



# The Granite State Granger

Volume 52

Number 1

2022

March



## Blue Ribbon Booth

The NH State Grange booth at the Farm and Forest Expo in February won a blue ribbon. This award comes with the prize of a free single booth at next year's Expo, so the Grange will only have to pay for half of the double booth they request. Although other booths were more professionally decorated, the judges were very impressed with the interactive nature of the Grange's exhibit. Congratulations to the Membership and Agriculture Committees for all their hard work.

## Applications Sought for 2022 Clarence Sprague-John West Scholarships and Grants Program

The New Hampshire Grange Foundation invites applications for the 2022 Clarence Sprague-John West Awards, an educational scholarship and grant program. New Hampshire residents pursuing an agricultural education related to agriculture production, economics or education, in that order of priority, are welcome to submit applications. Preference is given to Grange members and their direct relatives.

Awards are available in five categories of Scholarships and grants:

**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.

One application form may be used to apply for any of the five categories. The application may be submitted electronically (preferred), or printed and mailed. Historically awards have been made in amounts up to \$1,000 each. 2022 awards will depend on funding availability and winners will be notified by August 1, 2022. Visit the NH Grange Foundation website to download an application [www.nhgrange.org/grange\\_foundation.html](http://www.nhgrange.org/grange_foundation.html) The 2022 application **deadline is May 20th**. For more information contact the NH Grange Foundation at [nhgrangefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:nhgrangefoundation@gmail.com).

### About the Clarence Sprague-John West Awards

The New Hampshire Grange was bequeathed a generous gift of money from Clarence Sprague, a successful businessman who benefitted from a local Grange scholarship in his youth. A separate NH Grange Foundation has been established by the NH State Grange to administer these funds and oversee the program. The scholarships are named the Clarence Sprague-John West Awards, after the benefactor and a dedicated Grange member and teacher.

[More information can be found on page 3.]

## Disbanding The Agate?

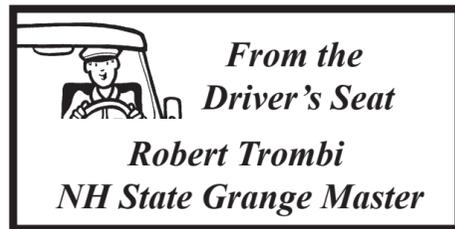
by Hannah West

The Agate has not met for some time. Even before the pandemic, meetings were not being held. This organization of Grange Past Masters might have dwindled into oblivion from neglect were it not for the fact that its bank account is somehow linked to the NH State Grange financial accounts. The State Treasurer recently made this discovery and would like to tidy things up.

The quick fix would be to declare The Agate defunct at the next Executive Committee meeting, close the small account, and move on. However, The Agate has existing members who should have some say in the matter. We are reaching out here to begin the process of determining the future of The Agate. Known members will also be contacted.

Let's set a deadline of the NH State Grange Session in October for a final decision. Updates on progress and sharing of opinions, if useful, will be printed in the June and September issues of **The Granite State Granger**. If you are a caring member of The Agate and have an opinion to express, please reach out to

**Hannah West, 3 Depot Road,  
Chichester, NH 03258 or e-mail  
to [gowest@tds.net](mailto:gowest@tds.net).**



Happy almost spring! We've had many cold, icy days this winter, and I for one am looking forward to warmer weather. I would like to thank everyone for sending good thoughts of healing my way as I deal with my medical issues. I am still recovering from my stroke in October. My reading has improved, but still not back to where it was. I am still having memory issues and balance issues. It was also found that I had a tumor on my lung. Thankfully it was caught early, and they were able to take care of it with just four radiation treatments. They will do a follow up CT Scan in a few months.

As we are still dealing with the Covid pandemic I know many Granges are still hesitant about meeting in person. I hope that if you are not meeting in person, that you are taking advantage of the State Grange Zoom account and meeting virtually. It's important to at least see each other's faces and hear each other's voices.

