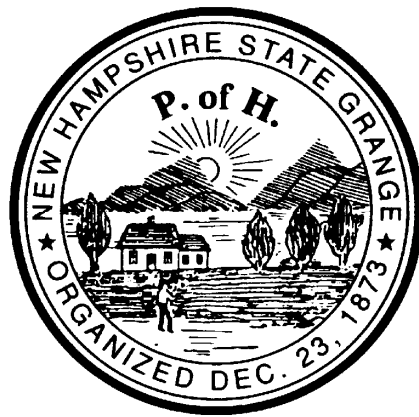


# **Proceedings**

of the

**ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION**

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE *PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY***



**Held in**

**Nashua, New Hampshire**

**October 23, 24 and 25, 2008**

**Carolyn J. Ross, Secretary**

# Table of Contents

Century Farm Award.....	98
Community Service Awards.....	70
Conferral of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree.....	7
Dedication.....	2
Election of Officers.....	85
Financial Statement.....	15
Flora’s Court.....	73
Grange Budget.....	24
Initiates of Sixth Degree.....	73
Installation of Officers.....	101
Lecturer’s Program.....	7
Legislative Director.....	45
Media.....	57
Memorial Service.....	5
National Master’s Letter.....	6
Past Masters of the State Grange.....	4
<b>REPORT OF COMMITTEES</b>	
Credentials.....	97
Family & Community Services.....	68
501C3 Study Committee.....	80
Fundraising/Operations.....	54
Grange Services.....	46
Junior.....	77
Master’s Address Committee.....	99
Membership Development Committee.....	78
Pomona Study Committee.....	82
Resolutions Committee.....	86
Trustees of Trust Funds.....	47
Youth.....	75
<b>REPORT OF OFFICERS</b>	
Assistant Steward.....	93
Ceres.....	95
Chaplain.....	94
Executive Committee.....	27
Flora.....	96
Gatekeeper.....	94
General Deputy.....	71
Historian.....	66
Lady Assistant Steward.....	93
Lecturer.....	41
Master.....	59
Musician.....	96
Overseer.....	92
Pomona.....	95
Publicist.....	57
Secretary.....	25
Steward.....	92
Treasurer.....	15
Resolutions.....	8
Sessions Coordinator.....	56
Tabular Statements.....	103

## DEDICATION

The 2008 Journal of Proceedings is being dedicated to Past State Master, John H. West and Past State Secretary, Jeanne G. Higgins.

Born in 1942, John was the son of Herbert G. and Adah A. West and lived in Chichester most of his life. He graduated from Concord High School and from Keene State College, and earned a Master's Degree from the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College. A middle-school English teacher, he taught for three years in Gorham and for 34 years at Rundlett in Concord.

John was a 52-member of Chichester Grange, a member of Suncook Valley Pomona Grange, the Agate Past Masters Association, the New Hampshire State Grange and the National Grange. Grange was his joy, and he held many offices in our organization including State Master from 2003 to 2007. At the time of his death he was serving as Chaplain of the National Grange.

John passed away on July 26, 2008. He will be remembered by his family and friends for his sense of treating everyone equally, his perseverance, and his uncompromising commitment to his family and Grange family friends. John was very much of a peacemaker who saw good in everyone. Officers and committees felt comfortable asking him for guidance.

Jeanne was born in 1921, the daughter of James H. and Ruth G. Glidden, She lived in Arlington, MA, until she and her late husband, John Higgins, moved to Hampton in 1955. For many years she and her husband John owned and operated the Hampton Flower and Garden Shop. After they sold the flower shop, she worked at the Ocean National Bank until her retirement and then continued to work for eight years at the UNH Department of Housing.

Jeanne was a 51-year member of Grange, having been a member of Ocean Side Grange and then transferring to Gilman in 1990. Loving the Grange, she was a Past Master of Ocean Side Grange, Gilman Grange and East Rockingham Pomona Grange. Jeanne also held the positions of Membership Director, Special Pomona Deputy, Pianist, and Secretary of the State Grange. Jeanne passed away on November 5, 2008. She will be remembered for her infectious smile, the beautiful flower arrangements that she was so capable of creating, and most of all her exceptional piano playing. Jeanne was a very diligent worker, and she was the first lady Secretary of the State Grange. Jeanne will be missed by many, especially her caregivers for the past 10 years, Carolyn and Donald Ross.

The song "For Good" sung by Sandi Patty seems to sum up what both John and Jeanne gave to us all.

I've heard it said  
That people come into our lives  
For a reason  
Bringing something we must learn  
And we are led to those  
Who help us most to grow  
If we let them and we help them in return  
Well I don't know I believe that's true  
But I know I'm who I am today  
Because I knew you

Like a comet pulled from orbit  
As it passes the sun  
Like a stream that meets a boulder  
Halfway through the wood  
Who can say if I've been changed for the better?

But because I knew you  
I have been changed for good  
It well may be  
That we will never meet again  
In this lifetime  
So let me say before we part

So much of me  
Is made of what I have from you  
You'll be with me  
Like a handprint on my heart  
And now whatever way our stories end  
I know you have rewritten mine  
By being my friend

# 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

\* *Deceased*

† *Present During Session*

## JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE

**PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY  
COURTYARD MARRIOTT, NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Thursday, October 23, 2008**

The New Hampshire State Grange Officers marched in to officially open the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Session at 7:05 p.m.

State Master Beth Merrill called the session to order with the Grange opening in the Sixth Degree. The Grange was lowered to the Fourth Degree. The roll call of officers found all present. The roll call of Granges found a quorum present.

State Master Beth Merrill called a brief recess to prepare for the Memorial Service.

The Grange was called back to order with the gates closed.

State Chaplain Hugh Clark conducted the Memorial Service.

**Grange Memorial Service**

Call to Worship.....	Psalm I
Prayer.....	Hugh Clark
Poem.....	"Marked for His Own"
Solo (Hugh Clark).....	"Why Do I Sing About Jesus?"
Message.....	Psalm 121
Roll Call of Members.....	State Secretary Carolyn J. Ross
Poem.....	"My Father's Will"
Prayer.....	Hugh Clark
Song.....	"God Bless America"

The Flower tribute was led by State Flora Diane Collins, assisted by State Master Beth Merrill and Executive Committee Chairman Dan Bascom. Candles were lit by State Ceres Kathy Yardley and State Pomona Rachel Bailey as each name was read by State Secretary Carolyn J. Ross.

**2008 Memorial List**

Chichester #132	John H. West	Past State Master, Overseer, Lecturer, Steward, Executive Committee National Chaplain Past Master, Suncook Valley Pomona #12 Past Master, Chichester #132
Ashuelot #129	Edith Compton	Past Master, Cheshire County Pomona #6 Past Master, Cheshire #131
Aurora #235	Robert Y. Gray	Past Membership & Promotions Past Master, Aurora #235
Chichester #132	Alice H. Sanborn	Spouse of Past Master Walter Sanborn, Chichester #132
Chichester #132	Ena Carlson	Past Master, Suncook Valley Pomona #12 Past Master, Catamount #97
Crown Point #65 Granite #7	James Dean E. Duncan Wright	Past Master, Parker Mountain #299 Spouse of Past Master Elizabeth Wright, Hollis #12
Granite State #149 Halestown #287 Hampton Falls #171 Harmony #99	Barbara Ordway Marjorie Hunt Evelyn Graves Helen Hill	Past Master, Granite State #149 Past Master, Halestown #287 Past Master, Goodwill #75 Past Deputy, Past Master, Belknap County Pomona #4
Harmony #99	Virginia Huckins	Spouse of Past Master Melvin Huckins, Lake & Valley Pomona #17
Hooksett #148	Evelyn Howe	Past Master, Community #329

Lower Intervale #321	Omer Ahern, Sr.	Past Deputy Past Master, Pemigewasset Valley Pomona #18
Moultonborough #197 Oak Hill #32 Ocean Side #260 Ocean Side #260	Robert Lamprey, Jr. Merle B. Jones, Jr. Robert S. Berry Marjorie Berry	Past Master, Moultonborough #197 Master, Contoocook Valley Pomona #23 Past Master, Winnicutt #170 Spouse of Past Master Robert Berry, Winnicutt #170
Pembroke #111 Pembroke #111 Pineconia #322	Louisa Butcher Marjorie Knowlton Maxrene Patten	Past Master, Pembroke #111 Past Master, Pembroke #111 Past Junior Grange Deputy Past State Home Economics Committee Spouse of Past Master Clinton Patten, Pineconia #322
Prentice Hill #257 Rochester #86	Ora Clark Ardys Chase	Past Master, Prentice Hill #257 Spouse of Past Master Philip Chase, Rochester #86
Starr King #124	Helen M. Merrill	Past Publicity Committee Past Master, Starr King #124
Stratford #238	Marion Astle	Spouse of Past Master Edgar Astle, Groveton #255
Wattannick #327	Claudia Boucher	Past State Safety & Ecology Past Master, Wattannick #327
White Mountain #50 Wingold #308	Lucy Aldrich Mary Hooper	Past Master, Lafayette #208 Spouse of Past Master Cleo Hooper, Salem #168
Wingold #308	Hazel Rogan	Past Master, Sandown #181

State Chaplain Hugh Clark thanked everyone for assisting in the Memorial Service.

After the Memorial Service was concluded, State Master Beth Merrill called a short recess to make preparations for the Conferral of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree under the direction of Deputy Donald Ross.

Before the degree started, State Master Beth Merrill read a letter from National Master Ed Luttrell congratulating the New Hampshire State Grange on their 135<sup>th</sup> annual Session.

### **From the National Grange Master**

October 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Congratulations to the members of the New Hampshire State Grange for holding your 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Session!

State Grange conventions are the culmination of each year's unique experiences. It is where we get together to renew acquaintances and bring new members into our State Grange family. Your State Grange is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest State Grange by membership and your actions will set the tone for many Grange members in the coming year.

One of the purposes of your State Session is to strengthen the Community Granges. Each Community Grange exists to improve the quality of life for our members and their neighbors. Each Grange finds their own way to fulfill that mission through our active programs of community service, legislative activity, educational efforts and fellowship opportunities with the actions you will decide upon.

From the National level we've helped you to bring new Medicare benefit information to your communities, exposed you to the problems of methamphetamine production and use, and now suggest that you take positive steps to improve your health by participating in the Life Line Screening program. We've also had great grassroots support in our efforts to bring National

Grange policy to Congress, thanks to the many members who react to our electronic Action Alerts.

My sincere congratulations to the 15 Community Granges in New Hampshire that achieved a net gain in membership in the 2006-07 membership year (July 1-June 30). You should be proud of your state, as you were successful in adding a new Grange to your membership this spring.

I encourage each of you as members of the Grange to contribute liberally of your wisdom and enthusiasm in this State convention. As Grange members working together, we can, and will continue to make a difference locally, state-wide and nationally!

Fraternal best wishes,  
Edward L. Luttrell, Master  
The National Grange

### **Conferral of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree**

Participating in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree were:

Master	Arthur Merrill	Antrim
Overseer	Mark Collins	Park
Lecturer	Marion T. Jones	Daniel Webster
Steward	Paul Davis	Pembroke
Assistant Steward	Dan Bascom	Rochester
Lady Assistant Steward	Happy Pelton	Rochester
Chaplain	Ann Leger	Winthrop
Treasurer	Ida Hutchins	Baker's River
Secretary	Donald Ross	Wingold
Gatekeeper	Joann Brandt	Wingold
Ceres	Rhoda Davis	Pembroke
Pomona	Dot Haskins	Daniel Webster
Flora	Arlene Fall	Somersworth
Executive Committee	Ken Berry	Gilman
Executive Committee	Roberta Silva	Hampton Falls
Executive Committee	Mabel Anderson	Hampton Falls
Pianist	Marie Hall	Gilman
Tableau	Marion T. Jones	Daniel Webster
Soloist	Donald Ross	Wingold

State Steward Chris Heath introduced Nancy Swainston, National Grange Ceres, and Jeff Swainston, Past Master of the Michigan State Grange. State Master Beth Merrill called upon both Nancy and Jeff for brief remarks.

### **Lecturer's Program**

State Lecturer Marie Hall had six members spell out the word PURPLE, telling what each of their letters stood for. Participating were: P - Diane Collins, U - Jane Trombi, R - Trisha Taylor, P - Gail Turcotte, L - Kathy Yardley and E - Rachel Bailey.

Past Master Dan Bascom was called upon for remarks.

State Master Beth Merrill asked for announcements. Jim Tetreault spoke about the evaluations that were in the delegate and non-delegate packets. The first day of the 135<sup>th</sup> annual session of the New Hampshire State Grange was closed at 9:05 p.m.

**Friday Morning, October 24, 2008**



The second day of the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the New Hampshire State Grange was called to order at 8:35 a.m. Roll call of officers found all present. The roll call of Granges found a quorum present. The minutes of the Thursday session were read and approved by the delegates.

State Steward Chris Heath announced that Nancy Swainston and tag-along Jeff Swainston were our honored guests. The Swainstons were escorted to the Master's Station and both Nancy and Jeff addressed the delegation.

State Master Beth Merrill announced the Master's Address Committee: Sandra Bokousky, Chairman; Jean Abbott, Jerry Leclerc, Stephen Hewes and Alice Tuck.  
The members of the Credentials Committee are: Pat Bailey, Fran Everard, Hannah West and Shelley Huntoon. The members of the Resolutions Committee are: Rick Bailey, Chairman; Anne Boisvert, Wilber Heath and Arthur Merrill.  
Parliamentarian: Donald Ross.

## **New Hampshire State Grange 2008 Resolutions**

### **Resolution #1 - Submitted by Joe English Grange #53 Subject: Smart Grid Technology**

**WHEREAS:** New Hampshire is a rural and agricultural state; and  
**WHEREAS:** the farmer relies on open markets for free and fair pricing, and  
**WHEREAS:** the farmer relies on roads and bridges to bring the harvest to market; and  
**WHEREAS:** energy and electricity costs are rising, and  
**WHEREAS:** like corn, squash, tomatoes & green beans, electrons  
can be harvested, and  
**WHEREAS:** with improvements in net-metering rules, regulations and access,  
markets for electricity are opening; and  
**WHEREAS:** necessity is the Mother of Invention; and  
**WHEREAS:** desperation is the Father of Action; therefore  
**BE IT RESOLVED:** the State Grange of New Hampshire support, with enthusiasm, the  
implementation of smart grid technology, including facets of smart  
metering and Time of Use (TOU) electrical metering and billing; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** giving every New Hampshire citizen the ability to consume or  
harvest electricity in markets that are fair, free and open; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** providing the necessary infrastructure, like the roads and bridges  
for farmers, to spur innovation and growth in this great and wonderful state.

### **Resolution #2 - Submitted by Park Grange #249 Subject: Return to Agricultural Awards**

**WHEREAS:** the cost of fertilizer and transporting of food is skyrocketing; and  
**WHEREAS:** NH can grow most of its own food, and  
**WHEREAS:** there is more incentive to sell land off for housing developments, thus losing  
valuable agricultural land,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the NH State Grange collaborate with other agricultural  
organizations like NOFA-NH, NH Farm Bureau or the Extension Service to  
present awards in each county through the organic/sustainable agriculture.

### **Resolution #3 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee Subject: Fuel Efficiency**

**WHEREAS:** the cost of energy has increased dramatically, and  
**WHEREAS:** the cost of energy will outstrip the public's ability to purchase heating fuel for their  
homes and fuel for personal transportation;  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** the Grange be in support of substantial tax credit for  
investment made in alternative, renewable energy resources, and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Grange urges the support of tax credits for the installation of  
devices with increased energy efficiency.

**Resolution #4 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Sustainable Agriculture at Local and State Levels**

**WHEREAS:** the cost of food continues to increase due to the skyrocketing cost of transportation due to the high cost of energy, and  
**WHEREAS:** our food now travels an average of 1500 miles to reach our tables, and  
**WHEREAS:** there is a concern about the ability to monitor the quality and safety of our food at the point of origin, and  
**WHEREAS:** many people prefer locally grown food products, and  
**WHEREAS:** local producers are easily monitored by the consumer,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Grange supports local sustainable agriculture, and  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Grange encourages the development of programs to assist people in developing their ability to grow and sell food produce minimal government regulations.

**Resolution #5 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Encourage and Develop New Farmers**

**WHEREAS:** a number of adults want to enter farming on a small scale basis, and  
**WHEREAS:** these adults lack the abilities and skills to be successful farmers,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Grange request the Cooperative Extension Service to develop programs for the education of adults similar to the existing 4-H youth programs, and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that local Granges be encouraged to work in partnership with Cooperative Extension to implement these programs.

**Resolution #6 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Transportation**

**WHEREAS:** the freedom of mobility is vital to our economic life and transportation is the lifeblood of our nation's economy, and  
**WHEREAS:** federal transportation investments promote healthy economic growth, and  
**WHEREAS:** our highways, railroads, airports and waterways are deteriorating from failure to support transportation infrastructure,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Grange support the establishment of a national transportation infrastructure trust fund, and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that any levies to fund this trust are entirely dedicated to the country's infrastructure.

**Resolution #7 - Submitted by Arlington Grange #139**  
**Subject: Farm Credit System**

**WHEREAS:** the Farm Credit System is America's largest cooperatively owned lender and is a vital source of credit to farmers, agricultural businesses and rural America. A strong Farm Credit System helps meet the credit needs of farmers, agricultural cooperative and other rural businesses and enhances the exports of U.S. agricultural goods;  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the New Hampshire State Grange supports legislative and regulatory actions to expand Farm Credit lending authority for agriculture and commercial fishing, the elimination of unnecessary and burdensome regulation. Also that we oppose any changes to federal and state tax and fee provisions for Farm Credit institutions that could adversely effect farmer-owners of Farm Credit cooperatives.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** we support maintaining the cooperative structure of Farm Credit and farmer ownership of Farm Credit associations and we support inclusion of Farm Credit institutions as eligible lenders in state economic development programs.

**Resolution #8 - Submitted by Arlington Grange #139**  
**Subject: Property Tax Relief**

**WHEREAS:** it is important to retain a safe, local food supply for the health, safety, benefit And well being of New Hampshire and its residents, and

**WHEREAS:** it is in the public benefit to ensure a local food supply in the time of an emergency, and

**WHEREAS:** New Hampshire farmers and New Hampshire farms and agriculture contribute well over one billion dollars of economic benefit to the State of New Hampshire, and

**WHEREAS:** farmers in the State of New Hampshire are struggling with the high cost of property taxes, energy costs, and

**WHEREAS:** the interest rate on property lien for payment of taxes can be as much as 18% and such an unreasonable, usurious penalty is so injurious as to cause a farmer to go out of business, and that it is in the best interest of the state and the cities and town to review and reform such penalties for back taxes as to be reasonable and fair;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the New Hampshire State Grange support property tax relief for all the residents of the state in the form of an annual penalty interest not to exceed conventional rates for a homestead and that actively operated farms not be charged an annual interest of not more than two percent over prime or conventional rates for a homestead, whichever is less, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the New Hampshire State Grange shall actively work with the General Court to bring a bill to a vote before the House of Representatives and the State Senate to effect lower penalty rates for properties lien as a result of back taxes.

**Resolution #9 - Submitted by the Resolutions and By-Laws Committee**  
**Subject: Balloting for Candidates**

**WHEREAS:** the National Grange By-Laws (Article VI 4.6.4D) states that election to membership to any Subordinate Grange will be made by a majority of the ballots cast, and

**WHEREAS:** it is not specifically stated in the NH State Grange By-Laws that election to membership is by a majority vote;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the NH State Grange By-Laws Article XIV Section 2 Division 1 be amended to read "Any person interested in agriculture pursuits, and having no interest in conflict with our purposes, of the age of thirteen years and six months or over, duly proposed, elected by the majority of the votes cast complying with the rules and regulations of the Order, is entitled to membership and the benefit of the degrees taken."

**Resolution #10 - Submitted by the Resolutions and By-Laws Committee**  
**Subject: Dues for Associate Members**

**WHEREAS:** National Grange delegates will vote in November, 2008 to change the amount of dues payable to National Grange by Associate Members;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that Article XII, Section 4 end sentence be changed to read "Annual dues for individual associate members will be at least the same as the dues for individual Subordinate members, of which the amount paid to the State Grange being the same as an individual member."

**Resolution #11 - Submitted by Gilman Grange #1**  
**Subject: Annual Session Delegate Fee**

**WHEREAS:** the cost of holding our regular annual meetings continue to increase every year, and

**WHEREAS:** funds are needed to help defray the cost of annual meetings to the State Grange, and

**WHEREAS:** our treasury is not as healthy as it once was;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that Article IV, Section 3 be amended to read: "The voting delegates of the New Hampshire State Grange shall pay a fee of **\$10.00** each at the annual session to be paid for by the individual Grange."

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that this increase will become effective as of our 2009 annual meeting.

**Resolution #12 - Submitted by Gilman Grange #1**  
**Subject: Annual Session Non-Delegate Fee**

**WHEREAS:** the cost of holding our regular annual meetings continue to increase every year, and

**WHEREAS:** funds are needed to help defray the cost of annual meetings to the State Grange, and

**WHEREAS:** our treasury is not as healthy as it once was;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that Article IV, Section 4 be amended to read: "Registration fee for all other attendees at State Session, with the exception of invited guests and minors, shall be **\$5.00**."

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that this increase will become effective as of our 2009 annual meeting.

**Resolution #13 - Submitted by Gilman Grange #1**  
**Subject: Increase Pomona Dues to State Grange**

**WHEREAS:** the State Grange needs help to balance the budget each year, and

**WHEREAS:** all of the Pomona dues paid to the State Grange go directly to assist State Grange with yearly expenditures, and

**WHEREAS:** the State Treasurer has to seek other avenues to find money to keep up with State Grange expenses each year;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that Article XIII, Section 5, Division 2 be amended to read: Pomona Granges shall pay **\$1.00** per quarter to the State Grange for each member. (The rest remain as is)

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that this dues increase will become effective as of the quarter ending March 2009.

**Resolution #14 - Submitted by the NH State Grange Executive Committee**  
**Subject: Meeting Dates of State Grange**

**WHEREAS:** it has become increasingly difficult to find suitable locations to hold the Annual State Grange session, and

**WHEREAS:** if the State Grange had more flexibility as to the dates of the State Grange session, costs could possibly be lowered;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that Article V (meetings), Section 1, page 4, be amended by deleting the words "on the Thursday before the fourth Friday of October of each year" and adding the words "between October 20 and the first Thursday of November of each year."

**Resolution #15 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Reusable Bags**

**WHEREAS:** plastic bags are made from gas and petroleum by-products, a non-renewable resource, wasting millions of barrels of oil that could go towards heating or transportation, and

**WHEREAS:** plastic bags are costly to dispose of, thus wasting tax dollars, and

**WHEREAS:** paper bag production consumes more resources and produces more pollution as compared to plastic bags, and these bags cannot degrade in landfills due to lack of air, water and sun;

**WHEREAS:** plastic bags tend to become litter, taking away from the beauty of our state, and are hazardous to wildlife;

**WHEREAS:** inexpensive reusable bags are now readily available at grocery stores;

**WHEREAS:** printed reusable bags can be used as promotional materials for the Grange, and the National Grange sells tote bags marked with a Grange emblem;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that all Grangers vow to use non-disposable bags when making purchases and encourage their friends, neighbors and relatives to do the same.

\*\* For more information, see: [www.1BagataTime.com](http://www.1BagataTime.com)

**Resolution #16 - Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**

**Subject: Recycling Education**

**WHEREAS:** of the 235 towns and cities in NH, 202 offer some form of recycling;  
**WHEREAS:** New Hampshire's overall municipal recycling rate is only 20.5%, despite having set a goal of 40% by the year 2000;  
**WHEREAS:** in 2006, the state of New Hampshire spent in excess of \$102 million on solid waste management, and fuel costs, landfill closures, and tipping rates are increasing;  
**WHEREAS:** recycling can reduce costs by decreasing transportation costs and disposal fees in addition to the monetary value of the recyclable materials themselves;  
**WHEREAS:** recycling saves resources, including fossil fuels and forests;  
**WHEREAS:** the Solid Waste Technical Assistance section of the Waste Management Division at the NH Department of Environmental Services provides information and assistance to communities and organizations to help them divert their solid waste from landfills and incinerators;  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that each NH Grange sponsors an educational program in their town both open to the public and well-advertised, and invite a member of the NH Department of Environmental Services' Solid Waste Technical Assistance Team to speak on the topics of recycling and Pay as You Throw programs in New Hampshire.

\*\* For more information, see the NH DES Solid Waste Report to the Legislative 2006 (the 2007 version will come out in October)

\*\* Contact Donald E. Maurer, Supervisor, Solid Waste Technical Assistance, NH Department of Environmental Services. Email: [dmaurer@des.state.nh](mailto:dmaurer@des.state.nh). State Secretary Carolyn Ross read read the additional five resolutions:

**Resolution #17 – Peterborough Grange #35**

**Subject: Support the Sale of Raw Milk**

**WHEREAS,** dairy farmers take pride in producing a safe and wholesome product; a  
**WHEREAS,** raw milk is nutritious and is in demand by its consumers; and  
**WHEREAS,** the labeling of raw milk as a potentially dangerous product may promote an unnecessary level of fear and concern for a product that comes from a licensed dairy that tests for safety of milk on a regular basis; and  
**WHEREAS,** attempts to negatively label raw milk or otherwise prevent its sale limit income streams for dairy farmers and injure local and rural economies; therefore be it  
**RESOLVED,** that the sale of raw milk by dairy farmers should be supported; and  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that no undue restrictions or mandates be impressed upon the dairy farmers who sell raw milk, the sale of raw milk, or on the raw milk product itself.

**Resolution #18 – Submitted by Peterborough Grange #35**

**Subject: Prevent the Loss of Farmland**

**WHEREAS,** prime farmland is a limited and vital resource necessary for a secure food economy;  
and,

**WHEREAS**, the loss of farmland occurs at a rate of over one million acres per year nationally;  
and,

**WHEREAS**, farmland located near urban areas is responsible for over 75% of the nation's fruit and vegetable supply and over 50% of the nation's dairy products; and,

**WHEREAS**, farmland that is located near sprawling suburban and urban populations is more susceptible to development than non-farmland due to its low grade slopes and well drained soils;  
and,

**WHEREAS**, once developed, farmland cannot be restored to its former working state; therefore  
be it,

**RESOLVED**, that local and regional land use planning should be implemented to prevent the loss  
of farmland whenever possible; and

**RESOLVED**, that every suitable alternative site should be explored when considering  
development of prime agricultural soils; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that local, regional, and national land conservation trusts be supported in their  
acquisition of farmland or of the development rights of farmland so that the land remains capable,  
in its fullest sense, of being agriculturally productive.

#### **Resolution #19 – Submitted by Hudson Grange #11**

##### **Subject: Fish and Game Commission**

Whereas The Fish and Game Commission currently consists of a person, appointed by the  
Governor, from each county, and

Whereas There has been a suggestion that the membership of the Fish and Game Commission  
be expanded to include a representative of a recognized Conservation Group and one from the  
OHRV industry, and

Whereas some farmland is open space, with game and near recreational areas.

Therefore be it resolved that the NH State Grange recommends adding a member of a  
conservation group and a member of the NH Farm Bureau or agricultural community to the Fish  
and Game Commission.

#### **Resolution #20 – Submitted by Hudson Grange #11**

##### **Subject: National Energy Policy**

Whereas it is not clear that the US Government has a clear, specific, comprehensive energy  
policy.

Whereas neither major party has a detailed, comprehensive energy policy or proposal. Neither  
party is recommending everything that needs to be included in a comprehensive policy.

Whereas it is clear that we are too dependent on foreign sources of oil for our energy needs

Whereas many providers of crude oil to the U.S.A. are not friends of the U.S.

Whereas payment for huge amounts of expensive foreign oil hurts our balance of trade and is a  
drag on our economy.

Whereas buying our energy needs at home provides for American Jobs and helps our economy.

Whereas the sky rocketing demand for Crude oil combined with the oligopoly of the OPEC has  
caused oil prices to dramatically increase, negatively effecting every part of our economy.

Therefore be it resolved that the NH State Grange recommends The U.S. adopt a comprehensive energy policy to deal with the high cost of energy, the purchase of foreign oil that is not in our national interest and the depletion of a non renewable energy source.

Be it further resolved that the National Grange adopt a policy that includes:

1. Drilling in existing oil lease areas that are economically feasible
2. Encourage and aid in the economical development and expansion of renewable sources of energy, such as, but not limited to Wind, solar, tidal, hydro and geo-thermal.
3. Encourage and facilitate the expansion of nuclear energy production
4. Encourage and facilitate greater conservation of energy in the public and private sectors in numerous ways that are economically achievable and not a burden on our citizens, taxpayers and businesses.

State Master Beth Merrill read the Convention Rules. Jerry Leclerc made a motion which was seconded by Chris Heath to accept the Convention Rules. So voted.

### **Standing Rules of the Annual Convention New Hampshire State Grange Order of the Patrons of Husbandry**

135<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Courtyard by Marriott  
Nashua NH  
October 23 - 26, 2008

1. All persons, except special guests, shall be registered. Nametags and programs shall be issued.
2. Admission to the meetings shall be by nametag and password only. Upon giving proper password, the meeting Deputy will provide a colored sticker for the name badge to eliminate the need for giving the password again at this Session. If you are not wearing your nametag, you will be refused admittance.
3. At least fifteen delegates shall constitute a quorum of the State Grange.
4. Every Subordinate and Pomona Grange in good standing shall be represented by the Master or his/her alternate and one other delegate from said Grange.
5. The voting body of the State Grange shall be all registered delegates.
6. Members attending as non-delegates may take part in discussion, with permission from the chair, but shall not make motions and shall not vote.
7. A member wishing to speak shall wait for recognition by the Master, and upon provision of a working microphone shall announce his/her name and the Grange he/she is representing.
8. When two members rise to speak at the same time, the chair will first recognize the member seated the furthest distance from the Master's station.
9. No delegate shall speak more than two minutes on any question under discussion, nor may speak a second time until all others who wish to speak have had the opportunity to do so.
10. All reports and other material for the permanent record, immediately on presentation, shall be given to the Secretary and/or the Journal of Proceedings Special Committee.
11. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the meeting in all cases where they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws and these Standing Rules.
12. These Standing Rules shall be presented to the members for adoption; a 2/3 vote shall be required for adoption.

State Treasurer Gail Turcotte was called upon to give her report.

### **Treasurer's Annual Report**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Associate State Officers, Members of the Pink Sash Family, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters,

I am pleased to bring you my first report as State Treasurer. I will not give you complete details of our finances, as those will be printed in the Journal. These are some highlights that I would like to share with you now.

I will begin my review with our financial position as of September 30, 2008. Our beginning market value on October 1, 2007 was \$758,951.91. Income was \$30,171.03 or roughly 4%. We received contributions of \$243,531.28 and withdrew \$86,504.58. Realized Gain/Losses were -\$86,504.58 and Unrealized Gain/Losses were -\$107,417.20, resulting in a market value at the close of the year of \$835,458.61. The breakdown of securities at year end were 62.5% in fixed income, 33.4% in equities, 4% in cash and equivalents, and 0.1% in miscellaneous.

We continue to carry the value of the State Grange Building at the purchase price of \$87,500.00. Our Account Receivable increased this year with a loan of \$445 to one of our Granges for assistance with fire insurance. We have received a partial payment for this new loan.

A quick review of the special funds shows the Education Loan Fund granting scholarships in the amount of \$6,000 and depositing \$2,500 into principal. The Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund received donations of \$340. Expenses incurred for Youth Work amounted to \$2,007.

We all mourn the loss of Brother John West and he will be missed in many ways. Donations in his memory as of September 30, 2008 total \$2125 and in cooperation with his family, a fitting tribute will be planned.

The close of the Grange fiscal year on September 30, 2008 marks the beginning of a new reporting requirement by the Federal Government for all Granges. All Subordinate and Pomona Granges must now file a report before February 15 every year with the Internal Revenue Service. After consulting an attorney and with the State Grange Executive Committee's approval, I mailed three letters during the year to each Grange with information on this new requirement. The new 990-N postcard report is filed electronically and the first report is due by February 15, 2009. If your Grange is unable to file electronically, there is a three-page paper version that can be filed.

The preparation of the proposed budget was an interesting challenge and I have chosen to prepare a balanced budget for approval. The details will be discussed later this session. Our Operations Department has planned several new fundraising activities and hope everyone will support them. We need to reduce the amount we withdraw from our invested principal if we are going to preserve our financial position for years to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rodney Huntoon for answering my many questions. Carolyn Ross has been very patient and willing to assist in any way she could during this past year. It is truly a blessing to have such knowledgeable Past Treasurers to turn to for assistance time and again as I tried to learn my duties.

