Overseer Arthur Merrill and State Master Tricia Taylor representing the State Grange. They opened and closed in form. It was wonderful to have a pianist playing march music for the assistants, opening and closing songs and the national anthem. I haven't been to a subordinate Grange that has a pianist in a very long time – what a treat!

The members had some great discussions and planning for a couple of upcoming events to be held at their hall. It's so nice to see a Grange working together to make things happen in their community.

I was called on to speak as the NH State Grange Chaplain, and gave remarks and thanked the members for their very warm welcome. It was a great visit!

I have not been able to attend my second assigned Grange yet as they meet on a Monday afternoon and I work Monday through Friday. I will definitely be making plans to visit Lower Intervale Grange #321 in the early part of 2026.

Kathy Yardley  
Chaplain, NH State Grange

### **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

Worthy Master, State Officers, Delegates, and Grangers,

The report of the Credentials Committee is as follows:

Masters 17  
Spouses of Masters 3  
Delegates 19  
Total Voting Delegates 39

Non-Delegates 21  
State Officers 18  
Special Guests 1  
Juniors 1  
Child 1

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Lawlor and Pat Bailey, Credentials Committee

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The State Grange Executive Committee met four times this year, taking care of the business of the Grange. We welcomed new member Rick Bailey. The Committee voted to reimburse State Officers for their travel in 2026 to their two Grange visits. We talked about a grant program for Granges that own their own halls.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Arthur Merrill, Chairman of the Executive Committee, NH State Grange

## **FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT**

Worthy Master, Brother and Sister Patrons and friends,

Once again we find ourselves amazed to already be back here at state session to give the report of the Family & Community Services department. Didn't we just give last year's report?? The year just seemed to fly by, didn't it?

As usual, we began the year with deputy school in December. Since Kathy began a new job in July and it requires overtime on Saturdays from Thanksgiving to Christmas, Joyce flew solo at this event. With the help of Sarah Leclerc, they planned the Family & Community Day event to be held in May.

We received a number of gift cards for the Santa Remembers Teens project from several Granges. These were sent to the state office in Concord, who distributes the cards to teens in need of a little something extra at Christmas time. If you would like to purchase gift cards for this project, please send them to us by November 30, 2025.

May 17th was a popular day, and even though we had planned our date for Family & Community Day and announced it in December, it coincided with Joe English Grange's 150th anniversary celebration which created a conflict for some of our regular attendees. However, we still had 12 enthusiastic participants for the day, and three entries in our pizza bake-off, which was won by Sarah and Emilie Leclerc with their chicken Caesar salad pizza. Jane Trombi was second with her pepperoni French bread pizza and Beth Merrill was third with her cheese pizza with homemade crust. Thank you ladies for your participation. In the morning we packed 75 gift bags for the residents of the Glencliff Home in Glencliff, NH. The rest of the day we spent making

crafts for the Grange store at the Big E. At the end of the day we had a nice collection of items to send down to the fair. Since we already had the Glenclyff bags packed in the car, we drove up there after we left Hooksett to deliver them. As always, the program director was thrilled to get our donations. We had both driven to Glenclyff separately and we left the home at about 5:30 pm, traveling different routes, but a little bit after 6 pm the sky turned black and the heavens opened. Torrential rain, wind, and about five minutes of hail made for a pretty scary ride until we reached West Lebanon, where the sky cleared and we were able to finish the drive home like nothing had happened!

We had some nice entries in the needlework contest this year. Here are the results of the judging, which was done by Dale Martin and Eileen Holmes.

Class A – Afghan

1st – Carol Hill – Gilman Grange #1

2nd – Sherrill Bokousky – Watatic Grange #36

Class B – Doilies

1st – Katherine Umberhind – Gilman Grange #1

Class D – 3 piece Baby Set

1st – Debbie Standley – Watatic Grange #36

Class E – Plastic Canvas

1st – Beth Merrill – Antrim Grange #98

2nd – Rhoda Davis – Pembroke Grange #111

Class K – Baby Afghan

1st – Debbie Standley – Watatic Grange #36

2nd – Beth Merrill – Antrim Grange #98

Class J – Stuffed Toy

1st – Beth Merrill – Antrim Grange #98

We sent five first place winners on to be judged at the Big E. We had two winners there:

Class B – Doilies

3rd – Katherine Umberhind – Gilman Grange #1

Class E – Plastic Canvas

3rd – Beth Merrill – Antrim Grange #98

Congratulations to all of our winners! We thank you very much for your participation in the needlework contest. A reminder to everyone - this contest is open to members and non-members as well, and offers some nice cash prizes. We encourage you to enter your needlework next year and be sure to tell your non-member friends to enter. The brochure with all of the rules, classes and entry forms is included in your Grange's Family & Community Services program booklet. Feel free to make copies as needed, or contact us and we will be sure to get you a copy.

On the state level, we had only one entry in the other crafts category. Congratulations to Roberta Twiss of Watatic Grange #36 - 1st place winner for her Christmas ornament, which you can see on our table in the display room.

We had two Granges who submitted community service booklets this year. Thank you very much to the Family & Community Services chairmen who took the time to put together such nice

reports. Typically the winning booklet would go on to National for judging there, but unfortunately as of this year there will no longer be a contest for the best booklet. We are still going to include it in our program and pay out the same amount of money for the winners - \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place, \$50 for third place and \$25 for fourth place, so it will be worth it to make a booklet to send in at the end of the grange year. Plus, it's a good record of your Grange's yearly activities.

We were pleased to receive several year end paper reports from subordinate and Pomona Granges. These reports are a great way for us to know what kinds of activities you are doing in your Grange. Here are the top paper report forms that were submitted:

1st place – subordinate – Watatic Grange #36 – 430 pts

2nd place – subordinate – Joe English #53 – 375 pts

3rd place – subordinate – Pembroke #111 – 355 pts

The past few years we have asked you to keep track of your Grange's community service hours. This year there was only a total of 8,027 hours reported to us, but we know there were a lot more that were given in service of the Grange, they just didn't make it to our report. We encourage your chairmen to ask for and keep track of your members' community service hours at each meeting and then report them to us at the end of the year.

The Grange reporting the most community service hours is Lower Intervale Grange #321, with 2,700 hours. Second was Watatic Grange #36 with 1,733 hours. Third was Pembroke Grange #111 with 1,610 hours. Congratulations, Granges and thank you so much for reporting.

We hope you enjoyed this year's baking contest challenge, whether it was making them or eating them, mini cheesecakes are so fun! Thank you to today's judges, Carly Davis and Gavin Dickson, Carly is a pastry chef at L.A. Burdick Chocolates and a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. At this time we are pleased to announce the winner of this year's baking contest (mini cheesecakes): 1st Place – Mary West

Next year's baking contest challenge will be ..... QUICHE! Mt Pistareen Grange in Spofford (who typically has 100% participation from its members in this contest) requested that we consider having something more savory rather than sweet for 2026. Details and rules are in your 2026 program booklets. Good luck!

We have added a new activity to our program for 2026. It is called "Cook The Seasons", and it will be four separate programs on four different days hosted by four different Granges. Each season will feature a hands-on mini cooking class of something relative to the season. For example, winter will feature a soup, chowder, comfort food, etc that we will learn to make. We would like each day to be hosted by a different Grange, and these events will be open to non-members. Please talk to us if your Grange would like to host one of these events. Be on the lookout in the GSG for more info, and your Family & Community chairman will also have more details as we get the dates and locations settled. We will be planning this at deputy school in December.

Thank you so much for participating in the Family & Community Services program this year. We look forward to a great 2026!

Fraternally submitted,  
Joyce Martin and Kathy Yardley  
Co-directors, Family & Community Services Department

There were five Granges that contributed hats, mittens and gloves to both The Mountain of Mittens project and to the Big E. Thank you so much to Gilman Grange, Crown Point Grange, Rochester Grange, Antrim Grange and Walpole Grange for your generous contributions.

## **FLORA**

Worthy Master, National Rep, Delegates and Patrons all,

I was able to attend February Youth Rally, our Grange month event, and Grange youth day. In April, my family visited Claremont Grange and Concord Grange. At Claremont Grange, we were able to assist in filling offices to open traditionally. At Concord Grange, we had a roundtable meeting with a great Lecturer's program that ended with ice cream. It was nice to interact with other Grangers in the state. I was able to learn from last year and make sure my responsibilities as Flora were taken care of earlier this year. However, I was unable to find someone to put together a rose drill for the 2nd year in a row. If someone is willing to take on this task for next year, please come see me during session. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Clark  
NH State Grange Flora

## **GATEKEEPER**

Good morning Brothers and Sisters, and worthy delegates,

This past Grange year, had started off bright with many plans coming out of deputy school and high hopes for the year. I had planned on taking advantage of my job traveling throughout southern New Hampshire to try and visit different Granges. First off was to go help Claremont Grange with their Christmas Dinner, cooking and delivering meals to retirement homes. Next was the Youth Moon Stomp. Thank you to Andrew for bringing this event back and to the Collins for hosting. It was terrific to see everyone again to take the Grange knowledge test. Talking around the campfire and going for a moonlight hike with no artificial lights.

In April, I was asked to change positions at work. Unfortunately, I went from having a consistent schedule with the varying locations to a consistent location and very varying schedule. Often working much more than full time and trying to catch up with basic needs around the farm at home, when not at work. At the time of writing this speech, I still need to replace the fencing for the ducks which was going to be an early summer project.

I say this not as an excuse, but more as a point of information for the delegates on why I did not contribute as much to State Grange this past year.

Next year I plan on having a bit more control over which days, so that I can return to being as active in state and local Grange as I was previously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adam Terrell,  
NH State Gate Keeper

## **GENERAL DEPUTY**

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters:

I would like to thank the Worthy Master for giving me this opportunity to serve. I also would like to thank and recognize the Deputies who visited Granges. Dan Bascom, Norman Brandt, Lester Gibbs, Chris Heath, Sarah Leclerc, Arthur and Beth Merrill, Andrew Savage, Tricia Taylor, Jim Tetreault, and Leroy Watson. You may notice that most of these also have other duties in State Grange and are not always available for other duties.

At the start of the year there were 34 Subordinate Granges in New Hampshire.

Due to the earlier dates of State Grange we have 13 reports so far this year with 157 showing that they have real estate.

There are Granges that are meeting via Zoom and we applaud them as they are continuing to carry the torch. Many have reported community activities within their communities and showing the community that we are still active.

The average attendance of members attending meetings was between 7 and 8 with a couple showing 10.

We had one (Mt. Livermore) that consolidated with Lower Intervale We have three that are not having reported meetings.

My observations are that many Granges are doing the best they can, but we need to have a state revival to enlist more members.

Pomona Granges

We are currently showing seven Pomonas in the state with reports from four of these.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wilber Heath  
General Deputy

## **GRANITE STATE GRANGER**

Worthy Master, State Officers, Delegates, and Grangers:

It is our pleasure to present to you our third annual report as Co-Editors of the Granite State Granger. As we reflect on the past year, we are pleased to share that we have become increasingly confident and comfortable in our roles. The editorial process has become smoother, more efficient, and significantly less stressful—a welcome development as we continue to refine and improve this publication.

One area we've focused on this past year is scheduling and workflow. We've been working diligently to establish and adhere to a consistent timeline for article submissions, printing deadlines, and distribution. While we've made good progress, we recognize there is still room for improvement and plan to continue fine-tuning our schedule in the year ahead.

We also see an opportunity to enhance how we cover Grange events. Our goal is to promote events in advance so that members across the state are informed, excited, and able to plan their participation. By publicizing events before they happen, we can help generate enthusiasm and increase attendance.

As many of you may recall, we began discussing this project in 2022 and committed to a three-year term as co-editors. It's hard to believe this is already our third annual report. Time has certainly flown by, and we are grateful for the journey.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the State Officers, Department Directors, Committee Chairs, Subordinate and Pomona Granges, and individual Grangers who have submitted articles and photos throughout the year. Your support and contributions are the heart of the Granite State Granger. Without your input, there would be no publication. Thank you for your continued confidence in us. We look forward to continuing this work and serving the Grange community in the year to come.

Fraternally,  
Pat Bailey and Patrice Lawlor – Co-Editors  
Hudson Grange #11

## **GRANGE SERVICES REPORT**

Good afternoon Worthy Master, State Officers, Delegates, members all.

I am here today to present the annual report for the Grange Services Department. This department is small but does have a significant presence for our members. This year's schedule we met at Deputy School, during Grange month, and in July for scholarship review. The scholarship program remains the most important and necessary action of this department. These scholarships will help a student with tuition costs, books, or class expenses that they might have. All requirements and forms are listed on our NH State

Grange website. Candidates complete and send in all required documents by the listed due date so they can be reviewed.

The committee of this department works hard to make sure that everything is on schedule and on time. Great thanks to Patrice Lawlor and Lois Enman for managing the process efficiently and getting all documents and financials ready for scholarship review. The committee also includes Lester Gibbs, Linda Phelps, and Debra Green Standley, also a new addition, Sandra Marcoux. They help with mailings, and can answer questions about the Grange Services we have here in New Hampshire, and the benefits we can find at National Grange. My thanks to this awesome team.

For the year 2025 we received one applicant and have awarded a scholarship. To do this we use interest earned from invested funds and your donations to what is called the ELF fund to make this happen, so I say thank you for your donations.

A great deal of our work is not done at a meeting. The focus for the coming year is to write down the processes we use for mailings for ELF letters, brochure, and the scholarship program and we are working on them currently.

Thank you,  
Sherrill Bokousky, Grange Services Director

### **HISTORIAN (AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER) REPORT**

This past year has truly been a learning experience for me. My first year serving on the Executive Committee has been both enlightening and rewarding. While I was well aware of the general duties of the position, I quickly discovered that there are many smaller details and responsibilities that also require attention. Throughout the year, I attended all quarterly meetings and responded promptly to all correspondence requiring action. I also addressed several minor maintenance and operational matters at the State Grange Building.

As Historian, I dedicated considerable time to reading, researching, and writing—seeking answers to questions about our history, and in some cases, discovering that those answers are not easily found.