We had a successful Deputy/Leaders School in December at the State Grange Building. Each committee met and discussed the events they are planning this year. Be on the look out for information on what they have going on. The deputies met and I have asked them to add a couple of items to their fall visit. I have asked Granges to indicate how they are communicating with members that are not attending meetings and how they are participating in their communities. It is important that Granges stay in touch with those members they do not see and keep them apprised as to what the Grange is doing. If they know what is going on, something may strike an interest and they will start coming to Grange again. If they are local and not attending, have a member reach out to them and ask them what they would like to see the Grange involved in. Is there something they would be willing to help with? If you don't ask, you won't know.

At this meeting we handed out certificates that we brought home from National Grange to be given to Honor Granges for a net gain in membership. We gave out certificates for 2020 and 2021. Congratulations to the 2021 Honor Granges: Concord Grange #322, Gilman Grange #1, Park Grange #249, and Watatic Grange #36.

I would like to congratulate Norman Brandt and Gloria Davis for a successful Farm and Forest event in Manchester and for receiving first place in the garden category. Jane and I were able to attend and enjoyed seeing the fun the kids had collecting eggs, picking vegetables and planting seeds. It's always nice to talk to people about what a great organization we have. I would also like to commend Rachel Scanzani and Joann Brandt for holding in person Junior and Youth Rally. It's always better when we can see each other in person!

Another shout out goes to State Membership Directors Jim Tetreault and Gloria Davis for holding the Membership Zoom meetings with National Membership Development Director, Amanda Brozana Rios, during the month of February. A lot of information was shared, and I hope that those attending heard some good ideas for enticing members to join and to keep those that they have interested.

Take a look at the State Grange Website and check out what Webmaster, Chris Heath has added. You'll find a new section with all the past State Masters of the NH State Grange. Well done, Chris.

State Overseer Tricia Taylor and I will be attending the President's Conference sponsored by the National Grange in Myrtle Beach, SC at the end of February. I am looking forward to interesting work-

**THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER**  
 This is a free\* publication to keep Grange members informed of past and up-coming events.  
 \*(However, donations are accepted.)  
 This paper is printed quarterly.  
 Postmaster or anyone else:  
 Please send all related correspondence to  
 Hannah West  
 3 Depot Road  
 Chichester, NH 03258

shops and the important information that will be shared.

Remember that growing the Grange starts with you. You are the only one that can ask someone to join the Grange. If we always think that someone else will ask someone, the chance is no one is getting asked. You are the key. Keep your Grange in the community spotlight and let everyone know your Grange is alive and well!



The New Hampshire State Grange had a very successful booth at the Farm and Forest Exposition. We won a first place ribbon this year. A big thank you goes out to Gloria Davis, Norman Brandt and Adam Terrell for the organization and execution of our booth. I hope you had the opportunity to stop by and visit with our members who worked at the booth.

As of the writing of this article we are in the middle of our membership zoom event working to grow the Grange. Between the first two meetings we have had at least 40 members in attendance.

Some basics that we are focusing on are as follows:

1. Is your Grange meeting? If not, what can you do to get your Grange meeting.
2. Is the Zoom platform an option if you don't feel safe meeting in person. On a personal note, my own Grange recently used Zoom and it was a great success. In the middle of roaring snow storm we were still able to hold a Grange meeting.
3. Making sure your meeting location is properly sanitized and social distancing is observed.

Please mark your calendars. Eastern NH Pomona will be doing the First degree on May 7th at Jeremiah Smith Grange at 2 pm. Even if you don't have new members to bring, let's support Eastern NH Pomona.

Let's not forget, the most important thing is to ask people to join our great organization.

## New Hampshire Grange Foundation Educational Scholarships and Grants Evaluation Criteria and Procedures Criteria for Determining Awards

Except as noted for a specific Scholarship or Grant program, the following evaluation criteria will apply to all applications:

Educational goals and financial need as expressed in the application essay  
 Recommendation(s) of non-related adult

Academic achievement  
 Non-academic activities  
 Personal (written) statement  
 Procedures for Scholarship and Grants

**A. Eligibility:** Applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited educational institution, in a course of study leading to a specific post-secondary degree related to agriculture, agricultural economics or education; working on a program for re-certification; enrolled in general equivalency diploma program; taking enrichment classes; or participating in an organized internship.

**B. Availability:** Scholarships and Grants will be available to the extent interest income from invested funds will allow.