Fraternally submitted,  
Gail M. Turcotte, Treasurer  
New Hampshire State Grange

### NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE CHECKING ACCOUNT

October 1, 2007	TD Banknorth Checking Account	\$1,322.13
	Income - Exhibit B	85,353.55
	Expense - Exhibit C	84,091.22
September 30, 2008	Balance	2,828.46
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>		
October 1, 2007	Balance	935.00



February 25, 2008	New Loan	445.00
	Payments Received	-100.00
September 30, 2008	Balance	1,280.00
<b>State Grange Hall</b>		
October 1, 2007	Purchase Price	87,500.00
September 30, 2008	Purchase Price	87,500.00

**EXHIBIT B  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Income**

**Investments**

TD Banknorth Wealth Management Income	\$16,378.84
Transferred from Invested Funds	12,000.00
Defunct Granges Income	1,959.59

**Other Income**

Dues & Fees	31,691.25
Eastern States/Blueberry Pie	1,400.00
<i>Granite State Granger</i> - Donations	841.00
Sixth Degree Fees	40.00
State Session	5,814.00
State Grange Building Use Donations	2,240.00
Bonding Fees	2,507.00
Operations	1,357.08
Donations	101.00
Past Treasurer Savings Account	609.77
Funds from Past Family & Community Chairman	200.90
NE Leader's Conference	5,409.00
Lecturer's Gift	30.00
Supply Department	20.75
Printing/Postage/Supplies	603.37
Accounts Receivable	100.00
State Grange Building Fund Donations	2,050.00

**Total Income** **85,353.55**

**EXHIBIT C  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Expenses 2007 - 2008**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Paid to</b>	<b>Account Charged</b>	<b>Check #</b>	<b>Amount</b>
10/24/07	Bank of America	Printing/Postage/Supplies	946	345.23
10/24/07	Bank of America	Anniversary Fund	947	38.63
10/24/07	Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Bldg Other	948	72.00
10/26/07	Piper Printing	State Session	949	181.39
10/27/07	Hugh Clark	Miscellaneous	950	31.63
10/27/07	Carolyn Ross	State Session	951	35.00
10/27/07	Debra Patten	Office Equipment	952	25.47
10/27/07	Patricia Bailey	State Session	953	23.34
10/27/07	Alanna Bellville	Yankee Candle/Operations	954	56.63
10/27/07	Fireside Inn & Suites	State Session	955	5,933.59
10/28/07	Fireside Inn & Suites	State Session	956	7.96
10/29/07	Verizon	State Grange Bldg Other	957	32.65
10/29/07	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	958	132.75
11/08/07	Business Card	Postage/Supplies/Misc	959	857.44
11/08/07	Business Card	Anniversary Fund/Misc	960	377.36

11/08/07	Hooksett Village Water Prec	State Grange Bldg Other	961	51.00
11/08/07	Kim Bascom	State Session	962	125.00
11/08/07	Nat'l Grange Endowment	Miscellaneous	963	50.00
11/08/07	Carolyn Ross	Printing/Postage/Supplies	964	41.00
11/11/07	Wensley, Jones, Azarian	Legal Fees	965	87.50
11/11/07	Richard W. Patten	Sec/Treas. Expenses	966	250.00
11/11/07	Echo Farm	State Session	967	108.00
11/27/07	Verizon	State Grange Bldg Other	968	32.65
11/27/07	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	969	105.16
12/2/07	Bank of America	Session/Printing/Misc	970	449.07
12/2/07	Bank of America	Postage/Misc.	971	6.09
12/2/07	National Grange	Dues - National Grange	972	3,652.00
12/3/07	Staples-Rochester	Printing/Postage/Supplies	DC-1	169.54
12/3/07	Staples-Rochester	Printing/Postage/Supplies	DC-2	880.00
12/8/07	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	973	300.00
12/8/07	Leo Belisle	State Grange Bldg Other	974	45.00
12/8/07	Beth Merrill	Ann. Fund/Misc	975	245.22
12/8/07	John H. West	State Grange Bldg Other	976	28.99
12/8/07	John H. West	Granite State Granger	977	305.14
12/12/07	Marie Hall	Lecturer's Dept.	978	600.00
12/12/07	Chris Heath	Youth Dept.	979	600.00
12/12/07	Sherrill Bokousky	Junior Dept.	980	100.00
12/12/07	Nancy Bean	Family & Community Dept	981	500.00
12/12/07	Jim Tetreault	Legislative Dept.	982	500.00
12/12/07	Connie Carr	Grange Services Dept.	983	200.00
12/18/07	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	984	33.96
12/18/07	Gail Turcotte	Sec/Treas. Expenses	985	166.66
12/18/07	Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	986	1,000.00
12/18/07	Carolyn Ross	Sec/Treas. Expenses	987	583.34
12/18/07	Verizon	State Grange Bldg Other	988	32.65
12/28/07	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	989	115.72
12/28/07	Leo Belisle	State Grange Bldg Other	990	135.00
12/28/07	Tuftonborough Grange #142	Reimbursement	991	1,416.00
1/4/08	Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	992	145.65
1/4/08	Business Card	Leaders School/December	993	152.00
1/4/08	Gail Turcotte	Off. Equip/Print/Post/Sup	994	115.46
1/10/08	Leo Belisle	State Grange Bldg Other	995	90.00
1/10/08	Carolyn Ross	Supplies/Legal Fees	996	58.84
1/12/08	Connecticut State Grange	Operations	997	40.00
1/12/08	Connecticut State Grange	Operations	998	140.00
1/13/08	Wynwood Hotel	NE Leaders Conference	999	5,120.97
1/14/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1000	279.74
1/14/08	Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Bldg Other	1001	109.00
1/14/08	NH State Grange	Supply Department	1002	4.00
1/19/08	Concord Monitor	Granite State Granger	1003	321.90
1/24/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1004	120.83
1/24/08	Verizon	State Grange Bldg Other	1005	32.63
1/25/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1006	120.00
1/25/08	Leo Belisle	State Grange Bldg Other	1007	90.00
1/26/08	Eastern Propane Gas Inc.	State Grange Bldg Other	1008	21.80
1/26/08	Business Card	NE Leaders Conference	1009	69.34
1/26/08	Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1010	247.74
1/26/08		Void	1011	
1/27/08	John H. West	Publicist	1012	400.00
1/31/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1013	63.51
1/31/08	MSA Group	State Grange Bldg Ins.	1014	2,159.00
1/31/08	Gail Turcotte	NE Leaders Conference	1015	113.35
2/3/08	National Grange	Bonding Fees Sub/Pom/St	1016	2,691.00
2/15/08	Hooksett Village Water Prec	State Grange Bldg Other	1017	33.00
2/15/08	Russell Hunt	NE Leaders Conference	1018	139.32
2/21/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1019	120.00

2/21/08	Leo Belisle	State Grange Bldg Other	1020	290.00
2/21/08	Verizon	State Grange Bldg Other	1021	32.59
2/21/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1022	76.91
2/25/08	MSA Group	Loans	1023	445.00
3/2/08	National Grange	Dues-National Grange	1024	3,616.00
3/3/08	State of NH Criminal Records	Legal Fees	1025	15.00
3/3/08	National Grange	Sixth Degree-National	1026	10.00
3/3/08	Rodney M. Huntoon	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1027	29.16
3/3/08	John H. West	Granite State Granger	1028	299.13
3/8/08	Concord Monitor	Granite State Granger	1029	374.00
3/12/08	Leo Belisle	State Grange Bldg Other	1030	190.00
3/12/08	Eastern Propane Gas Inc.	State Grange Bldg Other	1031	75.00
3/12/08	Leone McDonnell & Roberts	Income Tax Preparation	1032	1,510.00
3/20/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1033	120.00
3/20/08	Verizon	State Grange Bldg Other	1034	32.59
3/22/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1035	72.83
3/22/08	Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1036	1,000.00
3/22/08	Carolyn Ross	Sec/Treas Expenses	1037	750.00
3/25/08	Gail Turcotte	Sec/Treas Print/Post	1038	335.38
3/29/08	Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1039	95.16
3/29/08	National Grange	Miscellaneous	1040	35.00
3/29/08	Mark Collins	Office Equipment	1041	1,810.85
4/7/08	Lavallee Oil, Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1042	109.50
4/14/08	NH State Grange	Supply Department	1043	6.75
4/14/08	Hooksett Sewer Comm	State Grange Bldg Other	1044	72.00
4/14/08	NE Grange Bldg Trustees	NE Grange Bldg Assmnt	1045	493.80
4/21/08		Void	1046	
4/21/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1047	120.00
4/21/08	AL McDonnell Co Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1048	45.00
4/21/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1049	92.71
4/21/08	Fairpoint Comm. Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1050	32.59
4/21/08	Trustees of Trust Funds	Grange Services Dept	1051	200.00
4/21/08	NH State Grange	Supply Department	1052	6.00
4/21/08	NH Fire Academy	Miscellaneous	1053	100.00
4/25/08	Wensley, Jones, Azarian	Legal Fees	1054	230.00
4/30/08		Void	1055	
4/30/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1056	51.25
4/30/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1057	62.71
5/5/08	Richard W. Patten	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1058	6.25
5/5/08	Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1059	153.51
5/5/08	Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1060	16.00
5/5/08	Hooksett Village Water Prec	State Grange Bldg Other	1061	33.00
5/6/08	Postmaster - Epsom	Bulk Mail Permit	1062	175.00
5/8/08	State of NH Criminal Records	Legal Fees	1063	7.50
5/14/08	Leone McDonnell & Roberts	Legal Fees	1064	87.00
5/14/08	V.M & Sons Plumbing & Heat	State Grange Bldg Other	1065	1,272.57
5/22/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1066	138.98
5/22/08	Fairpoint Comm Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1067	32.54
5/22/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1068	57.87
5/22/08	National Grange	Dues - National Grange	1069	4,477.50
5/26/08	Robert Trombi	Operations	1070	500.00
6/11/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1071	240.00
6/11/08	John H. West	Granite State Granger	1072	307.55
6/11/08	Concord Monitor	Granite State Granger	1073	316.56
6/11/08	Business Card	Membership Training	1074	1,713.73
6/11/08	Business Card	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1075	170.82
6/11/08	State of NH Criminal Records	Legal Fees	1076	15.00
6/11/08	Marie Hall	Lecturer's Dept	1077	600.00
6/11/08	Nancy Bean	Family & Community Dept	1078	500.00
6/11/08	Jim Tetreault	Legislative Dept	1079	500.00
6/11/08	Chris Heath	Youth Dept	1080	600.00

6/11/08	Sherrill Bokousky	Junior Dept	1081	100.00
6/11/08	Mark Collins	Office Equipment	1082	34.99
6/18/08	Leone McDonnell & Roberts	Legal Fees	1083	58.00
6/19/08	Piper Printing	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1084	903.59
6/19/08	Connecticut State Grange	National Session	1085	3,000.00
6/19/08	Keane & Macdonald, P.C.	Legal Fees	1086	1,202.50
6/19/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1087	167.46
6/19/08	Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1088	1,000.00
6/19/08	Carolyn Ross	Sec/Treas Expenses	1089	750.00
6/25/08	Gail Turcotte	Sec/Treas Expenses	1090	250.00
6/25/08	Fairpoint Comm. Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1091	32.54
6/28/08	Hugh Clark	Cathedral of the Pines	1092	35.00
6/28/08	Business Card	P/P/S St Session, Sup Dpt	1093	196.49
6/28/08	Beth Merrill	Membership Training	1094	348.57
7/11/08	Beth Merrill	Lecturer's Gift Donations	1095	20.00
7/11/08	Hooksett Sewer Comm.	State Grange Bldg Other	1096	72.00
7/11/08	NH State Grange	Supply Dept	1097	4.00
7/25/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1098	120.00
7/25/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1099	126.69
7/25/08	Fairpoint Comm. Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1100	32.53
7/25/08	Statewide Fire Extinguisher	State Grange Bldg Other	1101	25.00
7/25/08	Mark Collins	Office Equipment	1102	140.35
7/25/08	Belknap Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1103	12.42
7/25/08	Carroll Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1104	12.42
7/25/08	Cheshire Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1105	12.42
7/25/08	Coos Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1106	12.42
7/25/08	Grafton Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1107	12.42
7/25/08	Hillsborough Cty Reg of Deed	Legal Fees	1108	12.42
7/25/08	Merrimack Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1109	12.42
7/25/08	Rockingham Cty Reg of Deed	Legal Fees	1110	12.42
7/25/08	Strafford Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1111	12.42
7/25/08	Sullivan Cty Reg of Deeds	Legal Fees	1112	12.42
7/27/08	Business Card	P/P/S, Supply Dept	1113	356.19
7/27/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1114	70.51
7/30/08	Eastern Propane Gas Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1115	164.99
8/8/08	Gail Turcotte	Miscellaneous	1116	65.00
8/8/08	Hooksett Village Water Prec	State Grange Bldg Other	1117	33.00
8/13/08	Beth Merrill	Lecturer's Gift Donations	1118	10.00
8/14/08	National Grange	Membership Training	1119	65.00
8/16/08	Lavallee Oil, Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1120	2,825.00
8/18/08	Keane & Macdonald, P.C.	Legal Fees	1121	46.25
8/19/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1122	203.89
8/20/08	Fairpoint Comm. Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1123	32.50
8/21/08	Market Basket	Miscellaneous	DC-3	87.24
8/21/08	Ashworth by the Sea	State Session Deposit	1124	500.00
8/28/08	National Grange	Dues - National Grange	1125	4,490.00
8/28/08	Business Card	P/P/S, St. Session, Misc	1126	202.51
9/3/08	Wensley, Jones, Azarian	Legal Fees	1127	297.50
9/16/08	Claire Gagne	State Grange Bldg Other	1128	120.00
9/16/08	Beth Merrill	Master's Expenses	1129	1,000.00
9/16/08	Carolyn Ross	Sec/Treas Expenses	1130	750.00
9/16/08	Gail Turcotte	Sec/Treas Expenses	1131	250.00
9/16/08	Marylin Machia	Deputies	1132	100.00
9/16/08	Jean Abbott	Deputies	1133	100.00
9/16/08	Ida Hutchins	Deputies	1134	100.00
9/16/08	Rhoda Davis	Deputies	1135	100.00
9/16/08	Arlene Fall	Deputies	1136	100.00
9/16/08	Arthur Merrill	Deputies	1137	100.00
9/16/08	Kathy Yardley	Deputies	1138	100.00
9/16/08	Ralph Russell, Sr.	Deputies	1139	100.00
9/16/08	Donald R. Ross	Deputies	1140	100.00

9/16/08	Patrice Lawlor	Deputies	1141	100.00
9/16/08	Dorothy Haskins	Deputies	1142	100.00
9/16/08	Anne Boisvert	Deputies	1143	100.00
9/16/08	Neil MacDonald	Deputies	1144	100.00
9/16/08	Gary Ward	Deputies	1145	100.00
9/16/08	Mark Collins	Deputies	1146	100.00
9/16/08	Carolee Barrett	Deputies	1147	100.00
9/16/08	Tricia Taylor	Deputies	1148	300.00
9/19/08	Keane & Macdonald, P.C.	Legal Fees	1149	138.75
9/19/08	PSNH	State Grange Bldg Other	1150	169.79
9/20/08	Fairpoint Comm. Inc	State Grange Bldg Other	1151	32.50
9/20/08	Hannah West	Granite State Granger	1152	303.53
9/26/08	Treas NH Farm/Forest Expo	Farm & Forest Expo	1153	305.00
9/30/08	Business Card	P/P/S, State Session	1154	355.22
9/30/08	Gail Turcotte	Printing/Postage/Supplies	1155	197.77
9/30/08	Mark Collins	Membership Training	1156	324.87
9/30/08	Paul W. Davis	State Grange Bldg Other	1157	65.97
9/30/08	V.M. & Sons Plumbing & Heat	State Grange Bldg Other	1158	1,161.20
<b>Total Expenses</b>				<b>84,091.22</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
Operating Account**

October 11, 2007	Balance	178,384.72
	Income	8,596.70
	Defunct Granges	9,728.04
	Quarterly Income Paid	-11,337.16
	Withdrawal from Principal	-12,000.00
	Realized Gain/Loss	-52.97
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-24,702.73
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	148,616.60
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
Defunct Granges**

October 11, 2007	Balance	53,253.32
	Income	2,044.81
	Realized Gain/Loss	423.25
	Withdrawals	-8,799.57
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-6,411.62
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	37,955.17
Footnote:	Six eligible accounts were closed and transferred into operating fund during year. <i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
Escrow Accounts**

October 11, 2007	Balance	332,814.39
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	Income	21,044.88
	Realized Gain/Loss	302.92
	Paid to Granges	-19,632.65
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-65,864.95
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	486,641.89
Footnote:	One new account opened during year. <i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
Randall Richardson Memorial Youth Fund**

October 11, 2007	Balance	22,526.83
	Income	960.07
	Contributions	340.00
	Realized Gain/Loss	0.03
	Withdrawals	-2,007.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-2,561.40
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	19,258.53
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
Education Loan Funds**

October 11, 2007	Balance	125,579.72
	Income	6,065.61
	Contributions	2,500.00
	Realized Gain/Loss	0.01
	Scholarships	-6,000.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-17,619.95
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	110,525.39
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
NH Grange Trust**

October 11, 2007	Balance	46,381.93
	Income	2,181.82
	Received from Blaisdell Fund	247.75
	Contributions	331.00
	Realized Gain/Loss	0.01
	Paid to Granges	-2,234.20
	Returned to Blaisdell Fund	-126.00
	Transfer to open checking acct	-25.00
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-6,313.70
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	40,443.61
Footnote:	<i>Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.</i>	

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
TD BANKNORTH WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
NH Grange Trust - Blaisdell Fund**

October 11, 2007	Balance	10,509.51
	Income	501.58
	Returned from Primary Trust	126.00
	Transferred to Primary Trust	-247.75
	Unrealized Gain/Loss	-1,463.14
October 10, 2008	Ending Market Value	9,426.20

Footnote: *Fees were taken out of income prior to allocation of income.*

### NEW HAMPSHIRE GRANGE TRUST CHECKBOOK SUMMARY

March 14, 2008	Opened Checking Account	
Income	Transfer from trust/opening balance	25.00
	Donations	331.00
	Budget from State Grange	200.00
	Transfer from trust/aids to members	<u>804.20</u>
Total Income		1,360.20
Less	Aids paid to members	804.20
	Transfer to trust/donations received	331.00
Expenses	Postage/Photocopying	<u>111.76</u>
Total		1,246.96
October 10, 2008	Ending Balance	113.24

Note: \$1,500 aid to members paid directly from invested trust prior to March 14.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE Income Annual Summary 2007 - 2008

Investments	Proposed 2007-2008	Actual 1 <sup>st</sup> qtr	Actual 2 <sup>nd</sup> qtr	Actual 3 <sup>rd</sup> qtr	Actual 4 <sup>th</sup> qtr	Totals
TD Banknorth Wealth Mgmt grp	10,000.00	7,112.26	4,768.82	2,252.22	2,245.54	16,378.84
Transf. from Invested Funds	12,559.00			12,000.00		12,000.00
Special Funds						
Defunct Granges	1,800.00	1,959.59				1,959.59
Other						
Dues & Fees	28,000.00	10,850.00	6,670.00	7,170.25	7,001.00	31,691.25
Eastern States/Blueberry Pie	1,500.00	1,400.00				1,400.00
Granite St. Granger donations	1,000.00	316.00	175.00	320.00	30.00	841.00
Sixth Degree	50.00	40.00				40.00
State Session	4,000.00	5,814.00				5,814.00
St. Grange Bldg use donations	1,500.00	1,125.00	275.00	375.00	465.00	2,240.00
Bonding Fees	2,500.00		2,203.00	242.00	62.00	2,507.00
Operations	2,500.00	611.75		327.45	417.88	1,357.08
Donations	0.00	101.00				101.00
Past Treas. Savings Acct.		609.77				609.77
Funds from Past Fam/Comm Chair		200.90				200.90
NE Leaders Conference		5,162.00	247.00			5,409.00
Lecturer's Gift		10.00		10.00	10.00	30.00
Supply Department			4.00	12.75	4.00	20.75

Printing/Postage/Supplies				372.33	231.04	603.37
Accounts Receivable				100.00		100.00
St. Grange Bldg Fund donations	25.00	35.00		25.00	1,965.00	2,050.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,409.00</b>	<b>35,337.27</b>	<b>14,377.82</b>	<b>23,207.00</b>	<b>12,431.46</b>	<b>85,353.55</b>

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Expense Annual Summary  
2007 – 2008**

	Proposed 2007-2008	Actual 1 <sup>st</sup> qtr	Actual 2 <sup>nd</sup> qtr	Actual 3 <sup>rd</sup> qtr	Actual 4 <sup>th</sup> qtr	Totals
Anniversary Fund	0.00	538.15				538.15
Bonding Fee Sub/Pomona	2,500.00		2,482.00			2482.00
Bonding Fee State	209.00		209.00			209.00
Bulk Mail Permit	175.00			175.00		175.00
Cathedral of the Pines	50.00			35.00		35.00
Department Expenses	5,000.00					0.00
Deputies	1,500.00				1,600.00	1600.00
Dues-National Grange	14,500.00	3,652.00	3,616.00	4,477.50	4,490.00	16,235.50
Eastern States Expo	500.00					0.00
Family/Community Dept	0.00	500.00		500.00		1,000.00
Farm/Forest Expo	300.00				305.00	305.00
Granite State Granger	3,000.00	305.14	995.03	624.11	303.53	2,227.81
General Deputy	300.00				300.00	300.00
Grange Services Dept	0.00	200.00				200.00
Income Tax Prep	1,300.00		1,510.00			1,510.00
Junior Dept	0.00	100.00		100.00		200.00
Leaders School-Dec.	600.00		152.00			152.00
Lecturer's Dept	0.00	600.00		600.00		1,200.00
Legal Fees	1,000.00	87.50	30.00	1,600.00	606.70	2,324.20
Master's Expenses	4,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00
Miscellaneous	500.00	640.63	35.00	100.00	212.19	987.82
NE Grange Bldg Assessment	525.00			493.80		493.80
Legislative Dept	0.00	500.00		500.00		1,000.00
Lobbyist/Advocate Exp.	500.00					0.00
Operations Dept	0.00	56.63	180.00	500.00		736.63
Printing/Postage/Supplies	7,500.00	2,143.39	1,025.66	1,429.99	654.97	5,254.01
Publicist Expenses	800.00		400.00			400.00
Sec/Treas Expense	4,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00
Sixth Degree-National	30.00		10.00			10.00
St Grange Bldg Insurance	2,120.00		2,159.00			2,159.00
St Grange Bldg other expense	7,500.00	1,083.57	1,627.18	2,388.89	5,185.06	10,284.70
State Session	6,000.00	6,617.28		98.00	256.22	6,971.50
State Session Deposit	1,000.00				500.00	500.00
Youth Dept	0.00	600.00		600.00		1,200.00
Reimbursement		1,416.00				1,416.00
NE Leaders Conference			5,442.98			5,442.98
Supply Dept			4.00	103.25	215.06	322.31
Loans			445.00			445.00
Office Equip		25.47	1,890.83	34.99	140.35	2,091.64
Membership Training				2,062.30	389.87	2,452.17
National Session				3,000.00		3,000.00
Lecturer's Gift Donations					30.00	30.00
Trustees of Trust Funds				200.00		200.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>65,409.00</b>	<b>21,065.76</b>	<b>24,213.68</b>	<b>21,622.83</b>	<b>17,188.95</b>	<b>84,091.22</b>



**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Income Budget 2008 - 2009**

	<b>Proposed 2007 - 08</b>	<b>Actual 2007 - 08</b>	<b>Proposed 2008 - 09</b>
<b>Invested Funds</b>			
Income	10,000.00	16,378.84	10,000.00
Withdrawals from Principal	12,559.00	12,000.00	15,546.50
<b>Special Invested Funds</b>			
Defunct Granges	1,800.00	1,959.59	1,500.00
<b>Other Income</b>			
Bonding Fees Sub/Pom	2,500.00	2,507.00	2,389.00
Dues & Fees	28,000.00	31,691.25*	35,000.00
Eastern States/Blueberry Pie	1,500.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
<i>Granite State Granger</i> donations	1,000.00	841.00	800.00
Operations	2,500.00	1,357.08	3,000.00
Sixth Degree Fees	50.00	40.00	50.00
State Grange Bldg Use Donations	1,500.00	2,240.00	2,000.00
State Session	4,000.00	5,814.00	5,500.00
Account Receivable		100.00	
Donations		101.00	
Lecturer's Gift Donations		30.00	
NE Leader's Conference		5,409.00	
Past F & C Chairman		200.90	
Past Treasurer Savings Account		609.77	
Printing/Postage/Supplies		603.37	
State Grange Bldg Fund Donations		2,050.00	
Supply Department		20.75	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>65,409.00</b>	<b>85,353.55</b>	<b>77,185.50</b>
* 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter new rate			

**NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE GRANGE  
Expense Budget 2008 - 2009**

	<b>Proposed 2007 - 08</b>	<b>Actual 2007 - 08</b>	<b>Proposed 2008 - 09</b>
Bonding Fee Sub/Pom	2,500.00	2,482.00	2,389.00
Bonding Fee State Grange	209.00	209.00	209.00
Bulk Mail Permit	175.00	175.00	180.00
Cathedral of the Pines	50.00	35.00	0.00
Department Expenses	5,000.00		
Family & Community		1,000.00	900.00
Grange Services		200.00	200.00
Junior		200.00	200.00
Lecturer		1,200.00	1,100.00
Legislative		1,000.00	900.00
Membership		0.00	400.00
Trustees of Trust Funds		200.00	200.00
Youth		1,200.00	1,100.00
Deputies	1,500.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
Dues - National Grange	14,500.00	16,235.50*	17,960.00
General Deputy	300.00	300.00	300.00
Income Tax Preparation	1,300.00	1,510.00	1,500.00
Leader's School - December	600.00	152.00	500.00
Legal Fees	1,000.00	2,324.20	1,500.00
Lobbyist/Advocate Expenses	500.00	0.00	500.00

Lobbyist/Advocate Training			500.00
Master	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Media			
Farm & Forest Expo	300.00	305.00	300.00
<i>Granite State Granger</i>	3,000.00	2,227.81	2,500.00
Publicist	800.00	400.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	500.00	987.82	500.00
NE Grange Bldg Assessment	525.00	493.80	475.00
Operations			
Eastern States Exposition	500.00	0.00	0.00
Family Weekend	0.00	500.00	500.00
State Grange Building	7,500.00	10,284.70	17,000.00
State Session	6,000.00	6,971.50	6,000.00
State Session Deposit	1,000.00	500.00	500.00
Printing/Postage/Supplies	7,500.00	5,254.01	7,000.00
Secretary/Treasurer	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Sixth Degree Fees - National	30.00	10.00	12.50
State Grange Insurance	2,120.00	2,159.00	2,160.00
Anniversary Fund - Sashes		538.15	
Fundraising		236.63	
Leadership/Membership Training		2,452.17	
Lecturer's Gift Donations		30.00	
Loan		445.00	
National Session		3,000.00	
NE Leader's Conference		5,442.98	
Office Equipment		2,091.64	
Reimbursement		1,416.00	
Supply Department		322.31	
Totals	65,409.00	84,091.22	77,185.50
* 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter new rate			

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Secretary Carolyn Ross was called upon to give her report.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Worthy State Master, Associate State Officers, National Representatives, Nancy and Jeff Swainston, Delegates and Members:

OMG (in other words 'Oh My God'), I can't believe that I am presenting my first annual report as your State Secretary. If I knew last year what I know now about what a tremendous task I was undertaking, I most likely would have said NO WAY could I accept a position that becomes the organ of the Grange and requires judgment, promptness and efficiency. Over the past year, along with my duties of Secretary and having a full-time job at the University of New Hampshire, I am the caregiver for Past State Secretary Jeanne Higgins. I have had to deal with Jeanne breaking her neck at the end of September 2007, having a pin put in her neck, and then deciding not to breathe as soon as one should. Yesterday, after being in the hospital for nine days, I had to send Jeanne to a rehab center in order to get her strength back and some vision that she has lost.

Other than having a hectic first year, we have seen the closing of Grand Monadnock Pomona, Lovell Union, Danville, Miller, Cornish, Oak Hill (which consolidated with Antrim on Oct. 2), and Purling Beck. There is, however, some very good news. In April 2008, State Master Beth Merrill was able to reorganize Peterborough Grange #35 with 26 charter members. There are other Granges out there that are considering either closing or consolidating with another Grange.

I must now confess that I am not able to give you the membership figures for the past years. Due to lack of time I have not been able to get the figures together, but I will put them in the 2008 Journal.

ADDED TO MINUTES:

As of June 30, 2008 there were 12 Pomona Granges in the state with a total membership of 961, of which 314 are Golden Sheaf Exempt members. The largest Pomona is Merrimack County Pomona with 148 members.

As of June 30, 2008 there were 74 Subordinate Granges with a total membership of 2410, of which 631 are Golden Sheaf Exempt members. The largest Subordinate Grange is Wingold Grange with 79 members.

As of June 30, 2008 there are only 2 Junior Granges on the rolls – Brookline Junior Grange and Granite Junior Grange.

Oh, yes, did I say the word ‘Journal?’ For those of you who have not picked up the 2007 Journal, they are finally available for each Grange and Pomona. You can find them at the Registration Desk. We tried to do things differently this year by doing the Journal ourselves and not sending it to a printer. We had a lot of problems to begin with. Many mistakes were made, but next year, I promise, the Journals will be out by April. At this time, I would very much like to thank Linda Neilson of Arlington Grange for taking on the task of starting the Journal, and a real BIG Thank You to Gail Turcotte for being my proofreader and correction maker. Without these two wonderful ladies, I don’t know where the Journal would have ended up. By changing the way we do the Journal, there was a cost savings of at least \$1500 from previous years.

By authority of the National Grange, I have issued the following membership awards:

Silver Star certificates - 27	30-year certificates - 14
35-year certificates - 11	40-year certificates - 8
Golden Sheaf - 11	55-year seals - 10
60-year seals - 16	65-year seals - 7
70-year seals - 7	75-year certificates - 8
80-year letters - 2	

Last December, the State Grange Executive Committee committed to investing in a brand new computer and a printer which copies, faxes, scans and prints. I am totally indebted to Mark Collins for purchasing the computer through his work and for the many hours and miles Mark spent to install my computer and the many phone calls to help me out with a problem. One night last summer I had Mark on the phone direct from Las Vegas, guiding me through a problem I was having. So my most sincere ‘thank you’ goes out to Mark.

Mark has also created a new membership database for me and when I finally am able to enter everything that needs to be saved regarding a membership, I am going to be mailing Secretaries a membership list for them to make corrections and return to me so that I can update my records.

A very special thank you goes out to this year’s Credentials Committee led by Pat Bailey and her team of Fran Everard, Hannah West and Shelley Huntoon. You have my sincere thanks for your willingness to help me out.

Even if one does not have any outside problems, there is no way one can do this job alone. On many occasions, Bobbie Silva and Jeanne Higgins have helped me out and I can’t say enough ‘thank you’ to Marie Hall for publishing the 2008 Annual Session program for me. Marie is always ready and willing when I am in need of help and a friend willing to listen when I am whining.

A big thank you goes to my brother Ken and my husband Donald for everything, from driving me here and there, to carting all of the Secretary’s “stuff” around. Donald became my Assistant Secretary, from starting to inventory supplies to finding things that I had misplaced, which seems to be very easy in my household.

I never would have gotten through the year without the assistance of Gail Turcotte. I relied on Gail for my many questions and much-needed advice. I have to say that Gail is an incredible worker. She has more patience than anyone I know. Because I work so close to where Gail lives, over the year we have been able to meet for lunch and conduct Grange business at the same time.

Thank you to State Master Beth Merrill for remembering that this was my first year and allowing me to make changes to help improve our systems and at the same time trying to save on the costs.

I am looking forward to working more closely with the Secretaries in New Hampshire. This coming year, I will need to change the Quarterly Reports because of the dues increase to National Grange. While I am at it, I want to try and make the forms easier to understand.

My wish to everyone is for a healthy and prosperous 2009.

Fraternally,  
Carolyn J. Ross, NH State Grange Secretary

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Executive Committee Chairman Dan Bascom gave the report of the Executive Committee.

### **Executive Committee Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Jeff and Nancy Swainston, Fellow State Officers, Brothers and Sisters all:

The Executive Committee had another very busy year. We met at least nine times throughout the year (normally, once a quarter is enough). Starting the year brought many new challenges: first and foremost, a new Treasurer, a new Secretary, and having the computer crash at State Session. Superman to the rescue! No, it's Mark Collins! Mark, Carolyn and Gail worked very diligently and determined what we needed for a new computer and software. With Mark's connections we purchased a new system at a very reasonable price. Mark, we can't thank you enough.

