



THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER

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June



A Message From Tricia J. Taylor, NH State Grange Master

I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine after so many days of rain. It's been a crazy spring weather wise! It's good to see so many plants coming up, and to hear all the birds singing. We have chicks from our own hens peeping, and my daughter is getting ready for a batch of piglets as well as another batch of chicks. And so, it begins...

It's been a busy time for Granging as well. I enjoyed the Junior and Youth Day at the State Grange Building. All of the Directors work hard for these experiences and I do wish that more folks would come out to enjoy them. These days aren't just for the young. The young at heart are always welcome when showing their support for these programs.

The Lecturer had a good turnout for his day and fun was had by all. The "Paint Night" was a hit and of course we all enjoyed Grange Jeopardy. Kudos Lynn for finding so many new questions.

I was privileged to attend Farm and Forest at the Deerfield Fairgrounds and accept the 1st place Exhibitor Award. The Agriculture and Membership Committees work hard every year to create a booth that attracts many attendees to the NH State Grange Booth and talk with people about the Grange. This is far from the only 1st place they have won at Farm and Forest!

The Family and Community Directors have a day coming up at the State Grange Building on May 20th and I hope that it is well attended. I suspect the Mac and Cheese contest will be a hit and expect there will be a variety of new recipes to share. Following this will be the June Youth Rally at the State Grange Building on June 3rd. Come prepared to participate in the Photo Scavenger Hunt! Fun for all ages!

The Deputies are out and about attending their assigned Granges. They will be sharing this year's expectations with all of you. I've heard questions about how to find the officers' duties. Every Grange should have copies of the NH State Grange Bylaws and the duties of each office are described there. Your Assistant Steward is welcome to paraphrase, read, or recite these in the fall for Inspection. Balloting for Candidates is also required this fall. The manuals contain all the instructions for this so give it a whirl. Your Deputy will help you as needed. Your Deputies will also be talking about updating your Bylaws. This is important because a Grange in the West actually lost their building due to not updating their bylaws when they made changes to their meeting days, times, etc. A company that wanted the land actually took them to court and won the right to the land. Each Grange is being asked to determine a Grange Goal during Instruction to work on this year. The Deputies will be asking to hear how much progress you've made in the fall. Having a focus can help keep your Grange alive and maybe even interest non-members in becoming part of your Grange.

You have probably already received letters from American Insurance letting you know that they have partnered with the NH State Grange to provide every member in good standing a \$2500 Accidental Death or Dismemberment Policy at no cost to you or to the Grange. If you wish to learn about their other programs just send back the card they enclosed. If you do not return the card, they will not be reaching out to you. Just be sure to put the policy information with your important papers. If you haven't received the letter, it should be coming soon.

There will be a celebration of our 150th Anniversary at State Session this year! Plans are being made and will be shared in a timely manner. I'm excited to share that we have at least 4 members taking the Sixth Degree at State Session in the fall and will be going to take the Seventh Degree at Niagara Falls during National Session this fall. If you have anyone who is interested, please plan to be at the Holiday Inn in Concord October 27th, 2023. The Fifth Degree will be worked on Saturday, October 21st by Hillsborough County Pomona at the NH State Grange Building. All are welcome. If anyone is unable to attend that day, the Fifth Degree will be obligated prior to the Sixth Degree in Concord.

I hope to see you in my travels.



State Grange History
Arthur Merrill, Historian

Do you know that the National Grange has a Hall of Fame?

It is only virtual so no plaques on a wall. Go to the National Grange website to see who has been enshrined and to see how to nominate someone. Any questions contact me as I am a member of the selection committee. If your Grange has a written history, please send me a copy for our records. If you do not have one, consider writing one. I enjoy reading what Granges did back in the day, and still do today.