**C. Duration:** Scholarships and Grants will be applicable for one academic year or duration of a specific course, whichever shall apply. Reapplication can be done for following years of study and only accomplishments since the previous application need to be written up.

**D. Application:** A completed application must be provided for the first academic year, or specific course, whichever shall apply. Applications that are not complete will not be considered. Successful grantees who wish to reapply a second time, only need to submit an essay describing their accomplishments and future plans.

**E. Selection:** Each application for Scholarships and Grants will be reviewed and acted upon by the Foundation Scholarship and Grant Committee. A telephone or personal interview may be requested. Decisions of the Committee will be final.

Visit the State Grange website at [www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org)

## Application

[Note: If you will be applying for a scholarship or grant, please apply on line (preferred) or download your application at [www.nhgrange.org/grange\\_foundation.html](http://www.nhgrange.org/grange_foundation.html). The application printed below is for information only.]

Page 1

(Please indicate for which you are applying)

Post-Secondary Scholarship & Grant  
 Continuing Re-Certification Grant  
 Adult General Equivalency Diploma Grant

Adult Education Enrichment Grant  
 Farm Internship

Please check that the following items are included to make the application complete:

— Recommendation letter from non-related adult

— Academic recommendation letter- teacher, principal, etc (not required for GED, Adult Ed Grant or Farm Internship)

— Personal written statement at the end of the application

— Transcript of current/most recent academic endeavor (not required for GED, Adult Ed Grants or Farm Internship)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

List any affiliation with agricultural organizations:  
 for Grange Members

Grange:

Length of membership:

Current and Prior Offices held:

Page 2

Complete Appropriate Categories Below:

Course of Study/Major  
 Re-Certification Program  
 Individual Course/Class/internship

Educational Background  
 Current or most recently attended  
 Educational Institution

Location

Graduate?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Standing or GPA

Sports:

## Leadership Roles:

Non-Academic Activities (description of activity, date and duration):

Page 3

Personal WrittenStatement

Please provide a summary of your educational goals and how the financial assistance you might receive from this scholarship/grant will help to achieve them.

Signature:

Date:

Send completed application to:  
 New Hampshire Grange Foundation  
 C/O New Hampshire Farm Bureau  
 295 Sheep Davis Road  
 Concord, NH 03301  
 Attn: Diane Clary  
 Email to: [nhgrangefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:nhgrangefoundation@gmail.com)

## 2022 Fair Season

With a more open social scene in our immediate future, we may look forward to fairs in the summer and fall. The dates below were listed on the NH State Fairs website. As always, keep your eyes and ears open for changes in your local events.

North Haverhill Fair – July 27-31

Cheshire Fair – August 5-7

Belknap County 4-H Fair – August 6-7

Cornish Fair – August 19-21

Lancaster Fair – Sept. 1-5

Hopkinton Fair – Sept. 1-5

Hillsborough County Agricultural Fair – Sept 9-11

Granite State Fair (Rochester) – Sept. 13-25

Deerfield Fair – Sept. 29 - Oct. 2

Sandwich Fair – Oct. 7-10

The Eastern States Exposition (Big E) is scheduled for September 16 to October 2 in West Springfield, MA



Detail from Grange Booth at Farm & Forest



Welcome to 2022. We have had snow, rain, ice and sickness off and on in all states. I hope you and your families are doing well.

We just finished the February Fun Day for the Junior Grangers with Youth event following it on the same day. Thanks to Rachel for assisting with lunch and for all those who attended. Gloria Davis was also working with us for lunch and activities, thank you. As we only had two Juniors come in the morning, we had lots to do. Connor and Gigi rolled out Molasses cookies and cut them to bake. Not having more members, we did lots of crafts. We made coloring pages painted with Q-tips, and frosted and put sprinkles on the cookies for dessert. There were 19 for lunch as we worked into the Youth activities.

#### Craft Contest for the Big E

Using popsicle sticks, create a Wooden Star "Hanging Holiday Ornament" for Christmas or Hanukkah. Glue together 5 or 6 wooden craft or popsicle sticks. Decorate with paint, glitter, gems, pompoms, feathers, beads, etc. Hang your Star with string or ribbon, pipe cleaner, etc.