Community Granges are still our biggest concern. Granges continue to close and do so by not following the National and State Grange By-laws. Just last week, a Grange told the Worthy Master that they were closed and had spent all their money. In the past two years, we came very close to taking some Granges to court because they spent their entire treasury and didn't follow proper procedures in closing. One situation is still not resolved, but they now seem to be doing things correctly. It is Imperative that the By-laws be followed as this path will not be tolerated much longer. We, the Executive Committee, are here to assist and walk you through the proper procedures. On the other hand, the Worthy Master would much rather work with you and try to save your Grange whenever possible.

On a more positive note, congratulations go to our State Master and members of Peterborough Grange for reorganizing. Beth made the first contact with the (then) future members of Peterborough Grange at the Farm & Forest Expo. I always felt that the Farm & Forest Expo was an excellent place to showcase our organization.

Our State Grange and the Executive Committee felt a great loss at the passing of Past State Master John West. Brother John loved the Grange, and what he gave to the organization proved it. As National Chaplain his talents really came through, and John said he wasn't talented. Brother John Herbert West will be sorely missed by us all.

The State Grange building took up much of our time as a new water heater and toilet were installed. The air conditioner needed attention and soon a new roof will be installed as the present one is leaking.

A big thank you goes out to both Gail and Wayne Turcotte for assisting the new Secretary and getting the new database up and running. As Carolyn has found out, the Secretary's position is the most arduous of all. Both Don and Carolyn deserve our thanks as well; it takes teamwork to get all the work done that a State Secretary does.

To the Worthy Treasurer, thank you; each member has a much better understanding of our financial situation. We met with our financial advisors and will be making changes in the year ahead to strengthen our financial condition. Also, through Gail's efforts we have a much better understanding of the IRS email filing system. It is important that each Grange files promptly and correctly each year to retain their non-profit status.

To the Worthy Master, we thank you for your calmness in deliberation and your forbearance toward those who may differ from you. NH State Grange is fortunate to have you as its Master. Time and time again, I marvel at the decisions you make and I feel for you when you struggle to make the right decision. When you need help, you ask, and when you ask, you listen. From all of us, "Thank you!"

As the Grange year comes to a close, we look forward to a brighter and better future. We had a Grange reorganize, and there is hope of more Granges taking in new members. Our new National Master Ed Luttrell has challenged us all and shown us a path to rebuild our Granges. It is now up to us!

Fraternally,  
Daniel P. Bascom  
Chairman, NH State Grange

## **NH STATE GRANGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES 2007 - 2008**

### **Fireside Inn, West Lebanon, NH – October 27, 2007**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 5:00 pm following a Workshop presented by Leroy Watson, National Legislative Director. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, John West, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon, Donald Ross, Jim Tetreault and newly elected Secretary, Carolyn Ross and Gail Turcotte, Treasurer.

First order of business was to elect a chairman of the Executive Committee and Secretary. Daniel Bascom was voted Chairman and Carolyn Ross, Secretary.

Past State Master John West requested that all Executive members please respond to e-mails even if you don't have a vote.

Discussion was held regarding the expenses of the Secretary and Treasurer, as the budget had not defined what each one would receive. It was decided that the Secretary would receive \$3000.00 and the Treasurer \$1000.00 per year for their efforts.

Past State Secretary Richard Patten will receive \$250.00 for his October's expenses.

Discussion was held regarding a change in the 2008 Roster to help cut down on the cost of the rosters. State Secretary, Carolyn Ross will send examples of her idea to the Beth Merrill and Dan Bascom.

A deposit for our 2008 Annual Session to be held at the Marriott Courtyard in Nashua will be requested at a later date.

The Secretary and Treasurer's bank accounts should have 3 signers. It was decided that the third signer would be the State Grange Executive Committee Chairman.

The State Secretary will need to notify the users of the State Grange Building of the change in Secretary's.

John West will continue to oversee the rider's part of the insurance policy of the State Grange Building.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm

Executive Committee meeting reconvened following the Celebration Dinner.

State Master Beth Merrill spoke about how pleased she was with the election of the three new officers. However, she did hear some concern from Grange members that there was a husband and wife that would each have a vote. After a brief discussion it was determined that the Patrons had voted the couple in as officers.

State Pianist, Lester Gibbs had spoken to the State Master about his concern with the Grafton Star DRA issue. The Grange has contacted a real estate attorney and the attorney feels there may have been some violations.

It was mentioned that more Granges might have closed without using the proper procedure.

Miller Grange has made a request to close as a letter was received from Master, Olive Bourque. Purling Beck is considering consolidating with Antrim.

Rodney Huntoon has graciously accepted Chairman of the 501C Committee.

Discussion was held on whether or not the officers and committee chairmen that needed business envelopes would use only the generic envelopes. The State Secretary will look into the cost difference and how much printers would charge.

Jim Tetreault is working with Leroy Watson on a job description for a State Grange Lobbyist.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held after Leadership and Deputy School on Saturday, December 8, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary - NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **Leader's School Daniel Webster Grange Hall – December 8, 2007**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 2:50 pm following Leader's School held at Daniel Webster Grange Hall. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, John West, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon, Donald and Carolyn Ross, Jim Tetreault and Gail Turcotte.

The minutes of the last meeting held at State Session on October 27<sup>th</sup> were read and after a few corrections were accepted.

The sale of Gilman Grange Hall is still pending as there has been a complication with deed issues that needed to be resolved first.

Miller Grange has requested to close. Miller needs to select a date for a meeting regarding closing and letters need to be sent to their members informing them when the meeting will be held.

Grafton Star has received a letter from a lawyer. The issue of who owes taxes has not been resolved.

Dan Bascom commended the Secretary and Treasurer on all of their hard work to get the 2008 Roster ready for Leader's School.

Discussion was held on 501C. A motion was made and seconded to let Rodney Huntoon be reimbursed for making copies and postage necessary to mail 501C information to committee members. So voted.

Discussion on placing liens on Grange Halls was held.

John West suggested that the State Grange Building in Hooksett needs to have another storage facility.

Discussion was held on youth screening and background checks. Should it be done every year? When a screening is completed the State Secretary will notify the person whether or not their check was approved. The State Grange will pay for any expenses for a state level background check. The Junior Granges are the responsibility of the sponsoring Grange.

Mailing envelopes was discussed. The Master, Secretary and Treasurer will have personalized envelopes and all other Directors and the Lecturer will be given the generic envelopes. It will also be permissible for the Secretary and Treasurer to order security envelopes.

The State Secretary has discovered that Tuftonborough Grange has been paying quarterly dues as family members. The State Secretary will figure out how much money has been overpaid by Tuftonborough Grange and will correct the situation.

Associate Members – it was discovered that any NH Associate members were not billed for their 2007 dues. It was voted to forgo the 2007 dues and have the State Secretary send out bills for 2008.

Junior Granges should still be getting quarterly reports and be paying \$ .25 per Junior Granger. The new State Secretary was very low on supplies, which needs to be ordered from National Grange. As a large order had been placed at the National Grange Session in Reno, a motion was made for the State Grange to pay for the supplies that the State Secretary had ordered. So voted.

Chris Heath, Youth Team Leader, has made a request to receive \$500.00 from the Randall Richardson Fund to be used for transportation costs to go to New York's Youth Session. So voted.

A discussion was held on whether or not the State Grange wanted to start printing materials in-house or to have them out-sourced. At our next Executive Meeting we will be discussing what new equipment we might want to purchase. A motion was made and seconded to authorize the State Secretary and Treasurer to look into laser printers and a desktop computer. If necessary we would be able to rent laptops to be used at State Session.

The Lecturer's and Department budgets were presented to the State Secretary for payment. It was voted to pay out 1/2 of their budgets now and the balance will be paid six months later.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the Highlander Inn on Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. We will meet in the lobby and then Jim Tetreault will find us a room to meet in.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn J. Ross

Secretary – NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **Highlander Inn, Manchester, NH – December 27, 2007**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 7:10 pm prior to the start of the Legislative Fly-In. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, John West, Donald and Carolyn Ross, Jim Tetreault and Gail Turcotte.

The minutes of the last meeting held at Daniel Webster Grange Hall on December 8th were read and after a few corrections Beth Merrill made a motion to accept the minutes and Donald Ross seconded this.

State Overseer, Jim Tetreault made a request to have a 2-hour limit deadline for our Executive Committee meetings. It was suggested that we need to have an agenda before we arrive at the meetings. Dan Bascom offered to put the agenda together for the meetings but the Executive Committee members will need to submit items for discussion one week prior to the meetings.

Past State Master, John West has contacted the National Grange Insurance Co. and has found the policy has nothing to do with Grange trips. John was given the insurance policy for safekeeping. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Donald Ross to give John West custody of our insurance policy.

The Youth will be traveling to New York on January 18<sup>th</sup> to participate in their Weekend Youth Activities. Gifts cards have been purchased to cover the cost of gas for the trip.

Discussion was held on the Northeast Leader's Conference to be held the end of December. Beth Merrill and Gail Turcotte have been working on room reservations for the meeting. John West made a motion and seconded by Donald Ross to support the State Master financially with the expenses of the meeting.

State Master, Beth Merrill has been in contact with Olive Bourque concerning the closing of Miller Grange.

Purling Beck Grange will be meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup> to vote on consolidating with Antrim Grange.

Starr King Grange is considering closing.

State Master, Beth Merrill is working on getting a Membership Director liaison.

Lovell Union Grange has closed and the State Secretary has received their past dues that were owed.

There is confusion on the interpretation of Family Membership. Does it have to be voted on by each individual Grange? Do our By-Laws need to be amended? Rick Bailey, chairman of the By-Laws Committee will be asked to write a By-Law clarifying Family Membership. National quarterly reports will need to be changed to reflect these numbers.

A dues increase passed at National Session takes effect January 1, 2008. The State will start paying \$2.50 per member instead of \$2.00 starting with the March 2008 quarter.

A computer, copier and software for the State Secretary were discussed. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by John West to make Mark Collins the person to go to for recommendations and estimates. State Treasurer, Gail Turcotte has purchased a new fax, which will become property of the State Grange. A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Beth Merrill to reimburse the State Treasurer for the cost of the fax.

The Blaisdell Trust Fund was discussed.

The State Grange strong box has 2 keys. The extra key along with an inventory will go to the State Secretary.

Executive Committee decisions by telephone poll need to be keeping as a permanent record. These decisions should go into the next Executive Committee meeting minutes.

Bonding of Granges was discussed. Will we keep the current rates? This was tabled to a later date.

Associate Member Dues needs to be brought up to compliance. We will review this at our next Executive Committee meeting.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the State Grange Building, Hooksett on Friday, February 29th at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary – NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **State Grange Building, Hooksett, NH – March 2, 2008**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 1:10 pm at the NH State Building. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, John West, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon, Donald and Carolyn Ross, Jim Tetreault and Gail Turcotte.

The minutes of the December 27, 2007 meeting were read and after a few corrections John West made a motion and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the minutes as corrected. The Secretary was instructed to e-mail the Executive Committee the corrected minutes.

Length of Executive Meetings - ours are short compared to other states. We will continue our meetings as we have done in the past.

990 and Electronic filing was discussed. We still do not know if Granges will have to file with the IRS. At the moment every Grange has a different tax year. The legal name of a Grange is what



is on a Grange's Incorporation papers. The State Treasurer, Gail Turcotte, will be working on a letter to send out to subordinate Granges and Pomona's telling them that they can only have one (1) tax ID number. The letter will need to be approved by Beth and/or Dan.

Grange Up-Dates –

Miller Grange – meet on December 18, 2007 to close, no State Grange Officers were present. On March 11, 2008 the State Master will go to Miller to take their charter.

Grand Monadnock Pomona – March 11, 2008 will be their last meeting as they are down to two (2) subordinate Granges.

Purling Beck Grange – has consolidated with Antrim Grange as of January 31, 2008.

Starr King Grange – at their April 21, 2008 meeting they will be closing.

Oak Hill Grange – recently their current Master has passed away.

Lovell Union Grange – the demits for their members will expire on May 1, 2008.

Cornish Grange – Stephen Tracy is trying to work with this Grange. Cornish will be meeting on the second Thursday in April.

Gilman Grange – the sale of the hall is still in limbo. Gilman Grange had to request to have an abutter's estate to be re-opened because of a small piece of property that was in question.

Grafton Star – Lester Gibbs is going to keep their appraiser up to date as to what has been going on.

State Master's Conference – Protecting the names of Grange Halls. We need to get a list of halls that still have the name of the Grange on them. Paul Davis will work on this project. We will need to get written permission of the National Grange Master to protect the names.

Safe for State Grange Building was discussed. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Beth Merrill to purchase a safe to be stored at the State Grange Building. So voted. We will need to determine the size of a safe that we will need. The Master, Secretary and Treasurer will come up with a list of what should be kept in a safe.

The State Grange still has a strong box that has 30 commemorative coins dated 1873 – 1973. Donald Ross volunteered to have a coin appraised by Jim Doggett – the Master of Grange State Grange who is an authorized jeweler. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Paul Davis to have Lester Gibb see what he could do about trying to sell the coins on E-Bay.

Secretary's December quarterly report was discussed. A motion was made by Rodney Huntoon and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the Secretary's report.

John West will be the contact person for Grange Membership Applications.

The 2007 Annual Session Journal was discussed. Need to get an estimate from Piper Printing to do the journal electronically. Consideration needs to be given on how we will bind the Journal. A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by John West to have the State Master approach Linda Nielson of Arlington Grange to ask if she would be willing to put the Journal together. So voted.

The Secretary's new Computer and Printer, Copier, Fax and Scanning machine were discussed. A motion was made by Rodney Huntoon and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the proposal of Mark Collins with a few changes. So voted. A motion was made by John West and seconded by Donald Ross to turn the old printer over to the State Treasurer.

2008 State Session - a walk through will be held on April 26, 2008 at 5:00 pm at the Marriott Courtyard in Nashua.

BIG E Trip on Sunday, September 21, 2008 (Grange Day) was discussed. The cost is \$50.00 per person for transportation, admission fee and tip for the bus driver. There will only be one pick-up in Concord.

State Grange Building Clean-Up Day – Sunday, April 20, 2008 starting at 9:00 am. Many hands will make lighter work.

State Grange Trust Funds was discussed. The missing changes have been found at the State Attorney's Office. NH law says that we need to have five (5) voting Trustee's. The Trustee's need to come out of the Grange Services Committee to form a separate committee. The Trustees elected are:

Debra Patten	1 year term
Elizabeth Cotsibas	1 year term
Ann Leger	2 year term
Camilie Twiss	2 year term
Diane Collins	3 year term

A motion was made by John West and seconded by Paul Davis to elect Gail Turcotte as Treasurer of the Trust Funds for a 1 year term. So voted.

The next Trustee Meeting will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the NH Fire Academy Hall in Concord. Dan Bascom and Rodney Huntoon will be presenters at the Trustee meeting. The bank has requested that a checking account be established for the Trust Funds. A motion was made by Rodney Huntoon and seconded by Paul Davis for the Treasurer to open a checking account for the Trust Funds. So voted.

Family Membership was discussed. Rick Bailey is working on how we need to interpret the By-Laws. We need to send Rick a list of Granges using Family Membership.

Associate Members – Donald Ross made a motion and seconded by John West to have Rick Bailey look into Associate Membership.

Bonding – Gail Turcotte has received the bonding policy as to who is covered. Only Officers, Directors and Trustees are covered. Beth Merrill will contact the National Master about the actual coverage of each Grange.

Treasurer's Quarterly Report – a motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the report.

Northeast Leader's Conference – only had a loss of \$33.98. Great work Gail and Beth! A motion was made by John West and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the conference expenses report.

The National Master is looking for names and address of NH members with NON NH zip codes. A motion was made by John West and seconded by Paul Davis to have the State Master send a list of these members to the National Master.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the State Grange Building, Hooksett on Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 5:00 PM. We will start our meeting with a Pot Luck Supper

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary – NH State Grange Executive Committee

**State Grange Building, Hooksett, NH – May 25, 2008**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 6:00 pm at the NH State Building. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, John West, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon, Donald and Carolyn Ross and Jim Tetreault. Treasurer, Gail Turcotte was away on vacation.

The minutes of the March 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and after a few corrections. Rodney Huntoon made a motion and seconded by John West to accept the minutes after the corrections were made. So voted.

CHRI (Criminal History Record Information) – Beth Merrill needs to re-examine the form.

State Grange Commemorative Coins – Lester Gibbs will try selling the coins on E-Bay and he had NO takers. Donald Ross got an appraisal for the coins from James Doggett, Master of Granite State Grange. Jim said the coins were worth about \$20.00 per coin. We will try selling the remainder of the coins at our next State Grange Session.

Zip Codes - Beth Merrill has sent National Grange our list of members outside the NH zip code service area.

Degree Day – There will be a Degree Day On June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Moose Lodge in Keene.

Pomona Study Committee – Beth Merrill is working on a letter to be sent out to Pomona Masters regarding a meeting to be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> at the State Grange Building.

Starr King Grange – The date set for their closing is July 16<sup>th</sup>. Beth and Arthur Merrill along with Donald and Carolyn Ross will attend this meeting.

Cornish Grange – The Grange met on April 10<sup>th</sup> with just one member present. They have until the end of June to formally close themselves and if not the State Master will close them. No charter was to be found in their building.

Miller Grange has been closed which closes Grand Monadnock Pomona because of the two remaining Subordinate Grange rule.

Peterborough Grange was reorganized on April 6, 2008 by State Master, Beth Merrill. They have elected all officers and they are using the alternative manual to conduct meetings. Their meetings will be held at the Peterborough Town House.

Prentice Hill Grange has requested to dispose of their hall and contents. They will need to prepare a proposal for sale first.

A safe for the State Grange and a file cabinet for the Trust Fund are needed.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup> Beth Merrill and Jim Tetreault attended a meeting to make plans to start a 501C3 organization in order to host National Grange every five years.

Training Weekend was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> and it went very well. Rusty Hunt from National Grange was the leader along with 15 NH Grange members. Teams were sent to Park, Meriden, Blow-Me-Down and Mont Calm Grange. The teams will be doing follow-up with their Granges. The final cost of the weekend was \$2044.10 which will be paid by the State Grange.

State Secretary, Carolyn Ross gave her March Quarterly Report. A motion was made by Paul Davis and seconded by Beth Merrill to accept the report.

Secretary's New Computer – Excellent, Wonderful, Etc. At our next Executive Committee Meeting we need to decide on an appropriate thank you for Mark Collins regarding all of his time and money he has put into setting up the new computer and printer.

990-N IRS letter and TID letter have been mailed to all Secretary's.

Defunct Grange Accounts was discussed.

The Treasurer's quarterly report was presented and accepted.

There is a need to address the Deputies stipends. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Paul Davis for the State Master, Beth Merrill to talk with General Deputy, Tricia Taylor regarding this issue. So voted.

John West spoke about the ongoing need to be able to store "stuff" at the State Grange Building.

State Master, Beth Merrill has appointed Wayne Turcotte to the 501C3 Study Committee.

The Big-E Trip deadline has been extended to August 15<sup>th</sup>. 21 have signed up to go so far.

State Grange Building Clean-Up Day was held on April 20<sup>th</sup>. There were 11 Grange members that came out to help.

Journal of Proceedings (2007) – a motion was made by Paul Davis and seconded by John West that this year only we will forego the April 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. So voted.

Bob Trombi has requested a \$500.00 advance for Family Weekend. A motion was made by John West and seconded by Paul Davis to advance the money to Bob. So voted.

2008 State Session – Dan Bascom will meet with the Hotel Coordinator. We will be using the smaller Ballroom for the Banquet. Check-in will be at 4:00 pm and check-out will be by 12:00 pm on Sunday. We will be getting a complimentary Hospitality Room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. The cost of banquets starts at \$30.00 and up.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the State Grange Building, Hooksett on Thursday, July 31, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary – NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **State Grange Building, Hooksett, NH – July 31, 2008**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 7:06 pm at the NH State Building. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon, Donald and Carolyn Ross, Jim Tetreault and Gail Turcotte.

A moment of reflective silence was held in loving memory of National Chaplain, Past State Master and Executive Committee member, John H. West.

The minutes of the May 25th meeting were read and approved after a few corrections. Rodney Huntoon made a motion and was seconded by Paul Davis to accept the minutes after the corrections were made. So voted.

NH Grange Trust Fund – Terry Knowles (Assistant Director of the Charitable Trusts – State of NH) has requested data from the State Treasurer all the way back to 1959. TD Banknorth Wealth Management wants to meet with the State Executive Committee and Trustees of the Trust Fund. Gail Turcotte will contact the bank to set-up a date to meet with the bank at the State Grange Building. Deb Patten has resigned as a Trustee from the Trust Fund Committee. State Master, Beth Merrill suggested the name of Omer Ahearn, Jr. to fill Deb Patten's position on the committee. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Donald Ross to fill Deb Patten's term as a Trustee of Trust Funds Committee. So voted.

The State Treasurer's June quarterly report was presented. A motion was made by Rodney Huntoon and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the report. So voted.

Donations for Use of the State Grange Building - because of today's raising costs for fuel, electricity and maintenance it was felt that the time has come to increase donations requested for use of the State Grange Building. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Beth Merrill that as of October 1, 2008 the donation for use of the State Grange Building will be: Rebecca's and Hooksett Grange - \$50.00 per meeting, NH Arms Collectors (Gun Club) - \$75.00 per meeting, Grange members - \$75.00 per meeting and Non- Grange members - \$150.00 – per meeting. So voted. The Secretary will notify the appropriate organizations.

Family Membership – Rick Bailey is still looking into writing a resolution for State Session.

Junior Grange Dues – As of the September quarter the State Secretary will be sending out quarterly dues forms to active Junior Granges.

Randall Richardson Fund – the Youth Director has not turned over money received since 2006 to the State Treasurer.

The Educational Loan Fund Committee met on July 19<sup>th</sup> and a new payment plan has been established. The scholarships will be paid through the Treasurer of the Educational Loan Fund.

The Secretary's June quarterly report was presented. Paul Davis made a motion and seconded by Rodney Huntoon to accept the report.

Minutes from the Saturday session of our 2007 Annual Session still need to be accepted by the Executive Committee.

Mark Collins Computer Services – a motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Donald Ross to pay for Mark's room and two banquet tickets for State Session because of all the time his has spent maintaining the State Master's and State Secretary's computers. So voted.

The National Grange is sponsoring a Grange Growth Summit on September 5 – 7 in Lebanon, NJ. Stephen Tracy would like to attend this conference. A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Beth Merrill to send Stephen to the conference and we will pay for his registration, room, meals and mileage. So voted.

Our National Representative for our October State Grange Session will be the National Ceres – Nancy Swainston. National Grange is asking us to help pay for Nancy's transportation to NH.

Deputy Stipends – there will be a proposal to change mileage for 2009 because of the high cost of fuel.

June 21<sup>st</sup> Degree Day at Keene – there were 15 candidates for the four degrees.

John West's place on the State Executive Committee will remain open until elections at State Session.

Gail Turcotte has purchased a file cabinet for the Trustees of the Trust Funds for \$65.00. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Paul Davis to reimburse Gail the cost of the cabinet. So voted.

Starr King Grange – the closing of the Grange is still pending as of July 16<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Don Whittum will be asked to do a deed search on the Starr King property.

Oak Hill Grange – has contacted the State Master wanting to close. Oak Hill is asking to consolidate with Antrim Grange. There will be a meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to decide what they want to do.

Cornish Grange – still has not closed as of August 16<sup>th</sup>. Meriden Grange is trying to work with Cornish Grange.

Grafton Star – is in receipt of a letter from Attorney Whittum hoping to resolve their building situation.

Rockingham Grange – has a new roof and has taken care of the critters around their building.

The State Grange Building roof was repaired by Dan Bascom and Paul Davis and a new flag was put up.

National Grange has produced a new Membership Application. You can find the form by visiting the National website.

Ken Berry of Gilman Grange has been named the new State Session Coordinator beginning with the 2009 State Session.

It was noted that our 2010 Annual State Session would need to meet on October 28<sup>th</sup> thru October 30<sup>th</sup> in order to be able to have our Session in Keene. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Paul Davis to reserve these dates.

Carolyn Ross will send out a postcard to Granges and officers regarding reservation information for our October State Session.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the State Grange Building, Hooksett on Tuesday, September 30, 2008 at 7:00 PM. A motion was made by Rodney Huntoon and seconded by Paul Davis to close the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary – NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **State Grange Building, Hooksett, NH – August 21, 2008**

Executive Committee Chairman Dan Bascom called the second portion of the meeting with TD Banknorth Wealth Management Group to order at 6:51 PM. The committee met earlier in a joint meeting with the Trustees of the Trust Fund and the financial advisors.

TD Banknorth Wealth Management advisors Tim Woodhouse and Eva Albano briefly explained the present investment strategy of 35% equities, 61% fixed income and 4% cash. Tim explained the advantages to a more diversified portfolio and suggested adding small percentages through mutual funds.

Tim and Eva explained that the administrative costs are divided among all of our accounts before the quarterly distributions are paid. Gail pointed out that this is a legitimate expense for the two trust funds and should be reported on the annual charity report to the State of NH. Eva and Tim will advise the bank official that prepares the report for us.

Tim and Eva will prepare more detailed information for both the trust accounts and for all of our other accounts and mail the reports to each of us. Once we have a chance to review the material additional meetings will be needed for both the trustees and the executive committee with our financial advisors.

The financial portion of the executive committee meeting ended at 7:36 PM.

### **Minutes taken by Gail M. Turcotte**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 7:37 pm at the NH State Building. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon, Donald and Carolyn Ross and Gail Turcotte.

The minutes of the July 31<sup>st</sup> meeting were read and approved after a few corrections. Rodney Huntoon made a motion and was seconded by Paul Davis to accept the minutes after the corrections were made. So voted.

Proposal for 2009 Annual Meeting Site – State Secretary, Carolyn Ross presented a proposal from the 2009 State Session Coordinator, Ken Berry for the 2009 NH State Grange Annual Session to be held the Ashworth Hotel by the Sea in Hampton Beach, NH. After the Executive Committee went over the proposal a motion was made by Rodney Huntoon and seconded by Paul Davis to accept the Ashworth Hotel's proposal. So voted. It was requested to have the State Secretary be authorized to sign the contracts on behalf of the Executive Committee.

Legislative Lobbyist - Jim Tetreault, State Grange Legislative Chairman, has an opportunity to acquire training at National Session for Lorna Bates who is interested as working as our State Grange Lobbyist. Jim Tetreault has requested that the State Treasurer add a line to the 2009 budget to cover the cost of this training. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Donald Ross to grant this request. So voted.

State Grange Building Roof – we have a need to do something about the condition of the roof on the State Grange Building in Hooksett. At least ¼ of the roof needs to be repaired because of some very major leaks. Paul Davis was requested to get estimates for the repair of the roof. A new hot water heater was replaced in July by a V. Martin and Sons. Also the lip on the back ramp needs to be fixed as pieces were broken off from last year's snow plowing.

Incorporation – Grafton Star will be filing their incorporation papers. Jim Tetreault is working on filing for other Granges that appear to be inactive. State Grange executive Committee approved amending the State Grange nonprofit incorporation o read – New Hampshire State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry.

Family Membership – what is our By-Laws lacking? Our Family Membership By-Law does not include Foster children.

Associate Dues was discussed. Since dues to the National Grange are increasing we should increase the amount for Associate dues.

The Executive Committee will not be submitting a suggestion for the National Family of the Year award this year.

Rental Increases' for the State Grange Building was readdressed. Suggested if the hall is reserved one must cancel 15 days prior to meeting or they will be charged for use of the hall unless cancellation was due to extreme weather. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Donald Ross to table this issue until we have a Coordinator for the building. So voted.

Cornish Grange – State Master, Beth Merrill has received a request from a member of Cornish to meet with members to discuss closing the Grange again. The Executive Committee felt that it was time to do something about closing the Grange. Is there any possibility of Cornish consolidating with Park Grange? Beth Merrill will ask Park Grange if Cornish could consolidate with them.

A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Paul Davis that effective immediately all State Grange checking accounts needed to have a minimum of two authorized signers on their accounts.

The cost of the banquet at the 2008 Annual Session will be \$30.00 all inclusive. The banquet tickets will need to be ordered from Kathy Yardley by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the State Grange Building, Hooksett on Tuesday, September 30, 2008 at 7:00 PM. A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Paul Davis to close the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary, NH State Grange Executive Committee

### **State Grange Building, Hooksett, NH – September 30, 2008**

The New Hampshire State Grange Executive Committee met at 7:17 pm at the NH State Grange Building. Present were Beth Merrill, Dan Bascom, Paul Davis, Donald and Carolyn Ross, Jim Tetreault and Gail Turcotte. Rodney Huntoon was not able to attend.

The minutes of the August 21, 2008 meeting were read and approved after a few corrections. Paul Davis made a motion and was seconded by Beth Merrill to accept the minutes after the corrections were made. So voted.

The Secretary will be sending out letters to Granges that have not paid their June Quarterly dues letting them know that according to the Bylaws they will not be eligible to vote at State Session.

A new roof is needed for the State Grange Building. Paul Davis presented one proposal from Ralph Potter for asphalt shingles. Paul Davis will get more estimates for shingles, doing the whole roof and colored metal sheeting.

Jim Tetreault reported on the status of non-profit incorporation of Granges. Jim has sent letters to Ashuelot, White Mountain, Squam Lake and Grafton Star.

Peterborough's incorporation has just been approved.

Beth Merrill and Jim Tetreault had a meeting with Casserta Financial Planning in Keene to try and get a clear understanding of the State Grange financial standing with TD Banknorth Wealth Management. We now have a standard brokerage account. Their review of our present plan was "it is a good mix but this is not a good time for investing in bonds".

NH Grange Trust Funds - at the September 17 Trustees meeting, the trustees voted to set historical dollar value for NH Grange Trust at \$40,000. effective October 1, 2008. The historical dollar value for Blaisdell Fund at \$9000 effective October 1, 2008. If an effective date is needed Gail suggests October 1, 2008. These decisions will need to be approved by the State Grange Executive Committee then sent in writing to AG office and approved before the trust can become active again. The trustees also voted to separate the two trust fund accounts from the rest of the State Grange invested funds at the recommendation of TD Banknorth advisor. They also voted to invest the two funds in mutual funds at the recommendation of the TD Banknorth advisor. A motion was made by Beth Merrill and seconded by Carolyn Ross to accept previous mentioned requests. So voted.

The Trustees have requested to meet with at least 2 or 3 other investment services, as they are not sure we are dealing with the best counselors for the funds. They suggested AG Edwards and NH Charitable Foundation Trust. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Donald Ross for Gail Turcotte to be authorized to contact these agencies.

Treasurer, Gail Turcotte has an appointment on October 20<sup>th</sup> with Terry Knowles to discuss financial record keeping for charitable trust fund accounts.

The Executive Committee is supposed to meet again with TD Banknorth to decide about the investment plan for the rest of our accounts. We will hold off on this meeting until the Trustees have been able to meet with other agencies.

Deputy Stipends was discussed. Payments will remain the way it has been set up.

The remainder of the money from the 2008 Family Weekend was received and deposited today.

The 2009 Bonding bills were sent out with the September Quarterly Reports.



Review and discuss 2008 – 2009 Budget proposal and 9/27/08 financial report. Proposed committee budgets for 2008 – 2009:

Family and Community	900.00
Grange Services	200.00
Junior Dept	200.00
Lecturer	1100.00
Legislative	900.00
Membership	400.00
Trustees	200.00
Youth	1100.00

Other changes Expenses to State Grange Building changed to \$18,000.00, added Leaders School - \$500.00, Printing, Postage and Supplies changed to \$7000.00, income for Defunct Granges changed to \$1500.00 and Operations changed to \$3000.00

Discussion on all NH State Grange bank account information. We need to set a policy of at least 2 authorized signers should be on every account. We should also create a list of bank name, account number and authorized signers for all accounts. A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Paul Davis for the above to be made a policy. So voted. The State Treasurer will create the list. The State Secretary and State Treasurer will each have a copy of the list.

The Executive Committee has to elect Trustees before October 20<sup>th</sup>. Omer Ahern, Jr. and Elizabeth Cotsibas terms expire this year. A motion was made by Donald Ross and seconded by Paul Davis to re-elect Omer and Elizabeth to a 3-year term pending their acceptance. So voted.

Gail Turcotte appointment also expires this year. A motion was made by Carolyn Ross and seconded by Beth Merrill to re-elect the State Grange Treasurer of the Trust Funds for a 2-year term. So voted.

We will try to sell the left over commemorative coins at State Session for \$20.00 each.

Randall Richardson Fund - \$314 was deposited into the invested account on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

Journal of Proceedings for 2007 – the Journal will be completed in time to give them out at State Session in order to save some postage money.

Oak Hill Grange – on October 2<sup>nd</sup> Oak Hill will be deciding whether or not to consolidate with Antrim at this meeting. Dan Bascom will attend this meeting.