In April, I was honored when the Worthy State Master invited me to give a presentation to the Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society. The topic was the role the Grange has played in shaping today's society. With the help of my daughter Rachel and my wife Pat, I prepared and presented the program on July 8. It was wonderful to see many familiar faces in attendance and to share the Grange's story with an appreciative audience.

I hope my work this year has met your expectations, and that this report and presentation contribute to a better appreciation of our Grange's history and continuing relevance.

Respectfully submitted:  
Rick Bailey  
NH State Grange Historian, NH State Grange Executive Committee Member

## **JUNIOR REPORT**

Worthy State Master, Distinguished Guest, State Officers, Delegates and Patrons all.

Our State Junior Grange is still going but needs to get a little boost or we will not make our 100th anniversary next year. We have five Juniors graduating this year. Will you help us pick up speed and work to increase our Juniors?

The Grange bowling held by our State Lecturer, Matt Clark, was enjoyed by eight Juniors.

I worked with Norman Brandt, Agriculture Director and Gloria Davis, Membership Co-Chair to set up the Farm, Forest and Garden Expo Grange display taking place at Deerfield Fair in May.

February Fun Day we worked on the Big E egg carton contest. Three entries were sent from New Hampshire but as yet I have not received them back. We will keep looking for them and get them back to New Hampshire.

June Fun Day we had our first time having no Juniors come, but thanks to Jane Heath for supplying cards for the Lecturer's contest and having a great lunch we all had a good time.

We have four Juniors graduating this year: Rebecca Boisvert of Chichester, Jacob Scanzani of Hudson, Lily Ricker of Blazing Star and Georgiana Farrell of Centennial Grange. I know there are some joining their subordinate Granges and hope you welcome them into your Grange family.

I am working on finding graduated Juniors like my three children who will participate in being Grange members to recognize in next year's 100th. Laura is Pomona Master in Rhode Island and Lady Assistant Steward of State Grange. Norman Brandt is Master of East Rockingham Pomona and State Grange Steward in New Hampshire. Lawrence is still a member and his children joined Junior Grange and three have graduated from our Junior program.

In closing, I want to thank our Worthy State Master, Tricia Taylor for all her support with the Junior activities this year along with Gloria Davis, Anne Boisvert and Chris Heath. Let us all work together to grow Juniors, Youth and our own Granges.

Fraternally submitted,  
Joann Brandt

## **LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD**

Worthy Master, Fellow State Officers, Distinguished Guests, Brothers and Sisters, all;

It is my pleasure to give my yearly report as the State Lady Assistant Steward. As always, the Grange year began in December with Deputy School at the State Grange building, where directors and their committees planned activities for the year, and deputies planned for their

instruction and inspection visits. I was invited to join the Family and Community Committee this year, and I also continued to serve as a deputy for two Granges.

Some events that I attended were: Winter Youth Rally in February, State Grange Bowling in March, Youth Fun Day in April, Family and Community Day in May, and Summer Youth Rally in June. I also was able to participate in the fourth degree at Antrim Grange in the spring, which has become a yearly tradition at this point. It has been a lot of fun going to the different events hosted throughout the state, and I hope to be able to attend even more events next year.

As a State Officer, I was tasked with visiting two Granges this year. The first Grange that I visited was Rochester Grange, and the second Grange that I visited was Chichester Grange. I traveled about 132 miles roundtrip to get to Rochester, and about 93 miles roundtrip for my visit to Chichester. Thanks to my dad, Jerry Leclerc, for being my driver on these visits. I really enjoyed getting to see people that I don't normally get to see outside of state events, and I'm looking forward to continuing this program next year.

The most arduous part of my job is the packing and unpacking of the State Session materials from the truck. Setting up the meeting space is one of the primary jobs of the Stewards, and we take this role very seriously. Thank you to all of the people that helped to set up the hall just a few days ago, and to those who will inevitably help us tear it down at the end of the weekend.

In closing, I have enjoyed my time as your State Lady Assistant Steward, and I look forward to continuing in this capacity for the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sarah Leclerc  
Lady Assistant Steward, NH State Grange

## **LECTURER'S REPORT**

Worthy Master, State Officers, National Rep., brothers, and sisters all,

Last November I traveled to National Grange Convention where I was involved with the youth program. I did do some sightseeing as well like the John Deere store, Davenport works tour, and the American Pickers shop. It was also a great time catching up with Grange friends from across the country.

Our first Grange event for the year was our annual bowling day on March 22nd at Lakeside Lanes. We had 24 adult bowlers and 8 junior bowlers as well as others who came to support. The following is a list of the winners:

### **Women Class A**

1st Brenda Spaulding (Free)  
2nd Mary West (1/2 price)  
3rd Goldie French

### **Men Class A**

1st Andrew Savage (Free)  
2nd Arthur Merrill (1/2 price)  
3rd Brian Twiss

Women Class B  
1st Becky Rogier (free)  
2nd Rachel Scanzani (1/2 price)  
3rd Karen Tuck

Men Class B  
1st Seth Clark (free)  
2nd Norman Brandt (1/2 price)  
3rd Chris Heath

Women Class C  
1st Emilie Leclerc (free)  
2nd Roberta Twiss (1/2 price)  
3rd Karen Rogier

Men Class C  
1st John McColley (free)  
2nd Roland Smith (1/2 price)  
3rd Blaze McMullen

Junior – overall winner: Rebecca Boisvert

I am pleased to announce that the 2026 bowling day will be Saturday March 28, 2026, starting at 12 noon. The price will be \$16 for adults and \$12 for Juniors. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

April 12th found a small group gathered at the State Grange Building for the Grange Month Event.

I was elected the president of the New England Grange Building at our annual meeting at leaders conference this past year. I have attended the three meetings we held this past year as well as Grange Day during the big E.

And now, the contest entries. The number of entries did drop off this year, however the quality of the entries has remained top notch. Please make sure you take a look at the work that was done by our members.

The following is a list of the winners:

### **Art Contest**

#### A. Coloring Page

- 1st – Beth Merrill – Antrim
- 2nd – Roberta Twiss - Watatic
- 3rd – Karlena Henry - Winchester

#### B. Painting

- 1st – Jane Trombi - Walpole
- 2nd – Joyce Martin - Claremont

#### C. Collage

- 1st – Roberta Twiss - Watatic
- 2nd – Janel Hopkins Pierson - Rochester

### **Photography Contest**

#### A. Flags and Banners

- 1st – Joyce Martin - Claremont
- 2nd – Roberta Twiss - Watatic

3rd – Jane Trombi - Walpole

**B. Abandoned Structures**

1st – Lois Enman – Rochester

2nd – Jane Trombi - Walpole

3rd – Joyce Martin - Claremont

**C. Scenic New Hampshire**

1st – Roberta Twiss - Watatic

2nd – Jane Trombi - Walpole

**Creative Writing**

**I. Poetry**

1st – Janel Hopkins Pierson - Rochester

2nd – Roberta Twiss - Watatic

3rd – Judy Bailey - Rochester

**Create A Card Contest**

**Category I - Recycled**

**Class A: Thank You For Your Service**

1st – Sherrill Bokousky - Watatic

**Class B: Christmas**

1st – Beth Merrill – Antrim

2nd – Chris Heath – Centennial

3rd – Roberta Twiss - Watatic

**Class C: New Home**

1st – Sherrill Bokousky – Watatic

2nd - Roberta Twiss - Watatic

**Category II – Computer Generated**

**Class A: Thank You For Your Service**

1st – Roberta Twiss – Watatic

2nd – Diane Collins – Claremont

3rd – Alton Martin - Claremont

**Class B: Christmas**

1st – Roberta Twiss – Watatic

2nd - Sherrill Bokousky – Watatic

**Class C: New Home**

1st – Roberta Twiss – Watatic

2nd - Sherrill Bokousky – Watatic

**Category III – Hand Stamped and/or Decorated**

Class A: Thank You For Your Service

1st – Jane Trombi - Walpole

2nd – Beth Merrill - Antrim

3rd – Roberta Twiss - Watatic

Class B: Christmas

1st – Beth Merrill - Antrim

2nd – Roberta Twiss - Watatic

3rd – Jane Trombi – Walpole

Class C: New Home

1st – Jane Trombi - Walpole

2nd – Beth Merrill - Antrim

3rd – Sherrill Bokousky – Watatic

I look forward to this next year and what it brings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Clark, Lecturer

### **MASTER’S ADDRESS**

Worthy State Officers, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters,

It is my honor to stand here and give my third Master’s Address. This year has been anything but quiet with a series of ups and downs. There’s been quite a bit of traveling as well as being present at several Granges that were taking in new members. This was good to see. Hopefully more of our Granges will be able to do the same this year.

On the flip side I did close Mascoma Valley Pomona as they have not been meeting for quite some time. Their members have been transferred to Pemigewasset Valley Pomona. Mt Livermore Grange in Holderness has been consolidated with Lower Intervale Grange. There are two more Granges that are on the list although we are going look at a consolidation for the one that has been inactive for a number of years. There is another Pomona that needs to resume being active in order to stay alive. If you belong to a Community or Pomona Grange that isn’t meeting or is struggling, please do your best to support reactivating that Grange and getting involved with your community.

Last year I challenged each and every one of you to make the effort to visit other Granges. The State Officers were all assigned two Granges that were not part of their Deputy Districts to visit. Although I did not receive reports from all of them I believe that most of our State Officers did make their visits or at least attempted to do so. We’ll find out as we hear their Officer reports this weekend. The State Officers will be given different Granges this coming year to visit and report back on.

I know that the various meetings I have attended this year have shown how busy many of our Granges are in their communities. I will not close a Grange that is active in their community

even if they have trouble getting a quorum. Were we to close those Granges we would be cutting our numbers drastically. That is not something I want to do.

Last year I also reminded you that it was the incorporation year for non-profits. During our last Executive Committee meeting our Worthy Treasurer informed us that 16 Granges still had not filed their incorporation papers. That is about half of our Granges. Yes, you do have until December 31, but please don't wait until the last minute. This is important and with the hustle and bustle of the holiday season it could easily be forgotten.

We have a few Granges who are working the various degrees. I encourage all of you to keep an eye on the grapevine and make a note of where and when these are being done. I did miss the notice for Centennial and Eastern NH and their degree night but I did make it to Antrim and Arlington. I did learn last weekend that Chichester has also begun working a degree. It is good to see Grangers trying to revive the ritual. Most of us have new members that have never seen a degree. Some probably haven't been obligated. Seeing these degrees give them a better understanding of the Order they have joined. I know that each of these Granges would welcome new members from other Granges to join them when the degree is being worked. They would probably also appreciate anyone who would be willing to fill an office for a degree.

As usual our Agriculture and Membership Committees did an excellent job representing us at Farm and Forest. This group has always competed in the "theme contest" and have won quite a number of times. The winner gets a free booth the following year which certainly helps with costs. This year there were only two groups competing in the "theme contest" so the Board decided not to judge the two and to not award the prize. That was a disappointment for all of us who knew. Hopefully the judging will take place at this coming year's Farm and Forest Expo.

The NH Preservation Alliance's Old House and Barn Expo will be taking place this coming year as they hold this event every other year. I have no doubt that we will be well represented at this event. I received several compliments about our display in 2024, and hope to do that again. The Agriculture Director, Norman Brandt, is quite creative and has lots of good ideas for entertaining visitors to the NH State Grange booths. Add in the Junior Director Joanne Brandt and the Membership co-chair Gloria Davis, and good things happen.

Along with the NH booths at these two events there is also the opportunity to advertise both your own Grange as well as Grange in general at the many fairs held around the state. Sister Beth Merrill brought up the idea that we encourage participation by individual Granges in the various fairs as well as looking for people who would be willing to take on the task of showcasing us in each of the fairs, or at least as many as possible. The Committees that might ordinarily be charged with this are quite small and I don't wish to burden them further. I would appreciate anyone interested in creating a booth and then getting it to and from the various fairs in the coming year to get in touch with me. I remember putting displays together at both Plymouth and Hopkinton Fairs for many years. It was always fun to go through and check out all the displays. Plus...the prizes are pretty good these days. Some fairs give \$100 prizes for first place so it can also be a fundraiser if you get to more than one fair.

I have enjoyed traveling to many Granges this year, as well as to National and regional events. The Northeast Leader's Conference was held in Massachusetts, in January, and the National Leader's Conference was held in California, in February. NH Junior/Youth Day was also held in February. In March, I attended the Executive Committee meeting and our first Director's meeting. It was well attended and many ideas were exchanged. March also included the Moonstomp and Bowling. In April, it was time for the first trip to the Big E for the Northeast Connection and the New England Grange Building Trustees meetings. May was Farm and Forest Expo as well as a Youth Day. National Session Committees began meeting by Zoom in May, but unfortunately, on Mother's Day, I again demonstrated my inability to walk without getting hurt. Most of you probably heard that I tripped and went face first into a hardwood door. As a result Sister Beth Merrill represented me at Joe English Grange's 150th anniversary, and Brother Arthur Merrill represented me at Blow-Me-Down's instruction. I truly appreciate their help. I missed Family and Community Service Day yet again, and pretty much canceled everything for 3 to 4 weeks. Brother Arthur Merrill also said I had to include the following in my Master's Address: I was carrying a box of hotdogs (not frozen) when I tripped. It seems it saved most of my face from damage as the box appeared to have been the buffer between my lower face and the door. When I opened the box I discovered that none of the hotdogs were broken or squished, so no damage was caused to the hotdogs in this event. June found me back on the road again for Youth Day and for Junior Day, another Executive Committee meeting and another Director's meeting as well as another trip to the Big E. July brought the Northeast Youth Rally held in Rhode Island. I did receive a big surprise when I found out NH is hosting the Northeast Youth Rally in 2026. I also had the opportunity to visit Wakefield and hear our Grange Historian Rick Bailey's talk on the history of the Grange. I do expect that you will all be in the room for his talk this afternoon. I believe you will find it very informative even if you are a long time member of the Grange. I did not set up a Family Weekend this year as half of us were going to be in Utah and I prefer to be in attendance for events I'm in charge of. I hope to resurrect it this coming year. The rest of the month was spent traveling to and from Torrey, Utah, for the Grange Revival. What an amazing place! August brought back another Executive Committee meeting, National Zoom meetings, and a Director's meeting. Speaking of which: all of you who were at that meeting and had suggestions for places to hold the Northeast Youth Rally please let me know what you found out concerning availability, costs, etc. We want to have this nailed down by Leader's Conference in January. September was kept busy by my own Grange's events and visiting other Granges.