Each entry must be clearly labeled with the following information: Name, Age (w/birth date), Grange name & number. Mailing address, phone &/or Email, & Junior Age Group. (Junior Age is determined as of January 1, 2022). There are 3 Age Groups: Group 1: 5-7, Group 2: 8-10, Group 3: 11-14

Please send to State Junior Director for judging by July 15th at Joann Brandt, 41 Burnt Swamp Rd, East Kingston, NH 03827. I will have them judged and send the 1st place winner in each of the 3 Age groups by August 1, 2022, to be judged against all of the other Northeast states. Crafts will be displayed in the Grange Building at the Big E in September.

Bowling will be coming up in March. I hope to see everyone there.



Connor and Gigi decorate cookies

I am working on a fun time in Hudson at the old Benson Animal Park as it is now a great place to hike and have fun on June 11, 2022. I hope you can save this date and come. More will come out before then so watch for details.

Hope everyone is staying safe and able to be out more than last year. If anyone would like me to visit your Grange, please let me know if you have children so we can grow our Junior Grangers. We must keep growing and learn the Grange program. Check out the National Grange Junior Grange contests also.

### Antrim Grange

Antrim Grange has continued to keep busy even during a pandemic. In December, we held the first Community Supper as a test to see if the public was ready to get out and enjoy each other's company again. Although we had a very small turnout, we were happy that some still came and enjoyed. We are hopeful that the Community Suppers will return soon for other groups to plan. I know we will plan another December meal if asked.

We have recently handed out dictionaries to the local 3rd graders at Antrim Elementary School and Pierce schools, along with one for the teacher to use as a teaching tool. Due to the pandemic, we were not able to present them personally but hope to do that again in the future. We enjoy doing this every year as one of our many ongoing community volunteer projects.

On February 22, we hosted the first Candidates Night since this virus began. This has been an annual community event

hosted by Antrim Grange and is always met with a very good response.

Antrim Grange is also starting a new fundraiser to get the matching donations needed for our recently awarded LCHIP grant that is going to be used to replace our roof. We are starting a Buy a Bundle fundraiser so that the proceeds will go directly to the roof. Details on how to join this work will be posted on our Antrim Grange Facebook page.

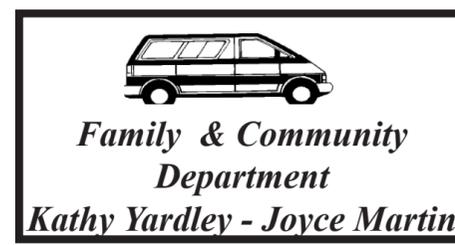
You will see us present at the Town Meeting on March 10th at the Town Gym. We will have water bottles, snacks and applications on hand for anyone wanting to learn more about our organization.

In late May, we will be hosting another 'donations only' yard sale on the front lawn of the Grange Hall. It was so successful this past summer, that we are hoping it is again. All proceeds go to the Antrim Grange Hall Restoration Fund. We are shooting for Memorial Day weekend or before. Details will be posted when we lock in a definite date and time.

We have an open door always and welcome anyone to join us at any time. We currently are meeting at the Antrim Presbyterian Church on 1st and 3rd Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. Come the end of April, weather pending, we will begin meeting in the Grange Hall in a table forum (same days and times) due to ongoing construction on the hall.

### Blow-Me Down Grange #234

As a Community Service project, Phyllis Aldrich (pictured below) has donated twelve adult bibs to Community Resource Director Stephanie Schell for distribution.



As the cold winter months begin to give way to warmer spring weather, this is the perfect time to be working on your family and community services projects. We are highlighting some of our projects, activities and contests here for you to try.

#### Baking Contest

If you like to bake, or even if you don't know how to bake, now is the perfect opportunity to work on your entry for this year's baking contest which is Blueberry Muffins. Your Subordinate Grange should have a contest, and the winner is invited to bake their muffins again and bring them to State Grange Session in October for judging there. Don't forget, Junior Grangers are welcome to enter also. Cash prizes will be given for first, second and third place at State Grange. Here are a couple of recipes for you to try.