Grange Youth
Rachel Scanzani, Youth Director



In February, we held our annual February Youth Rally. With a great group of grangers in the building, we created wreaths, completed the Grange Knowledge Test, and had a rousing game of Grange Jeopardy. Our Jeopardy game consisted of some challenging questions that tested even the biggest history buffs knowledge. Did you know that both Harry Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt were Grange members?

Coming back this summer is a revitalized version of the Northeast Youth Conference. This conference is going to be held July 15th and 16th at the Vermont Grange Center in Brookfield, Vermont. With a cost of only \$35 for the night (all meals included) you can enjoy a variety of workshops and activities. A drill competition is going to be held on Sunday. For those who are interested in participating, please contact the State Youth Director as soon as possible. Full conference details are still being worked out and will be available on the State Grange website once they are finalized.

Did you participate at February Youth Rally and create an entry for the wreath contest? If you didn't there is still plenty of time to pick up some seasonal decorations and create a wreath. All entries are due on the first day of the annual session in October. There are several entries already, so get your creativity going for a chance to win. In addition to the wreath contest, don't forget about the social media contest. Creating a Facebook or Instagram account on behalf of your Grange is a great way to promote all of the great things that are going on. Remember to take a look at the State Grange Website (nhgrange.org) for full details and the youth program. There are plenty of ways for everyone to participate and be a part of the fun to move our Grange forward.



Family & Community News
Kathy Yardley & Joyce Martin, Co-Directors

Last year, Joyce Martin submitted an entry in the 2022 National Grange Quilt Block Contest (a picture of her entry is shown at the end of this article). She has entered a block each year since 2018. Joyce has always received a participation ribbon, but this year, she was awarded 2nd place!

Each year is a different block pattern. The 2022 was the Wonky Star Quilt Block Pattern. The background could be either white or light gray in color and the star to be color monochromatic in print or solids. Joyce's quilt block has a light gray background and the star is shades of teal.

Winners of the 2022 Quilt Block Contest from National:

Group 1 (Open)

1st – Alice Hartman (PA)

2nd – Joyce Martin (NH) Great job Joyce (Joyce is Master of Claremont Grange # 9 and won \$30)

3rd – Judy Huey (OR)

This year's contest is the Nine Patch with a Half Square corners. Instructions state: Begin with 2.5" squares of multiple fabrics: 6 dark colors (prefer all monochrome - all blue, all green, all red, etc. but each can be a different pattern or solid.). 5 very light colors (white, cream, light gray, different patterns or solids. Create a nine-patch block, keeping light colors on one side and dark colors on the other. Create one half-square triangle on the top right and one on the bottom left.

The blocks entered are made into finished quilts and other items to be sold at a later date.





Junior Grange
Joann Brandt, Director

Here we are finishing school vacation and starting the last of our school year. The weather has been so changing that we have to keep going from warm clothes and spring clothes. I am glad snow has finally ended and all the trees and flowers are blooming.

We are looking forward to June 3 with the Youth scavenger hunt in Concord. We will be meeting at the State Grange Building and more information will be coming so save the date. We will return to the Grange Building and plan to do a craft or two depending on time. I will send more once I finalize the day.

We were pleased to have four Juniors come with their families to bowl in March. Junior Congratulations to Rebecca Boisvert, Seth Clark, Xander Belval, and Lily Ricker for a job well done.

I attended the State Lecturer's April Grange Month Event. I counted five Juniors painting, and one family with four generations in attendance. Xander Belval and his mother Mary West won Best of Show in the talent show after lunch. It was a great day and hope more of these events will spark interest in the grange.

I look forward to the Family and Community event in May and I hope that families will participate as well.

Summer will soon be here and I hope you will visit a Fair or join the camping weekend with your family.