I continue to encourage all of the Grangers in the State to get out and visit other Granges. Making the effort to attend the various State events is also important. I know people still say we aren't youth so we don't have to go. This is also true for various other events. Yes, we need to do more advertising so people know what is coming up. Why would new members of any age want to attend events that aren't even well attended by current members? If we want to stay alive we need to do better.

I also continue to encourage all the Granges to send a copy of their by-laws to our State Secretary, Mary West. I know that some of you have already done so, and some have given copies to their Deputies. We still need to get a complete set.

Holding the Director's meetings this year has been informative and led to some excellent brainstorming. I intend to continue those meetings this year. I reiterate the need for feedback on the places suggested as places to host the Northeast Youth Rally. That information would be very helpful to have at Deputy School on December 13, at 10 am. Include any place you feel would be a good place to visit.

In my letter in the last GSG I included information about the new National membership program. It is actually called "Grange Engage". I have not heard any more about the official launch of the program unless there was something included in the National Master's video this morning. I recommend that when it is launched you spend some time surfing all of the levels it includes.

Thank you for giving me the chance to continue to serve as your State Master. It is an honor and a privilege to serve in this way.

Tricia J Taylor

## **MASTER'S ANNUAL ADDRESS COMMITTEE**

Worthy Master, State Officers, Delegates, and Grangers:

Our Master's Address has left us with a lot to think about. There are concerns that need our attention now. As members, we need to support the Grange by attending and participating in State and local programs and events. In order to continue and survive, we need commitment and support from each member. Our Master cannot do it alone.

To encourage participation, there needs to be better communication and planning. Perhaps if dates of the various state events were available at Deputy School, they can be publicized in various ways prior to the event and Grangers can plan their calendars accordingly.

We applaud our Master's travel to attend various events both in and out of the State as well as the State Officers and department heads who have fulfilled their obligations and went above and beyond.

As we move forward, we must fully understand that the impact of the Grange on the community does not correspond with actual membership numbers.

We strongly encourage each Grange to look into the Grange Engage Program. Now is the time to change the path we are going with membership. We cannot continue in the same direction.

We thank our State Master, State Officers and Directors for all their hard work. With everyone working together, we can accomplish our goals and more.

Fraternally,

Pat Bailey, Kim Bascom, and Diane Collins,  
Master's Address Committee

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Worthy Master, Brothers, Sisters and honored guest:

It is with pleasure that Sister Gloria Davis, and I deliver the report of the NH State Grange Membership Committee as Co-Directors.

Last year at State Grange in Laconia the Membership Committee was pleased to have sponsored the Hospitality Room. In addition to the Hospitality Room last year, we sponsored the following events.

We again participated in the “Light up Hooksett” event. The State Grange building was open and available for people to come in, get warm, and do a craft project.

The New Hampshire Farm and Forest Exposition was held this year in May at the Deerfield Fairgrounds. This was the third year being held at the Fairgrounds, and it felt like an agricultural event. This year was the youth of farming and forestry... Our booth was the only one that used the theme, so someone made the decision not to award or judge this year, but I want to thank Gloria, Norman and Adam for the hard work they put into this promotional event.

We also sponsored prize money for the FFA convention this year. Thank you to Wilber and Gloria for representing the State Grange at the FFA convention.

We were also excited to write articles this year for the Granite State Granger. Thank you to Pat Lawlor and Pat Bailey. You’re doing a terrific job.

The National Grange membership department is launching a new website, “Grange Growth” Any Grange member can create an account if they have email. Members will have access to all kinds of exciting platforms. We have it with good authority part of this site will allow Granges that are having fundraisers to share their goods with other Granges and Grangers who might be interested. There will also be a site for discussion and events all around the country

### **STATISTICAL REPORT:**

#### **Subordinate Membership**

Subordinate 2024: 913 (including 76 golden sheaf exempt)

Subordinate 2025: 818 (including 55 golden sheaf exempt)

#### **Pomona Membership**

Pomona 2024: 257 (including 32 golden sheaf exempt)

Pomona 2025: 242 (including 19 golden sheaf exempt)

Fraternally submitted,

Jim Tetreault and Gloria Davis -Co Director NH State Grange Membership Committee

## **MUSICIAN**

No written report submitted.

## **NH TRUSTEES OF THE NEW ENGLAND GRANGE BUILDING**

Worthy Master, State Officers, Delegates, and Patrons:

I am pleased to bring you this report of the NH Trustees of the New England Grange Building. For the audience today that may not be familiar with the importance of this facility, it is a lovely representation of a traditional Grange meeting place built by New England Grangers, for New England Grangers, in 1938, on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Massachusetts. It is operated under the guidance of twenty-one trustees comprised of three members from each New England state and New York and the building staff appointed by the trustee board. Noel Miller, building manager, Dawn Percoski, needlework and crafts manager, both of Connecticut, and George and Patti Thomas, store managers, of Massachusetts, are the Grange heroes who dedicate their time and talent for more than the grueling seventeen days of the Big E to make sure our beautiful house is open, well-stocked, clean, and welcoming to the thousands and thousands of visitors who enter the building during the fair.

There were three trustee meetings held this year. The Northeast Region gathered for the Leaders' Conference in Massachusetts in January, which included the annual meeting of the New England Grange Building trustees. All three of the NH trustees were in attendance and Matthew Clark was elected president. Discussion at this meeting included discussing the successes and challenges of providing our second vaccination clinic at the 2024 fair as well as changing our by-laws to create youth trustee positions, which we've been working on for the past three years. I was tasked with creating an application process for selecting up to three Youth Trustees over the course of the next three years.

A second meeting was held in the Massachusetts Building on the grounds at the Big E in April, again with all three NH trustees in attendance. It was noted by the building manager that there likely would not be a vaccine clinic for a third year as the federal grant that funded this is no longer available, a result of current governmental changes. The board voted to purchase a new router and security cameras, to replace the crumbling upstairs window blinds, and to purchase new vests for the staff to wear during the fair.

The traditional work/cleaning meeting was held on site at the building in June, for which Tricia, Matt, Arthur and I travelled once again to West Springfield. We spent some time in the NH room assessing areas that needed updating, especially the photo frame of Past Masters that needed photos of the three most recent ones.

Arthur and I accompanied Family and Community Directors, Kathy Yardley and Joyce Martin, on Labor Day, when they made the trip to the building to deliver the needlework contest entries and the accumulation of handcrafted goods donated by NH Grange crafters. During the visit, Kathy and Joyce assisted the Craft Sales Manager, Dawn Percoski, and her crew of volunteers in

pricing the mountain of donated items. Arthur and I also helped with this once we finished updating our Past Masters photo display and doing a deep clean in the NH room.

During the fair, Arthur volunteered at the Grange Building on NH Day and then we both returned on Grange Day to be monitors in the NH room upstairs. It was delightful to meet and chat with visitors who expressed appreciation for this chance to see the second level of the building normally closed off to the public. We appreciate the nice job that Brother Rick Bailey did in repairing the NH-shaped clock, which received several comments from visitors during the day. I have a goal for next year and would like to try to fill one week of the 2026 fair with volunteer NH Grangers willing to attend as upstairs hosts. Look for details in future communications as details become available. This was suggested by members of Dorchester Grange during my State Officer visit and they expressed interest in participating in such an opportunity. They also were very generous in making donations for the quilt raffle, which I was happy to take with me and submit their entries during one of my fair visits. I will try to be more timely in extending an invitation to all Grangers to do the same next year.

The fair this year was blessed with favorable weather most all of its seventeen days, resulting in a total attendance of 1,538,463 visitors, down just a bit from last year's record-breaking number. We had a banner year for both the store and craft departments. The store jams and jellies had a slight increase and brought in \$14,818.55. The Craft department had a significant increase and brought in \$20,888.00! The amount continues to increase due to the quality of donations which allows our manager to increase the prices of those items while at the same time keeping them less expensive than other vendors throughout the fair. People know this and come into the fair just for our items. Our reputation truly precedes us!

This year's quilt was made, under the direction of Sister Jane Heath of Centennial Grange, by a group of New Hampshire crafty ladies, (longarm services provided compliments of The Wicked Quiltah in Antrim) and it broke the record by a landslide with a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital of \$8,806.00. The winner for the quilt raffle was a lady who lives in West Springfield and she was so thrilled to have won. Just as a note, this was the 20th year that we have been raffling off quilts for donations since the very first one in 2005 that helped victims of Hurricane Katrina. To date, we have raised over \$77,000.00 for a variety of charities, usually benefitting children or veterans.

Scrubbies, crocheted out of simple netting fabric, are worth their weight in gold, it seems, and this year was no exception, as our limited supply was sold out by the third day of the fair. Recruiting new volunteers to learn to make these should be a priority and sponsors to help purchase the netting material, would help this endeavor, especially since the closing of all the Joann Fabrics stores, eliminating a great resource that offered frequent sales. Dish cloths, hanging towels, baby items, and Christmas ornaments continue to be big sellers. Hats, scarves, and mittens are also good sellers, as are pet items such as catnip fish, tennis balls on a rope and other such treats. Large size quilts and afghans are selling well, with customers showing a willingness to pay the big price for them. I was able to finish quite a few afghans and other projects of varying sizes given to me as UFOs (unfinished objects). It is a good feeling to get them done and out of the house.

We DO so much appreciate all your handmade donations and hope that you are able to continue your generous gifts of time and craftsmanship. Grange meetings are a good venue to get your members together to work on fun, simple projects. If your group is not handy, nor interested in making things, but can contribute financially you might consider purchasing gift cards to Michaels or Hobby Lobby, then materials can be purchased by those who are crafty but unable to donate more than their time. Proceeds from these sales go to the maintenance and improvements to the building.

I hope each member can find a way to support this unique part of our Grange heritage in the coming year. There are plenty of small ways everyone can contribute to help in a big way to preserve the legacy of the Grange at the Eastern States Exposition. And perhaps 2026 will be the year that YOU venture your way south to experience for yourself all that the Big “E” and specifically, the New England Grange Building, has to offer. We hope to see you there!

Fraternally submitted,  
Beth Merrill  
Matthew Clark  
Tricia Taylor

## **POMONA**

Worthy Master, National Representative, State Officers, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters,

I cannot believe I am standing here giving my first report as a State Officer! This Grange year was my busiest yet, but I wouldn't change a thing.

My first year as your State Pomona started as soon as the 151st session closed. I helped with packing up the meeting space and loading the truck. I, however, did not assist with bringing things back to the State Grange Building as it was being done the following weekend, and I had to work. The real work of my year started in December at Deputy school, as I am a member of the State Youth Committee. We met and began planning for all our events for 2025. There was almost one event each month that I attended. February brought the February Youth Rally. March brought us our annual State Grange Bowling. The month of April, as we all know, is Grange month, where I attended our State Lecturer's Grange month event, held at the State Grange building. May brought us two events that I attended. They were Youth Day and The Family & Community Day. June brought us our June Youth Rally. Although July had the Northeast Regional Youth Conference in Rhode Island, I did not attend. Therefore, my attendance at Grange things ended there, apart from Hudson Grange meetings and Hillsborough County Pomona meetings. I also need to mention that as a State Officer, I had the unfortunate privilege of attending the funerals of France Towne and Ida Hutchins, both of whom were Past State Pomonas.

You should know by now that each State Officer was required to visit two Granges this year given to us randomly by the State Overseer. The two Granges that I had the honor of visiting were Cocheco Grange #81, with a total travel distance of 132.1 miles, and Rockingham Grange #183, with a total travel distance of 96.1 miles. I attended both of my Granges during the best month to do anything Grange related, April. I was a little nervous about visiting these Granges

as I did not think I really knew anyone from them. But both Cocheco Grange and Rockingham Grange were very welcoming, and I am grateful that I was given the opportunity to attend a meeting. However, my attendance of these Granges would not have been so successful without one special guy, my dad Jerry Leclerc. Thank you for driving me to and from these Grange meetings and for buying me dinner. You're the real MVP!

My Grange year ends the way that it started. Packing a truck of Grange things. The Stewards, Gatekeeper, Flora, Ceres, and myself, along with a few others hauled everything you see in the room out of a closet at the State Grange Building and then played Tetris to pack it into a trailer. We then all unloaded that trailer and hauled it into this room and made it look like how it is now. This year, session is also where it ends as I am now considering the start of my Grange year for 2026 at Deputy school.

I want to say thank you to everyone for electing me your State Pomona. It has been fun, and I can't wait to do it all over again next year!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Emilie Leclerc, Pomona

## **RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

Worthy Master, Worthy State Officers, and Brothers and Sisters,

Your Resolution Committee reviewed one resolution submitted for consideration by this Year's Convention. A Resolution to amend the National Grange Digest of Laws entitled "Past State Masters and Spouses as Delegates to State Session", submitted by Blow Me Down Grange #234.

This resolution is technically well constructed and written. It clearly identifies the issue that the authoring Grange believes needs addressing in the Whereas clauses and proposes a specific solution to amend the National Grange Digest of Laws in the Resolved clause. The reader of the resolution can clearly understand the intent of the resolution without having to refer to any outside sources of information.

However, your resolution committee, nevertheless, recommends that this resolution not be adopted for the following reasons:

The committee members do not believe that this resolution reflects a pressing National issue that needs to be addressed by amending the National Digest of Laws. Adopting this resolution would require separate votes, with two-thirds majority each time, at two concurrent Annual Sessions of the National Grange, or a 5% vote at one National Grange Annual Session, to be adopted. This is the most challenging amendment procedure in the National Digest of Laws and requires near unanimous consensus that the proposed amendment is both necessary and urgently needed to be adopted for the Good of the Order.