#### Blueberry Muffins

4 C. flour                      2 eggs, beaten  
4 tsp. baking powder      1 ½ C. milk  
1 tsp. salt                      ½ C. butter, melted  
½ C. sugar                      2 C. blueberries

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and sugar into a large mixing bowl. Combine eggs, milk and butter and add to dry ingredients. Mix until combined. Fold in blueberries. Spoon equal portions into greased muffin pans. Bake at 400 degrees. Makes 24 muffins.

#### Blueberry Orange Muffins

2 ¼ C. flour                      2/3 C. sugar  
2 tsp. baking powder      1 tsp. baking soda  
½ tsp. salt                      ¾ C. nonfat yogurt  
½ C. margarine              2 large eggs, beaten  
2 tsp. grated orange peel  
1 ½ C. blueberries  
1 small orange, peeled, seeded, chopped with juice

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spray or line muffin pan. Whisk flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt together. Cut in margarine

till fine crumbs. In a small bowl mix yogurt, orange and peel until blended, stir in eggs. Make a well in the center of the flour mixture and pour in yogurt/egg mixture; fold in blueberries. Spoon into muffin pan. Bake 20 – 25 minutes.

#### Needlework Contest

The needlework contest has a few changes this year. Be sure to note the specific rules for each class, especially the dimensions.

**Class A: Afghan** - Because each state has had the majority of the entries in this class disqualified because they did not meet the requirements, the minimum size is now 45x74 inches and the maximum size is 52x84 inches.

**Class D: 3 piece Baby Set** – new requirements – must consist of a jacket, plus booties, bonnets, mittens or pants to make a three piece set. May be knitted or crocheted using any suitable pattern and product.

**Class H: Latch Hook** – dimensions have been changed to more appropriate size. Width must be a minimum of 18" and maximum of 24", with a maximum length of 45".

#### Big E Contributions

We had a very nice selection of items from Grangers that we took to the Big E in September for the Grange Store. The building manager has advised us that they do not need hats, they have a mountain of hats for the store at this year's fair. Mittens, scarves, lap robes, afghans, etc. are all still needed.

#### Quarterly Craft Project

##### - HEARTS -

For the next few meetings have members bring paper hearts in a variety of sizes and colors. Members should brainstorm to see what they can make from the various hearts that are representative of the month. For example, using three green hearts of the same size and one very small green heart you can make a shamrock for St Patrick's Day to represent March. Use your imagination. Take pictures of your creations and send them to us so we can print them in a future edition of the GSG. You can certainly do this on your own at home as well. Using paper, felt, or other fabrics, cut out heart shapes to make wreaths, wall hangings, table favors or centerpieces. Decorate

your home or Grange Hall with your creations, or give them to a nursing home, shelter or senior center to brighten their space.

### Family & Community Day Saturday, May 21st at the State Grange Building in Hooksett.

We will be having our first ever "Cooking Contest" which will be chili. There will be workshops on making community service booklets and crafts (which will be donated to a local charity), and community awareness topics. Stay tuned for more details!

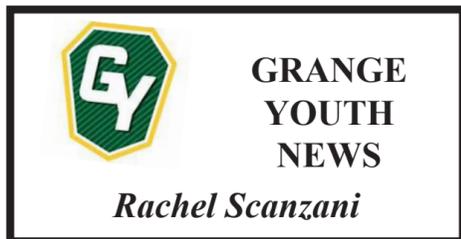
### Rockingham Grange #183

Rockingham Grange met on February 10 for our regular monthly meeting. We are on our way in funding our annual dictionary gifts to all third graders in Epping, Fremont, Raymond, and Newmarket. This is a very popular project for our Grange and has been for many years. All of our generous sponsors for this annual project are very much appreciated and will be listed in a future news release.

The exciting spring news is that the Garden Committee is busy forming a mission statement that will decide which direction the Grange will go by deciding the purpose of the proposed garden. Plans are in the works for the land behind our building to be cleared in time for planting. Will it be a garden for the community to share? Will it be a vegetable garden to produce fresh produce for our food pantries in town? Will it be to educate our youth in our schools as to how to plant and raise vegetables and flowers? The garden committee will be visiting area community gardens to see how they went about forming their gardens. After a decision is made as to our garden purpose, we will be in touch with the UNH Extension Service to learn from their expertise how to make this endeavor a successful reality.