Agriculture Department
Norman Brandt, Director

Hello brothers and sisters: I'm so happy that some people have stepped up to fill the shoes of our editor. I am sitting writing this article at Farm, Forrest and Garden Expo, at their new location on the Deerfield Fair Grounds. Having taken a walk around, let me give you a break-down of what it is like. We were located in the Sales part of the Sheep building, one of the newest buildings at the Deerfield

Fair. Inside this building we are sharing space with NHBPA (New Hampshire Beef Producers Association), UNH Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Food systems, where they are going over all their programs they are working on; there are also a few insurance companies, the NOFA-NH (Northeast Organic Farm Association), a few Farms, a weaver association, FFA Flower Demonstrations and Competitions, and some other agricultural suppliers. In the sheep barn next door there is Poulin Grain, a few alpacas, small and beginning farmers, Farm Bureau, and many more. Up on the hill in the Arts and Craft Building (building A) I found Beth Merrill sitting at the Big E booth, a few people sewing, more farm services etc. Leaving there over by the FFA building there is a sea of blue; the FFA is holding animal showing competitions, forestry and chain drags. There are tractor vendors, food trucks serving ice cream and food as well as fiber vendors; just a little bit of everything. I have seen some Grange members from all over the State and some people with stories of Granges in their area. The crowds are coming and going leaving a steady flow of attention to the NH State Grange booth. I may have even seen you here.

On a different note, I canceled the Fecal Float Program due to a lack of interest. I may try to do it in the fall and see if we can get a crowd. Fecal floats are a great thing to do in the spring and fall to see what your animal's parasite load is and what needs to be done. It is easily done and will tell you if it is time to consult your vet on what will be best to control them. I tend to check my animals in the spring before letting them out and then in the fall before locking them in for the winter. By removing competition for nutrition from your animals' guts, your animals will do better.

For gardens, I'm going to suggest mulching. Mulching will hold in moisture and help get rid of weeds. You don't need to pay for your mulch. After raking, take a lawn mower and run over the leaves a few times. This will be an inexpensive mulch. If you already got rid of your leaves, use your grass clippings. Rake up or if you have a bagger on your mower just spread it out under your plants. Remember if you're mulching, remove the bottom leaves of many of your plants to be sure you have good air flow and to keep diseases from infecting your plants.

Oh, more people I'm going to chat, so I hope to chat with all of you at some time.



Legislative Department
Bob Haefner Director

The next Presidential Primary Election is less than a year away. Several times over the decades, other states have tried to move their primary in front of NH. Always unsuccessfully. New Hampshire has held the first Presidential Primary for the last 100 plus years. This year the challenge is a little more significant. The President of the US has said he wants South Carolina to be first and NH and Nevada to follow. The DNC has affirmed that position. NH Democrat Leadership and the Congressional Delegations have supported NH staying first and still do. I have talked with Burton Eller at National Grange and asked about starting to plan a “Fly In” to NH. He would like to hold off to see how the South Carolina – New Hampshire issues settle out.

South Carolina has been endorsed by the President and the DNC. NH has the backing of our Congressional Delegation, and the RNC. NH has the law that requires our Secretary of State to schedule the NH Primary one week before any other primary, and also we have a Secretary of State prepared to enforce that law. In speaking with Secretary Scanlon, he believes we will go first. There will be a robust Republican campaign season and primary. He believes that on the Democrat side, several lesser-known candidates will file and run in NH. The President will not sign up to run in NH but will still win with write in votes. Stand by, I expect to have a Fly-In to NH for the FITN.

The political landscape in NH has been interesting for years. Majorities change every term or two, Governor’s Political Affiliation change. Remember how popular John Lynch (D) was, he served more than two terms. Chris Sununu (R) is on his fourth term and is still popular. This term, the NH House, like both chambers of Congress, are only separated by a couple of votes. With that, attendance is so important. If the Majority has a couple of absences, suddenly the Minority can be in the Majority and start passing their bills. Of course, Partisanship is as bad here as it is in DC and almost every other state. The other party is not the loyal opposition, but the enemy. Nothing good can come from that.