The committee members expressed doubt that the National Delegates would be convinced of the benefit of adopting this resolution. Many National Delegates would likely see this as a state issue, not a national issue, that imposes a uniform solution on all states, and that would better be individually addressed by State Granges.

Finally the committee members expressed their beliefs, from personal experiences attending various State Grange Conventions in New Hampshire and other States, that former State Masters and their spouses were generally well respected at their State Grange conventions and held in high regard. They were almost always given the privilege to speak to matters before the State Grange and share their experience, by the presiding State Master, either by tradition or State Constitutions. Granting former state masters and their spouses the right to vote at annual State Grange Conventions would not substantially encourage these respected Grange leaders to stay involved and active in the affairs of their Subordinate, Pomona and State Granges, because, overwhelmingly, they already are staying active, to the best of their abilities.

Your Resolution committee would like to encourage more local Granges to submit resolutions for consideration to the Worthy State Secretary, next year by the September 1st deadline. Considering resolutions is one of the main functions of the Annual Convention of the New Hampshire State Grange.

Fraternally submitted,

Leroy Watson  
Christopher Heath  
Scott Burns

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Worthy Grange family,

Each year I write an annual Christmas letter. Sometimes it's a challenge to make life seem newsworthy. This year that's true of my secretarial work.

The most exciting news is the purchase of a new laptop. I'm still working to clean-out and organize files, but am very grateful for the increased processing speed. The original purchase information for the database is long gone, but that may be the push I need to research a new database with better reporting ability. Speaking of reports, New Hampshire is part of a beta group for the National Grange's new membership software. New software is always a challenge and relying on many people with many different systems for updates makes it even more taxing. I sincerely appreciate Amanda Brozana's patience and hand holding and hope I'll be able to help her in return. Stay tuned for more details about how New Hampshire members can take advantage of the new software.

There are now 39 Granges that need quarterly packets. Most Granges report in a timely manner and I'm grateful to those secretaries that are not afraid to reach out with questions or clarifications. It's hard to feel connected via quarterly snail mail and many secretaries have even

less frequent contact with their members, making accuracy difficult. I appreciate those who are working hard to keep their member lists up to date.

I filled orders for 38 membership awards, including 5 silver certificates, 6 golden sheaf, 3 diamond certificates, 1 80-year letter, and 1 85-year letter. Some of these were earned in previous years, so don't be afraid to play catch-up if you'd like to recognize your members.

Having an official assistant has helped assuage my guilt as I delegate post office runs and banking or if I just need a second set of brain cells to accomplish something. As my assistant/sister always says, mental health is a struggle, and apathy has been my nemesis this year. I still rely heavily on the State Treasurer who is quick to answer both my questions and the ones I forward. I can only aspire to his level of organization and I haven't even left the country!

Assistant Anne and I visited both Joe English and Stratford Granges, with my niece joining us for the drive north. The two Granges are quite different as far as attendance and Grange experience, but both seem very active in their communities. I don't recommend either drive for those afflicted by motion sickness, but it was uplifting to see some happy Grangers planning good works, and the snacks were delicious!

I am grateful to Pat Bailey and Pat Lawlor who miss out on some of the excitement while sitting at the credentials table, and to Adam Terrell who has managed to fulfill every technology request I've made of him. This weekend is a lot, so it's wonderful to have a supportive team to alleviate stressors. I must also share a huge thank you to my family and to the four babysitters in three days who are hopefully keeping my son alive and happy while I'm here. In the upcoming year I plan on getting all the ducks in a row so someone else can easily slip in as State Secretary at the next election.

5~ 25 Year Silver Star Certificates

6~ 30 Year Seals

2 ~ 35 Year Seals

2 ~ 45 Year Seals

6 ~ 50 Year Golden Sheaf Certificates: Beth Merrill of Antrim Grange #98, Agnes Ellis of Concord Grange #322, Patricia Washburne of Crown Point Grange #65, Tracy Healey-Beattie of Gilman Grange #1, and Richard and Michael Hayes of Rochester Grange #86

7 ~ 55 Year Seals

4 ~ 65 Year Seals

1 ~ 70 Year Seals

3 ~ 75 Year Diamond Certificates

Nancy Blaney

Eleanor Ward

Arberta Cogliano

Wingold Grange #308

Wingold Grange #308

Lower Intervale Grange #321

1 ~ 80 Year letter: Grace Leone of Rochester Grange #86

1~ 85 Year letter: Lloyd Lessard of Wingold Grange #308

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary West, Secretary

## SESSION COORDINATORS REPORT

Worthy Master, State Officers, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters

I hope you all had a pleasant ride and enjoyed what is left of the fall foliage here in this part of the State.

Welcome back to the Fireside Inn and Suites in West Lebanon, NH. It has been several years since we were last here. For some, including myself, this is one of my favorite places to have session. The staff has been very flexible with some changes that were made during the planning process and are here to help us during our stay.

As in the past, several visits were made to the Fireside to meet with our representative to discuss our needs, room set ups, menu options, timing for resetting the ballroom for the banquet, and, in general, how they can be of assistance to us.

At last year's session, it was decided not to have the traditional session evaluation forms filled out. Instead, a survey was sent to each Subordinate and Pomona Grange following the session. The letter included with the questionnaire asked each Grange to take time during one or several meetings to discuss the questions and share ideas of what they would like to keep or change about State Session. To keep this anonymous, Granges were asked to send these to the State Secretary.

The remainder of my report will focus on what the Granges responses were to the questions. First, let me tell you that most of what was shared has been included in this report; a few responses were not appropriate for this exercise, and therefore will not be added.

41 surveys sent 15 returned

14 sent delegates 1 did not

Non delegates 9 yes 6 no

Format:

Thursday to Saturday 5

Friday to Saturday 9

Friday night to Sunday afternoon 1

Comments: too much time spent marching report givers to and from their seats.

Location: 8 would like session to be held in different parts of the state

6 would like to stay at one location

1 had no comment

Several ideas for locations were suggested and will be looked at for future sessions.

Time of year to hold session: Most responses were in favor of keeping it when it is currently held. Another was anytime in October except for Halloween weekend. One likes the spring when more are likely to travel, and it gives the State Master time to prepare for National Session.

#### Workshops:

- Lecturer tips and ideas
- Demos where we can participate opposed to sitting and watching.
- How to write resolutions.
- Using Canva or AI to our advantage
- Scrapbooking or other craft activities
- Ideas for increasing Membership
- Local Historical Society, NH Humanities Council, NH Cooperative Extension, Fish and Game, Educational type
- Irish step dancing

Conferral of Degrees: All responders were in favor of degrees being conferred at session. Frequency suggested was to have one degree performed each year starting with the First Degree. Most did comment that they need to be done well and memorized. (or at least not being read from the book for the first time). Doing the degrees may encourage new members to continue through all degrees including the Fifth and Sixth.

Sixth Degree: Response varied in the frequency and whether to not do it at all.

- Most popular response was every other year on non-election years. This would hopefully bring in a larger class of candidates providing that subordinate and Pomona Granges take in new members.
- Open with it on Saturday morning
- Confer it on Friday or Saturday afternoon.
- Do away with lengthy extras such as introducing all past officers and Honor Court.
- Need to make Pomona more inviting as to encourage members to take the sixth degree
- Have the State Secretary request in a letter leading up to the Annual Session, asking who will be taking the sixth degree encouraging them to fill out an application and return for a possible count of candidates.
- Only do the degree on four or more candidates.

#### State Grange Banquet:

- Several responded, no banquet
- No buffets
- Cheaper meal choices
- Do a church or potluck supper.
- Less fancy food.... Burgers and fries, for example
- Bar service for those who would like a glass of wine or other beverage options with their meal.

Responses for what to do at the banquet varied with wanting music (mood setting or dancing after), guest speakers, Grange awards, Community Awards (State Police, Teacher, Firefighter, Community Citizen, Century Farm and Young Farmers)

It is my opinion that if we make the banquet more of a celebration event than just a meal, we could have increased attendance.

#### Reports:

- Only information about the office or department activities. No vacation or personal stories. Keep them Grange related.
- Preprint reports and have them included in the session packets.
- Be more positive in reporting
- Report how many entries in the various contests were submitted. Low participating contests should be removed or highlighted more throughout the year.
- Read report from paper not cell phones and laptops.
- If time allows present awards during the report, have the recipients remain at the front of the hall for a group photo.
- Announce any new activity or contest for the coming year. Leave us wanting more.
- Would have been fun to hear some of the Seuss readings last year.

#### Technology:

- Ok if someone is unable to attend (I think this was referring to an Officer or Director)
- Have the technology ready to go.
- It's a great tool if it is used correctly and efficiently.

#### Hospitality Room:

- Why are we still doing this?
- Announce location and times it will be open.
- Keep it under the jurisdiction of the membership department and ask Granges for funds.
- Do away with it. Food should be provided by the hotel and the State Grange should pay for it.

Now with all these suggestions and ideas from the Granges, I will be working with the State Master, other State Officers, Directors and some fellow members to see how we can offer our members a session that they want to attend with activities focusing on what the members want. Stay tuned for more information!

Again, this year we will not be conducting a session survey. However, if you do have any other ideas or suggestions, please write them down and give them to me or leave them at the credentials table.

Now back to the coordinator part of the report. I'm sure most of you who attended last year can remember that with the cost of the hotel rooms last year, the State Executive Committee voted to pay a portion of each room rental for each night during the session. This was intended to be a one time offering. That being said, I am happy to report that they have again voted to help with the cost of the guest rooms by paying \$25 per night for each room. The staff have deducted this from the balance of each room and will be billing the NH State Grange.

One popular suggestion received from the questionnaire was location of State Session. Several Granges were in favor of having session in the same location for a few years. As a result of that suggestion, I'd like all of you to block your calendar for October 15-18, 2026, for State Session at The Fireside Inn & Suites in West Lebanon, NH.

Thank you, Worthy Master, for allowing me to continue as the Session Coordinator. This is truly a position that I enjoy, and I look forward to planning the 2026 Annual Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald J. Leclerc, Session Coordinator

## **STATE GRANGE BUILDING MANAGER**

Assorted Grange friends,

Last year I began my report by saying it hadn't been a very eventful year at the State Grange building. This one wasn't too exciting either, but that's not a bad thing necessarily. I also said we'd gotten nearly nowhere with the groundskeeping issues. It's been two years on that also. That's a little more of an issue, but we remain hopeful.

Things that have been done include arranging for new insurance, servicing fire extinguishers, getting the building inspected for the yearly assembly permit, putting a coat of paint on the back of the building, and replacing some floor tiles. My sister Mary (who is generally fond of painting) volunteered to remedy the fact that no one had ever painted the boards that were put on when the old chimney was replaced with a new metal one some years back. No one told her that the whole building needed painting and she didn't look before volunteering. Learning from the last time I was doing ladder work without a buddy and knowing that the ladders for this project would be much taller, she and I decided to work on it on Thursdays. In my family we have Donut Tuesday, which means we usually go through the Dunkin Donuts Drive Thru on Tuesdays. That's to keep us from going through every day. If someone asks on a different day then I can say "but it's not Tuesday." We also have Raccoon Thursday which is when Winifred the puppet comes out to help with homework and other such things. Mary and I decided to add State Grange Building Thursdays to the list. We figured she could paint the boards on the back and I could do some stuff inside and then we could sort through and organize the records room and that sort of thing. It's been a lot of Thursdays and the back of the building has now pretty much been scraped and painted. I started out helping with scraping while Mary was mostly painting. Eventually I channeled my inner Don Ross and went way up high to do some painting also. He's the last person I remember seeing on a ladder painting there although it has been painted once since then. We're aware that a few spots where the ladders were leaned against the building still need work... and that the back may mostly have one coat but might need more like five... and that the rest of the building also needs to be scraped and painted... and that the color we painted the cement behind the "new" chimney doesn't match the color of the rest of the cement... and that the records room looks the same as it did... but we're working on it.

Rick Bailey gets the State Grange Building hero of the year award. Being somewhat of a "spring into action" type, he volunteered straight away after his first Executive Committee meeting at the building to do a few repairs to the floor that have been needed for a very long time. He has also

agreed to install a door closer on the back door of the building as requested by the fire inspector and plans to fix a door between the meeting room and the dining room that has been sticking. We intend to keep him around.

Beth Merrill (often with Arthur's help) continues to be the custodian, cleaning the building and checking on paper supplies and such. We still rent to the church on a regular basis, some Nepali groups on an irregular basis, and once in a while someone else. Various State Grange events were held at the building, several Grange committees met there, and the Crafty Ladies continue to craft there occasionally.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Boisvert  
State Grange Building Manager

Executive Committee report extension:

I was assigned two Granges to visit: Harmony and Londonderry. I called up Harmony Grange to see if they would be meeting at their usual time and place and they said actually they were going out to ice cream. I said I'd be there. I met them at the NH Veteran's Cemetery and listened to Taps played at 7pm and then went to a nearby ice cream shop. It was lovely. I never made it to Londonderry Grange due to inaccurate information and lack of follow up. I may try again on that one whether or not it is reassigned to me. Otherwise I have been on a mission with my daughter to have her see all the degrees which we decided would best be done in whatever order we could find them. So far we went to the fourth degree done by Eastern NH Pomona, did the first degree at Chichester (although we also intend to go see it again if Antrim does it this year), and she took the sixth last night.

## **TREASURER REPORT**

Worthy State Master Tricia Taylor, fellow State Officers, Brothers and Sisters all:

GOOD MORNING! It's nice to see everyone bright-eyed and bushy tailed! I'm sure you all are so eager to hear my wonderful Treasurer's report.