Grafton Star – Dan Bascom reported that Grafton Star has a new proposal. They have hired an attorney to petition the court to overturn previous sale agreement. This way Grafton Star can wipe the slate clean and start over.

Cornish – will be meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> with Stephen Tracy and potential new members,

Steve Tracy called Dan Bascom to thank the State Grange for sending him to the New Jersey Membership Training.

Starr King – the Master has not received a progress report from the State Grange lawyer, Don Whittum.

The insurance policies that John West had custody of have been turned over to the State Secretary's Office.

More Grange Application brochures are needed. The on-line application needs to be up-date to add the State Secretary as a contact for more information. After Mark Collins makes the change on the website Carolyn Ross will have 500 applications printed.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the State Grange Building, Hooksett on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 1:00 PM. This will also be a rehearsal for the 6<sup>th</sup> degree and opening of State Session. The Executive Committee will be auditing the Treasurer's, Secretary's,

Educational Loan Fund and Trust Funds books. A motion was made by Paul Davis and seconded by Donald Ross to close the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
Secretary, NH State Grange Executive Committee

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Katie, the Event Coordinator for the Marriott Hotel, gave her greetings from the hotel.

State Master Beth Merrill called a brief recess.

The Grange was called back to order at 10:05 a.m.

State Lecturer Marie Hall was called upon to give her report.

### Lecturer's Report

Worthy Master, National Delegates, Pink Sash Members, Delegates, Patrons all,

The New Hampshire State Grange has been very busy this year. NH Leader's Conference (lovingly called in previous years 'Deputy School') was held in December and was a full day of learning. I had a chance to learn some new things and I also presented a small workshop called "Where Do I Go from Here?"

New Hampshire held the Northeast Leader's Conference this year in Portsmouth. New York State Grange has been added to our regional area. We welcome them with open arms. We have much to gain from their Grange experiences. Ed Luttrell, National Master, and Rusty Hunt, National Leadership/Membership Director, were present and each gave powerful presentations.

Bowling was held on April 13 in Manchester. Registration began at 11 a.m. and bowling commenced at 12:05 p.m. Sixty-five adult Grangers and eight Junior Grangers bowled that day with the following results:

#### High Single Men's

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	David Hewes - 125
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Norman Cousins - 99
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dana Hall - 110
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dan Bascom - 106
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Wilber Heath - 106
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tom Lessard - 100
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Norman Brandt - 92
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Herman Walker - 89

#### High Single Women's

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Dowes - 105
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dianne Hoitt - 98
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Judy Bailey - 106
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lois Enman - 96
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sandy Fogarty - 93
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kim Bascom - 92
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ruth Russell - 105
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Barbara Walker - 95

#### High Triple Men's

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	David Hewes - 317
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Norman Cousins - 272
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dana Hall - 288
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dan Bascom - 276
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Wilber Heath - 266
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tom Lessard - 245
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ed Decatur - 245
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Norman Brandt - 229

#### High Triple Women's

A	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Dowes - 295
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dianne Hoitt - 273
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Judy Bailey - 294
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lois Enman - 252
C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sandy Fogarty - 263
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jennifer Bailey - 254
D	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ruth Russell - 267
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Barbara Walker - 226

## TEAMS

A 1<sup>st</sup> Halloween - 1191

C 1<sup>st</sup> Rochester - 1310

B 1<sup>st</sup> Daniel Webster I - 1239

2<sup>nd</sup> Henry Wilson - 1194

D 1<sup>st</sup> Wingold I - 1140

2<sup>nd</sup> Somersworth - 1064

Unfortunately, even though we had plans to have a Vermont/NH night in May, Vermont was experiencing some scheduling conflicts and we were unable to bring the night to fruition. On May 31, 2008, Maine hosted NH. Only fourteen people from New Hampshire attended. I hope that in the future we have more, as this event is always a good time to get together with our neighboring states.

June 7, 2008, found us at the State Grange Building in Hooksett for Spotlight NH. Were you there? Spotlight NH is open for every Grange member. You do not have to perform at your Subordinate level first, and then go on to Pomona level and win there in order to come to the State Talent Contest and perform. More than one person from your Grange may enter and compete for the chance to represent NH at, first, the Northeast Lecturer's Conference and, second, at National Grange. You do not have to win at the Northeast Lecturer's Conference to go on to National. You are automatically entered into National when you win Best of Show in NH. National gives you \$100 just to show up and perform in their Night of Excellence. Here is a list of brave souls who decided that they would lift up their bootstraps, have some fun and participate in Spotlight NH:

### Vocal

1<sup>st</sup> place: Mary West  
"Taylor the Latte Boy"

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jessica Jackman  
"Walking After Midnight"

### Instrumental

1<sup>st</sup> place: Kathy Yardley - Bells  
Piano  
"The All-American Hometown Band"

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Brandon Melanson -  
"Realization" Original Composition

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Ron Goodrich - Piano  
"Ways of Love" Original Composition

### Best of Show

Kathy Yardley - Bells  
"The All-American Hometown Band"

I wish to thank these people for sharing their talent with us. I hope to have people come out in droves next year because I know we have a lot of talent in New Hampshire.

I would like to thank all those Granges that have donated monies to the Talent Fund. Because of you, Kathy will be performing in November at National Grange, which is being held in Connecticut this year. I hope you will all let her know that she has all of our support.

Northeast Lecturers' Conference was in Farmington, Maine, this year, and New Hampshire's program was based on "Bring Purple into Your Life." I have not yet received photos that different people took during our program, or I would show them here. In the display room at the State Conference in October, I was hoping to be running a CD of the programs put on at Lecturers' Conference. However, I have not yet received it.

The group from NH included: Beth Merrill, Gail Turcotte, Marion T. Jones, Dot Haskins, Lorna Bates, Yvonne Crocker and Judith Chase, as well as me. These wonderful ladies wore many different hats, and I am proud of each and every one of them for the excellent job they did in presenting the NH program.

This conference is open to every Grange member, not only Lecturers. I strongly urge those who have not attended to try it. I cannot express enough about the fellowship, fun, education, idea exchanges, sharing, laughter and inspiration that each individual who attends brings home. It is my hope that those who attended can bring home and share with their Granges some of the

enthusiasm they experienced, and we can spread it across the state. Hope to see you next year in Rhode Island.

Many of you have already been looking at the photos, cards and art work that are out in the display room. The following is a list of the winners:

## PHOTO CONTEST

### CLASS I: TRADITIONAL

- A *The People in My Life*  
1<sup>st</sup> James Jacobs - Rochester  
2<sup>nd</sup> Patricia Adams - Mont Calm  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jane Heath - Centennial
- B *Where Am I?*  
1<sup>st</sup> Katherine Umberhind -  
Hampton Falls  
2<sup>nd</sup> Alice Tuck - Rochester  
3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole
- C *All God's Creatures (Animals)*  
1<sup>st</sup> James Jacobs - Rochester  
2<sup>nd</sup> Phyllis Land - Pine Grove  
3<sup>rd</sup> Patricia Adams - Mont Calm
- D *In the Garden*  
1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole  
2<sup>nd</sup> Judy McNally - Hampton Falls  
3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara Dessert - Mont Calm
- E *What is It? (What am I?)*  
1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole  
2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Dessert - Mont Calm

### CLASS II: DIGITAL/DIGITALLY ENHANCED

- A *The People in My Life*  
1<sup>st</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ruth Bassingthwaite - Jaffrey  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham
- B *Where Am I?*  
1<sup>st</sup> Chris Heath - Centennial  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop
- C *All God's Creatures (Animals)*  
1<sup>st</sup> Beth Merrill - Antrim  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Lampman - Rockingham  
3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Heath - Centennial
- D *In the Garden*  
1<sup>st</sup> Jane Heath - Centennial  
2<sup>nd</sup> April Farewell - Mont Calm  
3<sup>rd</sup> Lester Gibbs - Grafton Star
- E *What is It? (What am I?)*  
1<sup>st</sup> Lester Gibbs - Grafton Star  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wilber Heath - Centennial

### JUNIOR GRANGE - CLASS II: DIGITAL/DIGITALLY ENHANCED

- The People in My Life*  
1<sup>st</sup> Stephanie Lambert - Granite Junior Grange

## CREATIVE CARDS

### CATEGORY I - Hand stamped/hand drawn

- A *Holiday*  
1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte - Rochester  
2<sup>nd</sup> Marion Woodworth - Rochester  
3<sup>rd</sup> Carolee Barrett - Golden Rod
- B *All Occasion*  
1<sup>st</sup> Alice Tuck - Rochester  
2<sup>nd</sup> Marion Woodworth - Rochester  
3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole
- C *Thinking of You*  
1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Congdon - Walpole  
2<sup>nd</sup> Gail Turcotte - Rochester  
3<sup>rd</sup> Carolee Barrett - Golden Rod

### CATEGORY II - Computer-Generated

- A *Holiday*  
1<sup>st</sup> Chris Heath - Centennial  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop
- B *All Occasion*  
1<sup>st</sup> Patricia Adams - Mont Calm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Marion Woodworth - Rochester  
3<sup>rd</sup> Pamela Kimball - Meriden
- C *Thinking of You*  
1<sup>st</sup> Pamela Kimball - Meriden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop

CATEGORY III - Hand decorated (lace, cross-stitch, photo, stickers, etc.)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>A <i>Holiday</i><br/>1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte - Rochester<br/>Rochester<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Marion Woodworth - Rochester<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> Melvin Neary - Pembroke</p> <p>C <i>Thinking of You</i><br/>1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte - Rochester<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Viola Boulet - Pembroke<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> James Batchelder - Pembroke</p> | <p>B <i>All Occasion</i><br/>1<sup>st</sup> Gail Turcotte -<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Claire Gagnon - Hudson<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> Beth Merrill - Antrim</p> |
|--|--|

JUNIOR GRANGE - Hand decorated - Holiday

- 1<sup>st</sup> Emilie Leclerc - Granite Junior Grange

**ART CONTEST**

- A *Oils & Acrylics*  
1<sup>st</sup> Ruth Pelton - Hampton Falls
- B *Watercolors*  
1<sup>st</sup> Dee Birkrem - Mont Calm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Dessert - Mont Calm
- C *Charcoal, Pastels & Pencil*  
1<sup>st</sup> Roberta Sliva - Hampton Falls  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pamela Kimball - Meriden

**CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>I <b>POETRY - HOW I FEEL ABOUT</b><br/>1<sup>st</sup> Lucy E. Woodes - Hampton Falls<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Janet L. Sherrod - Hampton Falls<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> Judy McNally - Hampton Falls</p> <p>III <b>READ THE BOOK</b><br/>1<sup>st</sup> <i>Getting Old Ain't for Wimps</i> by Karen O'Connor: Rhoda Davis - Pembroke<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> <i>Mutant Message Down Under</i> by Marlo Morgan: Stephen Tracy - Park<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> <i>They Were Expendable</i> by W. L. White: Melvin Neary - Pembroke</p> | <p>II <b>TELL THE HOLIDAY STORY</b><br/>1<sup>st</sup> Lucy E. Woodes-Hampton Falls<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Judy McNally - Hampton Falls<br/>3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Tyler - Winthrop</p> |
|--|--|

Please stop by the display table to view all of the entries into our contests.

Much has been accomplished through the Lecturer's program this year, and I am proud of all who have participated. It's important to think of what goals you would like to see achieved in your Grange this year. As the new packets of information for next year are in the process of being changed in new and exciting ways, all Lecturers should look for them in the mail within the next couple of weeks. Many were looking for a report form to fill out this year. At the beginning of the year it was announced that there would be no report form. However, this coming year there will be and it will be important for all to take the time to write down all that your Grange does. The more active your Grange, the more the community will see what you are doing, and the more people you will entice to join.

I would like to thank all the people who have helped me this year. Every Grange member in the state of NH has been a great asset for me. I wish to express thanks to Carolyn Ross for all the help she has been, for being there to bounce ideas off of whenever necessary, or to just talk with when I was frustrated. My Pomona area has also supported me in every endeavor I have attempted, and people all over the state have given their support as well.

I would like to thank all the Grangers of the State of New Hampshire for allowing me to function as your State Lecturer. I am still as excited as when you first elected me. My goal is to fire up as

many people as possible to participate in the Grange and to encourage those who have never tried to be a Lecturer to do so, and to not be afraid of the position. If you will at least try, you will find that the rewards far outweigh any fear you may have.

Fraternally submitted,  
Marie E. Hall  
Lecturer, New Hampshire State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Legislative Director Jim Tetreault was called upon to give his report.

### **Legislative Committee Report**

Worthy Master, Honored Guests, Brother and Sister Patrons,

This year we welcomed two new members of the Legislative Team: George Lambert and Lorna Bates.

We had the great opportunity to welcome Leroy Watson, National Grange Legislative Director, as our National Grange representative at State Grange.

The Legislative Department started the year off with a bang! We hosted the 2007 NH Primary Fly-in at the Highlander Inn in Manchester, a three-day event. Friday was our educational day at the State House. Bob Haefner of the Legislative Committee arranged a tour of the State House for our participants.

Secretary of State William Gardner gave us the history of the New Hampshire primary, along with the interesting fact that the author of the original primary bill in the NH Legislature, Representative Stephen Bullock, was a Grange member. I am proud to say that Rep. Bullock was from Arlington Grange #139, which is my own Grange. We were pleased to have with us Sybil Dupuis, the great-granddaughter of Stephen Bullock. She shared documents and stories about her great-grandfather.

Other speakers included Fergus Cullen, Chair of the NH Republican Party, and Dan Eaton, Assistant Democratic Leader for the NH House. Dan Eaton gave us an interesting workshop on the Role of the Legislature in the Primary Process.

The evening hours found many people socializing and talking politics. We ended the evening with a beautiful dinner served by the Highlander Inn.

Saturday found everyone up early and dressed casually, ready to hit the road after a good breakfast. Participants were dropped off at different presidential candidates' offices to spend a volunteer day. Some made phone calls; some did door-to-door canvassing. Our delicious dinner that night was served by Dot Haskins and crew. Everyone was very pleased with their experiences, and I think the common feeling was that, after being on the other end of the phone call, not one of us would hang up on a political call again. Our State Master summed it up best when she stated that "It was the best Grange event she had attended in a long time." I want to thank everyone who supported this event and made it the great success that it was.

After that busy weekend, New Hampshire hosted the Northeast Leader's Conference in Portsmouth. Representatives of all Legislative Departments in the northeast were present, and we met to discuss upcoming events and plans.

The Legislative Directors have been discussing, but have had difficulty coming to an agreement on, having a key set of regional legislative priorities. At this conference, however, we were able to come to an agreement. Those priorities will be as follows:

- AGRICULTURAL TRADE
- DAIRY POLICY

- ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION
- FOOD SECURITY
- LAND USE
- TRANSPORTATION
- VOTER REGISTRATION

The next event was March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Spring Fling, held at the Fire Academy. The Legislative Department hosted a Q & A session about the department and legislative affairs. With us also was Representative Henry A. L. Parkhurst of Winchester, who talked about the importance of citizen input into the legislative process. If you missed this event, you missed a lot.

In May I spent two days in Washington DC, visiting our congressional representatives and attending meetings concerning world hunger. I learned that the National Grange was a founding member of C.A.R.E. I also attended a meeting concerning extending broadband internet access to rural areas around the country. Leroy Watson and I spent a day on Capitol Hill, talking to our NH Congressional representative.

In June, our State Master and members of Peterborough Grange represented State Grange at a hearing concerning the regulation of raw milk.

In July, I met with my counterparts in the northeast region to help create resolutions to be submitted at the different State Grange Conventions.

In August, State Master Beth Merrill and I represented the Grange at the annual Farm Bureau policy review day. We had the opportunity to review the similarities between Farm Bureau policy and Grange policy, and we explained how Grange policy is created.

In September we had our yearly legislative wrap-up meeting at Eastern States Expo. We met with Leroy Watson, National Grange Legislative Director, and we discussed legislative arrangements for the National Session in Cromwell, CT.

The Legislative Department looks forward to working with some new faces during the coming year. As many of you know, the setup of State Committee structure is changing, and we look forward to working with our new committee members.

Fraternally,  
Jim Tetreault  
Legislative Director, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Grange Services Director Connie Carr was called upon to give her report.

### **Grange Services Department Report**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Brothers and Sisters,

This report is brief because of lack of inquiries into our loans. We have not had any requests for financial help. We do have funds to help people pay for eyeglasses, hearing aids, etc. Please feel free to contact any committee member to obtain information and assistance.

We had six applications for scholarships, and we were able to award each of the applicants one thousand dollars.

On January 1, 2008, we had loans totaling \$10,330.00. No loans were made this year, but payments have reduced the outstanding loans to \$9,151.00.

Members, please spread the word that this help is available.

Respectfully submitted,  
Constance Carr, Director

**Grange Services  
Educational Loan Fund Balance Sheet  
September 30, 2008**

October 1, 2007; Ocean National Bank		\$4,034.77
Contributions		
5 Pomonas	\$200.00	
24 Subordinates	1,700.00	
<b>Total Contributions</b>		1,900.00
Memorial Gifts		
Barbara Briggs		
Marjorie Knowlton		
Lorraine Connor		
Florice Hamel		
John West		
<b>Total Memorial Gifts</b>		100.00
Income		
Interest paid	240.00	
Principal paid	1,179.00	
TD Banknorth for Scholarships	6,000.00	
Interest, Ocean National Bank	4.21	
<b>Total Loan Income</b>		7,423.21
Expenses		
Funds sent to TD Banknorth	2,500.00	
Scholarships	6,000.00	
Postage	69.30	
Printing Annual Appeal Letters	8.54	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		8,577.84
Balance September 30, 2008		4,880.14

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Camilie Twiss was called upon to give the report of the NH State Grange Trust.

**NH State Grange Trust Report**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Brother and Sister Patrons,

2008 has been an interesting year, a year of learning for the Trustees. In March, we met for orientation and welcomed Elizabeth Cotsibas and Ann Leger as Trustees. Duties of Trust officers were reviewed and revised; lengths of tenure were determined; a budget was established for operating expenses. Shortly after that meeting, we received the resignation of long-time Secretary of the Trust, Sister Debra Patten. I would like to recognize Debbie and thank her for her years of service to the NH State Grange Trust in that capacity.

Diane Collins agreed to assume the duties of Secretary. The vacant position was filled by the appointment of Brother Omer Ahern, Jr. of Plymouth.



The Trustees and State Master Beth Merrill have met twice with representatives from the NH State Attorney General's office and TD Banknorth. We are being educated in the distribution and regulation of Trust monies under a new state law that went into effect in July. It has been necessary to temporarily freeze grants from our Trust monies until we receive the needed clearance from the Attorney General's office.

Since January, 2008, the Trust has given four monetary grants. I remind the delegates present at this State Session that monies are meant to help our Brothers and Sisters with personal welfare, health and medical costs.

The Trustees would like to thank the Granges who sent a donation to our fund in response to our earlier request. We would like to renew that request for donations at this time. You all know what economic straits many of us are experiencing presently and any donations from your Grange or from you personally could be used immediately and not added to the main accounts, which remain frozen at this time.

I would also like to thank Rodney Huntoon and Gail Turcotte for the time and effort they have put in to bring the Trust up to date and assure our compliance with the laws and regulations of the State of New Hampshire for the management of Trust monies.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Camilie A. Twiss  
Chair, NH State Grange Trust

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

### **NH State Grange Trustees of Trust Funds Minutes 2008 – 2009**

NH State Grange Executive Committee Chairman Dan Bascom called the meeting of the Trustees of the Trust Funds held on Saturday March 29, 2008 at the NH Fire Academy in Concord, NH to order at 1:10 PM.

Present were Trustees Diane Collins, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Ann Leger, Camilie Twiss and Trust Officer Gail Turcotte, Treasurer. Debra Patten was absent. Also present were NH State Grange Executive Committee members Dan Bascom, Rodney Huntoon, Paul Davis, John West and Donald Ross. State Master Beth Merrill, State Overseer Jim Tetreault, and State Secretary Carolyn Ross were also present.

Chairman Dan Bascom briefly explained the reason for the Executive Committee attendance at this first meeting of the trustees. The trustees need to be a separate department as they were in the past and not part of the Grange Services Department.

The Trustees were reviewed and their terms of office were noted.

Trustee Diane Collins	Term expires 2010	
Trustee Elizabeth Cotsibas		Term expires 2008
Trustee Ann Leger	Term expires 2009	
Trustee Debra Patten	Term expires 2008	
Trustee Camilie Twiss	Term expires 2009	
Officer/Treasurer	Gail Turcotte	Term expires 2008

It was noted that we now have 5 voting trustees to comply with State of NH rules for charitable trusts rather than the 3 required by the trust paperwork. Applications for assistance should be reviewed by all 5 trustees whenever possible. If an extended absence is known in advance that that trustee may be excused from that one vote. A trustee may also be excused due to extended illness or conflict of interest. A minimum of 3 favorable votes is needed for approval of any application. The Executive Committee elects trustees annually before October 20 and the trustee term of three years begins on November 1. The current terms are staggered so that all trustees are not elected each year. The trustee annual meeting is frequently held near or during the annual state grange session.

The trustees agreed to use the title of trustee rather than director,

We discussed the traditional duties of the chairman, secretary and treasurer. We decided on the following duties for these positions at this time. The duties can be revised as needed by the trustees. It was noted that the treasurer of the trust funds will be the treasurer of the NH State Grange per the Executive Committee.

Duties of the Chairman –

Call and conduct the annual meeting and any additional meetings of the trustees as needed.  
Prepare and present verbally and in writing the annual report to the NH State Grange during state grange session  
Renew the conflict of interest policy statement for each trustee and officer of the trust annually.

Duties of the Secretary –

Record the minutes of all meetings of the trustees and submit an approved copy to the NH State Grange Secretary for inclusion in the annual Journal of Proceedings.  
Receive all applications for financial assistance, verify the completeness of the application and distribute a photocopy of the application with the voting record to the trustees. The original application paperwork is to be sent to the treasurer by the secretary. The voting record sheet with the photocopy of the application is to be sent to the treasurer by the last trustee voting.

Duties of the Treasurer –

Verify amount of money available for benefits to members.  
Maintain the trust fund checkbook.  
Upon approval of at least 3 trustees the treasurer will make the authorized payment of benefits to the member. Checks will be made payable to the member and the vendor providing the service whenever possible.  
Responsible for the annual financial reports to the NH State Grange, the Internal Revenue Service and the NH Attorney General – Charitable Trust Unit.  
Responsible for the annual auditing of all trust fund records by the NH State Grange Executive Committee.

We discussed the possibility of making partial payment of funds requested when the request is initially received and then possibly making an additional payment at a later time depending on the availability of funds. It was recommended that this process be explained in writing and be kept as simple as possible if adopted.

The trustees chose Camilie Twiss as chairman and Debra Patten as secretary for the current year. Chairman Twiss will contact Deb Patten to verify she is willing to serve as secretary.

Executive Chairman Dan Bascom turned the rest of the meeting over to Chairman Twiss.

We discussed the possibility that with the 5% total return concept the trust funds are invested in an invasion of principal can occur during a bad market economy. State Master Beth Merrill has submitted an inquiry to the NH State Attorney General's office asking if the "prudent man rule" applies in this case. If the rule does not apply or the present investment plan is not acceptable to the AG office the trustees and the NH State Grange Executive Committee may have to change the investment plan for the trust funds.

Executive Committee member John West suggested the trustees consider sending a new communication to all Granges outlining the trust fund origins and purpose as well as procedures. He further suggested we consider requesting donations to the trust fund. We discussed the advantages of a notice in the *Granite State Granger* and a regular mailing. Chairman Twiss agreed to prepare this communication and Rodney Huntoon agreed to approve it for mailing. The approved paperwork will be sent to State Secretary Carolyn Ross for photocopying and mailing to all Grange secretaries. It will also be submitted for inclusion in the next GSG. We further requested that a copy of the guidelines for applying to the trust for assistance as well as the application forms be included in the mailing.

Gail noted that Executive Committee member Rodney Huntoon has 20 years experience with the trust funds and 16 years experience as State Treasurer. Rodney has agreed to serve as an ex-officio member and advisor to the trustees at Treasurer Turcotte's request.

We discussed the lack of a budget for the trustees as they have recently been considered a part of the Granges Services Department. Rodney Huntoon noted that the expenses of the Educational Loan Fund are being covered by that fund rather than the Grange Services Department budget. Dan Bascom will contact Director Connie Carr to ask if she can donate \$200, which is the second half of her annual budget to the trustees for operating expenses. If granted the money will be deposited into the trust fund checkbook. It was further noted that the trustees can prepare a request to the State Executive Committee for an annual budget in the same manner as all other departments.

Gail Turcotte explained the requirement by the State of NH for a written conflict of interest policy. Rodney Huntoon has prepared a draft copy of a policy for the trustees to consider. The trustees decided to change the titles used in the policy to officer and trustee and approved the suggested policy with these changes. Rodney will update the policy and then send a copy to each trustee and officer his or her signature. The forms will be signed annually and kept on file and a copy of the policy will be sent to the NH State Attorney General as required.

We discussed a limit on the amount of money an applicant can request and the frequency of requests. The trustees decided on a limit of \$500 per member per fiscal year. The trust fiscal year is October 1 to September 30 as approved by the NH State AG Office.

The trust fund checking account with TD Banknorth permits a total of three authorized signers. The trustees decided that Camilie Twiss and Elizabeth Cotsibas will be additional signers with Gail Turcotte, Treasurer as the primary signer. A copy of the authorization paperwork will be provided to each signer and filed with the NH State Grange Secretary and Treasurer as per State Grange policy.

The trustees also discussed the home health care equipment that is considered part of the trust. Most of the equipment is stored at the State Grange Building in Hooksett with some items also stored in Grange halls around the state. We discussed the need for an inventory and the knowledge of how often and what types of equipment are requested for loan. Cam Twiss will contact Connie Carr for current information; we also discussed the need for sorting through the equipment and possibly discarding some as well as noting the general care and cleanliness as well as safety of the equipment. We will ask the Grange Services Department to continue to assist us with notifying members of the aid available through the trust and with distributing the actual equipment and paperwork forms.

Rodney Huntoon provided copies of the current forms for the trustees to review. We offered several suggestions for changes and Rodney will update the forms as we requested. The forms will be distributed to each Grange and will be available on the State Grange website.

We discussed the need to print copies of the duties of the chairman, secretary, and treasurer and include them in the trustee's guidebook. Each trustee and officer of the trust currently has copies of the book as well as the State Master, State Executive Committee Chairman and Rodney Huntoon ex-officio member.

We discussed the need to keep the trust records confidential and that the paperwork must be kept for a minimum of seven years with ten years strongly recommended by the AG office. We decided we would like a legal size two-drawer locking file cabinet to store the large three ring binders the old application forms are presently filed in. The trustees decided to ask the Executive Committee for assistance with the purchase of the file cabinet. We already have permission to store the cabinet at the State Grange Building. The Chairman and Treasurer will have keys to the cabinet. It was further noted that the Treasurer needs the current and previous year's records on hand for use when preparing the annual reports. Older records will be stored in the file cabinet. The Treasurer will sort through the existing records and shred any application/financial assistance records older than ten years.

We also discussed normal administration expenses such as postage used to mail the application paperwork between trustees. This expense can be submitted to the trust for reimbursement. By common consent the trustees decided to each provide their own postage at this time. We also have current expenses to prepare the trustee guidebooks and photocopying expenses for the forms. We hope to be able to cover at least part of these expenses from the budget we may receive from the Grange Services Department.

We also decided to request that the titles of Chairman and Secretary be added to the current and all future State Grange Rosters. We will also request the State Secretary and State Publicist to send out the trustee contact information as soon as possible.

Gail M. Turcotte, acting secretary

### **Trustee Meeting August 21, 2008**

Opened in form at 4:35 pm by Chairperson, Camilie Twiss.

Trustee members present: Camilie Twiss, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Ann Leger, Omer Ahern, Jr., and Diane Collins. Members of the NH State Grange Executive Committee present were: Dan Bascom, Paul Davis, Rodney Huntoon (ex-officio to trustees), Don Ross, Beth Merrill, Carolyn Ross & Gail Turcotte (Treasurer of Trust Funds). Absent was Jim Tetreault. Guests were Terry Knowles, Assistant Director Attorney General's Office – Charitable Trust Unit. Tim Woodhouse and Eva Albano financial advisors from TD Banknorth Wealth Management Group.

Welcome new Trustee: Omer Ahern, Jr.

#### Unfinished Business:

Chairperson requested that all Trustees please sign the Conflict of Interest form so that she may keep it on file.

#### Addition of Duties to the Chairman:

- set up agenda for all meetings with appropriate input from others.
- review and keep on file the *current* Conflict of Interest policy

#### Review of Secretary's Job Description

#### New Business:

Appointment of Secretary; newly appointed Secretary is Diane Collins

Review of questions and concerns discussed by Gail Turcotte, Beth Merrill, and Rodney Huntoon at April meeting at AG office by Gail Turcotte, Treasurer.

Explanation of new 292B rule by Terry Knowles. (she reviewed old rule and new one for us)

Terry Knowles suggested a new Historic value be set by January 1, 2009. Gail requested it be set by September 30, 2008 our end of fiscal year.

Time Frame – TD Banknorth is to help us establish a new historic value and advise us if trust fund money should be invested separately from other Grange money.

Motion made and seconded; "All applications must be deferred until the "historical value" is set and in compliance with RSA 292B. Motion passed.

Next meeting will be at 4:30 PM on September 17<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>; the bank will get back to us after they check their schedule.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting closed at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins, Secretary

**September 17, 2008**  
**Meeting of the Trustees**  
**New Hampshire State Grange**

Open in form at 4:40pm, Chairman Camilie Twiss presiding.

Present: Camilie Twiss, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Tim Woodhouse, VP TD Banknorth, Ann Leger, Gail Turcotte, Rodney Huntoon, Diane Collins, Beth Merrill, Omer C. Ahern, Jr.

Review of letter of recommendation from Banknorth

Discussion of recommendations:

Mutual funds do charge for investing in them, "paying more for a better product"

Spending policy can be changed on an annual basis, but cannot exceed 7% of the value of the trust. Our advisors recommended we consider 3-4%.

Bank fees are taken out of income prior to allocation of income on all accounts.

The 2 trust funds should be removed from the unitized accounting system to allow easier calculation of the annual spending policy and record keeping for allocation of donations.

Fees are based on 1% of the account value or 100 basis points under the present plan.

Investing in mutual funds will add an additional fee of 1% overall value of the two trust funds.

Discussion of a Better Use of our Limited Funds

Omer asked if it would be more useful of our time and funds if we put them into another investment agency, such as the Charitable Foundation Trust. They would take over the management of the funds and the money would still have to be used in the manner that it was intended to, i.e.; to help fellow Grangers in financial difficulty. No action was taken on this at this time. This will be further discussed after the bank representative has left the meeting.

A motion was made by Omer to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by Elizabeth Cotsibas. In favor = 5, Opposed = 0

As of July 10, 2008:

NH Grange Trust = \$42,900.55

Blaisdell Fund = \$9,994.74

A motion to establish the Historic Value of the NH Grange Trust at \$40,000.00 was made by Omer Ahern and seconded by Ann Leger. In favor = 3, Opposed = 1.

A motion to establish the Blaisdell Fund Historic Value of \$9,000.00 was made by Omer Ahern and seconded by Elizabeth Cotsibas. In favor = 4, Opposed = 1.

A motion was made by Diane Collins to set the Spending policy of both trusts at no more than 3.5% of what the fund balance is on an annual basis, seconded by Ann Leger. In favor = 5, Opposed = 0.

A motion was made by Omer Ahern to transmit these motions to the Attorney General's office for preliminary approval so that we may be able to make any changes necessary before the next Executive meeting. Seconded by Diane Collins. In favor = 5, Opposed = 0.

An application was presented to the Trustees for discussion; will hold application until we can use our trust funds again. A motion was made to give the applicant \$300.00; this was approved by all trustees.

Next meeting was set for Thursday October 23 at 4:30pm at State Session. Place will be decided at a later date.

Discussion of Investment policy after bank representative left the meeting.

At this time the chairman had to leave and the meeting was taken over by the Secretary.

A motion was made by Ann Leger to pull the Trust funds out of the present investment fund pool and put them into a standalone fund; they will be individual mutual fund accounts, so that each will have their own account. Seconded by Omer Ahern. In favor = 4, Opposed = 0.

A motion was made by Ann Leger to stay with TD Banknorth for now and invest in the mutual funds discussed earlier. Seconded by Omer Ahern. In favor = 4, Opposed = 0.

After discussion, it was decided that we will stay with TD Banknorth and their investment plan for now. We would like to hear investment proposals from three other investment services as we are not sure we are receiving the best service or advice from our present advisors. We will request the State Grange Executive Committee to invite other advisors to present proposals for investing the trust fund monies. Suggestions of other agencies were: AG Edwards and the NH Charitable Foundation Trust.