I recently talked to one of our dairy farmers. Last year’s 6-week drought resulted in that farm having to cull nearly 50 cows--because they did not grow enough food last summer to feed the whole herd. They are still milking less than they were. The number of dairy farms continues to fall, as more and more are selling the herds. At some point we will start losing infrastructure for the dairy industry.

**150th New Hampshire State Grange Session
October 26th ~ 28th 2023**



Holiday Inn ~ Concord Downtown
172 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301
603- 224-9534

Rates:

Thursday, October 27th ~ \$124.00 plus 8.5% room tax
Friday, October 28th ~ \$124.00 plus 8.5% room tax
Saturday, October 29th ~ \$124.00 plus 8.5% room tax

The above prices are for two adults.
Additional adults will be charged \$10.00 per person per night.

When making your reservation be sure to inform the staff that you are with the
New Hampshire State Grange.
These prices will not be offered after September 26th. Check-in time is 3:00 PM and
checkout is 11:00 AM.

Conferral of the 5th Degree

Hillsborough County Pomona #1 will be conferring the Fifth Degree
Saturday, October 21, 2023 – 6:30 PM
NH State Grange Building
10 Riverside Drive, Hooksett

This will be the perfect opportunity to learn the lessons of the 5th Degree prior to
the conferral of 6th Degree on October 27th.

Anyone who would like to take part in the degree as an officer, in the Court, or as a
candidate is asked to contact Jerry Leclerc, Secretary at 603-809-6355 or
leclercjerry@aol.com. This will be preceded by a dinner—time & menu TBD.

NATIONAL GRANGE SESSION:

November 14-18, 2023

Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls

Sheraton at the Falls

300 Third Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14303

(716) 285-3361

157th Convention Registration to open May 1st

Get ready to "Flow into the Future" at the 157th Annual Session of the National Grange, hosted by the northeast region states of New York, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

This year's Convention will be in Niagara Falls, New York - just blocks from the falls! The Sheraton Niagara Falls is an incredible hotel, and the convention itself and many of the evening activities will be held at the Niagara Falls Convention Center, just across the street!

We invite ALL Grange members to participate in the Convention activities, so please save the dates and make plans to attend!

This is your early warning to ensure your passport is up to date. You won't want to miss the opportunity to pop over to Canada when you're just a few steps away:

<https://www.usps.com/international/passports.htm>

Registration for this year's convention opens on May 1st - we hope you're ready! Room rate is \$119 plus tax per night.

Stay tuned over the coming weeks and months for more information about speakers, tours, and other opportunities (both fun and educational!) for all Grange members during the Convention.

NEW TRAINING PROGRAM FOCUSES ON MEMBERSHIP, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

SHIPmates will be selected from each region; applications now open

By Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership and Leadership Development Director

PROGRAM TIMELINE

How to Apply: Complete the SHIPmates application pack in full and return to Amanda Brozana Rios, National Grange Membership and Leadership Development Director, by email at membership@nationalgrange.org

Application period: May 15 through July 15, 2023

Details regarding this program & application can be found on the National Grange website: <https://www.nationalgrange.org/shipmates-program/>

CRAFTY WEEKENDS: Submitted by Beth Merrill

The State Grange Building has been a wonderful place for a group of crafty folks to gather and share space, tools, skills, and fellowship. When schedules allow, some brave souls bring along an air mattress and bedding and camp out for a night or two. Others prefer to drop in for a few hours to catch up on news and check out projects that are in the works. You can usually find someone quilting, cardmaking, or scrapbooking, but there may also be crocheting, embroidering, blanket tying, mixed media, and other such projects going on. There are tables and the space to spread out larger projects, which enabled me this spring to finish a couple of Quilts of Valor, which Antrim Grange then awarded to a couple of local veterans.