The older I get the faster the years seem to go by, this being my thirteenth year as your Treasurer. It seems every year there are new challenges that pop up, this year being no different. On September 29, I met with Doris Newell, past Treasurer of Sunapee Lake Grange, who still had a CD and checking account that had not been turned over to State Grange. We were able to close both accounts, and I received a check for over \$37,000.00, most of which will be deposited into the defunct Grange account. The State Executive Committee voted to allow Granges with Grange Halls to request funds from the Defunct Account to pay for repairs, interest free. If or when those Grange halls are sold those funds will be paid back to State Grange.

As a friend of mine says, "time to back up the truck". Kim and I returned to Florida right after state session and enjoyed another wonderful winter. We enjoyed a couple of days visiting with Ed and Denise Luttrell both going and coming. On our return home we stopped in Bascom, Florida (yes, it is a town) population 80. It is a farming community northwest of Tallassee. On arriving in Maine, we barely had time to open the cottage up and get our garden going. On May 27 th we headed across the pond to England and spent 2 days sightseeing. Then boarded the Sky Princess and headed to the Baltics, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Estonia, Sweden and Norway. Arriving back in England, we spent 1 day then boarded the Regal Princess and sailed around the British Isles, 3 stops in Ireland, 4 in Scotland and last Paris, France. These 2 cruises were because of the lost ports on our world cruise. Just before we left on those cruises, I was able to do two deputy visits and one State Officer visit. When I was State Master, 25 years ago, I visited all the Granges in the state except for two. One has since closed and the other, Mt. Pistareen Grange, I visited on May 13, 316 miles round trip. They have a day care using the building which makes things interesting. I haven't sat in a chair that small since I was about 6. This is a small Grange, but they are very busy in their community, and I would encourage others to visit.

In July I continued my deputy visits and met with Tuftonboro Grange. In September, I was able to set up a meeting with Mt Livermore Grange, my other officer's visit. State Master Taylor, Arthur Merrill and General Deputy Heath also attended. Master Ed Ford agreed that they should consolidate with Lower Intervale Grange. This was confirmed on October 6.

Concerning State Officer visits, the Executive Committee voted to pay mileage to each State Officer who gives a report of their visits to the State Session starting this next year.

As for my deputy visits, I completed my last one last Friday except for Lake Shore which has not met for two years.

As for our accounts, the year started out with very shaky investments. When it came time to send out escrow checks I delayed them but at the end of April they rebounded, and the checks went out only a couple of weeks late. I am very encouraged by the investments, and we are looking for a bright future financially. As of the September quarter, our financial net worth for all accounts is almost 2 million dollars. The breakdown for our main accounts is as follows.

Operating Account - \$ 300,897.89  
Defunct Grange Account - \$ 446,906.30  
Educational Loan Fund - \$ 230,562.10  
Randel Richardson Youth Fund - \$ 49,051.16  
Trust Fund - \$ 107,851.82

For those Granges that I have escrows for, I have printouts of your accounts. Please see me later.

I again have filed all the ePostcards and you will find them in your packets. This is the year all Granges must re-file for NH Corporate Non-Profit status. I have sent out 3 reminders plus info in the GSG and the Grapevine. As of October 15th, 15 Granges have still not filed. This needs to be completed before December 31.

This afternoon you will be voting on the new budget. I have proposed a deficit budget as I am carrying too large a balance in the checking account. Please look over the budget carefully as we will be discussing it after lunch.

The State Grange Trust fund still continues to be underused. We only had one applicant again last year. This fund is to provide financial assistance for any member needing help such as rent, utility bills, auto repair, heating oil, medical bills, etc. The Educational Loan Fund is another underused account. This past year only one member applied for assistance.

Bonding continues to be an issue for many Granges. The rate from National Grange increased again this year. The State Secretary and I cannot provide you with bills as bonding is based on your treasury. If you have questions, please contact me.

I have completed all the paperwork for our accountant and dropped it off in Concord on our way here. As soon as the budget is passed, I will send all the financial info to Mary for printing it in the Journal of Proceedings.

We have closed or consolidated three Granges this year and unfortunately there will be more to come. We also need to be very conscious of our Golden Sheaf members when Granges close. They should all be transferred to new Granges. Our strongest efforts need to be put into recruiting new members.

I want to thank Anne Boisvert for stepping up to the plate. She has made all the deposits for me so that there will be no chance of losing them in the mail. Though she confuses me when she sends me the deposits and says she deposited them on such and such a day, for example 10/2 Yom Kipper deposit and 9/24 Jim Henson's birthday deposit.

Mary, what can I say, your undying effort to get me the bills and vouchers on time are very much appreciated. Kim thanks for always keeping me on the straight and narrow.

Lastly, I want to remember Ida Hutchins and Virginia Clark, they are two members I have always looked up to. They will be greatly missed by us all.

Fraternally submitted,  
Dan Bascom, Treasurer

## **TRUSTEES OF THE NH STATE GRANGE TRUST**

Worthy Master, Brothers and Sisters, Patrons all:

The Trustees met on Friday, October 25, 2024, as reported in last year's report. During this meeting we voted to raise the maximum amount to \$1500.00 per request.

We had a discussion regarding the fact that some eligible patrons did not submit requests due to the requirement of a letter of recommendation. The prospective applicant felt that asking

someone to fulfill this requirement meant that the process was no longer confidential. We decided that one of the trustees could submit the letter, and then recuse themselves for the vote.

We had an election for Chair. Diane Collins has accepted, and Virginia Blackmere is now the Secretary.

The Trustees received and voted to accept a request for \$1500.00.

Please remember to spread the word of financial help being available to those who qualify. I am sure that there are many other members who may not be aware of our ability to help, especially during these difficult times. The application and instructions can be found on the NH State Grange website, [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org) or contact one of the trustees for assistance.

Respectfully submitted:

Diane Collins, Chair  
Virginia Blackmere, Secretary  
Rhoda Davis, Trustee  
Ann Leger, Trustee  
Joy Perkins, Trustee

## **WEBMASTER REPORT**

Worthy Grange family,

Have you ever been asked to describe yourself in three words? Currently my words are perfectionist, procrastinator, and mother. If there was an interview process for Grange roles, that trio of adjectives would not have gotten me hired as webmaster. Unfortunately, our hiring process is more of the take-what-you-can-get variety.

When I saw that the website information Chris Heath had sent included a pdf of a handwritten document, I began to regret my life choices. It took me until January to figure out how to make any changes to the State Grange website at all. I excitedly updated lots of information, and made a list of things that needed more content research or more technical knowledge. Top on my list were photos. Anyone who has visited the website, knows that I still haven't figured that out. After managing to create a huge blank space at the top of the junior page where a photo used to be, I left the home page alone, figuring old photos were better than blank space.

In June, for security reasons, the hosting company eliminated the editor that lets you make changes when you don't speak html. I don't speak html. Through trial and error I managed to get the Northeast Youth Rally information up anyway. The friendly representative in the online chat described a long and tedious method of switching to a site that was more user-friendly. When I asked for a recommendation of a less tedious method, he said, "Sure! Hire a web developer." I

did not want to admit that level of defeat, but faced with an even more daunting task than I'd started with, and a laptop that took about ten minutes to think about anything I asked it to do, procrastination became too tempting to resist.

As you'll learn in my secretary report, I'm now working on a laptop that thinks at least as fast as I do. Hopefully this will enable me to face the website revamp with the minimal patience I have left after mothering a seven-year-old. I really appreciate the opportunity to continue trying. Thank you for bearing with me. Please continue to share your ideas and concerns. I do want to hear them even if I can't always put solutions into action right away.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West, Webmaster

## **YOUTH REPORT**

I want to start by thanking everyone who helped with youth events this year, and everyone that showed up to enjoy them as well. Your enthusiasm keeps this program alive. I also want to give a special thanks to my committee, because I would not be able to do this without your support.

The committee met in December to review ideas, and plan events for the year. New ideas included a photo scavenger hunt in the Hooksett area, and experimenting with moving an event to Sunday.

January brought me to the Northeast Leader's Conference. The primary focus of discussion was the Northeast Youth Conference, which was hosted by Rhode Island, but there was also some discussion about social media usage.

We held our Winter Youth Rally in February. We had a very successful sign language workshop, we did some wreath decorating, and we had some lessons in public speaking. Thank you to Kevin Belval and Rachel Scanzani for everything.

We held the Moonstomp in March this year, once again hosted by Mark and Diane Collins. I was sick that weekend, but was told that attendees had a great time.

In May, we held another Youth Day. This began with the photo scavenger hunt in Hooksett. We only had two teams, but both did an amazing job. Despite the Leclercs finding everything on the list, the Clarks picked up enough bonus points to secure the win.

We then enjoyed an afternoon of board games at the State Grange building. In addition to the always popular Half-Truth trivia game, we also introduced some people to an image-based cooperative murder mystery game. We ended the evening with a trip to Boutwell's in Concord for some Glow Bowling. We had more youth age members show up for bowling than at any other event during the year.

This year we held the June Youth Rally on a Sunday, and once again we combined it with our mini golf tournament. Mary West shared with us the speech she delivers when distributing

dictionaries. It may not have been completely factually accurate, but it was entertaining, and she is the winner of this year's Public Speaking Contest. We had a much better turn out this year for our mini golf tournament, this time held at Chucksters in Chichester. In the end, the winner was Emilie Leclerc, but Lily Ricker had the best score among the juniors, and I had the best overall score. We had no entries in the Sign a Song contest this year. Instead, we had Arthur on hand to test our knowledge of Granges around the state. Is there anything this man doesn't know? Ask him to find out.

The Northeastern Youth Conference was held in July. This is proving to be a difficult time for me, as once again family obligations got in the way of my attending. Rhode Island put everyone up in a large Grange hall, and attendees enjoyed some tours in the local area.

I am always hoping for greater youth participation, and am open to ideas that will attract them to our events. Is there something you would like to see us do, or a place you'd like us to go? Please let me know if you have any thoughts.

Contest winners:

Poster: Watatic Grange

Social Media: Hudson Grange

Youth Report (based on the few that were received by the deadline): Watatic Grange

Fraternally,  
Andrew Savage

### **New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

December 14, 2024 - State Grange Building

Committee members present: Tricia Taylor, Arthur and Beth Merrill, Mary West, Lester Gibbs, Jerry Leclerc, Anne Boisvert, and B. Richard Bailey.

After an exhilarating book auditing session, the meeting was called to order at 11:05 am by Chairman Arthur Merrill.

The following email votes took place prior to this meeting:

- Motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Beth Merrill to stay with the same plow guy for the State Grange building. It was declared a vote in the affirmative with four in favor on November 16.
- Motion was made by Lester Gibbs and seconded by Tricia Taylor to release the Baker's River Grange Hall to the property owner. It was declared a vote in the affirmative with seven in favor on November 25.

A motion was made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Tricia Taylor to elect Arthur Merrill as Chair of the Executive Committee. It was a vote in the affirmative. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Beth Merrill to elect Mary West as Secretary of the Executive

Committee. It was a vote in the affirmative. A motion was made by Lester Gibbs and seconded by Jerry Leclerc to allow Antrim Grange to use the State Grange's floral arch for their fundraiser dance. It was a vote in the affirmative.

We received a notice stating that the insurance on the State Grange building will be canceled as of February 16, 2025, as that policy is no longer available. Anne Boisvert will reach out to our insurance agent for other options.

New committee member B. Richard Bailey was welcomed!

**Session Coordinator's Report:** The State Session survey is ready for distribution. It includes a question about hosting the hospitality room. A motion was made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Tricia Taylor that we mention in the survey the possibility of partial reimbursement should a Grange wish to host the hospitality room. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Secretary's Report:** Dorchester, Lake Shore, Londonderry, Park, Pine Grove, Wingold, and Mascoma Valley Pomona have not submitted their third quarter reports. A motion was made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Anne Boisvert to approve the minutes of the October 19 meeting. It was a vote in the affirmative. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by B. Richard Bailey to accept the minutes of Saturday's session. It was a vote in the affirmative. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by B. Richard Bailey to accept the minutes of Sunday's session. It was a vote in the affirmative. After a brief discussion it was clarified that each Grange will receive a copy of the newly approved Bylaws minus the appendices. The Executive Committee will review the appendices at a later date. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Jerry Leclerc to approve the Secretary's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Master's Report:** It's been pretty busy since State Session. Tricia and Lester Gibbs had a good trip to National where Tricia served on the Health and Education Committee. Leroy Watson was not re-elected to the National Executive Committee. Regarding Baker's River Grange Hall, Kim Ganley found a document that clearly stated the building would go with the land. Tricia has notified the landowner and been in touch with his lawyer. The deed will include the term "as is" since the building is not completely empty. Pemigewasset Valley Pomona members voted to remain open. They will meet quarterly at Wicwas Lake on their meeting night, prior to the subordinate meeting. Updating bylaws and notifying all members is on the agenda. Leader's Conference is Jan 10, 11 and 12, in Danvers, Mass. Details were included in the emailed letters about Deputy School in hopes of a good showing. The room block is currently full. National Leaders Conference is in California this year at Rohnert Park in Sonoma County. California is one of a handful of states Tricia hasn't visited so she's made reservations for that conference as well as for the National Grange cruise in 2025. She'll also be heading to Utah for the Grange Revival. She plans to talk to each of the director's and ask them to review their list of committee members in the roster. If there are members who are not active, they should be removed from the lists. Suggestions for deputies would be appreciated. Tricia has received complaints from members about American Income Life after the most recent mailing, so she is considering ending the partnership. A motion was made by B.

Richard Bailey and seconded by Beth Merrill that Tricia notify American Income Life Insurance that we would like to end our partnership. It was a vote in the affirmative. There are new Chaplain's duties that will be shared with Granges during the 2025 deputy visits. We will also be focusing on use of the gavel. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Tricia Taylor to accept the Master's Report. It was a vote in the affirmative. There will be a director's meeting on March 8 at 1:00 pm, at the State Grange building.

**Unfinished Business:** The new fire permit is on display. The Light Up the Village evening went well. While we didn't have a display/activity of our own, the State Grange building was well-used for the library's kids' program as well as other "homeless" organizations.