It was requested that Gail Turcotte contact the Attorney General's office and send Terry Knowles these motions for pre-approval and then submit them to the State Grange Executive Committee for their approval.

Motion to adjourn at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins, Secretary

**October 23, 2008**  
**NH State Grange Trustees of the Trust Funds**

Opened in form at 4:30 pm by Chairman, Camilie Twiss. Other members present were: Diane Collins, Elizabeth Cotsibas, Ann Leger, Rodney Huntoon, and Gail Turcotte. State Master Beth Merrill was also present.

Minutes were approved as revised.

Confirmation of Terms of service

- |    |                    |   |
|----|--------------------|---|
| a. | Elizabeth Cotsibas | 2011  |
| b. | Omer Ahern         | 2011 –terms reviewed and re-elected by Executive Committee                      |
| c. | Gail Turcotte      | 2011-changed to 2010 as she is an elected officer and this is an election year. |
| d. | Diane Collins      | 2010  |
| e. | Ann Leger          | 2009  |
| f. | Camilie Twiss      | 2009  |

Gail reported that she had a good meeting with Terry Knowles. The Trust funds are still frozen pending official acceptance of Historic Values and until they are separated from the General Funds.

Question of whether now is a good time to be moving funds into a separate account with the market being so low and if we will be "fined" with a withdrawal fee. Yes, now is the time to move the funds into their own separate mutual funds.

Each Trustee was given a copy of the Trust Funds and 2 contracts (one for the bank and one for us to keep in our personal records). We need to take the time to read and "digest" them so that we can sign them as soon as possible.

Change in Duties –

Secretary – will send out minutes along with a reminder of the next meeting time and date.

Chairman – will prepare agendas of meetings

Treasurer –upon approval of at least 3 trustees the Treasurer will send a copy of the donation letter and voting record to the Chairman.

To be responsible for submitting financial Trust Fund records of all Trust funds for annual audit by the NH State Grange and financial reports to the Internal Revenue Service and the NH Attorney General – Charitable Trust Unit.

Other Business:

The Trust Fund records were audited by the NH State Grange Executive Committee.

Donations for Immediate needs total \$225.50. A check of \$225.50 was given to the individual that was voted on at the previous meeting, the rest of the \$300.00 allocated for them will be sent later when we may use our funds.

Worthy Master, Beth Merrill, updated us on the search for other wealth managers that we may invite in to show us their portfolio management. Brayshaw Financial, Ben Brayshaw, owner, invests using annuities, not mutual funds and the Worthy Master thinks that it would be very beneficial if we would come to a meeting with them. Potential meeting date of December 6<sup>th</sup> was set up. Jim Tetreault will be in contact with us in a few days to verify the date and time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins, Secretary

*Kim Bascom* was called upon to give the report of the Fundraising and Operations Committee.

### **Fundraising & Operations Committee**

Worthy State Master, National Representatives, Brothers and Sisters,

We had a spring plant sale that was held on short notice. I hope to do it again next year and also have a fall bulb sale. We are just finishing up with the Yankee Candle sale, so I have no figures as yet. We are also gearing up for the craft fair at the State Grange Building on November 29, 2008. If you, or your Grange, or anyone you know would like a table, please let me know.

Fraternally,  
Kimber Bascom

### **Blueberry Pie Day at the 'Big E'**

September 12, 2008, opening day of the Big E found 22 Grange members and friends working shifts, manning the blueberry pie booth in the New Hampshire Building. Everyone had plenty of time to see the sights and enjoy the fair. On Thursday, Sept. 25, there were 12 hearty souls selling pie and ice cream along with broccoli cheese soup in a bread bowl, milk (including the delicious maple milk), apples and more. This is a worthwhile fund raiser to benefit the New Hampshire State Grange. Perhaps you would like to volunteer next year!

Gwen Yardley  
Blueberry Pie Coordinator

### **Family Weekend 2008**

The 2008 Family Weekend was held again at the Cornish Fairgrounds on June 27 - 29. We had 25 people camping for the weekend in their tents or campers. We enjoyed games, especially ladder ball, horseshoes and cribbage. We also enjoyed movies and fellowship along with s'mores made by Greg Trombi, and an ice cream social put on by the Youth Department. Some people enjoyed an introduction to a high-tech game of hide and seek, called Geo-Caching. Saturday evening we had 40 people enjoying a delicious Taco dinner, prepared by Jane Trombi and her band of kitchen elves, which included Gloria Davis, Sherry Bokousky and Jane Heath, among others. After dinner, we had the ever-popular penny sale. Thanks to all who participated, and special thanks to all who helped. For next year's event, we're looking into moving to another area of the state. If you have a suggestion of a location, please let me know, so it can be investigated.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Robert Trombi  
 Grange Family Weekend Coordinator

### Family Weekend

Expenses		Income	
Fairgrounds	\$ (315.00)	Campers	\$180.00
Town Hall	(150.00)	Tents	40.00
Postage/Mailing	(67.20)	Dinner	267.00
Food for Booth	(108.80)	Food Booth	101.50
Food for Dinner	(106.83)	Penny Sale	21.00
Prizes	(14.04)	Games	10.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>(761.87)</b>	Day Fees	60.00
		Startup	500.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,179.75</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$417.88</b>
		<b>Checks already sent</b>	<b>(116.00)</b>
		<b>Deposited on 09/30/08</b>	<b>301.88</b>

### State Grange Building Report

This report is dedicated to John West

In the fall of 2006, John West volunteered to be the manager of the State Grange Building in Hooksett. He had already been doing work in the Grange Museum Room; doing research, sorting outdated material, arranging the Journals of Proceedings, Rosters and *Granite State Grangers*. Some of this material had come from Granges that had surrendered their Charters. John took pleasure and pride in this work, and was always looking for more room to properly display Grange artifacts, including the working tools of the Grange and its history. John enjoyed doing this and I am sure Hannah helped out a lot. I know that she did the year that the walls had to be painted with fire retardant. Everything had to come off the walls, and everything had to be moved to the center of the room. Afterward, everything had to be cleaned and put back.

Other things that John and his family worked on together required a lot of time and mileage; traveling to Hooksett to make arrangement with folks who wanted to use the hall for meetings, birthday parties, showers, anniversary parties, etc. Then he showed the people around the hall, collected the donations and picked up the key a day or so later. It was also John's responsibility to find someone to do the cleaning after the different events. Claire Gagne has been doing this now for a couple of years.

On April 20, 2008, we had a Grange work day. Work was done inside and out. Eleven hard workers came for this project which included scraping paint, raking leaves and stone from the lawn, spreading mulch, cutting down a few trees and cleaning up brush. Most were there from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

During the summer, the Executive Committee authorized the cleaning and updating of the air conditioning unit with new filters. I believe that Hannah West handled this project.

The winter of 2008 was hard on the buildings. Roofs in particular ended up with heavy snow loads and ice backup. At one time there was about 2 ½ feet of snow and ice on the roof. John helped one night to get some of the ice off the eaves. A few days later Arthur Merrill and Mark Collins, with the help of some of the youth, cleaned off more snow.

The hot water heater had to be replaced this year. Fortunately, there was a meeting there the day the heater started to leak. The running sump pump alerted folks that there was a problem.

At the Executive Committee meeting on Sunday, October 20, the members voted to have a new roof installed on the State Grange Building. Wear and tear on the present roof has it leaking in



several places. The Executive Committee voted to have a painted metal roof put on, and donations would be appreciated. This job will be done this fall.

The Grange is in the early stages of determining a suitable project for the John H. West Memorial donations. Funds for this project are still coming in, and if you would like to donate, you may make checks payable to the NH State Grange and mail them to State Treasurer Gail Turcotte at 53 Oak Hill Road, Barrington NH 03825.

John, we love and miss you.

Fraternally,  
Paul Davis

### **Operations Committee**

Another year has come and gone and State Session is again upon us. This being our third time meeting at the Nashua Marriott, I thought things would fall into place very easily. Not! Hotels change managers faster than we change presidents (and you thought I was going to say 'underwear!'). So we started again from the beginning and reset up the convention as if we'd never been here before. Katie Notartomaso is a pleasure to work with, and questions or concerns were dealt with promptly and professionally. I highly commend the Nashua Courtyard Marriott and its staff for their professionalism and quality service in making the 135<sup>th</sup> New Hampshire State Grange Session happen.

As this is my last year serving as your session coordinator, I would like to thank the Worthy Master for asking me to serve in this capacity. Though I tended to drag my feet sometimes, I always seem to find the time to get the job done. As the saying goes, if you need something done, find someone who is busy and it will get done. The new session coordinator has just retired, so that saying doesn't fit, but I am confident he will get the job done. In fact, next year's session is already set and will be held at Ashworth by the Sea in Hampton Beach. So start planning your sand castles now!

Fraternally,  
Dan Bascom  
Sessions Coordinator

The five Operations reports were accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Session Coordinator Kenneth Berry was called upon to give his report of future convention sites.

### **State Session Coordinator Report**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, State Officers, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters,

I am pleased to be able to present my first report as the new State Grange Session Coordinator. I was appointed to this assignment by our Worthy Master Beth Merrill back in early June. Most likely I was asked for a couple of reasons. I will be retiring at the end of the year. I have been involved in the travel business for almost 25 years; I have my own sale business, known as KLB Tours.

When I first spoke with the State Master about future locations for our Annual Sessions, we both agreed that North Conway would be a great place. I did receive bids from the North Conway Grand Hotel and the Best Western Red Jacket, both in North Conway, and also had a third bid from the Grand Summit in Bartlett. As it turned out, all of these bids were 'way too high for most of us. The State Grange Executive Committee rejected two of the three bids, and I stopped the third bid.

In early August our State Treasurer, Gail Turcotte, mailed me a very interesting brochure from Ashworth by the Sea Hotel in Hampton Beach. In August, I made an appointment with the hotel to find out if it would be suitable for an Annual Session. Much to my surprise, it turned out to be a very workable location. I then presented a proposal to the State Grange Executive Committee,

and now, with their blessings, I am happy to report that the 2009 NH State Grange Annual Session will be held at Ashworth by the Sea Hotel on October 29 - 31. Now we can really say that our Sessions have been held from the mountains to the seashore of New Hampshire.

At the same time, I was in the process of making reservations for our 2010 Annual Session. I can now report that space has been reserved at the Sovereign Best Western in Keene for October 28 - 30, 2010. The contracts for Keene will be signed in 2009.

Next year I will be working on locations for 2011 - 2013. I will be looking at Manchester, Concord and West Lebanon. As New Hampshire will be hosting the National Grange in 2013, I have prepared information for the National Grange staff, as they will be the ones who choose the location.

As you can see, my first few months have been very busy and very prosperous. I encourage the delegates to adopt Resolution #14 so that my job as Session Coordinator will be easier, with more flexible dates for Annual Session. If needed, I hope that you will give me an opportunity to speak on Resolution #14.

Fraternally,  
Kenneth L. Berry  
State Grange Session Coordinator

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Mark Collins to give the Media report.

### **2008 Grange Media Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Delegates, Members,

The Grange Media Department has been very busy this year.

#### ***Granite State Granger***

Four issues of the *Granite State Granger* have been distributed since the last State Grange Convention. The December 2007 issue contained a pull-out program section with the thought that members could refer to it throughout the year. The paper is a dues benefit with contributions from readers most gratefully accepted. The Granges and individuals who sent donations this year have let Editor Hannah West know that members enjoy keeping in touch with what is going on in the Grange by receiving this quarterly newspaper.

Three elements are necessary for a successful issue. The first is news, which comes in close to the deadline from Directors, Granges and individuals. Email is the preferred way to receive news, but news that comes in the mail is fine, too. Pictures are always welcome. The second element is correct address labels. The State Secretary prints the labels, and she is dependent upon local Grange Secretaries to keep the addresses current. If you change your address, please ask your Subordinate Grange Secretary to pass the word along. The last and perhaps most important element is making the paper ready for mailing. This year a wafer has been added to hold the paper together as it passes through the various post offices en route to Grangers' homes. Many thanks go to Paul & Rhoda Davis, Anne & Marty Boisvert, Shirley Waters, Norma & Melvin Neary for all their work in folding, wafering and labeling each issue of the GSG.

#### **Publicist**

The publicist position is also a three-part job. The first part involves sending articles about State Grange events to newspapers around the state. The idea is to keep local Grangers informed about what is going on beyond their own Grange meetings and to keep the name of the Grange in the public eye, as attested to by the newly reorganized Peterborough Grange.

The second part is the Grange's "electronic grapevine." Notices of events at local Granges, announcements and reminders about State Grange events, personal requests from Grangers, and announcements of the triumphs and tragedies of individuals have all been sent out via email this year, replacing the telephone chains of the past. We hope that Grangers on the email chain will spread the word to those who do not have e-mail. This portion of the position is growing as requests to send out emails come more and more frequently, sometimes on a daily basis. It may become necessary to set some limits as to what types of messages should be sent out to everyone on the list. The messages are intended to be a useful tool, not an annoyance.

The final part is the task of providing membership brochures and advertising pencils. If this activity continues to be part of the publicist's role, it probably needs some thoughtful discussion about what is needed and how items will be moved from one place to another.

John West served as Publicist until mid-July, 2008. After his death, his wife Hannah continued the e-mailings, but the rest of the publicist activities lapsed. New arrangements will need to be made as the next Grange year begins.

At the beginning of this term, Mark and Anne swapped one of their roles. Anne became the Expo Coordinator and Mark took back the role of webmaster for the State Grange website.

### **Expo Coordinator**

Anne, in her role as Expo Coordinator, worked with the State Master and a bunch of volunteers to set up an attractive display at the 2008 Farm & Forest Expo in Manchester last February. The booth presentation was designed to inform Expo visitors about the Grange and the programs it supports and offers. Many brochures, pencils and other promotional items were distributed as the volunteer hosts answered the many questions they received. This booth won second place among educational exhibitions. This event continues to let people know that the Grange is still alive and doing useful things in New Hampshire.

### **Webmaster & Grange Photographer**

As official Photographer, I have recorded in picture format a wide range of Grange events, thus providing a useful addition to the annals of the State Grange. I have been taking pictures of the various Grange events. Samplings of these pictures are then placed on the website for all to view. There are hundreds of other pictures that are not displayed on the site, so if you are looking for a particular picture that may have been taken at an event, please ask me and if I have it I will send you the original digital image. Please note that the images displayed on the website have been pared down so they don't take up as much room, and don't take as long to download, for those who have dial-up connections to the internet. You can print the pictures from the site, but they are not usually of very good quality; please ask for the original images if you want to get good quality prints.

The State Grange website ([www.nhgrange.org](http://www.nhgrange.org)) has been updated with new information as it comes to me. If you want your Grange events to be posted on the website, please send me an email with the information at least two weeks before the event.

Fraternally submitted,  
Mark Collins, Webmaster & Photographer  
Anne Boisvert, Expo Coordinator  
Hannah West, GSG Editor

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Overseer Jim Tetreault introduced State Master Beth Merrill who gave her annual Master's Address.

## State Master's Address

Distinguished Guests, Officers of the NH State Grange, Delegates and Patrons:

As hard as it is for me to believe that my term of office is almost complete, I present to you now my second Annual Address. The last two years have flown by so quickly!

### Travelogue

I'd like to open my Address with a quick travelogue and highlights from the past year while serving as your State Master. I wrote details about these in my columns in the Granite State Granger, so I won't elaborate here, but would just like to acknowledge my attendance at these events for the record:

National convention in Reno, NV; Deputy School at Daniel Webster Grange Hall; National Grange Primary Fly-In hosts; Northeast Leaders' Conference hosts; two separate Five Priorities Meetings with National Master; Reception for National Grange Lady Assistant Steward hosted by Hillsborough County Pomona Grange; Farm & Forest Expo; State Masters' Conference in Dallas, TX; Spring Fling Grange Month Kickoff; Hillsborough County Pomona's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; Youth gathering for Glow Bowling; Cleanup at the State Grange Building; meeting with UNH Collegiate FFA group; hotel walk through; meeting with Terry Knowles at Department of Justice; two meetings of the Grange Building Trustees and the Northeast Connection at the New England Grange Building; Weekend Leadership Training with Rusty Hunt; ME/NH Night; Spotlight on NH; State Grange Legislative Day at the State Capitol; Degree Day; New England Go To Church Sunday; Family Weekend; Northeast Youth Conference; two meetings of the Pomona Study Committee; Northeast Lecturer's Conference; Summer Deputy School; Farm Bureau Policy Meeting; the Big "E" Grange store volunteer; National Rep to the Wisconsin State Grange; Peterborough Grange "Coming Out" celebration; Jaffrey Grange's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### National Officer

Almost a year since, I'm still a bit dazed from being one of NH's three elected officers of the National Grange. As the Lady Assistant Steward, I was invited last month to attend the Wisconsin State Grange session as their National Rep. They are a very small and struggling State Grange, but just as warm and welcoming as Grangers anywhere else in the country. In the absence of their own, I served as the Lady Assistant Steward for their session and was happy to get in some practice prior to next month's "big show". One item of interest to some of you: I met the aunt and cousin of John Porter, UNH Dairy Specialist, and frequent guest at our State Grange Banquet. It's a small world, after all!

### Compliance

One thing I'm learning is that our organization, small and struggling though it may be, needs to be updated and learn to exist in the modern world. Because of our early culture of being an organization that is "secret", we have learned to carry out our business and activities in our quiet little meeting places, doing our service to communities with very little notice or fanfare. We don't ask much from our communities and they often don't think to ask much of us. We assume that this is how it will always be – the Grange carrying out its good works in the community with no interference or hindrance from outside sources, but I see evidence to the contrary. When government struggles to meet its budget, they start looking for sources of revenue from everywhere, even our Granges. You might be saying, "Well, my Grange doesn't have any money or a building, so I don't have to worry about **that**," but can you be sure? Will there be any issues of noncompliance found in the search as government looks for loose change amongst the cushions of the community organization "sofa"? Is your Grange incorporated with the State of NH and are you current with your filings with the Secretary of State's office? Have you filed your 990-N report to the IRS, or has the State Grange done this for you? If an audit of your financial records was requested, would you be ready with clear and accurate accounts? These are just a couple of examples of things I'm learning that we need to be aware of as potential hazards to our good standing in the community. The workshop planned for Saturday of this convention with Terry Knowles of the Charitable Trusts Division of the NH Department of Justice will shed some light on these and other issues, so please plan to attend, take notes, ask questions, and report

back what you have learned so that an assessment can be made as to your Grange's legal standing.

### **Use the Internet**

Personally, I think Granges that have NO access to e-mail or the internet are denying themselves the benefits of being well-connected to their State Grange, the National Grange and the world. Not to mention the chance to promote themselves in their own communities with a website and links to other local organizations and town activity newsletters.

If you are quick to tell me that you don't have a computer, and no one in your Grange has a computer, then I am quick to tell you to check with your local library. Many libraries have a computer available for public use. Another great source for access to computers AND a knowledgeable person to help you is your family. Technology is such an ingrained part of the youth culture today, that almost everyone here must have at least one child or grandchild who could provide this valuable service to your Grange.

### **New Website**

I am told that very soon, every community, Pomona, and State Grange in the country is going to be given the opportunity of having their own website, free of charge. It is being designed so that even our members with limited computer skills will be able to add content to their site. The basic package will allow for a limited number of pages, but added features will be available for a small fee. One of the great features of this website will be the ability of your National and State Granges to download important updates onto all community, Pomona, and State Grange websites. For instance, how many of you heard of the recent request from National Grange for documentation to help them defend the Grange name and trademark against Tyson Food Corporation? State Masters received the e-mail on Monday morning, September 8<sup>th</sup>, which asked us to send them the requested documentation by Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. How long did it take before most Grangers were notified? Think how much easier it would have been to swiftly dispense the request from National Grange to all Granges without the need for each State Master to figure out how and then invest the time to inform everyone of the emergency. I wouldn't be surprised to learn that there are states where the Subordinate Granges are not even aware of the Tyson development because their State Master couldn't or wouldn't pass along the information. With the new website design, National Grange will be able to download future notices onto every Grange website. Our State Grange will have the same ability to share notices about our own programs and activities. I hope you will encourage your Grange to consider adopting this great communication tool for the advancement of our Grange work, so stay tuned for future announcements about its availability.

### **Tyson Foods**

Brothers and sisters, the National Grange is urgently trying to prevent the corporate powerhouse, Tyson Food Products, from exploiting the reputation and good name that we've cultivated for the last 140 years. They want to promote a new line of food products they will call Grange and Grassland. Our organization will receive no monetary compensation for this encroachment and my best understanding of the situation is that if Tyson is allowed to secure the trademark name they are seeking, they would have the power to allow or disallow Granges everywhere from holding any kind of function that mentions or features food-related activities. Can you imagine, no more public or pot luck suppers put on by Granges – anywhere? When I spoke with Brother Leroy Watson, National Grange Legislative Director last month on this issue, he made the analogy that real estate ownership and trademark ownership are two different entities. If someone starts to build a house on a piece of land that you own, but haven't used in years and years, then you can say, "Hey, I own that property, and you can't build a house here." Whereas, with trademarks, you have to prove that you are using the trademark as it was set up. Tyson says that "the Grange is a social club of people who meet to talk about what it was like to farm with horses. It doesn't have any dealings with food."

The National Grange trademarked the Grange logo, mainly for use on merchandise (t-shirts, stationery, jewelry, etc.), but the accompanying paperwork does not specifically mention that Granges everywhere produce, prepare, or distribute food in any way. In order to stymie the Tyson

lawyers, the National Grange has called upon every Grange in the country to send them documentation ASAP of any food related activities or fundraisers that your Grange has done over the last 10 years or so that demonstrate that we do, indeed, have a long-established relationship with serving food to the public. Posters, flyers, reports, news articles, photos, menus, etc. are exactly what National Grange needs to overwhelm Tyson with our food related activities. All electronic documentation should be forwarded to Molly Thompson, with the subject line "Tyson Leave Us Alone". Please do not initiate any public outcry efforts at this time by contacting your newspapers, the media or your congressmen. The National Grange is addressing this issue internally, so we are being asked to provide documentation only for now. Failure to prevail in this case could have catastrophic consequences to the way we do Grange business in the future.

## **Teamspeak**

Back on the subject of computers and how they can help strengthen our ability to communicate effectively within the Grange, let me tell you a little bit about Teamspeak, a web conference program offered by National Grange. You can go to the national website and find the instructions to download the program to your computer. Just follow the steps to set up your personal settings. Usually, on the second Tuesday of each month, there is a Teamspeak conference often hosted by Rusty Hunt, Membership Director of the National Grange.

One of the most important things you can do in the process of growing your Grange is to stay positive, and if you're excited, then it's hard **not** to have a positive outlook. So, I highly recommend the monthly Teamspeak web conference as a valuable tool to hear and get excited about all the great things that are happening with Grange membership across the country. A monthly dose of Rusty's generous spirit, positive outlook, and helpful hints for obtaining new Grange members really has helped **me** stay motivated. One of the benefits of our monthly Teamspeak conferences was the development of a new Grange Builder kit that is available on line from National Grange. It's full of lots of great material, including a new membership brochure.

Another feature of the Teamspeak program is that it's available for states and perhaps even Subordinate and Pomona Granges to use as well. If you need to schedule a committee meeting, for example, and everyone lives too far away to gather in any one spot, the meeting can be carried on with Teamspeak, once all the key people have access to a computer and are on line, have downloaded the Teamspeak program from the National Grange website, have purchased their headset with microphone and spent a few minutes learning the ropes. For heaven's sake, let's do whatever we can to ensure the Grange's prolonged existence so that all our members can benefit down the road.

## **Hemp**

As long as I am your State Master, I will encourage NH Granges to become an instrumental force in educating Grange members and the public about the plight of farmers who desire to grow industrial hemp. The use of hemp as a valuable rotational crop is almost never mentioned in the reports we so often hear about the need for reducing our dependence upon foreign oil, exploring sources for alternative fuels, recycling and reducing waste, or diminishing greenhouse gases. This does not even begin to address the countless other ways that this simple plant can be used to improve and "green up" our lives. The stigma that hemp has endured for the last 70 years is acceptable only by those who are uneducated. We have the **POWER** to make hemp a viable commodity in our state, but our power is just like any lamp; although the power is there, until you flip the switch, you will continue to be left in the dark.

**Therefore, I challenge every Grange to develop and present programs about the historical usage, stigma, manufactured products, environmental benefits, and/or economical impact of industrial hemp that will provide education on the issue in your own communities.**

## **The Big "E"**

The craft items produced and donated by New England Grange needle worker's brought in over \$12,000 at the Big "E" last month, so thank you ladies for all your contributions. I extend my thanks to Rodney Huntoon for his efforts to revive my failed attempt last year at organizing a Grange bus to The Big "E". Unfortunately, the trip was cancelled this year as well. I, myself, traveled there several times last month to help at the Grange store in the New England Grange

Building. At one point during a break, I was enjoying the comfort of our New Hampshire room and I noticed that it was looking a bit old and tired. In comparison to the other state rooms, I think we could do a better job showcasing our state attractions and products, not to mention the state map with dots for every Grange that is quite outdated. For this purpose, **I recommend that a committee be formed to visit and evaluate the site, propose a redecorating scheme, initiate fundraising for this purpose, and complete the necessary work in a timely manner.**

### **Five Priorities of the National Grange**

National Master, Ed Luttrell visited our state twice this year to deliver his message centering on the five priorities of the National Grange. Our members adopted four of the five priorities. The first three, Increase Active Membership and Participation at each Community Grange, Develop New Leaders and give the opportunities at each Community Grange, and Revitalization of Community Granges as a State Priority should all be impacted by the implementation of the recommendations of the Pomona Study Committee.

### **Pomona Study Committee**

You will be hearing a report of the Pomona Study Committee tomorrow morning. In that report will be some recommendations that the delegates will consider and vote upon. I hope that you will find favor with the committee's report, and by your affirmative vote, will indicate your willingness to follow through and promote this new direction for the Pomona Granges in NH. Not intending to take away the voice of the delegates on this issue, I will say that at least one portion of their recommendations I am endorsing and have already put in motion. Pending my re-election tomorrow morning, I will be assigning all Pomona Committee Chairmen (Family & Community, Grange Services, Legislative, Membership, and Youth & Jr.) to serve on the State Committee of their respective department.

### **Spring Fling**

We tried a new event this year. The Spring Fling Grange Month Kickoff Event was held in March and featured a number of workshops on topics not ordinarily presented at our state functions. The comments on the evaluation sheets that day were favorable, and I'm looking forward to a follow-up event this spring, although a date and location are not yet set.

### **Youth**

The last of the National Master's Five Priorities of the Grange is to re-emphasize and strengthen the family structure through the Junior & Youth programs. The Youth Department in NH continues to be a matter of concern to me. Not so much the Department, but the lack of participants in the activities and events that it promotes. I'm worried about the apparent lack of enthusiasm for Grange by many, though not all, of our current youth age members to the point where, admittedly, this year I considered the possibility of not inviting the youth officers to open the Saturday morning session. I am not proud of these thoughts, but they are only in consideration of what can be done to "shake things up a bit" and get our youth program back on track. I look forward to working with the Youth & Jr. Directors and the State Youth Committee members in developing ways we can rebuild our youth program to its former glory – and beyond!

One way I think we can do this is to re-energize and re-populate our Junior Grange program. It seems like there must be a way to involve the children and grandchildren of current Grange members in Jr. Grange activities even when a local Jr. Grange is nonexistent. In most instances, finding leaders is usually the hindrance in organizing Jr. Granges. The new volunteer screening policy adopted by the State Grange Executive Committee, once enforced, has the potential to make it even more difficult to find willing leaders. **For these reasons, I recommend that the Jr. Grange Director be authorized to organize a State Jr. Grange to which all age-eligible family members of current Grange members and other interested children may join and thus, participate in the activities and programs of the state and national Jr. Grange departments.**

As for the youth program, I would encourage the Granges who are in communities where their high school has an active Future Farmers of America chapter, please contact them and invite

them to make a presentation at your meeting. Learning more about their organization, whose roots of origin are deeply intertwined with the Grange, can plant the seed for future membership in the Grange, especially once their FFA membership expires by the age of 22.

### **State Grange Trust**

Following some serious research done by State Treasurer, Gail Turcotte, it was discovered that inadvertently, the State Grange had drifted away from proper procedures in regard to the State Grange Trust. Several adjustments have been made to get us back on track, including the re-establishment of the Trustees of the Trust. No longer lumped under the heading of Grange Services, the trustees elected by the Executive Committee are Camilie Twiss, Chairman; Diane Collins, Secretary; Elizabeth Cotsibas; Ann Leger; and Omer Ahern, Jr.; with Gail Turcotte fulfilling the duties of Treasurer of the State Grange Trust. Many thanks go to the trustees who have been working and learning to carry out the duties of this important facet of the NH State Grange.

### **Closing Granges**

As State Master in NH, I've been called upon several times this year to close Granges that have given up their hopes and dreams. Granges that have closed since our last State Session are Lovell Union, Danville, Miller, Purling Beck, Oak Hill, Cornish, and Grand Monadnock Pomona Grange. Unfortunately, there is word that there are other Granges not far behind.

This is truly one of the worst parts of the job of State Master, especially when I am told that a Grange has already closed, without any prior notification to the State Master or Executive Committee. Brothers and Sisters, I refer back to my earlier comments about being compliant with state and federal regulations. This also applies to the by-laws of the State Grange, which specifically outlines how to close a Grange, the first item of which is to notify the State Master that you are just **considering the possibility** of closing. It is a violation of Grange by-laws to disperse any funds once the idea of closing has been introduced, but something happens to our psyche during this process that makes us feel the need to have the final say on the dispersal of assets to the point where we forget, or ignore the pledges we made throughout the process of initiation to abide by the Constitution, rules and regulations of the Grange at all levels. Members in these Granges often adopt an attitude of "they" when feeling frustrated or threatened by the specified process. "How can 'they' tell us what to do?" "How can 'they' tell us what to do with our money?" "Who do 'they' think they are?" Along the same line, a recent letter I received made the statement, we "do not understand why National should be able to tell us how many members we need in order to keep our charter."

Patrons, we are all "they". Every member in this room and back in your meetings is a member of the National Grange. The Grange is a national organization that licenses local communities to open a Subordinate Grange chapter by issuing to each one of us a Charter. The Charter is the legal authorization that allows us to operate and exist as a Grange. As your elected officer, I have dedicated a large portion of my life and livelihood to serve on your behalf in this leadership position. So it is very hurtful for me to feel that I've been placed in the adversarial "they" category in these instances. I am an equal member in the National Grange as is every other member here, and if I don't like one of the Grange rules, then I have the option to try to change it through the resolution process. In the meantime, because I am, and wish to continue being a Grange member, I will do my best to abide by the constitution, rules and regulations of the Grange and I hope all my fellow Brothers and Sisters of the Order will do the same. It would make the duties of this office far more pleasant than they have been this year. **In an effort to refresh our memories and gain a better understanding of the inner workings of our Order, I recommend that every Subordinate Grange have a portion of the by-laws read and clarified at each meeting under the order of business "Grange Services".**

### **Peterborough Grange**

Despite NH's non-adoption of the National Grange's fourth priority, organizing new Granges, for the first time in over 30 years, we've organized a new Grange in NH! A group of farmers and gardeners came to me and said, "We want to organize a Grange, what do we have to do?" Never in my wildest imagination did I ever dream such a thing. In assisting the members through the



process of becoming a Grange, there have been a few instances when I have felt I was experiencing what it must have been like in earlier years when Grangers aided their Brothers and Sisters whenever they were in need, when they relied upon one another for support and networking, and when the common theme of the members was agriculture. I now have a better understanding of the power and value that Grange membership offers. And continuing with this sort of excitement is the informational meeting I attended recently in another part of our state where the initial interest and circumstances seem similar to what led to the formation of Peterborough Grange. I believe that the rough economic times we are experiencing are going to be a golden opportunity for Granges everywhere to once again become the place to be in the community. A place for the whole family to spend time together, do good works, and develop tomorrow's leaders.

### **Out of the Comfort Zone**

In last year's Address I talked about the founding principle of our Order, "to build a higher and better manhood and womanhood". I said that if we are comfortable and content, then we are not growing, and therefore not elevating the quality of our lives. I reported then that I have been out of my comfort zone since I was installed and that has certainly not changed this year. I hope I continue to serve as an example along this thought. One needs only to see my video appearance on "YouTube" that was recorded at the State Master's Conference in Texas, as evidence of my example. You can hear the terror in my voice, but I lived through it. Though I still want to jump back **in** the box every time a video recorder is pointed in my direction, I was a bit more comfortable when my presentation was recorded by a small television station at a recent event I attended to promote the Grange. There is something to be said about the old saying "practice makes perfect", though I am a long way away from perfect in this category!