There is an open invitation to fellow crafters who desire to drop by or join in for the “weekend” experience. In this instance, a “weekend” constitutes a Thursday through Saturday period, as the SGB is rented by a church on Sundays. There are two Crafty Weekends scheduled in the next few months. The dates for those are June 22-24 and August 17-19. The latter date could be a perfect time to finish up on some of the contest items for State Grange such as the Lecturer’s Card Contest, or the Youth Department’s Wreath Contest. If you are planning a visit, it might be a good idea to let us know you are coming in case of changes to the schedule. Also, there is an email group that gets a reminder when a weekend date is approaching. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact Beth Merrill, and then you can know what’s happening as plans are set.

The Granite State Granger is a free* publication to keep Grange members informed of past and up-coming events. *(However, donations are accepted). This paper is printed quarterly. Submit all related correspondence:

Via e-mail to: granitestategranger@gmail.com

This just in: The second annual Family & Community Day was held on Saturday, May 20. They had 14 grangers in attendance who made crafts for the Big E and created entries for our new teacup arrangement contest. The winners of the Mac n cheese cook-off were Beth Merrill (1st), Brian Twiss (2nd), and Jane Trombi (3rd). We had a fun day! More to follow in our next issue.



GRANGERYOUTH

Northeast Regional
Grange Youth Conference 2023
July 15th at 8am – July 16th at 11am
Vermont Grange Center, 308 West St, Brookfield, VT 05036
For Youth Members age 14-35, but all are welcome to attend!
Regional Contests - Games - Drill Teams
\$35 includes all meals, activities & lodging
Payment accepted through Venmo @Jessica-Falker-1
or cash/check payable to:
Vermont State Grange Youth

Please mail form to Rachel Scanzani 24 Lenny Lane, Hudson, NH 03051 or email
to rachel.scanzani@gmail.com

Name:

Address:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Food allergies or special needs:

I would like to participate in the following contests (check all that apply):

Sign-A-Song Grange Baseball (trivia, not actual baseball)

Public Speaking Drill Team I'm Not Sure Yet

Let's See What Other Granges Have Been Doing:

Baker's River Grange: Here's what's been happening:



In February, Baker's River Grange in Rumney, NH made 100 Valentines for Epoch Healthcare Senior Living Center. Picture shows Tammy Bishop, Epoch's Administrator, and husband Scott receiving the Valentines for the residents.



Baker's River Grange thanks Mark Bishop from M and E Building for providing a brand-new set of stairs and rail, donating over half of the 7 hours of labor, time and materials. We would also like to thank Terry French from Brookside Lumber for donating the pressure treated wood. In addition, Ida Hutchins donated the balance payment in memory of her parents Bea and Gerald Hutchins, and grandparents Pluma and Lester Hutchins, previous Grange members.



On April 15th, Baker's River Grange thanked and honored fellow member, Overseer and Past Master, Jeannie Horne for her 70 years of dedicated service. Jeannie began at the Pink Granite Grange, then Moosilauke, and is also a current member and previous Assistant of the Grafton County Pomona. Jeannie held several offices and participated in many committees, and is well known for making excellent egg salad sandwiches. Pictured is State Master Tricia Taylor presenting Jeannie with her 70-year seal award.



On April 22nd, Baker's River Grange co-hosted a Vision Screening event with the Pemi Baker Lions Club.

ROCKINGHAM GRANGE COMMUNITY GARDEN: submitted by Bruce Gatchell

Grange members have been busy clearing the land and preparing 21 spots for the Community Garden. The new fence posts have been placed, and many thanks go to: Paul Gatchell (& equipment) Joe Perry, Mark Vallone, Christa Weaver, Wilson Venditti, and John Clarke. Hopefully, the fence can be completed this week.

All 21 garden boxes are done (Spruce logs milled, measured, and assembled) and have been placed (3 rows of 7). Thank you, Christa Weaver and Wilson Venditti!!!

I can smell the tomato plants, already!