We welcome new members! If you wish to join our Rockingham Grange, please contact Bruce Gatchell at bgatchel@comcast.net (one L) or by calling Bruce at 603-231-4520. We meet the second Thursday of each month at our historic building on North Main Street.

Support the Granite State Granger  
with your donation.



The New Hampshire State Grange Youth Department held our February Youth Rally in Hooksett on Saturday, February 19th. Were you there? Were you one of the brave few who ventured to Hooksett for the day with the predicted severe snow squalls? While our plan to have conversations and learn about how to build a social media presence for your grange didn't happen due to some scheduling conflicts, we were able to make use of our afternoon. We spent time decorating cookies - which were delicious and fun and then working on a community service project for the Night Night Hugs Project.



Of course we couldn't forget about the infamous Grange Knowledge Test. While many might get discouraged by this each year, there are many who are always eager and curious to see and learn about some new trivia or piece of Grange history that they didn't know before. For instance, do you know who wrote The Declaration of Purposes? (Hint - it was NOT one of the seven founders!) Can you name three past Youth Directors who are not current state officers or committee directors? The purpose of this test isn't to discourage you but to encourage discussion, learning, and growth.

As I was putting together the last few questions for the Grange Knowledge Test, I was digging into the National Grange website. It was full of current and historical information that I never knew

about and it got me thinking about all of the things that we as grangers have access to but fail to take advantage of. I would encourage each of you to take a look at both the National Grange (nationalgrange.org) and New Hampshire State Grange (nhgrange.org) websites for information about all of the great things that we can use to help us become better members of our Grange, community, and family.

Looking ahead, our next event is scheduled for Saturday, June 4th. This is our annual June Youth Rally and boy have we got some exciting things planned. Be ready to put together a team for a unique and fun experience that is sure to get you laughing and enjoying your day! More details will be coming in late April so be on the look-out.

In the meantime, take a look at the new contests for this year. Put together a spring wreath for your door (this would be a great youth night activity) or create a collage poster of your favorite flowers from your garden. The ideas are endless! Don't forget to take pictures of what you are doing and working on to be able to submit them in the fall with your notebook. We learn a great deal from others by seeing what they do so please share your great ideas with us when you submit your reports. I can't wait to see what everyone has been working on this year!

### Aurora Grange

Aurora Grange has not been able to have meetings recently due to illnesses. However, Ann Gray was able to get the dictionaries distributed to the third graders at Pittsburg School. Third graders at Stewartstown Community School also received dictionaries from Aurora Grange in December. Hopefully meetings will resume again soon.



### Dictionary Project

by Cam Twiss

Recently I was on the Dictionary Project web site and noticed that New Hampshire has a very low representation of towns whose third graders receive the books. Hannah West, who is the facilitator for the statewide project, agrees that participation by Subordinate Grange units has diminished recently. Is it because of the pandemic that prevents actual one to one interaction with the children? Is it because some of our Granges are still on "snooze" or do the teachers not use the books anymore?

My own Watatic Grange provides the dictionary/gazetteer for several towns, and the teachers are thankful and use them actively in the classroom. Written responses from the teachers include the following:

"Each year our students are so excited to receive their very own Dictionary. Students regularly use them during writing and get really excited about words and parts of speech."

"The Dictionaries also provide a great opportunity to build skills on how to use a dictionary and the benefits of having a resource always available."

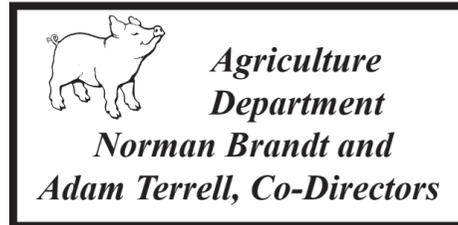
".... new students ask about the Dictionaries and when it will be their turn to receive their very own..."

"They have become a great tradition as well as a great resource."