There have been a few notable cases of other Grangers who have exhibited brilliance while working out of their comfort zone, so I will be presenting special awards to these people throughout the session. To start things off, I would like the LAS and the AS to please present to my station Sisters Carolyn Ross, Gail Turcotte, and Brother Jim Tetreault. (Others receiving the award are Nancy Bean, Allissa Estes, and Ruth Holmes).

**Gail and Carolyn** have both been working through the uncertainties of their new offices that they had little time to prepare for. They have been on a constant learning curve and have triumphed over many obstacles in their pathway to the point where our State Grange can move forward with greater expediency. There may not have ever been a more challenging time to have to serve in either office, and both have done so with due diligence and great teamwork.

**Jim Tetreault** has been a frequent source of volunteer help to me throughout this year – sometimes at his suggestions and sometimes at my request. Some recent investment issues that he's been assisting me with are far out of our comfort zone, but the zeal with which he's approached this learning opportunity has been admirable as well as extremely helpful.

**Nancy Bean** is receiving this special award for the superb job she has done the last two years as director of the Family and Community Committee. I believe she only accepted the position as a personal favor to me, and for that I am very grateful. While often expressing doubt about her ability to lead her committee she has accomplished a number of projects and counting up the number of hours and miles she spent on the road this year in attendance at Home Ec. Nights is enough to make anyone feel uncomfortable. Thanks Nancy for giving this job, which I suspect you never really wanted in the first place, your very best effort!

**Allissa Estes** Since I have known Allissa I have tried to encourage her to become bolder and to step out of her shell a bit, and have been waiting for her to blossom into a confident young adult. While I think she is the first one to admit it, we've got a ways to go yet, but Allissa really impressed me this year on two occasions. She agreed to be part of our training team with Rusty Hunt in May and as the youngest member there, she was an outstanding addition to the weekend's activities. Brother John West gave a glowing report on her performance as a team member at the debriefing after their meeting at Park Grange. Last month, Allissa was given charge of the day's activities at the Harvest Moon Stomp and the planning and execution was so outstanding that everyone, age 5 – 60, had the best time together! Good job, Allissa, and I hope that this is the first of many more experiences out of your comfort zone, because those are the best for building leadership abilities.

**Ruth Holmes** Transforming from Grange meeting crasher to Master of a new Subordinate Grange in less than one month is not easy to do. Ruth has done an outstanding job learning not

only about Grange procedure and ritual, but in conducting meetings, as well. There have been a few instances in my observation when she has been put on the spot by her members, but she handles every uncomfortable situation with great composure and good humor as well. And here she is today, six months after being installed as Master of Peterborough Grange, once again out of her comfort zone and mixing and mingling amongst all of us. How much more uncomfortable can one get?

### **Executive Committee**

Since I took office, your Executive Committee and I have been extra busy dealing with issues not often associated with Grange work including a criminal background screening policy for members working with youth, legal issues, audits, trust fund investments, etc., none of which did I have any previous experience or knowledge, so this office has been a huge learning experience for me. We have made some progress in dealing with many important issues and concerns, but have much left to do on our agenda.

I want to acknowledge the members of the Executive Committee, as they are all close runners-up for the “no comfort” award. While not necessarily qualifying for my out of the “emotional” comfort zone award, there certainly have been more than our share of extraordinarily long and taxing meetings that would deserve an out of the physical comfort zone award, if I had decided to make one. One of our more recent meetings was a four hour, week-night marathon of a meeting during which there were no complaints or obvious efforts to curtail the business due to the lateness of the hour. I want you to know about this example of the dedication and effort these officers have contributed on your behalf and hope that you will take time to say “thank you” to each of the seven other members of the Executive Committee. A posthumous thank you goes to Brother John West, for his good humor, and frequent offers to perform tasks or do research on any number of topics that always helped move the meetings along.

### **John H. West**

Our Grange has lost one of its brightest stars with the unanticipated passing of Brother John H. West. Having succeeded John as State Master and two previous state officer positions, I was the beneficiary of his warm and generous guidance with each step up the ladder. No one could have been more generous and supportive, while at the same time so willing to step aside and let me set my own course. Brother West was a friend to all and enemy to none and was quick to alleviate any tensions with a quick joke. I wish you all could have seen him in action as the Chaplain at National Grange. He conducted the most wonderful memorial services, full of warmth and instruction, and emotionally inspiring without offending any members’ personal beliefs. At every level of Grange work, his absence is felt as those of us in leadership positions seek new recruits to step in to fill the many different pairs of shoes that John so willingly and lovingly wore in service to our organization. I am dedicating this Address to him, and ask you all to join me as we honor his memory by boldly stepping up to the tasks at hand, placing a determined smile upon our faces, and extending a warm hand in fellowship as we work toward a brighter future for the Grange.

Fraternally submitted,

Beth Merrill, Master  
NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master Beth Merrill requested to have Jim Tetreault, Gail Turcotte and Carolyn Ross approach her station. All three were presented the State Master’s ‘Out of Your Comfort Zone Award.’

The State Grange was declared at recess for lunch at 12:13 p.m.

## Friday Afternoon, October 24, 2008

State Master Beth Merrill called the State Grange back to order at 1:35 p.m.

Our National Representatives were once again called upon for a few remarks.

Jerry Leclerc was called upon to give the Historian's Report in the absence of Richard Patten.

### State Historian's Report

Worthy State Master, Associate State Officers, Honored Guests, Patrons all!

It is a pleasure to present the annual report as your State Historian. The State Grange History informs us that we have held our State Sessions in the Gate City, known as Nashua, several times in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This city continues to be the second largest in the Granite State.

As in the past few years, I have focused this report on some of the brothers and sisters who have helped shape the history of our organization. Where would the history of our organization be without the countless donations and accomplishments of our departed brothers and sisters? Some of them won't have their names read during the Roll Call of Departed Members because they didn't serve as a Master or on the State level. In this area, **Claudia Boucher** left our circle to join the Great Grange Above. Claudia belonged to Wattannick Grange for many years. She was a quiet lady who worked many hours trying to keep her Grange active. She not only was active in the Subordinate Grange, but also served as Junior Grange Matron and Junior Deputy. She is a proud grandmother watching her grandson working his way through the chairs. Wattannick Grange lost a major member when Claudia was called by our heavenly father.

**Claribel Brockstedt**, known to many in the Salisbury area, could be seen playing the piano for Bartlett Subordinate Grange and Bartlett Junior Grange. She knew how to work those keys and show the boys and girls in Junior Grange some discipline when needed. She served as Lecturer for many years, and could be seen going to New England Lecturer's Conference many times. She may have acted like she didn't care for fun in our meetings, but she could read a funny story and tell a funny joke.

**Marjorie Knowlton** of Pembroke Grange was another faithful Granger. She too remembered how the Grange was in the olden days. She enjoyed being Lecturer and going for many years to the New England Conference. Her sister, who belonged to Grange in Connecticut, would be there and you would never know they were sisters. You would never know if she didn't agree with something, as she had the true Yankee spirit with her response.

**Madeleine Buttrick**, wife of the late Ervin Buttrick who served as General Deputy and State Steward, served the Grange well. She was very quiet, working hard when Ervin was General Deputy, helping to get reports ready, along with helping Contoocook Grange get their display ready for the Hopkinton Fair. She and Sister Doris Saturley were always together at State Sessions, wondering what their husbands would call upon them to do next.

It seemed like this was the year for pianists to be called to the Great Grange Above.

**Edna Clark**, a former member of Ezekiel Webster Grange, and then going to Daniel Webster Grange when her Grange closed, provided many evenings with her musical talent. She would gladly play the piano for any Grange that needed music. The Grange does not have many pianists today; we were very lucky to have Edna and a few others to help keep our meetings lively. How boring it is when there is no music to sing or march to.

**Helen Hill** is another dedicated Granger who left our world to be called to the Great Grange Above. Helen served as Deputy many years ago when there weren't many ladies in the deputy force. She was quiet, didn't speak much, but she was very dedicated and not afraid to accept a challenge. She was very active in the Belknap County Pomona area, serving as Master, among many offices.

**Harold Yeaton** was a member who belonged to several fraternal organizations like many of us. Although he spent many hours with the Odd Fellows, he could be counted upon to support the Grange when they were trying to raise funds. He and his family could be seen at many Grange suppers. His health took a bad turn in recent years, but that didn't stop him from coming to Grange suppers or special Grange functions.

**Merle Jones** served his Grange well at Oak Hill. He was a quiet man who served as Master, among the offices he filled. His family was active in helping to keep Oak Hill going. His loss at Oak Hill will be felt for many years.

**Alice Sanborn**, another longtime member at Chichester Grange. She and her husband would never miss a meeting. Although she didn't become active on the State level, she would have been a very strong member and would have contributed much if she had decided to pursue a position on a State committee. She and her husband could be seen riding in their antique auto in Old Home Day parades or at the country fairs.

**Hazel Rogan** was a fixture at Sandown Grange. Hazel, along with Nell Cameron and Virginia Lessard, kept Sandown Grange active. When Nell and Virginia passed away, Hazel became the lone soldier, so to speak, to keep the Grange fires going. She served as Secretary for many years and assisted the Junior Grange as well. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Little did I realize when I started writing these reports that I would remember my mother, **Maxrene Patten**, this way. I still can't believe she has left us and joined the Great Grange Above. She, my sister and my grandmother all joined the Grange one night in 1970. *The Concord Monitor* covered the meeting, as it was rare to have family members join in one night like this. There wasn't one thing she wouldn't do to help, whether it was baking beans, chairing suppers, serving as Junior Deputy, or as a member of the State Home Economics Committee, later State Family and Community Department. She looked forward to seeing her many friends. She would not speak in public, but she would let you know if there was something that bothered her.

What a shock it was to learn that **John West**, Past State Master, current State Executive Committee member and current National Grange Chaplain, left us to become a new member of the Great Grange Above. I couldn't believe that, one week prior for my mother, many of us would be going back to the same funeral home to pay our respects to John. I had known John for many years, not realizing that my best friend in elementary school was his nephew. John and his father traveled to many meetings. They always found time to say hello to everyone in the hall. My sister was a student of John's in junior high school. He always paid her the highest of compliments. I didn't realize that Hannah, whom I saw at high school, would become his wife. Both of them were very active in Chichester activities. Many of us still don't understand why our Heavenly Father needs our loved ones, but when your name is called, you don't get a second chance.

In closing this report, I would like to thank all our departed members for the history they have written in the Grange. Whether it was in their local Grange, or Pomona, or on the State level, they were very instrumental in helping to shape the Grange history. Much like them, brothers and sisters who are sitting here today are also writing Grange history. How would you like to be remembered in the history books? What kind of history would you like non-members to read about you and your Grange? I thank you for the honor of serving as your State Historian. These past two years have been extremely difficult. However, being Historian has given me something to do. I still have heavy regrets about not continuing as your State Secretary. I had to make a choice, and it was a difficult one, but I felt it was the right one. I would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, visits and telephone calls during the final farewell for my mother and in the days after. A special thank you goes to John and Kathy Palumbo, who were very kind to my mother. She would have been so grateful for the kindness they did; it meant a lot to me. There were only a few people in my circle who knew of the tremendous amount of stress I was going through. No one ever suspected what was happening to me, and I had decided to keep it that way. However, in the process of trying to do everything right, I was criticized by those who I thought were my friends. Remember, your friends are friends not only in good times, but in bad times as well. Don't be afraid to extend a shoulder to cry on, a hug to someone who might appreciate one, or a telephone call to see how things are going. I know it meant so much. I am in the process of writing a new history book for the Grange. With the assistance of an editor and former teacher, I am trying to work diligently on this. Thank you to Jerry Leclerc for being there

when needed. I can only hope that 2009 is better for all of us. For myself, with your continued prayers and support, I hope one day to be back better than ever.

Fraternally,  
Richard Patten  
State Historian

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Nancy Bean to give the report of Family & Community Services.

### **Family & Community Services Report**

Worthy State Master, State Officers, National Representatives and Grangers All:

It has been my pleasure to have been your Family and Community Services Director this year. My committee members made sure everything was taken care of. They were: April Farewell, Jean Farnham, Jane Heath, Shelley Huntoon, Patricia Izzo, Ann Leger, Dale MacDonald, Roberta Sliva, Jane Trombi and Gail Turcotte. We divided the subordinate Granges among us and tried to visit every Home Economics Night and Community Service Awards Night. It was fun to be with new members.

This year we again made Christmas baggies of trinkets and goodies for 109 clients in Glenciff Nursing Home in Warren, and gave items for the stockings of 12 children in The Children's Philbrick Center in Concord who could not go home for Christmas.

Linens and things for the NH Coalition Against Rape & Domestic Violence may be placed in the exhibit room. The picture of last year's donation is on display there. This is a worthy cause that helps clients start over when they are victims of violence and need to start a new home. Yes, we gave last year, but there are new recipients continually.

There were 118 craft items from 12 Granges donated to the Grange Building at Big E before the fair began, and more items were donated as members attended the fair. I was not able to get an accurate count of the additional items. They love our best sellers: scrubbies and mittens.

The End of the Year Home Economics Report form was not helpful. It should have asked the number of toys, mittens, Eastern States items and National Grange banquet items rather than a yes/no. From the reports that did list the numbers, 349 mittens were donated from Subordinate Granges to schools, shelters, nursing homes, etc. Our Mitten Mountain display will tell the true story. We have also given hats, scarves, gloves, lap robes, and 235 sleeping bags to keep New Hampshire warm.

I am very happy and proud of the many Granges that distributed Dictionaries to the third graders in our state. You have given them not only to your own town, but also to surrounding towns that no longer have Granges in them. Check the list to see if a town near you needs your help. Remember, you can get another organization or company to sponsor this project. Maybe it is possible to cover the entire state!

This year, the Family & Community Services Committee encouraged Subordinate Granges to turn in their Community Service Report forms. We want to thank the 35 Granges that did send in their forms. This percentage was enough to allow us to qualify to receive award money from National Grange. It sent certificates and checks to the four Grange winners, and certificates to each subordinate Grange sending in a report:

1 <sup>st</sup> place - Pine Grove #298 was awarded	\$100.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> place - Joe English #53	75.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> place - Pineconia #322	50.00
4 <sup>th</sup> place - Watatic #36	25.00

Food pantries and clothing drives received contributions from many Granges. Nursing homes and assisted living facilities throughout the state were recipients of calendars, unused cards, gifts,

favors, baked goods, slippers, shawls and lap robes. Homeless shelters were given sleeping bags, mittens, scarves and hats.

Needlework projects went well this year. There were 75 items sent in for the needlework contests. Louise Knox was in charge of the judging. The ten blue ribbon winners were sent to the Big E, the Eastern States Exposition, where they won 1 first and 3 third prizes. The four state contests had 22 items judged this year.

### **NH State Grange Contest Entries**

#### **Class 1: Tied Quilting**

- 1 - April Farewell, Mont Calm
  - 2 - Mary Tyler, Winthrop
  - 3 - Rachel Bailey, Hudson
- Norma Neary, Pembroke  
Ruth Pelton, Hampton Falls

#### **Class 2: Sewn Garment**

1. Lois Enman, Rochester
  2. Lucille Hadfield, Cochecho
  3. Ruth Pelton, Hampton Falls
- Baby christening set  
Patchwork jacket with zipper  
Quilted patchwork vest

#### **Class 3: Miscellaneous Needlework**

1. Beulah Eldridge, Cochecho
  2. Dale MacDonald, Lower Intervale
  3. Judith McNally, Hampton Falls
- Marjorie Blaisdell, Rochester  
Barbara Dessert, Mont Calm  
Sherrill Bokousky, Hudson  
Joan Garland, Henry Wilson  
Pauline Morse, Granite State  
Happy Pelton, Rochester  
Dariel Peterson, Oak Hill  
Gail Turcotte, Rochester
- Crochet hat and scarf  
Quilted purse  
Green pillow cover  
Purple gloves  
Embroidery on paper w/pink flowers  
Maroon, green, brown fuzzy scarf  
Quilted table runner  
Poncho, pink child-size  
Runner, red & white checkered  
White knit bunny slippers  
Socks, multicolor

#### **Class 4: Woodworking**

1. Rick Bailey, Hudson
  2. Ted Sobozenski\*, Contoocook
  3. Elmer Eldridge, Cochecho
- Tall brown & gray bird  
House puzzle  
Square bird feeder

\* non-member

#### **Home Economics Subordinate Grange Winners**

1. Rochester Grange #86
2. Hudson Grange #11
3. Cochecho Grange #81
4. Hampton Falls Grange #171

### **2008 Needlework Entries**

#### **Class A: Afghan**

1. Gail Turcotte, Rochester
  2. Sherrill Bokousky, Hudson
  3. Marie Hall, Gilman
- Rachel Bailey, Hudson  
Marjorie Burnett, Wingold  
Joan DeButts, Crown Point  
Barbara Dessert, Mont Calm  
Beulah Eldridge, Cochecho  
Christine Felch, Hampton Falls  
Claire Gagnon, Hudson  
Lucille Hadfield, Cochecho

#### **Class B: Doily**

1. Marie Hall, Gilman
2. Lucille Hadfield, Cochecho
3. Gail Turcotte, Rochester

#### **Class C: Embroidery**

1. Beth Merrill, Antrim
2. Ann Leger, Winthrop

#### **Class D: 3-Piece Baby Set**

1. Joan DeButts, Crown Point
2. Sarah Brown Moore, Fidelity

Carol Hill, Rockingham  
Judy McNally, Hampton Falls  
Carolyn Ross, Gilman  
Roberta Sliva, Hampton Falls

3. Roberta Sliva, Hampton Falls  
Joan Garland, Henry Wilson  
Lucille Hadfield, Cocheco  
Anita Harvey, Hampton Falls  
Gail Turcotte, Rochester

**Class E: Plastic Canvas**

1. Sandra Fogarty, Somersworth  
2. Rhoda Davis, Pembroke  
3. Gail Turcotte, Rochester  
Barbara Dessert, Mont Calm  
Lois Enman, Rochester  
Happy Pelton, Rochester

Webster

Intervale

**Class F: Counted Cross-stitch**

1. Sandra Fogarty, Somersworth  
2. Gail Turcotte, Rochester  
3. Rosemarie VanSant, Winthrop

**Class G: Adult Garment**

1. Ann Leger, Winthrop  
2. Yvonne Crocker, Pineconia  
3. April Farewell, Mont Calm  
Pauline Morse, Granite State  
Gail Turcotte, Rochester

**Class H: Latch Hook**

1. Ann Leger, Winthrop  
2. Claire Gagnon, Hudson  
3. Marc VanSant, Winthrop

**Class I: Quilted Wall Hanging**

1. Marlene Hewes, Daniel  
2. Dale MacDonald, Lower  
3. Lucille Hadfield, Cocheco

**Class J: Stuffed Toy**

1. April Farewell, Mont Calm  
2. Connie Carr, Grafton Star  
3. Barbara Dessert, Mont Calm  
Claire Gagnon, Hudson  
Lucille Hadfield, Cocheco  
Gail Turcotte, Rochester

**2008 Pomona Winners**

1. Suncook Valley #12  
2. East Rockingham #11

3. Hillsborough County #1  
4. Sullivan County #9

This year we were asked by the Connecticut State Grange to provide 5 banquet centerpieces and 75 gift bags with 4 or 5 items in each bag. Thank you so much. You went overboard with your donations. Now we will be looking for help stuffing the bags prior to the banquet.

We invited a speaker, Theresa Brown from Field of Dreams in Chichester, to tell us about the Therapeutic Riding program that started at UNH. For those of you who were not at the session, she explained the program and showed many children who were developmentally delayed and told us how the program helped some begin to speak and others show emotions for the first time. Even children in wheelchairs were able to sit on a horse and begin to improve their balance and motor skills. There was a bond with the horse that did not judge them, and the clients began to shine and be happy.

Apparently there are many stables doing this project, but they are not organized. Let's try to get them to join the Grange so that they can have a common meeting ground to organize and help support each other in this great program. The Grange could help get the word out about these wonderful programs and the service they provide. The stables would have a way to find and meet, and the Grange could expand. Can we do it?

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Bean

NH State Grange Family & Community Services Director

Vicky, from a local crisis agency called BRIDGES will take the baskets of linens on Saturday.

**Community Service Reports Received 2008**

Antrim Grange #98  
Aurora Grange #235  
Baker's River #290  
Blackwater Grange #152

Lower Intervale Grange #321  
Meriden Grange #151  
Mont Calm Grange 370  
Mount Hope Grange #77

Centennial Grange #185  
Chichester Grange #132  
Cocheco Grange #81  
Contoocook Grange #216  
Cornish Grange #25  
Crown Point Grange #65  
Daniel Webster Grange #100  
Gilman Grange #1  
Hampton Falls Grange #171  
Harmony Grange #99  
Hooksett Grange #148  
Hudson Grange #11  
Jaffrey Grange #135  
Joe English Grange #53

Ocean Side Grange #260  
Park Grange #249  
Pembroke Grange #111  
Pineconia Grange #322  
Pine Grove Grange #298  
Pleasant Valley Grange #272  
Rochester Grange #86  
Squam Lake Grange #258  
Stratford Grange #238  
Sunapee Lake Grange #112  
Walpole Grange #125  
Watatic Grange #36  
Wattannick Grange #327  
Winthrop Grange #315

### **National Grange Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> - Pine Grove Grange #298  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Joe English Grange #53  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Pineconia Grange #322  
4<sup>th</sup> - Watatic Grange #36

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

The General Deputy was escorted to the Master's Station to give her annual report.

### **General Deputy's Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Honored Guests, State Officers, Delegates, Brother and Sister Patrons:

This second year serving as your General Deputy has certainly had its ups and downs. Several Granges have closed or consolidated, including a Pomona Grange. Of the 65 reports I have received, only 16 Granges have had their books audited. This poses a serious problem in providing an accurate picture of the financial standing of an individual Grange, particularly if there are issues with the non-profit status. The State Secretary is still missing quarterly reports and dues. Because of this, some delegates haven't been able to register at our State Grange Session, addresses have not been updated, and the State is still paying dues to National for members who have passed away, taken demits or been suspended.

Auditing the books is important to the individual Grange. Think about how much more a Grange could accomplish in its community if it knew for sure what financial resources they had to draw on. What happens if the treasurer passes on? Or the secretary? Who is going to be able to straighten out the finances then? Who is showing the new officers what needs to be done? And we should all know how easy it is to make a little mistake in the checkbook that snowballs and causes real problems. Quite honestly? Although most of us don't wear pink sashes at all anymore, most of our pink sash family belongs to Granges that have not been auditing their books. Am I implying that people may be abusing their positions or misusing funds? Absolutely not! I am saying there is a lack of time, and in many cases a lack of knowledge about what is expected.

Why aren't Granges paying their dues quarterly as they are supposed to? If your Grange doesn't pay the electric bill, what happens? The power gets shut off. If you rent a space to meet in and you don't pay the rent, what happens? You don't get to meet there. What happens if you don't pay the dues to State Grange? Nothing - until State Session rolls around. Then the embarrassment factor sets in. Do I think that people are deliberately letting these things slide? No! But again, there is a lack of time despite people's best intentions, and in some cases it's added to a lack of knowledge. But let's think about what Past Master Dan Bascom said last night; the officers of the Grange may be elected, but they are still volunteers. The secretary's duties are definitely the most arduous of all, but if every member of each Grange accepted the responsibility



to help him or her successfully complete those duties, there would be light at the end of the tunnel.

Added to this are the situations presented when Granges fail to follow the State and National By-laws when determining their future. I believe it is the duty of every member of the State Grange, officers and committee members, to work with our Granges to ensure that they follow the mandates. As Executive Committee Chair Dan Bascom stated this morning, the Executive Committee is there to help Granges walk through the process, but they can't do this if they are not informed. There are more than 65 members of the 'pink sash family' out there. It would seem that that is enough people to really have a finger on the pulse of every Grange and to know when they need solid advice from those who know the process. In talking with a member of a Grange that has tried very hard to simply shut their doors without understanding why the State has thus far refused to recognize that closure, I discovered that at her Pomona Grange, she has continued to claim membership in her Community Grange, while at the same time she refuses to report on the activities of her Grange because it is closed. As we discussed the issues of maintaining membership when a Grange simply closes, she seemed to become less offended by what we were trying to do. As the State Master said this morning, the Constitution and By-laws are there for a reason, and we all took pledges to uphold them. Perhaps by explaining the reasoning for some of these requirements, we can alleviate some of the 'them' and 'they' statements.

Of the 65 reports that I have received this year, 17 Granges report difficulty in getting a quorum out to their meetings, with one Grange at the point that it did not meet at all this year. This is a sad situation. But there are two good points here: 1. I have already received more reports than I did last year, and 2. There are 59 Granges that are getting seven or more people to a meeting on a consistent basis. 20% of those even have attendance in the double digits on a regular basis. Of these 65 reports, 55 Community and Pomona Granges reported being active in their communities, and this includes many of those who aren't able to get a quorum to their meetings, so all is definitely not lost. They still have the will to make the effort to help their communities.

It can be disheartening when hearing and reading reports about the number of Granges in trouble around the state, but then we hear about people who not only want to start a Grange, they make it happen! They are taking in new members at an astonishing rate. They are talking about buying a hall. What exuberance and enthusiasm! Every time I hear our State Master talk about Peterborough Grange, there is a light in her eyes, a smile on her face, and a lilt in her voice that are absolutely contagious! Given the difficult year our State Master and others have had working with Granges that have been and still are in limbo, Peterborough has been a much-needed source of enthusiasm that nurtures hope and encourages us to persevere in our work with the Grange in New Hampshire.

Another development that has given some of us still more hope for the future of the Grange in New Hampshire is the Pomona Study Committee. Not to steal Mark's thunder for tomorrow, but as you hear his report you will understand why I think we may be turning a corner.

As we listened to the letter from our National Master Ed Luttrell last evening, I heard something that made me sit up straighter and smile about the Grange in NH. How many of you heard our State Master read the words "eleventh largest State Grange?" I thought "Wow! That's pretty amazing. Little tiny New Hampshire competing with those huge states across the country with populations much larger than ours, still coming in eleventh! Cool!" We may have Granges that are in limbo and we may not have the membership numbers we had even ten years ago, but we're still showing what New Hampshire can do. For me, this is just an added incentive to do all we can to keep New Hampshire Grange alive and well and continuing to earn that status, if not improve it.

Do we have some hard work ahead of us to maintain the Grange in New Hampshire at its present level, never mind improving it? Absolutely! It is not going to be easy. The State Master, the State Secretary and I have been comparing notes and it has become clear that the Deputies' duties will be changing yet again. The By-laws need to be followed, auditing is essential, quarterly records and dues need to be sent to the State Secretary on time, and communication between all levels is absolutely necessary. Helping and supporting our brothers and sisters in the duties they have volunteered to take on is a must. That is how we are going to capitalize on the positive things that are already happening in our state.

Tricia Taylor  
General Deputy, NH State Grange.

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Mark Collins and George Lambert gave a demonstration on Teamspeak.

The meeting was called back to order at 2:47 p.m.

The Conferral of the 5<sup>th</sup> Degree was exemplified by the New Hampshire 5<sup>th</sup> Degree All-Star Team under the direction of Rachel Bailey.

### **NH State Grange 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Roster**

Master	Jerry Leclerc, Hillsborough County
Overseer	Rachel Bailey, Hillsborough County
Lecturer	Marion T. Jones, Merrimack County
Steward	Lester Gibbs, Mascoma Valley
Asst. Steward	Rick Bailey, Hillsborough County
Lady Asst. Steward	Kathy Yardley, Cheshire County
Chaplain	Edythe Craig, Sullivan County
Treasurer	
Secretary	Dot Haskins, Merrimack County
Gatekeeper	Bob Haefner, Hillsborough County
Ceres	Ida Hutchins, Pemigewasset Valley
Pomona	Sarah Leclerc, Hillsborough County
Flora	Anne Boisvert, Suncook Valley
Exec 1	Carolee Barrett, Cheshire County
Exec 2	Dan Bascom, Eastern NH
Exec 3	Matt Clark, Cheshire County
Specter	Patrick Bailey, Hillsborough County
Storm	Patrick Bailey & Bob Trombi
Court Lady 1	Hannah West, Suncook Valley
Court Lady 2	Jane Trombi, Cheshire County
Court Lady 3	Rhoda Davis, Suncook Valley
Court Lady 4	Ann Leger, Northern NH
Musician	Marie Hall, East Rockingham

The meeting closed at 4:20 p.m.

### **Friday Evening Session, October 24, 2008**

Friday evening session was called to order by State Master Beth Merrill at 7:30 p.m., preceded by the marching in of the State Officers. Sarah Leclerc acted as Flag Bearer for the opening and closing.

State Master Beth Merrill opened the New Hampshire State Grange in the Sixth Degree. State Secretary Carolyn Ross read the application of Dorothy Sanborn along with three other candidates for the Degree of Flora.

The Sixth Degree was exemplified in a most impressive manner.

### **Flora's Court**

**Flora: Diane Collins**  
Flora's personal attendants:

Sara Collins  
Gloria Davis

Special attendants: Matthew Collins  
Patrick Bailey

Attendants: Connie Carr  
Rhoda Davis

**Ceres: Kathy Yardley**  
Attendants: Gwendolyn Yardley  
Larissa Grant

**Pomona: Rachel Bailey**  
Attendants: Camilie Twiss  
Laura (Brandt) Gotauco

### **Rose Drill**

Coach: Wilber Heath

Christopher Heath	Sandra Bokousky
Richard Bailey	Pat Bailey
Dan Bascom	Kim Bascom
Wilber Heath	Joann Brandt

### **Ladies Honor Court**

Kimber Bascom	Past State Ceres, Flora and Lady Assistant Steward
Patricia Bailey	Past State Flora, Lady Assistant Steward
Joann Brandt	Past State Flora, Lady Assistant Steward
Marion T. Jones	Past State Lecturer, Flora, Assistant Steward, State Executive Committee member
Hannah West	Past State Ceres
Virginia Clark	Past State Pomona
Dorothy Haskins	Past State Pomona
Frances Towne	Past State Lecturer, Pomona
Elizabeth Cotsibas	Past State Executive Committee member
Beth Merrill	State Master, Past State Lady Assistant Steward, Lecturer, Overseer
Marie Hall	State Lecturer, past State Lady Assistant Steward, Pianist
Carolyn Ross	State Secretary, Past Treasurer, Pomona
Gail Turcotte	State Treasurer, Past State Flora, Secretary
Ann Leger	State Gate Keeper, Past State Flora
Nancy Swainston	National Grange Ceres

### **Male Honor Court**

B. Richard Bailey	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Steward
Gerald Leclerc	Past Assistant Steward, Steward, Lecturer
Donald Ross	Past Gatekeeper, currently Executive Committee
Daniel Bascom	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Steward, Overseer, Master currently Chairman of the Executive Committee
Arthur Merrill	Past Executive Committee currently Assistant Steward
Paul W. Davis, Sr.	Past Steward, Overseer, Master, currently Executive Committee
Rodney Huntoon	Past Treasurer, currently Executive Committee
Christopher Heath	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, currently Steward
Matthew Clark	Past Gatekeeper, currently Assistant Steward
James Tetreault	Past Assistant Steward, Steward, Lecturer, currently Overseer
Mark Collins	Past Gatekeeper, Assistant Steward, Steward
Lester Gibbs	Past Master, Vermont, currently Pianist
Jeff Swainston	Past Master, Michigan
Hugh Clark	Past and current Chaplain

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Marion T. Jones to speak to the delegate body as a representative of the Court of Honor.

Nancy Swainston congratulated the State Officers on a beautiful degree.

The first 50/50 raffle for \$70 was won by Happy Pelton.

State Master Beth Merrill closed the Grange in the Sixth Degree and opened in the Fourth Degree. The State Grange closed in the Fourth Degree at 9:37 p.m.

Fraternally,  
Carolyn J. Ross  
NH State Grange Secretary

### **Saturday Morning Session, October 25, 2008**

The third day of the 135<sup>th</sup> annual session of the New Hampshire State Grange was called to order by Youth Master, Patrick Bailey, at 8:00am. Prior to the opening, the Youth Officers marched in to their respective stations. The Youth Officers were as follows:

Master	Patrick Bailey	Hudson Grange
Overseer	Matt Collins	Park Grange
Lecturer	Sarah Collins	Park Grange
Steward	Sarah Leclerc	Hudson Grange
Assistant Steward	Matt Clark	Prentice Hill Grange
Lady Assistant Steward	Lynn Clark	Prentice Hill Grange
Chaplain	Anne Boisvert	Chichester Grange
Treasurer	Larissa Grant	Golden Rod Grange
Secretary	Bob Varnum	Antrim Grange
Gatekeeper	Greg Trombi	Warren Pond Grange
Ceres	Allissa Estes	Somersworth Grange
Pomona	Andrea Lucas	Watatic Grange
Flora	Sandra Bokousky	Hudson Grange
Executive Committee	Norman Brandt	Wingold Grange
	Marty Boisvert	Chichester Grange
	Laura (Brandt) Gotauco	Wingold Grange
Pianist	Lester Gibbs	Grafton Star Grange

Roll call of Youth Officers was taken and found all present. Next the roll call of state officers was taken and found all present. The roll call of Granges found a quorum present. The minutes of the Friday session was accepted with corrections noted.