Suncook Valley Pomona #12—submitted by Hannah West

Suncook Valley Pomona met in March at the State Grange Building in Hooksett to elect officers and approve a budget for 2023. Most of the officers remained in their positions, but Lorraine Lacross was elected Master and Mary West moved to Overseer. The meeting was exceptionally well attended with eleven members, three guests, and three Junior members. Everyone enjoyed a potluck dinner before the meeting. Deputy Arthur Merrill installed all the officers, except Lorraine who was unable to attend. She had previously agreed to accept the office of Master and will be installed later this year.

This Grange meets four times a year, and the next meeting will be a July 13 picnic at the West home in Chichester. Members of Eastern NH Pomona are invited to participate. A Brown Bag Auction will be held to raise money for donations to the State Grange Youth Funds. We hope to hold a Yard Sale this summer to raise money for the Dictionary Project.

Speaking of the Dictionary Project, Suncook Valley Pomona would like to thank Rochester Grange for taking a box of older dictionaries off our hands. Those dictionaries are in perfect condition, but they are missing biographical information

for the most recent president or two. They will be used for adult education. If anyone else would like a few older dictionaries, there are still some available. Contact Hannah West at gowest@tds.net.

Saving Rockingham Grange #183 – Written by Elaine Gatchell & submitted by Crystal Seward

The big Rockingham Grange # 183 project is, in part, to save the historic Grange Hall so that this beautiful building will be totally functional once again. With the idea to revive the rich heritage of Rockingham Grange # 183, Bruce Gatchell is spearheading the massive endeavor by first building a community garden to fuel our Epping food pantry with fresh vegetables and to provide raised 4'x8' plots for community individuals interested in their own plantings. The massive work of making this piece of land viable for planting is being made possible by the following dedicated volunteers whether it be by donated time, resources and/or financial support. Paul Gatchell, Christa Weaver, Danny Harvey, Wilson Venditti, Matthew Harvey, Wendy True, Judie Harvey, Joe & Barbara Perry, Sally Brocato, Elaine Gatchell, Mark & Christine Vallone, John Clarke, Mary Gatchell and Elisabeth Gustavson have all been involved.

The momentous task of taking down six giant spruce trees (now being used for excellent boards for fencing), as well as many other smaller trees, and excavation donated by Gatchell Earth, will help make way for a community garden that will serve the Food Pantry at Epping Community Church. The twenty-one, 4'x8' raised garden beds is a great opportunity for community members to become involved in the growing season!

This is only the beginning of the major restoration project to make the historic, beautiful Grange building usable again for gatherings, functions and Grange suppers! We are asking members of our greater community for support to continue working toward this great goal! Donations are tax deductible as we are a NH non-profit organization.

Memorable Evening at Antrim Grange – Submitted by Beth Merrill

If there is a way to repeat the karma, the alignment of stars, the magic formula, or whatever it was that happened at the May 3rd meeting of Antrim Grange, I would wish to know how to make that happen. It was the best Grange meeting I have attended for quite some time.

The meeting was well-attended by Antrim Grange members, including new members who have made a big difference by immersing themselves in volunteering for our many projects. There were visitors from six Granges, including several State Officers, specially invited to fill key positions as we conferred the Second Degree. We were delighted to host visitors from Joe English Grange, completing an exchange of meetings between our two Granges this year. Although we are holding meetings around a table at a local church while our Grange Hall is undergoing a rehabilitation project, this particular meeting the hall was set up to closely resemble a real Grange Hall. We were treated to wonderful piano music by our State Pianist, Lester Gibbs, complete with Grange songbooks on hand for singing during the opening, closing and degree songs.

The degree was conferred with respect and dignity, yet there was a sense of ease and comfort to the ceremony, and even the business portion of the meeting had its share of fun moments with everyone sharing a laugh or two. And, finally, my most favorite part of the evening, was the fellowship and camaraderie following the meeting, with no one in a particular hurry to head for home.

The entire event harkens back to how I remember Grange meetings of my youth. In those times, Grange ritual was the norm, not a specially scheduled, infrequent event generated to satisfy the longings of “old-timers” to revisit nostalgic sentiments and lessons we learn by its exemplification. In addition, unlike present day, members visiting neighboring Granges was a regular affair, something that can be beneficial to our order if resurrected nowadays.