In my experience, long time sponsors are most agreeable to continue support in paying for the books. Some examples of sponsors are Rotary and Lions clubs, restaurants, businesses and stores. The labels we place in the books recognize both the sponsor and our Grange. We are able to deliver some 300 books at no cost to us. We do the labeling, sorting and packaging as an activity at one of our meetings and the interaction is great!

I really hope that more Granges will take part in this rewarding project. I'm sure Hannah or I would be glad to offer advice to you if needed.

[Note: According to The Dictionary Project website, on March 1, 2022, 25.71 percent of New Hampshire public schools had been sponsored. That means 72 schools out of 280, which leaves 208 schools unsponsored.]



Spring is on its way. Fruit trees and grape vines are being prepped for the coming work of production. And, the first Fair has come and gone.

The NH State Grange had a booth at Farm and Forest again this year with few visitors on Friday and many on Saturday. The Membership and Ag Committees worked together to form another first place booth, meaning next year we get one free booth. On both Friday and Saturday we got to see one of the New Rockingham Grange Members, Nate Harvey, as he made rounds to see what Farm and Forest had to offer this year and also helped with manning the NH State Agriculture weights and measure booth. I sat in on a few of the programs that were offered, having had the chance when Gloria Davis, Joann Brandt, Scott Burns, Adam Terrill, Jane and Bob Trombi came to help in the booth. It is nice having a younger person at our booth, as they can work on showing the public that we are not a bunch of old fossils.

I got a call from my uncle, a veterinarian in Massachusetts. He was letting me know the Mass State Veterinarian had informed him that the North East is bracing for a bad year of Avian Influenza, and that if any of his clients have birds be sure to inform them that they need to keep wild birds far away from their birds and monitor closely for AI. He left me with the feeling that his State Vet feels there will be thousands of birds euthanized around here to try to control AI, and only a fraction of the birds' total value will be reimbursed to the farmer.

He also told me if it goes the way she was talking, we may be talking about \$10/lb. turkeys come Thanksgiving. I cannot advise everyone go buy birds as it will compound the problems, allowing disease to travel through the States faster, but be prepared as a Granger to help as needed. There is a vaccine for AI but it only does a few Variants so you cannot be

sure your birds will be protected.

For those people that are reading the above and saying, "Rabbits, I can raise rabbits for meat and keep away from the danger," if you have not already heard of rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus serotype 2 (RHDV2) quick look away! RHDV2 is a disease that effects rabbits. In 2018 it showed up in USA and has been hopping around showing up in wild rabbit populations. This disease is a fatal disease in rabbits with symptoms reminiscent of Ebola. The great news is there is a vaccine for your rabbits. Like the Covid Vaccines it is a series of two shots but has been shown very effective in protecting your rabbits from RHD; at least they won't die. Check with your Vet to see if they have access to it.

As of the time I'm writing this there is a bill in the US Congress that passed the House and is in the federal Senate. Buried within the 2,912 pages of the America COMPETES Act of 2022 (HR4521) lie Lacey Act amendments that affect all non-domesticated pet/animal (i.e. all animals except dogs, cats, and traditional farm animals) owners. COMPETES is an acronym for Creating Opportunities for Manufacturing, Pre-Eminence in Technology and Economic Strength. The stated purpose of the Act is to strengthen America's economic and national security but obviously, the animal section was slipped into the massive bill in hopes to go unnoticed. If this has passed with the amendment the following is likely to happen.

Briefly, the amendments will:

1. Provide that the Lacey Act bans the interstate transport of species listed as injurious. Specifically, it replaces Lacey's current language "shipment between the continental United States" with "transport between the States."
2. Create a "white list" of species that can be imported. This means that any animal (reptile, amphibian, fish, bird, mammal) that is not on the white list is by default treated as potentially injurious and is banned from importation.
3. Create a new authority allowing Fish and Wildlife Services to use an "emergency designation" that becomes effective immediately after being published in the Federal Register unless an extension of no more than 60 days is allowed. That

means no due process, public input, hearings, advanced notice, etc. for injurious listings

4. Permit FWS to not allow importation if a species has not been imported in "minimal quantities" (to be defined) in the year prior to the enactment of this Act.