State Youth Steward Sarah Leclerc announced Nancy Swainston, National Grange Ceres, and her husband, Jeff Swainston, Past Master of the Michigan State Grange, were our honored guests and in waiting. The Assistant Stewards escorted the Swainstons to the Master's Station and each gave a few brief remarks. State Youth Steward Sarah Leclerc announced Chris Heath, Youth Team Leader, and State Junior Director Sherrill Bokousky were honored guests and in waiting. The Assistant Stewards escorted Chris and Sherrill to the Master's Station to give their reports.

Youth Team Director Chris Heath was called upon to give the Youth Report.

### **Youth Report**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Pink Sash Family Members, Delegates, Brother and Sister Patrons,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you my second report as Youth Team Director.

The Youth Team has had a very busy year. I have made most of this information available in the *Granite State Granger*, so this will just be a quick recap of the year's events.

On January 3, members of the Team attended the Northeast Regional Leader's Conference, where they helped plan the Northeast Regional Youth Conference. Also in January, the Team provided a workshop entitled "How to Have a Successful Drill Team" at the New York State Grange Winter Youth Conference, held in Stanfordville NY. The Team was very glad to help out its fellow Northeast Grange states.

In February, the Winter Youth Rally was held at the State Grange Building. We welcomed 12 youths, who joined us from New York for the weekend.

In March, the Team had planned to have our annual Moon Stomp, but it was cancelled because of the weather.

The Team was very busy in April. We had an activity table at the Family Fun Fair in Milford, and we had the annual Glow Bowling event at Stadium Ten Pin in Manchester. We had the pleasure of having the youth from Vermont, Rhode Island and New York at this event. Also in April, three youths from New Hampshire attended the New York Spring Youth Conference at Pembroke Grange in Oakfield, New York.

In May, the Youth Team provided a Youth Night program for Antrim Grange and also participated again in the 4-H annual golf tournament at Canterbury Woods Golf course.

In June, the Team held the annual June Youth Rally at the State Grange Building. Ten of New York's youth joined us for the weekend.

July found our youth on the road again, this time to Exeter, Rhode Island, for the Northeast Regional Youth Conference. Also in July, the Team provided a second Youth Night for Baker's River Grange. The Team would like to thank Dorothy Haskins for her help in starting the program.

There were no events in August, but this didn't mean that the Team was idle; we were planning the next event!

In September, the Youth Team invaded the State Master's property for an event called the Harvest Moon Stomp. A group of 35 people were in attendance for the event; some of the activities enjoyed by all were carnival games, food, fellowship, and a moonlit walk. I would like to thank Allissa Estes and Patrick Bailey for all their hard work to plan and execute this event. At this time, I would like to announce the winners of the Collage, Memory Book and Photo Scavenger Hunt contests:

#### **Collage Contest**

1. Jane Heath, Centennial Grange
2. Marion Woodworth, Rochester Grange
3. Gail Turcotte, Rochester Grange

#### **Memory Book Page - Grange**

1. Grace Leone, Rochester Grange
2. Claire Gagnon, Hudson Grange
3. Gail Turcotte, Rochester Grange

#### **Memory Book Page - Open**

1. Alice Tuck, Rochester Grange
2. Alice Tuck, Rochester Grange
3. Gail Turcotte, Rochester Grange

#### **Photo Scavenger Hunt**

1. Claire Gagnon, Hudson Grange
2. Roberta Sliva, Hampton Falls Grange
3. Mary West, Chichester Grange

There were not many Granges that submitted Youth Reports this past year. Of the ones submitted, only two provided the report in booklet form. Now, I would like to announce the top youth scores for the Pomona and Subordinate Granges.

The top Subordinate Grange this year is Somersworth Grange; the top Pomona Grange is Eastern NH Pomona. With the creation of a new committee, I am hoping that we will be able to revisit the youth scoring and determine what needs to be done to get more reports turned in to the Team.

Now, the moment you have all been waiting for: the announcement of the Grange Survivor Contest. There were two categories; one for Grange and one for Individual. The Grange Survivor - Grange winner is Antrim Grange. The Grange Survivor - Individual winner is Jane Heath.

The Youth Team is also very proud to have three representatives of NH State Grange Youth going to National Grange Session in Connecticut: Marie Hall, who will be performing her 1<sup>st</sup> place 'Sign-a-Song' entry at the Night of Excellence, Sarah Leclerc will be participating as a Trumpet Girl in the 7<sup>th</sup> Degree, and Allissa Estes will serve as Pomona on the Youth Officer Opening Team. At this time, I would like to present each of you with a check for \$200 to help pay the expenses for National Session.

Before I end my report, I would like to thank the people who have helped me out throughout the year. I would like to start with the members of the Team, because without them, this would have been a one-man show and I would probably have no hair left on my head. The team: Gloria Davis, Sherrill Bokousky, Allissa Estes, Sandra Bokousky, Laura Ward, Lynn Clark, Rachel Bailey and Sondra Farrell.

Next I would like to thank Patrick Bailey for being my right-hand man. I would like to thank George Lambert for providing workshops at both the Winter and June Youth Rallies. Gail Turcotte was a big help by providing financial advice and information about the Youth accounts; Rhonda Lambert for always lending a hand when I really needed it; Arthur and Beth Merrill for providing a location for our Harvest Moon Stomp; Anne Boisvert for providing programs when called upon, even at the last minute; Lester Gibbs, Marie Hall and Marion T. Jones for providing music for youth events; my mom and dad for helping with mailings, proof reading and providing all sorts of stuff for the Youth events; Joann Brandt for helping with the cooking at June Youth Rally, so that the committee would be available for other responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher Heath  
New Hampshire State Grange Youth Team Director

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Junior Director Sherrill Bokousky was called upon to give the Junior Report.

### **Junior Report**

Worthy Master, National Delegates, Brother and Sister Patrons:

It is my pleasure to bring you the State Grange Junior Report for 2008. Junior Grange in New Hampshire has a small membership. We have a total of 24 members at the current time. At the end of 2007, we had several Junior members who had reached the age at which they could be part of the Youth program. So, 2008 begins with a smaller group with a great deal of enthusiasm. We added two new members in June.

The first event that Juniors participated in along with the Youth Department was the Kid's Day activities at the Farm & Forest Expo in Manchester. Visitors to the table had a chance to make a Valentine's Day card for their favorite person and to learn something about Grange. The Juniors also participated in the State Bowling Contest and received prizes for their bowling scores.

In April we were part of the Family Fun Fair, with an opportunity to bring Grange to the public. This time the Juniors offered a chance to make Mother's Day cards to go with the plants that the Youth Department was helping kids prepare. Again, we took this opportunity to tell people what Grange is all about.

We have two Junior Granges in New Hampshire; Brookline Junior Grange and Granite Junior Grange. During the year, the Juniors meet and work on the program; the theme from National Junior Grange this year is "No Child Left Inside." Also as part of the year's program, the children learned about the Kelly Farm and Connecticut, which is hosting this year's National Grange Session. The Juniors also made Valentine crafts for display in the New England Building at the Big E.

Junior Grange is a vital part of this organization, and we need to continue to increase membership. We look forward to a new year full of activity, fun and many new members to grow our Junior Granges.

As we look toward 2009, we will see two Junior Grange memberships reduce, as they will graduate from the program.

In closing I want to say thank you to all who have assisted the Junior Grange program; for donations of time or money, for the parents who brought their children to the meetings, for those who helped me with fair displays and being there when I was in need. Thank you, Worthy Master, for your continued support as we work on our goal to grow Junior Grange in New Hampshire.

Fraternally submitted,  
Sherrill Bokousky  
Junior Director

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

The Youth Officers then retired to the anteroom and the State Officers assumed their stations.

The Grange was recessed at 8:55am.

State Master, Beth Merrill called the State Grange back to order at 9:14am.

Membership Development Director Stephen Tracy was called upon to give his report.

### **Membership Development Team**

In May Rusty Hunt, National Membership Director, came to NH to train a team on revitalizing Granges. Four Granges were chosen to participate: Blow-Me-Down, Mont Calm, Meriden and Park. These Granges were asked to open their halls to the public with a hot meal. After an evening and morning of training, the team broke up and headed for their appointed Granges. After meeting with the Granges, we returned to the hotel to discuss the mixed results. Team members were to return to their respective Granges for a follow-up, to see if the Grange was accomplishing their chosen project, or if they needed encouragement or assistance.

I commend Park and Blow-Me-Down Granges. Their chosen project has mushroomed into a growth in activity in their Granges and communities. The former "I thought the Grange was dead" comments in their towns have changed to positive talk.

Even though we lost three Subordinates and one Pomona, we did not lose membership, as they were consolidated with neighboring Granges, hopefully making them stronger. We have some interest in Ossipee to reactivate a Grange there.

We had the greatest news in quite a while with the reorganizing of Peterborough Grange. This was accomplished with very little work by flooding the farmer's market, community bulletin boards, etc. with applications. To welcome these new members, Cheshire County Pomona

hosted a Degree Day in Keene. Due to the large attendance and high spirits at seeing the ritual presented, I hope we do this more often.

There is discussion on the future of Pomona Granges. I understand that one of the reasons for Pomona is to assist its Subordinates. I would like to see the Pomona Granges put a strong emphasis on working to boost the Granges in their regions, and make membership a priority.

When I joined the Grange 36 years ago, it was the social highlight of my life. There was always something to do and places to go. I am having Grange withdrawals! I need my Grange fix! This is my personal push; to see the Grange built up again. This has been very difficult for me, having been unemployed for over 2 ½ years. My personal sad joke is "I can't afford to get out of town." I couldn't let that get in my way. I realized that sitting at home complaining wasn't going to get me a job. I needed to get out and work at getting a job. It is the same with Grange. If I wanted to see this organization survive, I needed to get out and work at it. Thank you, Mark Collins, for rides to Grange functions. Will all of you join me in this enthusiasm and campaign?

In September, Mark Collins and I attended the Grange Growth Summit in New Jersey, conducted by Rusty Hunt. After an evening and morning of training, we broke into two teams and went to two communities preselected by the NJ State Grange. We wanted to let people know of upcoming meetings to organize Granges in their communities. Tropical Storm Hannah tried to discourage us with wind and rain, but we persevered and enjoyed ourselves. The response from everyone was positive. Our goal now is to train a team here and send them out to the battlefields of New Hampshire. This will be in conjunction with a statewide membership drive throughout the year with TV and radio promotions, culminating with a big push in Grange Month. Everyone will know that the Grange is here and growing.

One of our biggest deterrents to making the Grange grow is we ourselves. I find myself in the position of challenger at a pep rally. Challenging others to get up and fight for the future of this great organization. I hear a lot of boo-hoing that the Grange isn't important anymore. I ask all of you to change that attitude and stand up and fight for our future.

The Grange is the biggest secret in our communities. When I travel throughout the state, I stop and ask at the village store, "Do you know where the Grange meets in town?" And with a puzzled look they say, "Do we have a Grange in town?" How can we grow if we aren't even known in our own town? We need to advertise ourselves. Grange meeting and contact information should be on every bulletin board in town, on our halls and in the newspaper.

This summer we were shocked by the sudden loss of a great Granger, John West. John was a person I looked up to for guidance. I felt such a loss at his passing that I almost resigned this position. Then I decided "no." I would not shame John in that manner. I decided to keep his spirit alive by making sure that I pushed myself to show at least as much love and enthusiasm as John showed for the Grange. Will you help in keeping John's spirit and love for the Grange alive?

I, like John, feel we need to publicize the attributes of our great organization. Listen to the needs of your communities and do something about it. It may be too big a project for our Granges to do alone, so team up with another town group and make it happen! ADVERTISE IT!

We need to make the Grange a necessity in the community again. With the economy going downhill, more people are going to look for local activities. Let's fill that void.

This job has been a challenge, but it is a challenge of love. I have many more ideas on membership building and hope that I may continue in this capacity with this team. It is too big a job for just a few, it takes the entire membership. All of us have a duty to keep the Grange alive.

Your biggest tools are positive enthusiasm and applications. Carry them with you always. Grange pins and bumper stickers are great conversation starters.

I would like to present to you your trained membership team. Ask them to work with your Grange. You paid for it; get your money's worth!



Arthur & Beth Merrill  
Steve & Marlene Hewes  
Jim Tetreault  
Kathy Yardley  
Sandra Bokousky  
Mark Collins

Allissa Estes  
John & Hannah West  
Larissa Grant  
Arlene Fall  
Ida Hutchins  
Stephen Tracy

I dedicate this report and the efforts of this team to the honor of John West.

Fraternally,  
Stephen Tracy  
Membership Development Director, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Rodney Huntoon, Chairman of the 501c3 Study Committee to give his report.

### 501C-3 Study Report

Worthy Master, Honored Guests, Pink Sash Members, Delegates and Grangers All:

It is with pleasure that the 501C-3 Study Committee makes its report to the New Hampshire State Grange. At the 2006 Annual Session, a resolution was presented on the Preservation of Grange Halls by Squam Lake Grange.

- WHEREAS:** Grange halls can be an asset to and within their communities: accessible, adequately equipped and available for use by the community at large, and
- WHEREAS:** many of the remaining Grange-owned halls within the state are no longer an asset to their community and instead are a burden to the Grange, and
- WHEREAS:** many Granges do not have the financial or physical resources to maintain their halls or to upgrade them to meet local codes for fire and safety, accessibility and sanitation, therefore be it
- RESOLVED:** that the New Hampshire State Grange pursue the creation of a 501C-3 qualified Foundation or Trust (according to Internal Revenue Service qualifications) to solicit, receive and expend funds for the preservation, renovation, restoration and maintenance of Grange halls in the state of New Hampshire; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** that said Foundation or Trust be administered by a Board of Directors comprised of members and nonmembers appointed by the State Master and Executive Committee, which Board shall report to the New Hampshire State Grange at each annual session.

The resolution passed and the Worthy Master appointed the following members: Patrick Bailey, Dave Boynton, Jerry Leclerc, Carolyn Ross, Gail Turcotte, Wayne Turcotte and Rodney Huntoon as Chairman.

In February Carolyn, Gail and I attended a charitable trust workshop presented by Terry Knowles, Assistant Director of the Attorney General's Office-Charitable Trust Unit at the Farm & Forest Expo. We received several useful handouts and information from the workshop.

After gleaning lots of data from the Internet, the workshop and a copy of Maine's 501C-3 Foundation, I compiled a small packet of information that was distributed to the members of the committee for their review. On April 12, Carolyn, Gail, Wayne and I met at the State Grange Hall to review the documentation.

The resolution's primary purpose is the preservation of Grange Halls. The paperwork for a 501C-3 corporation may require more than one purpose. We noted that the Maine State Foundation has three purposes, a conflict of interest policy and a set of corporation by-laws. We're aware that New Hampshire law will be different from Maine.

On April 12, Beth Merrill, Gail Turcotte, Rodney and Shelley Huntoon met with Terry Knowles at the Attorney General's office to review some questions. We asked Terry to explain the benefits of being a C-3 versus a C-8 regarding donations from other organizations such as Wal-Mart. A C-3 is considered a charity, and a C-8 is a club. Donations to a C-8 are not deductible. A C-3 must have its own tax identification number, and cannot be part of a group exemption.

What is the difference between a foundation and a trust?

A 501C-3 public charity receives gifts, grants and donations. A private foundation is for investments. A trust comes from an indenture and a foundation is created for a specific purpose. A 501C-3 application would be a request to become a public charity and IRS Form 1023 is required. If our decision is to go this route, Terry Knowles will be glad to assist us with the paperwork. She estimates it would take her about 20 minutes to explain. Either trust or foundation will require a mission statement, by-laws, conflict of interest policy and a board of directors. The board can include members that serve on other boards, such as the executive committee or the trustees of trust funds. The application fees to form include: IRS - \$750, Secretary of State - \$75 and the Attorney General's Office - \$25, for a total of \$850. Professional training for fund raising is not necessary, but a passion for the cause from the volunteers is recommended. Training from the Attorney General's office for boards is available. The Center for New Hampshire Non-Profits also offers training at reduced rates for members.

All funds received by a foundation or trust will have to be maintained in separate accounts and dispensed from its books. It will not be a part of our State Grange treasury.

The foundation or trust books can be audited by the Executive Committee; however, if the funds reach a million dollars, a professional audit is required.

We can request assistance from the Attorney General's office without fee if the scheduling and the notice are agreeable.

From the information we can gather, there are 30 halls currently owned and used by Granges, and many others still identified as "Grange Hall." Some of these are located on small lots "permanently" leased, or have "rights of use" as long as the Grange holds its charter. The combined value of these halls is in excess of 3 million dollars. How many Granges would or could benefit from financial assistance is unknown at this time. Several Granges have indicated a need for significant maintenance or structural repair to their halls beyond their financial capacities.

It appears that nonmembers have a more committed interest in preserving Grange halls than our own Grange members as a whole. For example, the Friends of Blow-Me-Down Grange raised in excess of \$100,000 to renovate the Grange Hall some years back. Friends of Goshen Grange have organized to renovate Sunapee Mt. Grange hall in Goshen.

We have given you in capsule form the results of our study. It is now up to the delegate body to make the decision to form a 501C-3 Foundation or Trust. We feel that the Foundation route would be the best one to follow if it is the wish of the delegates. Please bear in mind that there is much further work to be done on the formation of a 501C-3.

**Do you have a passion for a project of this magnitude? Do you have the time and energy to devote to this project?**

Let us give you a brief recap of what must be done.

1. You must incorporate the non-profit under an accepted purpose or purposes and include the language required by the IRS for those desiring a 501C-3 status.
2. You must obtain a tax identification number for your non-profit.
3. You must also draft by-laws, a conflict of interest policy, a mission statement, and guidelines for your board of directors, officers and reporting requirements.

4. Select your board members who have a passion for your project. Board members should not be related by blood or marriage. The Grange may wish to have a majority of the board to be Grange members, to help ensure that it has a controlling interest. Perhaps this should be the first step so that the board is part of the process of forming the Foundation.
5. You must complete IRS Form 1023, which is the official application form to be recognized as a tax-exempt organization by the IRS.

We have attempted to give you a brief account of what's involved in setting up a 501C-3 organization. There is a lot more information we gleaned from our study. We hope that from the information we have given you that a decision can be made as to whether we proceed on the formation of a 501C-3 account. There is a lot to think about. Perhaps if you have questions, you could make a note of them and bring them to this afternoon's workshop which is being presented by Terry Knowles from the Attorney General's Office.

Rodney Huntoon  
For the 501C-3 Study Committee

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master, Beth Merrill then called upon Mark Collins to give the report of the Pomona Study Committee.

### **Report of Pomona Study Committee**

It amazes me how perceived problems that we have been discussing in the back rooms and hiding in our closets can become opportunities when looked at in a new perspective.

It all started with a letter to the NH Pomona Masters...

May 27, 2008

Dear Worthy Pomona Master:

Per recommendation of the Pomona Study Committee at the 2006 State Session of the NH State Grange, the discussion and debate regarding the purpose of the Pomona Grange in this day and age is to be continued. Every Pomona is asked to send a representative to the Committee meeting, which will be held on Saturday, July 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Grange Building in Hooksett. No limit is set for how many may attend from each Pomona, but it is vitally important that every Pomona have representation at this meeting.

In an effort to spark some lively debate, I'm submitting for your reference the resolutions below, which could be presented for consideration by the delegates at this year's Annual Session. Please have a discussion about the current status and direction of the Pomona Grange at your meeting this month, so that your representative will have some viewpoints for consideration at this meeting.

I look forward to this opportunity to converse with you as we make serious considerations on the status and future impact of Pomona Granges in our state.

Fraternally yours,  
Beth Merrill, Master  
NH State Grange

### **Proposed Resolution #1**

**WHEREAS:** Pomona Granges in NH are weak in membership numbers and attendance, which puts limitations on their ability to fulfill their intended purpose, and  
**WHEREAS:** strong Pomona Granges are needed to assist the Subordinate Granges within their jurisdiction; therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that all existing Pomona Granges in New Hampshire be closed on June 30, 2009 and seven newly districted Pomona Granges be organized.

## **Proposed Resolution #2**

**WHEREAS:** Pomona Granges in NH are weak in membership numbers and attendance, which puts limitations on their ability to fulfill their intended purpose, and

**WHEREAS:** strong Pomona Granges are needed to assist the Subordinate Granges within their jurisdiction; therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that all existing Pomona Granges in New Hampshire be closed on June 30, 2009 and one new statewide Pomona Grange be organized, which will meet quarterly as invited throughout the different regions of the state.

These Resolution ideas were the tinder for a debate that carried through two meetings and from those meetings several ideas have been implemented or are in the stages of being implemented.

Here is how it all happened:

On July 19, the first Pomona Study Group convened at the State Grange Building in Hooksett. There were 35 members present, representing 11 of the 12 Pomona Granges in the state. Only Upper Coos was not represented, due to distance.

We had a quick discussion on change and why people are so reluctant to change:

- If we suggest ideas, we might have to help or lead them.
- We're comfortable with where we are, "Our Grange is okay, so why fix everything?"
- Fear, distress or discomfort with changing.

Then we began to look at the proposed resolutions.

*Proposed Resolution #1: Close all Pomona's and reorganize 7 new ones.*

We started by talking about how you would disband these Pomona's; disperse their existing funds? What criteria would be used to move members around? What happens to all the records and how would they be named?

As we discussed this, a funny thing happened...

One question came up again and again: "Why are we doing all this work to keep an organization going if we all agree that it's failing?" As we asked ourselves what Pomona's role is, we would either say "don't know," or you'd get a single line about the one thing "our Pomona" was doing. Through our discussions we came to the conclusion that many, but NOT all, of our Pomona Granges felt that they had no purpose. So we came down to the 'chicken or the egg' discussion: Should we work on redistricting or closing Pomona's or should we first help define our Pomona's role and thus give them a role they can play in our state?

By a quick show of hands, it was decided that we should focus on Pomona's role before proceeding with the redistricting ideas.

We had a great discussion about Pomona's role and found that some of the issues revolved around the perceptions of the Pomona structure and also how National Grange works with Pomona's.

National Grange has very little in the Digest about Pomona's that is different from Subordinates; for all intents and purposes, they have the same layout and the same look and feel as a Subordinate Grange. National By-laws do state that Pomona's must meet a minimum of four times a year or quarterly. There are no specific numbers as to how many Subordinate Granges must belong to a Pomona as defined by National Grange. The NH State Grange By-laws state that we must have three Subordinate Granges unless the remaining two are more than 25 miles from other Granges - then they may continue as a Pomona. Our By-laws say the State Grange will say what the jurisdiction is. Interestingly enough, nothing in our State By-laws says that a Grange has to belong to a Pomona.

National Grange bypasses Pomonas as a communication link and sends all materials directly to State and Subordinate Granges. This is partly due to the fact that some states don't even have Pomonas.

With this information in hand, we wrote down all the ideas of what Pomona could be doing. The top five ideas chosen were:

- Pomona should act as a communication link between State Grange and Subordinates.
- Pomona should foster a venue where members of Subordinate Granges in their jurisdiction can interact on a social as well as a ritual level.
- Pomona should be a guardian of the Ritual, i.e. perform Degree Days.
- Pomona should organize new Granges.
- Pomona representatives must visit, support and help Subordinate Granges in their jurisdiction.

At this point, we had been talking for hours, and decided that a second meeting would be held to work out implementation of these ideas.

On August 23, the Pomona Task Force reconvened with 21 members attending. We had our objective: To figure out a way to implement the ideas gathered from our previous meeting. We wanted to create a framework that could be delivered to the Grange at large to help revive Pomona Grange's purpose in our state.

The first order of business: How can we leverage Pomona to foster a communication link between State and Subordinate Granges?

We focused on strengthening the link between Pomona and the State Committees, and how to use Pomona's interaction with their Subordinate Granges to relay information to and from the State Grange. Pomona needs to be in the communication loop and no longer bypassed.

It was determined that the individual Pomona Committee Chairs will become the members of the State Committees. For example: the 12 Youth chairs of the Pomonas would be the 12 members of the State Youth Committee. The same would occur to all the State Committees organized by the State Master. This will help to foster communication to the Subordinates; Pomona chairs usually are located closer geographically to the Granges in their jurisdiction, and would be more familiar with the members than the currently assigned State representatives. Through their interaction with their Subordinate Granges and the State Directors, they will become conduits of information about the State programs. Let us not forget that this information conduit would also work in reverse.

Some other tasks we came up with to foster communication:

- Pomona should have a member from their Grange reporting what's going on in Pomona at every Subordinate meeting. If a Subordinate doesn't have any members going to Pomona meetings, then the Pomona Master shall appoint someone to go to the Subordinate meeting and give the report.
- Pomona, as an organization that is supposed to be supporting their Subordinates, should be responsible for helping Granges in need and bring any issues in a Subordinate to the attention of the State Master and/or General Deputy.
- Pomona Masters should submit status reports on a regular basis to the State Master.
- Pomona Granges should have a spokesperson report at State Session.

It will be up to the State Master and State Directors to flesh out the guidelines/reports. What are we looking for and what information is going to help us determine success? We suggest that Pomona chairs report to their respective State Director about when they are attending a particular Grange, and if they need help.

The second idea voted on was "How can we leverage the social aspect of the Grange at the Pomona level?" Pomona is the ideal place to foster interaction among all the members of our Grange community. When we are all hunkered down in our own Granges, we tend to miss that we are a part of a larger organization.

It would be very short-sighted of us if we thought we could tell you all how to do this in a step-by-step manner. All our Granges follow a similar formula when holding meetings and we hopefully do the Degree the same way. But how we all work together outside the framework of the meeting will be very different from Grange to Grange.

We did come up with a few suggestions to make Pomona more attractive to members:

- Do a program at every meeting.
- Programs should be different from Subordinate programs.
- Bring in speakers.
- Discuss regional issues.
- Host open meetings.
- Have planning meetings.
- Have fun!
- Challenge each Pomona to submit a resolution(s) as a result of a program on a regional issue.
- Host or assist Subordinate Granges with Degrees.

We feel that it would be best for the State Master to put together another committee, with different people, to deal with the social aspect of Pomonas and how they can make their meetings a place that everybody will want to come to.

We suggest not pursuing the redistricting of Pomonas at this time. We should continue to work within the existing Pomona's and institute changes that will help leverage Pomonas as a place for social exchange with larger groups of people, and as a connection between Subordinate and State Grange for communication.

Obviously we are asking a lot of our Pomonas in implementing the ideas laid out from these meetings. But we have to be honest: Pomona Granges have the most to lose here. If the Pomonas continue to stagnate, then we'll have to convene a new task force to deal with them; the new task force may not be as insightful as to what Pomona can accomplish, and the issue of redistricting will once again be on the table for consideration.

Let's not forget this simple fact. This task force was formed to slow down the systemic failing of the Pomona organization in our state. On a positive note, through much discussion and soul-searching, we determined that Pomona is worth saving and we all came out of the sessions with a new look at Pomona and what it can become.

Pomona Granges, we have given you a direction and a purpose. Some parts of it are loosely defined to give you flexibility to accomplish it, but it is a direction nonetheless. All of us, the Grange members sitting in this audience and the Grange members who couldn't be here today are asking you to step up to the plate, take the baton and run with it. We only ask that you show us that you want your Pomona to succeed, and we will all be there for you, supporting you in every way we can.

Mark Collins  
Reporting Secretary of the Pomona Task Force

No action was taken on the report at this time and the report will be voted on later in the day.

### **Election of State Grange Officers for 2008 - 2010**

Master	Beth Merrill
Overseer	James Tetreault
Executive Committee (1 year)	Hannah West
Executive Committee (3 years)	Daniel Bascom
Executive Committee (3 years)	Mark Collins
Lecturer	Marie Hall
Steward	Chris Heath

Assistant Steward  
Lady Assistant Steward  
Chaplain  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Gatekeeper  
Flora  
Ceres  
Pomona

Arthur Merrill  
Jane Trombi  
Matthew Clark  
Gail Turcotte  
Carolyn Ross  
Ann Leger  
Diane Collins  
Kathy Yardley  
Rachel Bailey

State Master Beth Merrill asked B. Richard Bailey, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee to start his report between each election of officer.

## Report of Resolutions Committee

### **Resolution #1- Submitted by Joe English Grange #53 Subject: Smart Grid Technology**

Whereas, New Hampshire is a rural and agricultural State; and  
Whereas, the farmer relies on open markets for free and fair pricing; and  
Whereas, the farmer relies on roads and bridges to bring their harvest to market; and  
Whereas, energy and electricity costs are rising; and  
Whereas, like corn, squash, tomatoes and green beans, electrons can be harvested; and  
Whereas, with improvements in net-metering rules, regulations and access, markets for electricity are opening; and

Whereas, necessity is the Mother of Invention; and

Whereas, desperation is the Father of Action; therefore be it

Resolved, the State Grange of New Hampshire support, with enthusiasm, the implementation of smart grid technology including facets of smart metering and Time of Use (TOU) electrical metering and billing, giving every New Hampshire citizen the ability to consume or harvest electricity in markets that are fair, free, and open.

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

1<sup>st</sup> resolved- deleting "and be it further"

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved- deleting "resolved" and deleting "and be it further" after open, adding a period after "open".

3<sup>rd</sup> resolved- deleting entire resolved.

Resolution adopted as amended.

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### **Resolution #2 - Submitted by Park Grange #249 Subject: Return to Agricultural Awards**

The committee suggested resolution to be withdrawn by Park Grange. Resolution withdrawn by Park Grange #249

### **Resolution #3-Submitted by State Grange Legislative Committee Subject: Fuel Efficiency**

Whereas, the cost of energy has increased dramatically; and

Whereas, the cost of energy will outstrip the public's ability to purchase heating fuel for their homes and fuel for personal transportation; therefore be it

Resolved, the ***National*** Grange be in support of substantial tax credit for investment made in alternative, renewable energy resources; and be it further

Resolved, that the ***National*** Grange urges the support of tax credits for the installation of devices with increased energy efficiency.

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

1<sup>st</sup> resolved- adding "National" before Grange  
2<sup>nd</sup> resolved- adding "National" before Grange  
Resolution adopted as amended.

**Resolution #4- Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Sustainable Agriculture at Local and State Levels**

Whereas, the cost of food continues to increase due to the skyrocketing cost of transportation due to the high cost of energy; and  
Whereas, our food now travels an average of 1,500 miles to reach our tables; and  
Whereas, there is a concern about the ability to monitor the quality and safety of our food at the point of origin; and

Whereas, many people prefer locally grown food products; and  
Whereas, local producers are easily monitored by the consumer; therefore be it  
**Resolved, the NH State Grange encourages its members, their family, friends and neighbors to buy local when and where ever possible. Buy from local retailers, service providers, craftsmen and farms. Visit farmer's markets, and farm stands for local, fresh, safe, and good tasting food products; and be it further**

Resolved, that the **NH State** Grange encourages the development of programs to assist people in developing their ability to grow and sell food produce with minimal government regulations.

The committee suggested amending and combining resolutions #4 and #21.

Amended by:

First amendment-

1<sup>st</sup> resolved add Resolution #21 resolved as the first resolved of the combined resolution  
omit first resolved as written in resolution #4

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved add "NH State" before Grange as written in resolution #4

First amendment passed.

Second amendment-

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved of combined resolution add "preferably organic" after produce.

Second amendment defeated.

Resolution adopted as combined and amended.

**Resolution #5- Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Encourage and Develop New Farmers**

Whereas, a number of adults want to enter farming on a small scale basis; and  
Whereas, these adults **may** lack the skills to be successful farmers; therefore be it  
Resolved, that the **NH State** Grange request the cooperative extension service to develop programs for the education of adults similar to the existing 4-H youth programs; and be it further  
Resolved, that local Granges be encouraged to work in partnership with cooperative extension to implement these programs.

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

2<sup>nd</sup> whereas add "may" before lack; delete "and" after farmers

1<sup>st</sup> resolved add "NH State" before Grange.

Resolution adopted as amended.

**Resolution #6- Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Transportation**

Whereas, the freedom of mobility is vital to our economic life and transportation is the lifeblood of our nation's economy; and

Whereas, federal transportation investments promote healthy economic growth; and  
Whereas, our highways, railroads, airports and waterways are deteriorating from failure to support transportation infrastructure; therefore be it

Resolved, that the **National** Grange support the establishment of a national transportation infrastructure trust fund; and be it further

Resolved, that any levies to fund this trust are entirely dedicated to the country's **transportation** infrastructure.



The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

1<sup>st</sup> resolved add "National" before Grange

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved add "transportation" before infrastructure

Resolution adopted as amended.