**New Business:** There was a brief discussion about having a "designated survivor" for National session. Tricia received a donation request letter from the NH FFA Foundation. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Jerry Leclerc that we donate \$100 to the FFA. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Next meeting:** March 8 at 3:00 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by B. Richard Bailey. It was a vote in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 12:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee

**New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee Meeting  
March 8, 2025 - State Grange Building**

Committee members present: Tricia Taylor, Arthur and Beth Merrill, Mary West, Jerry Leclerc, Anne Boisvert, and B. Richard Bailey. Lester Gibbs joined by phone. Guest Emilie Leclerc joined in person.

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm by Chairman Arthur Merrill.

The following email votes took place prior to this meeting:

- Motion made by Lester Gibbs and seconded by Beth Merrill that NH send two delegates to the 2025 National Convention with the State Grange paying appropriate reservation fees and expenses in advance if requested. Motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Tricia Taylor to amend the above motion to specify that Daniel Bascom be our second delegate to the 2025 National Grange convention with the NH State Grange paying all expenses. The amendment passed on January 19. The amended motion was declared a vote in the affirmative with five votes in favor on January 20.

- Motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Anne Boisvert to approve the request of the State Treasurer and choose the insurance policy offered by Eames Insurance. It was declared a vote in the affirmative with five in favor on February 4.

**Secretary's Report:** Dorchester, Blow Me Down, Pemi Valley Pomona and Mascoma Valley Pomona did not submit their fourth quarter reports. The Journal of Proceedings is finally in the proofreading stage. After months of failure the webmaster is finally making slow progress. Updating the site has caused discovery of a number of discrepancies that the secretary will strive to rectify. A motion was made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Tricia Taylor to approve the Secretary's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Master's Report:** The NE Leader's Conference was held in Massachusetts. Tricia attended Saturday and Sunday. The workshops were interesting. She found the second workshop to be the best as the presenter made them think about what the Grange offers and how to communicate that to others. She acknowledged the reality that if we don't begin to grow, we will not continue to exist. Although not a Granger, she has been working with the MA State Grange so she does have some experience with what is happening with our organization.

Arthur and Tricia flew to the National Grange's Leaders Conference in California – too far to drive. This year's conference was much better than the others she has attended. There were plenty of worksheets about by-laws. The sessions were well thought out and kept them involved. The best one of all concerned how people judge others, whether it's by race, gender identity or anything different from ourselves. The two presenters were friends but started by sharing what they were thinking when they first came in contact with each other and they eventually worked their way through the first judgements of each other and realized how wrong they were once they got to know each other. It made us all really think about how we treat people. They learned that Granges with halls assessed at \$500,000 or more need to fill out the long form for the I-990N. Next year's conference will be the first weekend in May.

Tricia heard from Ben Anderson's lawyer regarding Bakers River Grange's hall. She was hoping to have the deed drawn up by the end of February and ready for signing but has not been in contact since. Letters were written to Lake Shore and Mt. Livermore to let them know if they don't start meeting the State Grange will stop their escrow payments. If that doesn't convince them to start meeting Tricia will be looking at pulling their charters. Mascoma Valley Pomona was also notified that if they don't start meeting their charter will be pulled.

Tricia spoke with Juno from American Income Life. She would like the chance to change the people calling to professionals who understand the word no. If this happens, would we agree to hold to the agreement? Keep in mind that National Grange has also partnered with them and if we no longer have our own agreement we expect when National Grange figures it out we will be added to their agreement, with no control at all. Motion made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Rick Bailey to accept the Master's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Treasurer's Report:** Submitted via email: 2024 Taxes are done. New State Grange building insurance with Ohio Mutual through Eames Insurance Agency. The incorporation/nonprofit fee

is paid. He sent an article to the GSG concerning the nonprofit report and how to get a paper form. Reminder letters to those Granges who have not paid bonding were sent out on 1/21/2025. The still-not-paid list includes Blow-Me-Down, Dorchester (2years), Lake Shore, Londonderry, Park & Tuftonboro, totaling \$375.00. Income and expense reports were attached. Motion made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Tricia Taylor to accept the Treasurer's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Unfinished Business:** The Liberty Bible Baptist Church lease agreement is up on March 31. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Jerry Leclerc that the daily State Grange Building rent be raised to \$175 and the church's annual rental raised to \$700/month. It was a vote in the affirmative. In the cover letter with the lease agreement, we will mention storage space limitations and invite them to our next Executive Committee meeting should they have any questions.

Conflict of interest forms for Executive Committee members were updated. The Christmas lighting has been unplugged but not taken down.

Rick Bailey will look into floor repair for the State Grange building. Beth Merrill purchased a new floor mat for the back door.

We will review the Bylaws appendices at the next meeting.

**New Business:** We reviewed the membership numbers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report, which were distributed at the National Grange Leaders' Conference. Tuftonborough Grange reached out to inquire about the process for selling a hall, because the description in the bylaws is confusing. They are not, themselves, interested in selling.

**Next meeting:** Friday, June 20, 6 pm, pending approval of absent members

Motion to adjourn made by Mary West and seconded by Tricia Taylor. It was a vote in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee

**New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee Meeting  
June 20, 2025 - State Grange Building**

Committee members present: Tricia Taylor, Arthur and Beth Merrill, Mary West, Lester Gibbs, Anne Boisvert, and B. Richard Bailey.

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 pm by Chairman Arthur Merrill.

The following email votes took place prior to this meeting:

- Motion was made by Anne Boisvert and seconded by Rick Bailey to approve the March Executive Committee minutes with corrections. It was declared a vote in the affirmative on March 17.

**Master's Report:** Tricia thanked Arthur and Beth for filling in for her in May while she was recovering from a fall: Arthur at Mascoma Valley Pomona's meeting and Beth at Joe English's 150<sup>th</sup> celebration. Tricia was able to attend both Youth Days this quarter and enjoyed them both. She was late to Junior Day, which lacked juniors, but the adults seemed to enjoy themselves. She found the Poulin Grain workshop on chickens very interesting, but wished more could have attended.

The deeding of Baker's River Grange Hall has finally been accomplished. Additional documentation was found clarifying that the hall would revert, with the land, back to the family who originally donated it. That family has agreed to then sign it over to Ben Anderson. She has yet to hear any updates from Lake Shore or Mt. Livermore Granges. The State Treasurer is holding their escrow checks until everything is worked out.

Ida Hutchins is now in hospice. Linda Phelps has been visiting regularly and shared that she has good days and bad days, as expected. Tricia plans to attend Northeast Youth Rally in Rhode Island in July and then travel to Utah for the Grange Revival. She'll also be attending Northeast Connection and New England Grange building Trustees meetings at the end of June. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Rick Bailey that we accept the Master's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Treasurer's Report:** The committee reviewed the current expense/income report sent via email. A motion was made by Rick Bailey and seconded by Lester Gibbs that we accept the Treasurer's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Secretary's Report:** Lake Shore, Mt Livermore and Mascoma Valley Pomona Granges have yet to submit their first quarter reports. Blazing Star's first quarter report was received after dues had been paid to National Grange.

National Grange is working on a member data migration project. Since State Granges are to update using their Blue Tahiti program, which NH has not used previously, there has been some confusion, and we're late on finalizing data. Mary will follow up with Amanda Brozana to get a better understanding of how the process will work, as New Hampshire is not interested in sharing member data. Perhaps there is a way for our members to opt in individually if interested. National has also requested a list of our Grange organization history, which Arthur Merrill has agreed to assist with. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Rick Bailey to accept the Secretary's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Unfinished Business:** Mascoma Valley Pomona will meet on July 26 at 10 am at Blow-Me-Down Grange Hall to vote on closing. Should they close, active members would receive demit cards, and could move to a Pomona of their choice should they wish.

The State Grange building floor has been retiled where tiles had broken, overseen by Rick Bailey. Anne Boisvert will look into getting a quote for full floor replacement. We discussed the areas of the building that need repainting. It was mentioned that perhaps we should keep an eye

on building rentals that are paying for one day but using a full day for set-up as well.

There was a quick review of State Officer Grange visit assignments.

**New Business:** National Grange is offering a fundraiser where members who donate \$25.00 to the National Grange Foundation within a certain time period can win a chance to close this year's National session.

Liberty Bible Baptist Church reached out in June 2024, in an email that was missed at the time, to mention interest in renting the State Grange building full-time with exceptions for Grange-specific events. Committee members thought it best to keep this idea in mind but not move forward at this time.

**Next meeting:** Friday, August 22, at 6:00 pm at State Grange Building

Motion to adjourn made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Tricia Taylor. It was a vote in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

The minutes were read and approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee

**New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee Meeting  
August 22, 2025 - State Grange Building**

Committee members present: Tricia Taylor, Arthur and Beth Merrill, Danny Bascom, Rick Bailey, and Mary West.

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 pm by Chairman Arthur Merrill.

The following email votes took place prior to this meeting:

- Motion was made by Richard Bailey and seconded by Anne Boisvert that the Elliot bequest of \$1000 be given to the Grange Foundation. The motion passed on July 20.
- Motion was made by Lester Gibbs and seconded by Tricia Taylor to send NH's membership list to the National Membership Director per National bylaws. The motion passed on July 19, with six in favor and one abstention.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dan Bascom presented the current income and expense reports. Income is on track for what was proposed, but expense is over. The checking account is still in the black. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Rick Bailey to accept the treasurer's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Secretary's Report:** Blazing Star, Dorchester, Londonderry, Wingold and Pemi Valley Pomona Granges have yet to submit their second quarter reports. Lake Shore and Mt Livermore are both behind by two quarters. Mascoma Valley Pomona is even further behind. Mary spoke with Londonderry Grange's secretary yesterday to try to straighten out the discrepancies in their membership list. NH's membership list was forwarded to Amanda Brozana on July 23. She confirmed that emails will be needed for members to create a profile in the Growth Zone system. As NH members start signing up, she'll be sending Mary lists and reports. Mary is part of a beta set of State Secretaries for figuring out the easiest way to do updates moving forward. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Rick Bailey to accept the Secretary's report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Master's Report:** Directors' meetings were held in June and August. We have received a few budget requests. Trustees of the New England Grange Building and Northeast Connection meetings were held at the Big E. Several of us attended the Historical Society meeting in Wakefield, to hear our Historian's talk on the history of the Grange. We hope the presentation will be repeated at State Session. Tricia attended an interesting and entertaining Northeast Youth Rally in Rhode Island in July. There were twenty-nine of us, both adults and youth. She was surprised to discover that NH is hosting the event next year. We have a variety of possible activities, as well as several options for a place to stay. These are being looked into by several different people. We hope to have a site and agenda for 2026 Northeast Youth Rally nailed down by Leader's Conference in January, which will be held in Vermont with more information to come. Eight from NH attended the Grange Revival in Torrey, Utah, in the third week of July and had a great time. Worthy Ceres Gloria Davis and Tricia Taylor made it there and back with only a brake issue that delayed them half a day. Others unfortunately got sick on the way home, and some had camper trouble out and back. The next Revival will be in the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina in 2027. Anyone who likes to camp or rent a cabin is highly recommended to attend. It is a great vacation! We did not hold Family Weekend as Tricia did not feel comfortable setting up an event and then not attending due to the overlap with the Revival. Hopefully Family Weekend will be back in the summer of 2026. The National Grange Delegates have begun meeting by Zoom. Tricia is on the Citizenship Committee, which has already received eight resolutions. They are meeting as needed, when resolutions are submitted. She did attend the Zoom meeting to introduce the new website – Grange Growth. Its tentative launch date is September 7. It is a very extensive program with many new opportunities for our members. There will be a discussion site for Grange matters, a site for events around the country, a place to share fundraisers that would allow Grangers from other states to purchase items, etc. Tricia suspects there will be some kind of video roll-out for each of the State Sessions from Sept. 7 on. There will also be a Zoom next week for the Carnival Cruise and the National Session. Tricia is still trying to find time to meet with Linda Lauer and pick up the necessary items from Pine Grove. Mascoma Valley Pomona did not have a quorum when they met to vote on closing. Neither of the letters sent to Mt Livermore and Lake Shore Granges were returned, and to her knowledge, they have not reached out to anyone to attend a meeting, so we need to discuss closing them. She has sent State Session invitations to the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, Mayor of Lebanon, and the President of the Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce. She will be sending a formal invitation to Joe Goodrich, National Treasurer and Past Master of

VT State Grange, and his wife Lisa. She has been working on the State Session agenda and sent it off to the Overseer for review. She has booked the National Session cruise and a hotel before and after but still needs to book flights down and back to Miami. A motion was made by Rick Bailey and seconded by Beth Merrill to accept the Master's Report. It was a vote in the affirmative.

**Unfinished Business:** Beth Merrill discovered trash on the State Grange building property, presumably from a neighbor. Danny reported that Lake Shore Grange is the only one that has not paid their 2025 bonding. Twenty Granges still need to complete their state incorporation paperwork. Danny will send out reminders.

A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Beth Merrill to approve the oil pre-buy. It was a vote in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Rick Bailey that we discontinue the landline at the State Grange building. It was a vote in the affirmative with one abstention.

**New Business:** Ida Hutchins passed away this morning. Information on services will be shared when available.

State Master Tricia Taylor declared Mascoma Valley Pomona Grange closed as of today. Mary will research a current list of members, so she can send demit cards. Blow-Me-Down, Park, and Claremont Granges are reassigned to Pemi Valley Pomona but current members are free to move to the Pomona of their choice, in-state or otherwise. The State Master and Treasurer will meet with Mt. Livermore Grange on September 9. Action on Lake Shore Grange is to be determined. Sunapee Lake Grange, which closed in 2020, has an active CD. The State Treasurer is following up in hopes it can be transferred to the State Grange, to cover previous legal fees or be donated to a Grange cause.

Dan Bascom suggested that we are financially stable enough to cover mileage for State officer visits and/or mileage to State Session and/or State Session room expenses for State Officers. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Rick Bailey and seconded by Tricia Taylor that the State Grange reimburse \$25 per night per room for State Session hotel stays, for all attendees. It was a vote in the affirmative. A motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Rick Bailey that starting next Grange year we include State Officer visit mileage as an option for reimbursement as long as an oral report is given at State Session. It was a vote in the affirmative. Rick Bailey suggested a grant program for subordinate Granges with halls. Mary volunteered herself and Anne Boisvert to work on guidelines for this process. Should the hall ever sell, proceeds would be used to repay any previous grant moneys.