5. The effective date would be one year after the enactment of this Act.

This amendment will most likely kill the pet industry over time.

I hope everyone is keeping their eyes and ears open and getting ready for Spring to tell us what to do.

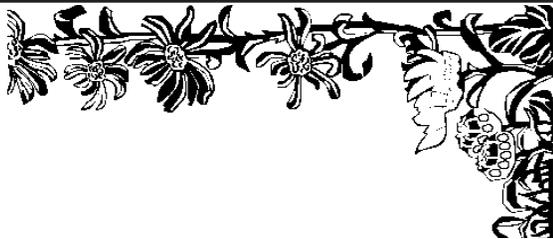
### News from Ann Olson Bercher

#### National Grange Lecturer

The deadline for submissions for the Virtual Photography Contest and the Quilt Block Contest has been moved up to June 30. This change came to allow for more judging and processing time. We also hope to use the winning photographs in a project that will benefit all of our Granges. The Wonky Star Quilt block is meant to be a quilter-friendly opportunity for beginners and seasoned quilters alike. Yes, it is supposed to look awkward, but finished quilts made up of the whimsical blocks are beautiful and joyful. Please feel free to contact the National Lecturer if you have any questions about either of these contests.

I want to bring your attention to the Weather Service Partnership, specifically to CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network). CoCoRaHS is a volunteer network of backyard weather observers of all ages and backgrounds working together to measure and map precipitation (rain, hail and snow) in their local communities. The only requirements to join are an enthusiasm for watching and reporting weather conditions and a desire to learn more about how weather can affect and impact our lives. The website has lots of educational materials, clear training videos and power point instruction. The only tool required is a specific rain gauge that can be ordered through CoCoRaHS. Reporting is easily done through their website or through a free app on your phone. Regular reporting is required, but this could be a great project for a family home or a Grange Hall that is frequently attended.

# Grange Bulletin Board



Ellis Lowry	Centennial
Marjorie Allen	Cocheco
Robert Preston	Gilman
Cynberline Tibbetts	Harmony
Beth Anderson	Lower Intervale
Eleanor Lyons	Mohawk
Dennis Hyde	Mohawk
Stanley Richardson	Pembroke
Evelyn Schafer	Rochester

## Calendar of Events

This calendar is a work in progress. Please check to be sure the events are happening before you make plans.

March 20 - State Grange Bowling - Lakeside Lanes, Manchester  
May 7 - First Degree 2 p.m. -Jeremiah Smith Grange Hall, Lee, NH  
May 20 - Deadline for NH Grange Foundation Scholarships  
May 21 - Family & Community Day - State Grange Building, Hooksett  
June 4 - June Youth Rally  
June 11 - Junior Grange Fun Day  
July 15 - JG Big E crafts due to Joann Brandt for NH judging

## A Hearty Welcome to Our New Members

Joining Antrim Grange #98

Melissa Davis

Lydia Bean

Stephen Burkhardt

Dennis Young

Joining Blow-Me-Down #234

Cheryl Coutermarsh

Joining Mt. Pistareen Grange #145

Collette Chickering

Joining Watatic Grange #36

Caden Lynch (Junior Graduate)

## First Degree Conferral

Eastern New Hampshire Pomona #2 will "tentatively" work the **First Degree Saturday May 7, 2022, at Jeremiah Smith Grange #2 in Lee, NH at 2:00 p.m.** If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Glen Eldredge at: [eldredgeglen@yahoo.com](mailto:eldredgeglen@yahoo.com) or Lois Enman at [LLjen@myfairpoint.net](mailto:LLjen@myfairpoint.net). Rehearsal times will begin after March 19. This would be a great time to bring members that have not seen a degree.

## Deadline

The next issue of the Granite State Granger will be mailed in **June 2022**. Please send items for the paper to Hannah West on or before **May 9, 2022**. Report on events of March and April. Look ahead to events of **July, August, and September**.

Support the ELF!

Please send your Educational Loan Fund

donations to:

Patrice Lawlor  
PO Box 386  
Pelham NH 03076



What we see depends mainly on what we look for.~John Lubbock

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

THE GRANITE STATE GRANGER

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EPSOM, NH  
PERMIT NO. 4