If anyone knows the magic formula to plan future Grange meetings that recreate the good feelings we experienced on May 3rd, please advise the rest of us! Everyone should be so blessed!

Hudson Grange # 11—Submitted by Jerry Leclerc

Hudson Grange #11 is pleased to report on two community outreach opportunities to the Hudson community.

For the past year, Hudson Grange has partnered with St. Pauly Textile, Inc. by having a “Clothing Shed” placed at the Grange Hall. Members of the community can donate clothing as well as linens and other household textiles. St Pauly Textile picks up the donated items monthly and sends the Grange a check for the pounds collected.

In 2022, the community donated 17,162 pounds of clothing which is estimated to clothe 3,161 people worldwide. As a result, Hudson Grange received \$686.46.



In April, Hudson Grange opened a “Little Free Library” at the Grange Hall. Books for adults and children have been placed in the little building built by Rick Bailey and has been visited many times, as the books have been taken and new used books have been added.

“Little Free Library” is a registered trademark, so a fee needed to be paid for the use of the name. A plaque with our charter number has been provided and placed on our little building. Hudson Grange #11 has also been added to the Little Free Library web site with the address of where we are located.

Antrim Grange Hall Rehabilitation Project—submitted by Beth Merrill

As we approach the six-year mark of this project, the foundation work is resuming now that good weather is upon us. The roof job, for which we received a \$10,000 matching grant from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, is scheduled for this summer. The matching funds have been mostly secured, thanks to much support from the community during our Buy a Bundle Campaign, Yard Sale, Penny Sale, and this year’s 120 Club raffle.

In May, we learned that the foundation portion of our project has earned yet another \$10,000 matching grant, this time from the 1772 Foundation, in cooperation with the NH Preservation Alliance. These funds will help with needed work on a carrier beam in the north bay and dry-stone foundation being constructed beneath the north sill beam. So, as soon as we reach our goal for the LCHIP fundraising, we will refocus our fundraising efforts to match this grant.

The retaining wall at the north and west sides of the property is also slated for additional construction work and we do expect to have more volunteers arriving now and then to help with the project in exchange for receiving instruction and hands-on experience in dry walling. Andras Lazar and Pete Ryder have received numerous compliments for their expertise provided to last year's volunteers. Interested volunteers are urged to contact Amy-Louise Pfeffer, Executive Director of The Stone Trust, and should note that they have taken [Introduction to Dry Stone Walling Workshop](#). That way they come to the work with an understanding of the basic principles that will hold up the Grange for the next several hundred years. An article about our project, and featuring local dry waller, Andras Lazar, will be published in The Stone Trusts' annual report, "Hearting", in early June. Look for the link to be shared on the Antrim Grange Facebook page when it becomes available.

As always, donations may be sent directly to Antrim Grange #98, c/o Beth Merrill, Secretary, 107 West Street, in Antrim. Tax deductible donations can be sent to the "NH Grange Foundation", c/o Andrew Savage, Treasurer, 837 Bennett Way, Newmarket, NH 03857, making sure you designate your contribution is for the Antrim Grange account. We are grateful for every contribution, no matter how much or little!

Something To Think About . . .

The article below was written and read by Gordon Placy at a Mohawk Grange #217 meeting in Colebrook about 1983. Many of the reasons listed still hold true today. He was the treasurer at Mohawk for many years. Gordon was the father of Nancy Placy and Mary Jannenga, now members of Claremont Grange #9. (Submitted by Joyce Martin)

Does America Need the Grange?

Yes, America needs the Grange or any other organization that reaches out into the grass roots of this great country of ours.

Why does America need the Grange? There are many reasons why and I am sure that each of you could name a great number. I shall list a few reasons that come to my mind.