Tricia received a voicemail from someone connected to Purlingbeck Grange Hall, who is looking to pass along the regalia and charter that is still in the hall. She has not been able to reach him for details.

**Budget:** Adjustments were made to the proposed budget as presented by the State Treasurer. These included funding for events that won't happen this year, and changes based on department requests. A more finalized proposed budget will be presented in October.

**Next meeting:** October 11, at 10 am at the State Grange Building – including audit of Secretary and Treasurer books. The annual session rehearsal will follow the meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Mary West and seconded by Tricia Taylor. It was a vote in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee

### **New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee Meeting October 11, 2025 - State Grange Building**

Committee members present: Tricia Taylor, Anne Boisvert, Arthur and Beth Merrill, Danny Bascom, Rick Bailey, Lester Gibbs, Jerry Leclerc, and Mary West.

The meeting was called to order at 11:16 am by Chairman Arthur Merrill.

The following email votes took place prior to this meeting:

- Motion was made by Tricia Taylor and seconded by no one to approve the minutes of the August 22 Ex Comm meeting. Permission was granted on September 15 to mail prior to committee approval.

**Master's Report:** Tricia attended the meeting with Mt Livermore Grange and contacted the Master of Lower Intervale. Discussion of consolidation between the two Granges took place on October 6. There will not be National Grange representation at State Session due to scheduling conflicts.

**Secretary's Report:** Blazing Star, Dorchester, Lake Shore and Pemi Valley Pomona Granges have not yet submitted second quarter reports, and are currently not eligible to send delegates to State Session. Thirty-two delegates have pre-registered. A new laptop was purchased last month. Transferring the database is still a work in progress, as the original purchase email from 2008 is long gone. Mary will reach out to our usual plow guy for the State Grange building.

**Treasurer's Report:** The current income and expense reports were reviewed, with nothing out of the ordinary. The proposed budget for 2025-2026 was reviewed. Motion made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Rick Bailey that we accept the reports of the Master, Secretary and Treasurer. It was a vote in the affirmative.

Lake Shore has not paid their 2025 bonding. There have been a few questions on 2026 bonding. There are still fifteen Granges that have not paid their incorporation fee to the Secretary of State. Sunapee Lake Grange closed in September 2020, without follow-up due to COVID quarantines. They had an active bank account and cd. Those have now been closed. Motion made by Mary West and seconded by Jerry Leclerc that legal fees owed by Sunapee Lake Grange and mileage

fees for the State Treasurer be taken out of Sunapee Lake's total funds, with the remainder going to the defunct Grange account. It was a vote in the affirmative. Their possessions are still at the former Sunapee Lake hall and should be collected as soon as possible. Danny has received no communication from National Grange for the transportation committee.

**Unfinished Business:** Beth has not yet heard news about Hooksett's Light Up the Village event. Three Odd Fellow chairs from the State Grange building and three stations from the former Mt Livermore Grange were sold at the recent Brimfield North flea market at Deerfield Fairgrounds. Pine Grove had requested \$1000 of their funds, which had been marked as a scholarship fund be donated to the Educational Loan Fund. Motion made by Lester Gibbs and seconded by Tricia Taylor that \$1000 of Pine Grove's funds be moved to the Educational Loan fund now, with the remainder being put in the defunct Grange account with Morgan Stanley. It was a vote in the affirmative. Jerry will follow up with the Fireside Inn to see if they can assist with bulk reimbursement of hotel fees for attendees at State Session. Motion made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Rick Bailey that the reimbursement resolution voted on in August be amended to include "up to three nights". Amendment suggested by Tricia Taylor and seconded by Lester Gibbs to specify October 16-18 at the host hotel. The amendment passed. The amended motion passed. Rick will take over research of new floors for the State Grange building.

**New Business:** There was discussion of the resolution that will be voted on at State Session. Jerry would like the 2026 State Session to be held at the Fireside Inn, the weekend of October 15-18. It was mentioned that the earlier weekend is tricky for reporting. Lester inquired about donating some of the historic Grange ribbons to the State Session silent auction. Committee members were agreeable. Anne reported that she and Mary have been working on painting the back of the State Grange building. Rick would like keys to the building and museum room, so he can determine if any items/records can be let go. Lester never received a key as museum curator. Mary and Anne will investigate the supply of museum room keys. Suggestion was made that we offer to cover banquet fees or Friday night's hotel stay for future State Sessions in hopes of increasing attendance.

**Next meeting:** Saturday, October 18, after the banquet

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Tricia Taylor. It was a vote in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary West, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee

## **NH GRANGE FOUNDATION MEETING**

Minutes of the NH State Grange Foundation Annual Meeting  
October 16, 2025 - West Lebanon, NH and via Zoom

Present: Jim Tetreault (Pres.), John Porter (V.P.), Andrew Savage (Treas.), Tara Sad (Sec'y.) Jozi Best, Linda Lauer, Leroy Watson, Josh Marshall

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Secretary's Report: Approval of the minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting. John Porter had a small correction, that has been changed. Leroy Watson moved and seconded John Porter to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Morgan Stanley 113,999.29

Provident Bank Checking Account 2,653.10

Scholarships awarded: Brayden Grant \$3,750

Abbygail Allen 3,750

Stephen DeFelice 3,750

Lauren Gardner 3,750

Granges financially assisted –

Funds held on behalf of Antrim 560.00

Jozi Best moved and Leroy seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The resulting vote was unanimous, as was the vote of the Grange members.

Unfinished Business

Wayne Elliot Bequest - 1,000.00

Earlier this year we received correspondence from a Boston lawfirm. Mr. Elliot left \$5,000 to the Hampton Falls Grange, which is not in active status. Under Grange law, the successor organization is the State Grange. The State Grange Exec. Committee reviewed the amount and the intent of the amount to be in a scholarship. The state treasurer was consulted. Leroy received a response back from Arthur saying that the Exec. Committee that they waive any rights to the funds, and thought that the Foundation was the right organization to receive the money. Intended for scholarships. The estate is not settled yet. There are a few issues related to the sale of Mr. Elliot's house, which is the source of the money for the bequests. Leroy asked for any questions. A question came from East Rockingham Pomona, who said that Hampton Falls Grange consolidated with Gilman. He had no objection. There were no objections from either Grange at this point. Leroy moved to accept the bequest of \$1000 from the estate of Wayne Elliot for the purpose of scholarship funds. Andrew Savage seconded the motion. Unanimous in favor by the board, the Grange voted unanimously in favor. The Grange Foundation will be the name on the check.

## Request for Money:

Leroy said that under new federal tax changes, every individual will now be eligible to deduct up to \$1,000 per year on their federal taxes for charitable donations. Now, even if you use the standard deduction, you can still deduct up to \$1,000 per person. As a reminder, he suggested that they remember the New Hampshire Grange Foundation as one of your charitable recipients.

## New Business

### President's Report

Good evening, fellow Grange members as well as members of the Grange Foundation Board.

I bring my annual President report to the Board Members as well the Officers, delegates and members of the NH State Grange.

This year we approved five scholarships, in total amount of \$16,500 four scholarships at \$3,750, for \$15,000. One scholarship at \$1,500.

If you are looking for educational opportunities the Grange Foundation's requirements are as follows:

**Post-Secondary:** student enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education leading to a degree

**Continuing Re-certification:** enrolled in a program to meet requirements of re-certification for a licensed position

**General Equivalency Diploma:** for the cost of classes or testing for a GED Diploma

**Adult Education Enrichment:** course, seminar or program designed to improve skills

**Farm Internship and Agricultural Program:** an informal education program related to farming or agribusiness

We held a total of three regular meetings via zoom and our annual meeting which is always in person.

The foundation will be discussing at our January meeting the consideration of getting on the list for the NH Charitable Gambling, as a possible opportunity for fundraising not only as fundraiser for the Foundation but also local Granges. At this point I want to take the opportunity to recognize Tara Sad, who has spent 11 years on the Foundation Board who will be retiring, Thank you Tara for all your hard work and belief in the mission of the Foundation. We are pleased to welcome Rachel Scanzani as our newest Board Member.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Tetreault, NH Grange Foundation President

Tara Sad moved and Jozi Best seconded that the report be accepted as written. The resulting vote was unanimous.

#### Report of the Nominations Committee for Both New Officers and Board Members

Slate of board members who are nominated for membership for another year. They are:

Robert Haefner

William Pearson

John Porter

And Rachel Scazanni

All were in favor unanimously.

The officers proposed were:

Jim Tetreault – President

John Porter – Vice President

Andrew Savage – Treasurer

Leroy Watson - Secretary

Josh Marshall moved and Linda Lauer seconded to accept the slate, which was unanimous. As was the Grange membership vote.

Dates for scholarship review:

Tuesday, January 20th – 6:00 pm

April 15 deadline

April 28th – for our meeting 6:00 pm

John moved and it was seconded. April 15 deadline

John also wanted to make sure that the notification for scholarships be generic, and that the address be changed.

Adjournment: Andrew moved and Jozi seconded a motion to adjourn. The resulting vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tara Sad, outgoing secretary

## New Hampshire State Grange Expense Budget 2025-2026

	Proposed	Actual	Proposed
	2024-2025	2024-2025	2025-2026
Accounting Services	2,400.00	2,475.00	2,500.00
Bonding Fee Sub & Pom	2,378.00	2,297.00	2,507.00
Bonding Fee State Grange	185.00	185.00	210.00
Defunct Grange Account	0.00	1,300.11	0.00
Department Expenses			
Agriculture	100.00	100.00	100.00
Family & Community Services	750.00	750.00	750.00
Grange Services	150.00	150.00	300.00
Lecturer	600.00	600.00	600.00
Legislative	350.00	350.00	200.00
Membership	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
Trustees of Trust Funds	100.00	100.00	100.00
Youth	200.00	200.00	400.00
Junior	400.00	400.00	200.00
Deputies Expenses	2,500.00	2,307.14	2,500.00
Dues-National Grange	10,700.00	10,458.00	14,140.00
<i>Family Weekend</i>	200.00	0.00	200.00
General Deputy Expenses	100.00	0.00	100.00
<i>Granite State Granger</i>	5,000.00	3,191.45	5,000.00
Legal Fees	1,000.00	220.00	1,000.00
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	100.00	5,448.59	100.00
National Session Assessment	875.00	877.00	865.00
National Session 2028	900.00	5,000.00	0.00
Office Equipment	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Officer Expenses			
Master's Expenses	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Secretary Expenses	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Asst Sec/Treas	500.00	500.00	500.00
Treasurer Expenses	600.00	595.00	600.00
Printing/Postage/Supplies	2,000.00	1,605.73	2,000.00
Sixth Degree Fees- National	25.00	0.00	25.00
State Grange Insurance	1,800.00	3,112.00	3,200.00
State Grange Building	10,000.00	10,861.51	11,000.00
S G Building Grounds Keeper	585.00	0.00	585.00
Other Grange Hall Expenses	100.00	0.00	100.00
State Officers Visits mileage			2,500.00
State Session	9,000.00	9,396.74	9,000.00
State Session Deposit	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
State Session Sound System	200.00	0.00	200.00
Supply	0.00	52.00	0.00

Website	500.00	400.00	400.00
Totals	67,798.00	72,932.27	<b>75,882.00</b>

Misc -  
Travel - national conference, NC  
donation  
ffa donation  
Defunct G - Baker's River  
Youth - hosting NE Youth Conf 2026

### New Hampshire State Grange Income Budget 2025-2026

	Proposed 2024-2025	Actual 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026
<u>Invested Funds</u>			
Income	12,561.94	9,421.45	9,532.00
Withdrawals from Principal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Defunct Grange Accounts	14,016.32	11,812.35	13,873.28
Defunct Grange Accounts - withdrawals	0.00		0.00
Investment Management-Escrows	1,200.00		1,200.00
<u>Other Budget Income</u>			
Bonding Fees Subordinate/Pomona	2,378.00	2,533.00	2,464.00
Donations		1,000.00	
Dues & Fees	24,000.00	23,809.00	22,813.00
Family Weekend	200.00	0.00	200.00
Granite State Granger Donations	50.00	75.00	75.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	7,717.00	0.00
Operations - Fund Raising	1,500.00	468.00	500.00
Sixth Degree Fees	50.00	10.00	50.00
State Grange Building Fund Donations	200.00	135.00	200.00
State Grange Building Use	8,500.00	11,065.00	11,600.00
State Session	3,000.00	2,816.00	3,000.00
Supply	0.00	3.00	0.00
Total	67,656.26	70,864.80	<b>65,507.28</b>

misc - Nat Gr advocacy  
uncashed checks  
Pine Grove

**Exhibit B: NH State Grange Income Annual Summary 2024-2025**

Operating account	9,421.45
Withdrawals from Principal	0.00
Defunct Grange Account	11,812.35
Investment Management	0.00
Bonding Fees Subordinate/Pomona	2,533.00
Donations	1,000.00
Dues & Fees	23,809.00
Family Weekend	0.00
Granite State Granger Donations	75.00
NE Leader's Conference	0.00
Miscellaneous	7,717.00
National Session	0.00
Operations - Fund Raising	468.00
Sixth Degree Fees	10.00
Spring Fling	0.00
State Grange Building Donations	135.00
State Grange Building Use	11,065.00
State Session	2,816.00
Supply Department	3.00
Trust	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>70,864.80</b>

**Exhibit C - New Hampshire State Grange Expenses 2024-2025**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Paid To</b>	<b>Account Charged</b>	<b>Check #</b>	<b>Amount</b>
10/1/2024	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	110.92
10/1/2024	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
10/3/2024	Business Card	postage, printing & supplies	3647	1,273.80
10/10/2024	Hooksett Sewer Commission	State Grange Building	3648	85.75
10/4/2024	NC State Grange/Disaster Fund	donation	3649	1,000.00
10/10/2024	Carl Potvin Law Office	Baker's River	3650	150.00
10/19/2024	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3651	16.82