History has proven that civilization depends on agriculture to exist. The Grange was founded by and for agricultural minded people. This one reason is enough to warrant the existence of the Grange in our present society.

However, agriculture has seen tremendous changes during the last century and many farmers have gone into industry to obtain a livelihood for their families and at the same time many continue to be active in the Grange. This is good because to keep enough people in agriculture to feed our ever-growing population our farms must get a comparable wage to those in other endeavors.

The non-farmer Grangers could be a nucleus to help maintain a proper, public relations between the farmers and non-farmers and help show the non-farmers the folly of trying to keep all food prices down. As labor goes on strikes and gets more pay it drives up the price on everything the farmer buys forcing him to produce more and more. Because the price of his produce does not increase, he has to put in more time to get the necessary money to buy his needs. I say that the farmers are not going to stand for this forever. You saw and heard proof of this in the news media this spring when dairymen were dumping their milk and slaughtering their cows. Remember civilization depends on agriculture. The Grange could be a great force by its numbers in bringing about increases in food prices to the producers.

In the past the Grange served as the major social function for many families. It can still serve that purpose today.

The Grange is in an excellent position to teach democracy because it is practiced in the meetings all the time. It serves as a training ground for all members. With the practice obtained in Grange meetings through the Lecturer's programs many receive training so they could express themselves in Town meetings or school meetings.

The religious or moral teachings in the Grange if lived up to by all members would be a good example for all citizens to copy and would make a better place for all Americans to live.

International relations have been improved for America by the help of the Grange in the IFYE program. I am sure each of you are familiar with this program.

To sum up, I think the Grange helps the individual, the family, the community, the state, the nation, and the world. How could anyone say that America does not need the Grange?

Grange Bulletin Board

Correction: The first-place winner of the State Grange Blueberry Muffin contest was Kim Ganley (not Kim Gonley) of Baker's River Grange as noted in the December issue.

Welcome to our New Members:

Petrine McNiff - Antrim Grange #98
Terry McNiff - Antrim Grange #98
Shawn Covill - Stratford Grange #238
Alan Farrar - Stratford Grange #238
Dora Farrar - Stratford Grange #238
Mathew Roy - Stratford Grange #238
Robert Canney - Cochecho Grange #81
Russell Hamilton - Mohawk Grange #217

In Memorium:

Catherine Jenness - Cochecho Grange #81
Mary Bergeron - Gilman Grange #1
Helen Adjutant - Rochester Grange #86
Beatrice MacDow - Rochester Grange #86
Carolyn D. Pike - Rochester Grange #86
Janice Smith - Crown Point #65
Annie Lingard - Crown Point #65
Wallace Hooper - Joe English #53

Support the Elf!
Please send your Educational Loan
Fund donation to:
Patrice Lawlor
PO Box 386
Pelham, NH 03076

All material for the next issue needs to be in to the NH Granite State Granger News Office by August 15, 2023.
Please email to granitestategranger@gmail.com or gsg@nhgrange.org

THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER

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Co-Editors Pat Bailey & Patrice Lawlor
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Tel. (603) 880-8615

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

July 28, 29, 30, 2023	Grange Family Weekend at Davidson's Countryside Campground, 100 Schofield Road, Bristol, NH
July 26 – July 30	North Haverhill Fair
August 3 – August 6	Cheshire Fair
August 5 – August 6	Belknap County 4H Fair
August 18 – August 20	Cornish Fair
August 31 – September 4	Hopkinton Fair
August 31 – September 4	Lancaster Fair
September 8 – September 10	Hillsborough County Fair
September 14 – 17 & September 21 - 24	Granite State Fair
September 15 – October 1	Eastern States Expo, West Springfield, MA
September 28 – October 1	Deerfield Fair
October 7 – October 9	Sandwich Fair
October 27 – 29	NH State Grange Session, Holiday Inn, Concord, NH
November 14 – 18	National Grange Convention Niagara Falls, NY