10/19/2024	Hampshire Fire Protection	State Grange Building	3652	75.00
10/19/2024	Arthur Merrill	State Session	3653	70.00
10/19/2024				
5	Wilber Heath	State Session	3654	70.00
10/19/2024	NEC for National Session	National Session	3655	5,000.00
10/22/2024	Arthur Merrill	Deputy Mileage	3656	712.00
10/22/2024	Beth Merrill	Deputy Mileage	3657	55.00
10/23/2024	bounced check - Gilman	direct		186.00
10/23/2024	bounced check - Gilman	direct		60.00
10/23/2024	bank charges	direct		40.00
10/23/2024	bounced check	direct		90.00
10/24/2024	Dan Bascom	Deputy Mileage	3658	148.50
10/24/2024	The Margate Resort	State Session	3659	4,575.00
10/25/2024	Jerry Leclerc	NE Leaders Conference	3660	254.45
10/25/2024	Lynn Clark	State Session	3661	280.00
10/25/2024	Kim Bascom	State Session	3662	449.95
10/26/2024	Walter Hartley - travel	State Session	3663	172.00
11/1/2024	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
11/13/2024	Orkin	State Grange Building	3664	571.20
11/13/2024	Hooksett Village Water Precinct	State Grange Building	3665	101.20
11/12/2024	Business Card	postage, printing & supplies	3666	1,120.67
11/13/2024	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	158.69
11/18/2024	National Grange	per capita	3667	2,751.00
11/20/2024	Eastern Propane	State Grange Building	3668	194.91
11/25/2024	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3669	95.83
11/23/2024	Chris Heath - trailer	State Session	3670	103.60
11/23/2024	National Grange	Bonding	3671	2,482.00
12/2/2024	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
12/9/2024	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	125.86
12/9/2024	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3672	3,630.31
12/12/2024	Gary Ward	State Session	3673	150.00
12/16/2024	Arthur Merrill	National Leader's Conference	3674	740.00
12/16/2024	Tricia Taylor	National Session	3675	1,073.60
12/18/2024	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3676	79.01
12/17/2024	NH FFA Foundation	donation	3677	100.00
12/15/2024	Tricia Taylor	Masters Expenses	3678	1,750.00
12/18/2024	Mary West	Secretary Expenses	3679	500.00
12/18/2024	Dan Bascom	Treasurers Expenses	3680	150.00

12/18/2024	Anne Boisvert	Asst Sec'y/ Treas Expenses	3681	125.00
12/18/2024	Norman Brandt	Dept. Expenses	3682	50.00
12/18/2024	Kathy Yardley	Dept. Expenses	3683	375.00
12/18/2024	Grange Services	Dept. Expenses	3684	75.00
12/18/2024	Matthew Clark	Dept. Expenses	3685	300.00
12/18/2024	Bob Heafner	Dept. Expenses	3686	175.00
12/18/2024	Jim Tetreault	Dept. Expenses	3687	500.00
12/18/2024	Trustees of Trust Fund	Dept. Expenses	3688	50.00
12/18/2024	Andrew Savage	Dept. Expenses	3689	100.00
12/18/2024	Joann Brandt	Dept. Expenses	3690	200.00
12/18/2024	Mary West	Web Master	3691	100.00
1/2/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
1/6/2025	Paul Lachance	State Grange Building	3692	240.00
1/8/2025	Wharf Industries Printing	GSG	3693	1,056.07
1/8/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	85.38
1/8/2025	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3694	1,154.52
1/17/2025	Hooksett Sewer Commission	State Grange Building	3695	87.20
1/17/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3696	79.05
2/6/2025	Hooksett Village Water Precinct	State Grange Building	3697	105.10
2/2/2025	Antrim Grange	State Grange Building	3698	void
2/2/2025	Beth Merrill	State Grange Building	3699	void
2/3/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
2/6/2025	Paul Lachance	State Grange Building	3700	360.00
2/16/2024	void		3701	void
2/6/2025	void		3702	void
2/10/2025	Hennessey & Vallee PLLC	Accountant	3703	2,475.00
2/11/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	163.86
2/12/2025	National Grange	per capita	3704	2,639.00
2/22/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3705	79.05
2/22/2025	Paul Lachance	State Grange Building	3706	720.00
2/23/2025	State of NH - nonprofit	State Grange Building	3707	25.00
2/26/2025	Morgan Stanley - Baker's River	Defunct Grange	3708	1,300.11
3/3/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
3/3/2025	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3709	89.96
3/7/2025	Andrew Savage	Deputy Mileage	3710	110.00
3/10/2025	Ohio Mutual Insurance Group	State building Insurance	3711	3,112.00
3/12/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	142.30
3/19/2025	Tricia Taylor	Masters Expenses	3712	1,750.00

3/19/2025	Mary West	Secretary Expenses	3713	600.00
3/19/2025	Dan Bascom	Treasurers Expenses	3714	150.00
3/19/2025	Anne Boisvert	Assist Sec'y/Treas Expenses	3715	125.00
2/23/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3716	79.05
4/1/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
4/1/2025	Antrim Grange	State Grange Building	3717	457.50
4/1/2025	Beth Merrill	State Grange Building	3718	124.58
4/8/2025	Wharf Industries Printing	GSG	3719	1,128.61
4/8/2025	Eastern Propane	State Grange Building	3720	125.00
4/9/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	92.36
4/8/2025	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3721	9.45
4/10/2025	Hooksett Sewer Commission	State Grange Building	3722	87.20
4/11/2025	New Checks	Misc	direct	100.99
4/18/2025	New Check cover & deposit slips	Misc	direct	33.00
4/24/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3723	79.08
5/1/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
5/7/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	75.65
5/11/2025	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3724	172.90
5/11/2025	Hooksett Village Water Precinct	State Grange Building	3725	110.55
5/20/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3726	79.33
5/20/2025	National Grange	Dues	3727	2,534.00
6/3/2025	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3728	138.68
6/9/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	109.82
6/10/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
6/20/2025	National Grange	Assessment	3729	877.00
6/27/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3730	79.33
6/27/2025	Joann Brandt	Dept. Expenses	3731	200.00
6/27/2025	Andrew Savage	Dept. Expenses	3732	100.00
6/27/2025	NH State Trust	Dept. Expenses	3733	50.00
6/27/2025	James Tetreault	Dept. Expenses	3734	500.00
6/27/2025	Robert Haefner	Dept. Expenses	3735	175.00
6/27/2025	Matthew Clark	Dept. Expenses	3736	300.00
6/27/2025	Grange Services	Dept. Expenses	3737	75.00
6/27/2025	Kathy Yardley	Dept. Expenses	3738	375.00
6/27/2025	Norman Brandt	Dept. Expenses	3739	50.00
6/27/2025	Anne Boisvert	Asst Sec'y/ Treas Expenses	3740	125.00
6/27/2025	Dan Bascom	Treasurers Expenses	3741	150.00

6/27/2025	Mary West	Secretary & Web Master Expenses	3742	600.00
6/27/2025	Tricia Taylor	Masters Expenses	3743	1,750.00
7/1/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
7/7/2025	B Richard Bailey - floor repair	State Grange Building	3744	25.08
7/7/2025	Antrim Grange	State Grange Building	3745	532.50
7/7/2025	Beth Merrill	State Grange Building	3746	103.02
7/9/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	70.53
7/28/2025	Hooksett Sewer Commission	State Grange Building	3747	94.60
7/28/2025	Wharf Industries Printing	GSG	3748	1,006.77
7/16/2025	Beth & Arthur Merrill	Deputy Mileage	3749	838.39
7/30/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3750	111.55
8/1/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
8/9/2025	Business Card	printing, postage, supplies	3751	45.58
8/9/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	186.92
8/9/2025	Hooksett Village Water Precinct	State Grange Building	3752	110.55
8/11/2025	Dead River Company-pre-buy oil	State Grange Building	3753	2,589.44
8/24/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3754	79.33
8/19/2025	National Grange	Dues	3755	2,534.00
8/30/2025	Business Card - paint	State Grange Building	3756	195.01
9/21/2025	Consolidated Communications	State Grange Building	3757	79.52
9/21/2025	Dan Bascom	Deputy Mileage	3758	267.75
9/21/2025	Andrew Savage	Deputy Mileage	3759	175.50
9/21/2025	Tricia Taylor	Masters Expenses	3760	1,750.00
9/21/2025	Mary West	Secretary & Web Master Expenses	3761	600.00
9/21/2025	Dan Bascom	Treasurers Expenses	3762	145.00
9/21/2025	Anne Boisvert	Sec'y/Treas Expenses	3763	125.00
9/29/2025	Dan Bascom	Postage	3764	233.05
9/2/2025	T-Mobile	State Grange Building	direct	58.25
9/10/2025	Eversource	State Grange Building	direct	192.88

**Exhibit D - New Hampshire State Grange Expense Annual Summary 2024 – 2025**

Accounting Services	2,475.00
Bonding Fee Sub & Pom	2,297.00
Bonding Fee State Grange	185.00
Defunct Grange Account	1,300.11
Department Expenses	
Agriculture	100.00
Family & Community	750.00
Grange Services	150.00
Lecturer	600.00
Legislative	350.00
Membership	1,000.00
Trustees of Trust Funds	100.00
Youth	200.00
Junior	400.00
Deputies Expenses	2,307.14
Dues- National Grange	10,458.00
Family Weekend	0.00
General Deputy Expenses	0.00
Granite State Granger/ mailing permit	3,191.45
Leader’s School-NEC	254.45
Legal Fees	220.00
Miscellaneous	5,448.59
National Assessment	877.00
National Session 2020	
Office Equipment	
Officer Expenses	
Master	7,000.00
Secretary	2,000.00
Ass’t Sec’y/Treas	500.00
Treasurer	595.00
Printing/Postage/Supplies	1,605.73
Sixth Degree Fees - National	0.00
State Grange Building	10,861.51
State Grange Insurance	3,112.00
Other Grange Hall Expenses	0.00
State Session	9,396.74
State Session Sound System	0.00
Supply Department	52.00
Website	400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,186.72</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
CHECKING ACCOUNT**

October 1, 2024	TD Bank Checking Account	24,700.56
	Income – Exhibit B	70,864.80
	Uncashed checks	1,165.60
	expense – Exhibit C	<u>-73,186.72</u>
September 30, 2025	Balance	<b>23,544.24</b>

**Accounts Receivable**

October 1, 2024	Balance	.00
September 30, 2025	Balance	.00

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MONEY MARKET PLUS**

October 1, 2024	TD Bank Money Market Plus Acct.	602.93
	Interest	<u>.31</u>
September 30, 2025	Balance	<b>603.24</b>

**State Grange Building Hooksett**

October 1, 2024	Purchase Price	87,500.00
September 30, 2025	Purchase Price	87,500.00

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
SUPPLY DEPARTMENT CHECKING ACCOUNT**

October 1, 2024	TD Checking Account	985.30
	Income	282.75
	Expense	<u>-199.00</u>
September 30, 2025	Balance	<b>1,069.05</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN STANLEY  
Operating Account**

October 1, 2024	Balance	280,766.37
	Transferred	.00
	Taxable Income	7,634.88
	Realized Gain/Loss	27,901.39
	Deposits	666.39
	Quarterly Income Paid	-9,421.45
	Withdrawals	.00
	Fees Paid	-3,367.42
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	<u>23,716.16</u>
September 30, 2025	Ending Market Value	<b>300,897.89</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN STANLEY  
Defunct Granges**

October 1, 2024	Balance	407,063.88
	Taxable Income	10,861.50
	Realized Gain/Loss	2,627.99
	Deposit	1,300.30
	Withdrawals	-10,512.24
	Fees paid	-4,943.29
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	<u>93,422.78</u>
September 30, 2025	Ending Market Value	<b>446,906.30</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN STANLEY  
Escrow Accounts**

October 1, 2024	Balance	707,349.37
	Taxable Income	22,959.35
	Realized Gain/Loss	9,135.45
	Paid Granges	-21,817.90
	Deposits	1.24
	Withdrawal	-87.03
	Fees Paid	-8,873.63
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	<u>97,449.80</u>
September 30, 2025	Ending Market Value	<b>760,849.56</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN STANLEY  
Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund**

October 1, 2024	Balance	43,876.61
	Taxable Income	1,228.89
	Contributions	.02
	Realized Gain/Loss	177.85
	Aid to Youth	-.00
	Fees Paid	-537.70
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	<u>9,078.02</u>
September 30, 2025	Ending Market Value	<b>49,051.16</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN STANLEY  
Education Loan Fund**

October 1, 2024	Balance	211,168.68
	Taxable Income	5,872.21
	Realized Gain/Loss	1,225.13
	Scholarships	-3,500.00
	Fees Paid	-2,565.54
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	<u>37,268.20</u>
September 30, 2025	Ending Market Value	<b>230,562.10</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
MORGAN STANLEY  
NH Grange Trust**

October 1, 2024	Balance	98,609.38
	Taxable Income	3,011.91
	Deposits	100.05
	Withdrawal	-75.00
	Memorial Donations	.00
	Realized Gain/Loss	721.45
	Aid to Members	-1,500.00
	Fees Paid	-1,199.61
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	<u>19,394.18</u>
September 30, 2025	Ending Market Value	<b>107,851.82</b>

**TRUST ACCOUNT CHECKBOOK SUMMARY**

October 1, 2024	Morgan Stanley Checking Account	19,256.65
	Income	
	3.5% Income from investments	3,774.81
	Deposits	75.00
	Donations	.00
	Minus restricted donations & donations	<u>-0.00</u>
	Total Income	<b>23,106.46</b>
	Expenses	
	Aid paid to members	-1,500.00
	State of NH – charitable filing fee	<u>-75.00</u>
	Total Expenses	-1,575.00
September 30, 2025	Ending Balance	<b>21,531.46</b>

**Amount held is in investments that can be used to aid members**