### **Resolution #7- Submitted by Arlington Grange #139**

#### **Subject: Farm Credit System**

Whereas, the Farm Credit System is America's largest cooperatively owned lender and is a vital source of credit to farmers, agricultural businesses and rural America. A strong Farm Credit System helps meet the credit needs of farmers, agricultural cooperatives and other rural businesses and enhances the exports of US agricultural goods; therefore be it

Resolved, that the New Hampshire State Grange supports legislative and regulatory actions to expand Farm Credit lending authority for agriculture and commercial fishing **and** the elimination of unnecessary and burdensome regulations. Also that we oppose any changes to federal and state tax and fee provisions for Farm Credit institutions that could adversely effect farmer-owners of Farm Credit cooperatives; and be it further

Resolved, we support maintaining the cooperative structure of Farm Credit and farmer ownership of Farm Credit associations and support inclusion of Farm Credit institutions as eligible lenders in state economic development programs.

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

1<sup>st</sup> whereas add letter "s" to cooperative

1<sup>st</sup> resolved add letter "s" to regulation and word "and" after fishing.

Resolution adopted as amended.

### **Resolution #8- Submitted by Arlington Grange #139**

#### **Subject: Property Tax Relief**

Whereas, it is important to retain a safe, local food supply for the health, safety, benefit and well being of New Hampshire and its residents; and

Whereas, it is in the public benefit to ensure a local food supply in the time of an emergency; and

Whereas, New Hampshire farmers and New Hampshire farms and agriculture contribute well over **one** billion dollars of economic benefit to the State of New Hampshire; and

Whereas, farmers in the State of New Hampshire are struggling with the high cost of property taxes, energy costs; and

Whereas, the interest rate on property lien for payment of back taxes can be as much as 18% and once a farmer gets behind as a result of such usurious payments and penalties so that a hard working farmer may never see the "light at the end of the tunnel" due to these penalties; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the state and the cities and towns to review and reform such penalties for back taxes as to be reasonable and fair; therefore be it

Resolved, that the New Hampshire State Grange support property tax relief for all the residents of the state in the form of annual penalty interest not to exceed conventional rates for a homestead and that actively operated farms be charged an annual interest rate of not more than two percent over prime or conventional rates for a homestead, whichever is less; and be it further

Resolved, that the New Hampshire State Grange shall actively work with the General Court to bring a bill to a vote before the House of Representatives and the State Senate to affect lower penalty rates for properties **liened** as a result of back taxes.

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

3<sup>rd</sup> whereas change on to "one" before word billion

6<sup>th</sup> whereas omit beginning with word "interest" through "business, and that"

1<sup>st</sup> resolved 3<sup>rd</sup> line omit "not" before be charged

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved change likened to lien.

Resolution adopted as amended.

**Resolution # 9**

By common consent corrected typographical error (Article VI 4.6.4 D) to (Article VI 4.6.4 E).  
The committee suggested adopting.  
Resolution adopted as corrected by common consent.

**Resolution #10**

The committee suggested returning the resolution to committee for clarification.  
The resolution was returned to committee.

**Resolution #11- Submitted by Gilman Grange #1  
Subject: Annual Session Delegate Fee**

Whereas, the cost of holding our regular annual meetings continue to increase every year; and  
Whereas, funds are needed to help defray the cost of annual meetings to the State Grange; and  
Whereas, our treasury is not as healthy as it once was; therefore be it  
Resolved, that the NH State Grange Bylaws Article IV, Section 3 be amended to read: "The  
voting delegates of the New Hampshire State Grange shall pay a fee of **\$10.00** each at the  
annual session to be paid for by the individual Grange." and; be it further  
Resolved, that this increase will become effective as of our 2009 annual meeting.

The committee suggested amending.  
Amended by:  
1<sup>st</sup> resolved add "the NH State Grange Bylaws" before Article.  
The resolution was adopted as amended.

**Resolution #12- Submitted by Gilman Grange #1  
Subject: Annual Session Non-Delegate Fee**

Whereas, the cost of holding our regular annual meetings continue to increase every year; and  
Whereas, funds are needed to help defray the cost of annual meetings to the State Grange; and  
Whereas, our treasury is not as healthy as it once was; therefore be it  
Resolved, that the NH State Grange Bylaws Article IV, Section 4 be amended to read:  
"Registration fee for all other Subordinate Grange members at State Session, with the  
exception of invited guests, shall be **\$5.00.**" and; be it further  
Resolved, that this increase will become effective as of our 2009 annual meeting.

The committee suggested amending.  
Amended by:  
1<sup>st</sup> resolved add "the NH State Grange Bylaws" before Article; add "Subordinate Grange  
members" after other; omit "attendees"; after guests.  
The resolution was adopted as amended.

**Resolution #13-** the committee suggested amending. The resolution was defeated without any  
amendments by a vote of 15 in favor and 35 against.

**Resolution #14- Submitted by the NH State Grange Executive Committee  
Subject: Meeting Dates of State Grange**

Whereas, it has become increasingly difficult to find suitable locations to hold the Annual State  
Grange session; and  
Whereas, if the State Grange had more flexibility as to the dates of the State Grange session,  
costs could possibly be lowered; therefore be it  
Resolved, that the NH State Grange Bylaws Article V (meetings) Section 1, page 4, be  
amended by deleting the words "on the Thursday before the fourth Friday of October of each  
year" and adding the words "between October 20 and the first Thursday of November, preferably  
the Thursday before the fourth Friday of October of each year."

The committee suggested not adopting this resolution.  
Amended by:

1<sup>st</sup> resolved adding “the NH State Grange Bylaws” before Article and on third line adding “preferably the Thursday before the fourth Friday of October” after November. The resolution was adopted as amended.

**Resolution # 15 – Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Reusable Bags**

Whereas, plastic bags are made from gas and petroleum by-products, an non-renewable resource, wasting millions of barrels of oil that could go towards heating or transportation; and Whereas, plastic bags are costly to dispose of thus wasting tax dollars; and **Whereas, plastic bags tend to become litter, taking away from the beauty of our state, and are hazardous to wildlife; and** **Whereas, paper bag production consumes more resources and produces more pollution as compared to plastic bags and these bags cannot degrade in landfills due to lack of air, water and sun; and**

Whereas, inexpensive reusable bags are now readily available at grocery stores; and Whereas, printed reusable bags can be used as promotional materials for the Grange and the National Grange sells tote bags marked with a Grange emblem; therefore be it Resolved, that all Grangers **be encouraged** to use non-disposable bags when making purchases and encourage their friends, neighbors and relatives to do the same.

\*\*for more information see: [www.1bagataTime.com](http://www.1bagataTime.com)

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

Reordering whereas numbers 3 and 4 by reverse order.

1<sup>st</sup> resolved changing “vow” to “be encouraged”

Resolution adopted as amended.

**Resolution #16 – Submitted by the State Grange Legislative Committee**  
**Subject: Recycling Education**

Whereas, of the 235 towns and cities in NH, 202 offer some form of recycling; and Whereas, New Hampshire’s overall municipal recycling rate is only 20.5% despite having set a goal of 40% by the year 2000; and Whereas, in 2006, the state of New Hampshire spent in excess of \$102 million on solid waste management, and fuel costs, landfill closures, and tipping rates are increasing; and Whereas, recycling can reduce costs by decreasing transportation costs and disposal fees in addition to the monetary value of the recyclable materials themselves; and Whereas, the Solid Waste Technical Assistance Section of the Waste Management Division a the NH Department of Environmental Services provides information and assistance to communities and organizations to help them divert their solid waste from landfills and incinerators; therefore be it

Resolved, that each NH Grange **be encouraged to** sponsor an educational program in their town, both open to the public and well-advertised, and invite a member of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services’ Solid Waste Technical Assistance Team to speak on the topics of recycling and Pay as You Throw programs in New Hampshire.

\*\*for more information see the NH DES Solid Waste Report to the Legislature 2006 (the 2007 version will come out in October)

\*\*Contact Donald E Maurer, Supervisor, Solid Waste Technical Assistance, NH Department of Environmental Services. E-mail: [dmaurer@des.state.nh.us](mailto:dmaurer@des.state.nh.us)

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

1<sup>st</sup> resolved adding “be encouraged to” before sponsor.

The resolution was adopted as amended.

**Resolution # 17 – the committee suggested adopting.**  
The resolution was adopted.

**Resolution #18-** the committee suggested adopting.  
The resolution was adopted.

**Resolution #19- Submitted by Hudson Grange #11**  
**Subject: Fish and Game Commission**

Whereas, the Fish and Game Commission currently consists of a person, appointed by the Governor from each county; and  
Whereas, there has been a suggestion that the membership of the Fish and Game Commission be expanded to include a representative of a recognized Conservation Group and one from the OHRV industry; and  
Whereas, some farmland is open space, with game and near recreational areas; **therefore be it Resolved, that** the NH State Grange recommends adding a **member of a** conservation group and a member of the NH Farm Bureau or agricultural community **to the Fish and Game Commission.**

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

3<sup>rd</sup> whereas adding “therefore be it”

1<sup>st</sup> resolved omit “there for” and add “resolved that” before the NH State, add “member of a” before conservation and move “to the Fish and Game Commission” to after community.

The resolution was adopted as amended.

**Resolution #20- Submitted by Hudson Grange #11**  
**Subject: National Energy Policy**

Whereas, it is not clear that the US Government has a clear, specific, comprehensive energy policy; and  
Whereas, neither major party has a detailed, comprehensive energy policy or proposal. Neither party is recommending everything that needs to be included in a comprehensive policy; and  
Whereas, it is clear that we are too dependent on foreign sources of oil for our energy needs; and  
Whereas, many providers of crude oil to the U.S.A. are not friends of the US; and  
Whereas, payment for huge amounts of expensive foreign oil hurts our balance of trade and is a drag on our economy; and  
Whereas, buying our energy needs at home provides for American jobs and helps our economy; and  
Whereas, the sky rocketing demand for crude oil combined with the oligopoly of the OPEC has caused oil prices to dramatically increase, negatively affecting every part of our economy; therefore be it  
Resolved, that the **National** Grange recommends **that** the US **government** adopt a comprehensive energy policy to deal with the high cost of energy, the purchase of foreign oil that is not in our national interest and the depletion of a non renewable energy source; and be it further

Resolved, that the National Grange adopt a policy that includes:

1. Drilling in existing oil lease areas that are economically feasible.
2. Encourage and aid in the economical development and expansion of renewable sources of energy, such as, but not limited to wind, solar, tidal, hydro, geothermal **and biofuels.**
3. Encourage and facilitate the expansion of nuclear energy production.
4. Encourage and facilitate greater conservation of energy in the public and private sectors in numerous ways that are economically achievable and not a burden on our citizens, taxpayers and businesses.
5. **Further expand on the use of natural gas.**
6. **Encourage the expansion of refining capacity.**

The committee suggested amending.

Amended by:

First amendment-

1<sup>st</sup> resolved changing “NH State” to “National” adding “that” before the U.S. adding government after U.S.

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved #2 add “and biofuels”.

Second amendment-

2<sup>nd</sup> resolved add “#5 further expand on the use of natural gas” and add “#6 Encourage expansion of refining capacity”.

The resolution was adopted as amended.

**Resolution #21** was combined with resolution #4.

### **State Officers Reports**

State Master Beth Merrill called upon the State Officers for their annual reports.

State Overseer Jim Tetreault was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of State Overseer**

Worthy Master, Honored Guests, Brother and Sister Patrons:

This is my second report as Overseer of the New Hampshire State Grange. The role of the State Overseer is to give support and advice to the Master when requested. The State Overseer is also asked to represent the State Master at different events when she is unable to attend. This year I had no opportunities to represent the State Master.

The State Overseer is a non-voting member of the State Executive Committee who is able to give input and suggestions on the topic being discussed. The Executive Committee is charged with the responsibility of running the State Grange between State Grange Sessions, so we discuss many topics at these meetings. I have attended these meetings on a regular basis.

This year as State Overseer, I have performed the following duties: I served as Trustee for the New England Grange Building as well as a Trustee for the Northeast Connection, for the planning and execution of National Grange in Connecticut in November. I organized the Degree Day held in Keene on June 21, and I am currently organizing the State Grange's effort to get all of the Granges in New Hampshire current with their non-profit incorporation.

Fraternally,  
Jim Tetreault  
Overseer, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Steward Chris Heath was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of State Steward**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Pink Sash Family, Delegates, Brother and Sister Patrons:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you my second report as your Steward. At the end of last year's State Session, my assistants and I, with the help of Mark Collins, returned the equipment of the New Hampshire State Grange to the State Grange Building in Hooksett. Delicate care was taken to return all the equipment to the small room where it is stored. I would like to thank Mark Collins for all the hard work he has contributed. Without his help in transporting the equipment, I would have had much more work to do. As State Steward, I have attended many Grange events over the last year which include, but are not limited to: Northeast Leaders Conference, Spring Fling, Go to Church Sunday at Cathedral of the Pines, Maine/New Hampshire Night and Neighbors Night at John F. Hill Grange in Eliot, Maine.

Due to a trip to Florida in the past two weeks, I was unable to help load the equipment for State Session this year. I want to thank my assistants and Mark Collins for performing this duty. I would also like to thank Wilber Heath for sitting in for me at Sixth Degree rehearsal. I want to thank Mark and Diane Collins and my assistants for making sure this process went off without a

problem. I was able to be here Thursday morning to set up the meeting room and provide State Flora with assistance in setting up part of her Court.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher Heath  
Steward, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Assistant Steward Matt Clark was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of State Assistant Steward**

Worthy Master, National Representatives, Pink Sash Family, Brothers and Sisters All:

This was a year of great sadness with the passing of outstanding Grangers and friends in our lives. However, it was a year of great joy with the birth of our son Trevor Matthew on May 23. This makes our Worthy Chaplain's fifth great-grandchild with the sixth on the way, due May 21. That's right, my wife Lynn and I are expecting again.

Like many of my fellow officers, I have done my best to travel to events throughout the year. However, like many, our travels have been cut back due to the outstanding high gas prices. I would like to thank the delegates and officers for allowing me to serve as your Assistant Steward and I look forward to future service.

Fraternally submitted,  
Matthew Clark  
Assistant Steward, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Lady Assistant Steward Jane Trombi was called upon to give her report.

### **Report of State Lady Assistant Steward**

It doesn't seem possible that I am already giving you my second report as your Lady Assistant Steward. It has been a busy year in the Grange and in the lives of my family. It's been a year of difficult times and a year of exciting times.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the Northeast Leader's Conference in January, having the opportunity to participate in some very inspiring workshops by our National Master Ed Luttrell and National Membership Development Director Rusty Hunt. Following the Conference, many of us went to the State Grange Building to meet again with Ed and Rusty.

The Spring Fling Grange Month Kickoff was an awesome event organized by our State Master Beth Merrill. I enjoyed being at the workshops and felt they were very worthwhile and informative.

With my husband Bob in charge of Family Weekend, I helped with the planning and implementation of the event and also planned and prepared the dinner on Saturday night along with the help of Grange friends.

I had the pleasure of attending some Granges' Community Award Nights, Jaffrey Grange's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and participating in the Degree Day. I especially was pleased to be witness to the presentation of Peterborough Grange's Charter by our State Master Beth Merrill. It's not every day that you get to witness such an event.

In closing, I want to thank the delegate body for giving me this opportunity to serve as your Lady Assistant Steward and I look forward to the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Trombi  
Lady Assistant Steward, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Chaplain Hugh Clark was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of the State Chaplain**

Worthy State Master, State Officers, National Representatives, Brother and Sister Patrons:

It seems like only a few weeks ago that I stood before you giving you last year's report. Time flies when you're having fun! This past year has been a normal year for me.

I had the honor of conducting a Memorial Service for Brother John West and Sister Maxrene Patten; both will be greatly missed. I continue to send cards to people of the Grange who are in the hospital or to families who have lost loved ones to the Great Grange Above. The New England Grange Go to Church Sunday service at the Cathedral of the Pines was well attended, even though we had to hold it inside because of rain.

My wife and I have been invited to attend the Host Banquet at National Grange on November 10, to sit at the head table and offer the invocation before the meal. I consider this a real honor to represent New Hampshire Grange at this event.

I would like to wish the State Master and all of the Officers and Committee members a successful session.

In Christ's service,  
Hugh V. Clark  
Chaplain, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Gatekeeper Ann Leger was called upon to give her report.

### **Report of the State Gatekeeper**

Worthy Master, State Officers, Honored Guests, Delegates and Grange friends all:

I come before you with another year of learning and experience under my belt. The challenges have been a little different, but oddly, the same.

I still believe that it is the duty and responsibility of any State Officer to uphold and promote the precepts and traditions of the Order. It is also our responsibility to make the State Grange a personal reality to Subordinate Granges. I have tried to accomplish this by making as many visitations in the northern part of the state as possible, listening to and responding to their thoughts, opinions and questions on a personal level.

Specific to the duties of this office are: attendance at as many State functions as possible, attendance at all formal Sixth Degree events; welcoming those who attend. Part of the duties of the Gatekeeper are monitoring the display rooms at State Session, working with the Session Coordinator and acting as liaison between department heads and the Events Coordinator of the hotel.

I also feel that it is part of the job to be available to help where needed. This year, I was privileged to assist Mark Collins, Worthy Flora and Lady Assistant Steward Jane Trombi in setting up Flora's Court. I'd forgotten more than I remembered about pipes, curtains and wires! I was also delighted to fill a last-minute vacancy on the Fifth Degree 'All Star' Team for Rachel Bailey.

Many thanks to Dan and Kim Bascom, as well as Katie Notartomaso, the Events Coordinator for the Courtyard Marriott, and her fantastic and personable maintenance crew, Nancy Roberts and others, for making this job easier and so much fun!

Respectfully submitted,  
C. Ann Leger  
Gatekeeper, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Ceres Kathy Yardley was called upon to give her report.

### **Report of State Ceres**

Once again it has been a pleasure to serve this year as Ceres of the NH State Grange, and again it has been a year of several 'firsts' for me. This past spring I had a possible once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in the organization of a new Grange in Peterborough. I helped the State Master with the obligation ceremony and the election of four officers. I returned to visit Peterborough Grange this fall, and what a great group of people they have grown into! They are friendly, enthusiastic, creative Grangers who all share a common bond in their love of agriculture and the concept of sustainability. Grange gave them exactly what they were looking for in an organized group. Not knowing anything about Grange prior to becoming one has allowed them to be creative with the structure of their meetings while still remaining a traditional Grange, complete with all of the ritual. I look forward to watching them grow as a Grange.

In May, I participated in the Revitalization of Granges Leadership Training Workshop weekend with National Membership Development Director Rusty Hunt. I feel confident that the skills I and the other 19 Grangers learned during the event will serve the NH State Grange well in the coming years. I believe it is our duty to help any of our Subordinate and Pomona Granges who want and need help in growing their Granges.

In June I also took part in the Degree Day in Keene. Coming from an action Grange which has adopted an alternative meeting structure, it was fun to be a part of the ritual that I don't get to see very often anymore.

I attended and participated in the State Grange Talent Contest, and I am proud to be representing New Hampshire next month at National Convention in Connecticut.

I attended Jaffrey Grange's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting last week and played my hand bell solo for their program.

I have also coordinated the State Grange Celebration Banquet again this year. I hope you ordered your tickets; I look forward to seeing you there!

Fraternally submitted,  
Kathy Yardley  
Ceres, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Pomona Rachel Bailey was called upon to give her report.

### **Report of State Pomona**

Worthy Master, National Delegates, Brothers and Sisters all;

It is my pleasure to give my second annual report as Pomona of the NH State Grange. Last year, I spoke of tradition and the need for us to continue our teachings through our ritualism and degree work. This year, my largest and most challenging task from our Worthy Master was to put together a team of 5<sup>th</sup> Degree All-Stars who would exemplify the 5<sup>th</sup> degree on Friday, October



24<sup>th</sup> at the annual session. A second part of this challenge was to incorporate each of the 12 Pomona Granges left in the state. This proved to be much more difficult a task than I had anticipated and took nearly two months to complete. The end result was a team that consisted of members from ten different Pomona Granges. This was a daunting task, but one that I did gladly to help promote our traditions. Perhaps next year, all 12 Pomona Granges will be able to participate in a task like this.

Fraternally,  
Rachel Bailey  
Pomona, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Flora Diane Collins was called upon to give her report.

### **State Flora's Report**

Worthy Master,

I am pleased to present my first report as NH State Grange Flora.

As Flora, I did attend the February Youth Rally, Spotlight NH and part of Family Weekend. I also attended Antrim Grange's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At the Spring Fling I attended one of many meetings as one of the Trustees of the Trust.

I was able to visit only a few Granges due to my erratic work schedule. For those of you who do not know, last year was not only my first year as Flora, but it also was my first year as a Registered Nurse. I also became a grandmother this year, with the birth in July of Adelyne Rose Safford, Anne-Marie's daughter. In this last month I have also had the extra worry of my mom being in the hospital down in Florida, and me not being able to go there to try and help. Then there was this very beautiful wedding, just two weeks ago, of my son Matthew and his fiancée Sara Quintin.

As Flora, I went to the State Grange Building to take a visual inventory of what we had for supplies and decorations. It was decided that the old curtain needed to be replaced; so we replaced it, and many of you noticed at the Degree last night that the new one is beautiful.

Thanks to some very organized past Floras; there is a detailed inventory of items, which was helpful in planning the decoration of the Court.

At this time I would like to thank my husband for his support and unwavering confidence in my ability to fulfill my obligations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Collins  
Flora, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Musician Lester Gibbs was called upon to give his report.

### **Report of State Musician**

Worthy Master, Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Brothers and Sisters:

Once again it has been a privilege to serve as your State Musician and represent New Hampshire at the National Grange Session as Pianist for the Memorial Service presented by National Chaplain John West, and to assist as rehearsal pianist for the Seventh Degree.

Since my last report, I have assisted State Chaplain Hugh Clark at the New England Go-to-Church Service at Cathedral of the Pines, and assisted State Lecturer Marie Hall with the New Hampshire Program at Northeast Lecturers' Conference in Farmington, Maine. On a sad note, I also attended the Grange Service and Funeral Service for Past State Master and National Grange Chaplain John West.

Invited to attend the anniversary of Antrim Grange, I served as Pianist for the meeting. With a change in employment, I hope to be able to participate in more Grange functions.

Thank you, Worthy Master, for giving me the opportunity to serve the New Hampshire State Grange as your Musician.

Lester Gibbs  
Musician, NH State Grange

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

The results of the Gingerbread Pomona Baking Contest were announced:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Frances Pepau, Upper Coos Pomona
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sherrill Bokousky, Hillsborough County Pomona
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Donald Marr, Northern NH Pomona

State Master Beth Merrill called for a recess at 12:00 Noon.

### **Saturday Afternoon Session, October 25, 2008**

The State Grange was called back to order at 1:30 p.m.

State Steward, Chris Heath announced that Terry Knowles, Assistant Director of the Charitable Trusts Division, NH Dept. of Justice was our special guest and in waiting. Terry Knowles presented a vitally important workshop on "Is My Grange Compliant with Current NH Laws & Regulations?"

State Master, Beth Merrill called the State Grange back to order to complete the Election of Officers and Resolutions.

State Master, Beth Merrill asked for Ruth Holmes, Master of Peterborough Grange to be escorted to the Master's Station. State Master, Beth Merrill presented Ruth Holmes with an Out of Her Comfort Zone Award.

State Master, Beth Merrill asked the Assistants to escort Past State Lecturer, Marion T. Jones to the altar. State Master, Beth Merrill Marion T. Jones with her 75-year National Grange Membership Award Letter. Marion T. thanked the Grange for all of her wonderful memories over the years.

State Master, Beth Merrill asked Pat Bailey, chairman of the Credentials Committee to be presented to the Secretary's station to give her report.

### **Report of the Credentials Committee**

Worthy State Master, Honored Guests, Pink Sash Members and Grangers:

The report of the Credentials Committee is as follows:

#### **TOTAL OF VOTING DELEGATES**

Masters	29
Wives of Masters	5

Husbands of Masters	4
Delegates	45
<b>Total of Delegates</b>	<b>83</b>
State Officers	18 out of 19
Deputies	15 out of 17
Committee Members	38 out of 50
Non-delegates	38
Special Guests	2

The members of the Credentials Committee thank you for the privilege of serving for the 2008 State Session.

Fraternally,  
 Pat Bailey, Chair  
 Frances Everard  
 Shelley Huntoon  
 Hannah West

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

State Master, Beth Merrill dismissed the members of the Credentials Committee and thanked them for their hard work.

State Master, Beth Merrill called for a recess at 5:21pm. Since all of the session's business has not yet been completed the State Grange will reconvene after the conclusion of the State Grange Banquet.

**Saturday Evening, October 25, 2008  
 NH State Grange Celebration Dinner**

The 69<sup>th</sup> Annual New Hampshire State Grange Banquet was held at 6:00pm. A delicious dinner was served by Courtyard Marriott.

State Master, Beth Merrill welcomed all who came to the banquet. State Master, Beth Merrill introduced our guest dignitaries, Nancy and Jeff Swainston. Beth presented the Swainston's with a gift bag of NH products. Jeff Swainston gave pleasant remarks on behalf of Nancy and himself.

State Master, Beth Merrill introduced State Grange Family and Community Director, Nancy Bean, whose committee members presented the 200 Year Farm Award to John Hodsdon from the Picnic Rock Farm. John was unable to be present at the banquet but Rodney and Shelley Huntoon will deliver John's award to him.

The Young Farmer of the Year Award was presented to Fred and Matt Morrill from Pleasant Valley Grange.

The Educator of the Year Award was presented to Janet Lemire.

The Fire Fighter of the Year Award was given to Brad Ober.

The Police Officer of the Year Award went to Kevin Sullivan.

The State Police Trooper of the Year Award was presented to Sherry Vestal.

State Lecturer Marie Hall was called upon to present this year's Best of Show Talent winner, Kathy Yardley who will be going on to National Grange Session in Connecticut this coming November. Kathy Yardley delighted the audience with her playing of hand bells as her talent. State Lecturer Marie Hall presented Kathy Yardley with a gift of money to help defray her expenses to National Session. Marie Hall then presented the winners of the State Lecturer's

Photo Contest. "What Am I?" Photo was correctly guessed by Stephanie Lambert and the "Where Am I?" Photo was won by Nancy Swainston. Each winner was presented with a camera.

State Legislative Director Jim Tetreault presented his Legislative Awards. This year's Legislator of the Year Award was presented to Representative David Hess.

The Junie Blaisdell Award for Excellence in Government was presented to Terry Norelli, NH Speaker of the House.

The 2008 Outstanding Legislative Award went to Robert Haefner of Hudson.

The Robert Bodwell Award was presented to Antrim Grange #98.

Chris Heath announced the winners of the Pumpkin decorating contest –		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Marion Woodworth	Rochester Grange
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Marlene Hewes	Daniel Webster Grange
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary West	Chichester Grange

Saturday's 50/50 Raffle was won by Sherry Vestal, our State Trooper of the Year.

State Master Beth Merrill called the Grange back to order at 9:18pm to finish the work of the 135<sup>th</sup> State Session.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Daniel Bascom, Chairman of the Executive Committee, to present the proposed State Grange budget for the delegates to consider. After some discussion a motion was made by Gloria Davis and seconded by Chris Heath to accept the 2008 – 2009 budget as presented. The motion passed in the affirmative.

The Report of the 501c3 Committee was brought back to the floor for approval. A motion was made by Matt Clark and seconded by Diane Collins to allow the State Master and Executive Committee to appoint a Board of Directors to the 501c3 Committee. This proposal was amended on a motion by Jerry Leclerc and seconded by Jim Rice to have the State Master and Executive Committee appoint a Board of Directors to establish ground work for the 501c3 Committee to report at the next State Session. This motion was accepted by the delegates. State Master, Beth Merrill then dismissed the 501c3 Committee with thanks for all of their hard work.

Pomona Study Committee – All Pomona Youth, Junior, Membership, Grange Services, Family & Community Chairmen and Lecturer's will form this year's State Committees. A motion was made by Sandra Bokousky and seconded by Matt Clark to adopt the Pomona Study Committee's report. The motion was accepted in the affirmative. A motion was then made by Anne Boisvert and seconded by Jane Heath to request the State Master put together a Committee to work on the social aspect of the Study Committee's report. The motion was accepted in the affirmative. The State Lecturer's Department will take on the responsibility to make Pomona's more desirable with good programming.

State Master Beth Merrill called upon Sandra Bokousky, Chairman of the Master's Address Committee to give her report.

### **MASTER'S ADDRESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Worthy Master, National representatives, State Officers and Patrons:

We present the following response to the address of NH State Grange Master, Sister Beth Merrill.

We begin by commending the Worthy Master for her dedication to our good Grange works. Her extensive travel and attendance at so many functions makes us proud to have such an enthusiastic representative for our state and our organization as a whole. And we are very proud to be able to claim the Worthy Master as one of our representatives on the National level serving as the National Lady Assistant Steward.

The committee believes the Grange should still maintain some of the older ways of communication like regular mailings that don't have to be printed from your personal computer. While we applaud the Worthy Master for making use of all the technological advances available to help better communicate with our members, we still feel that we must be sensitive to those not ready or able to jump on board as technology is only a tool not a solution. The availability of a free website for every Grange is an exciting new development that may help us to put a new and fresher face on the Grange for others to see. We encourage every Grange to designate someone to maintain the website's content and keep it relevant to their community while providing timely communication to its members.

We challenge each Grange in NH to provide its members with a program surrounding Industrial Hemp in the coming year, and we encourage them to invite their communities to share in this learning experience as well.

The Worthy Master highlighted an issue many wouldn't consider had they not been to the Big E and seen the present condition of the "NH Room" which is supposed to be one of our marketing tools to such a diverse crowd of people from so many different communities. We support the Worthy Master's recommendation that a committee be formed to update the condition of this unique space and even suggest that new forms of technology be incorporated in its new look as useful tools to communicate our purpose.

We are grateful to the Worthy Master for her efforts to enact discussion and possible decisions surrounding the issues of our Pomona Granges. We are looking forward to the report of this committee and its recommendations.

The Worthy Master's concern for the decline in Youth attendance at Grange functions is shared by this committee. Adults and youth alike must choose how to spend their time and the Grange is but one of many priorities on our plates. Without the Youth and Junior membership growing alongside our current leaders who will be our future leaders? We whole heartedly support the organization of a State Junior Grange and see it as an opportunity to increase involvement and membership with more access to programs and activities.

The closing of a Grange is always a sad event. We do not wish to tell those struggling with such a decision what to do, but we do strongly urge that before making that decision your membership talks with the Worthy Master and gain assistance from the State Grange surrounding the continuation of your community Grange work. We support the recommendation of re-educating our members in the bylaws of the Grange. We agree that reading and clarifying a portion of the rules of our order at each meeting is a realistic way to achieve such a goal.

"Peterborough Grange" has become a new buzz word with the amount of excitement surrounding the organization of a new Grange in our state. While Peterborough Grange chose to organize themselves, it is the Worthy Master that should be commended for spreading such good Grange spirit and holding out that welcoming hand of membership to our new friends. We agree that the times they are a changing and families will soon see the Grange as THE place to be if only we are diligent enough to step outside our comfort zones and show them what we have to offer.

Thank you Worthy Master for the privilege of serving on this committee.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sandra Bokousky, Chairman  
Jean Abbott  
Alice Tuck  
Steve Hewes  
Jerry Leclerc

A motion was made by Arthur Merrill and seconded by Gloria Davis to accept the Master's Address Committee Report. The vote was in the affirmative.

The report was accepted and ordered printed in the Journal.

Past State Master Paul Davis was called upon for remarks to the assembly.

State Master Beth Merrill acknowledged the work done by Sherrill Bokousky who headed up the hospitality room. Don't forget to fill out the evaluations regarding the Annual State Session.

A motion was made by Arthur Merrill and seconded by Alice Tuck for the Executive Committee to approve the minutes of Saturday's and Sunday's meetings. So voted.

State Master Beth Merrill closed the third day of the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Session at 10:55pm.

### **Sunday Morning Session – October 25, 2008**

State Chaplain Hugh Clark conducted an inspirational Church Service at 9:00am.

#### **Church Service**

Hymn – Will There Be Any Stars  
Prayer – Hugh Clark  
Message – Hugh Clark  
Solo – The Savor is Waiting  
Announcement  
Hymn – We've A Story to Tell  
Closing Prayer - Hugh Clark

State Master Beth Merrill introduced James Owens, Master of the Maine State Grange and his installing suite who installed the officers of the New Hampshire State Grange:

Master	Beth Merrill
Overseer	James Tetreault
Lecturer	Marie Hall
Steward	Chris Heath
Assistant Steward	Arthur Merrill
Lady Assistant Steward	Jane Trombi
Chaplain	Matthew Clark
Treasurer	Gail Turcotte
Secretary	Carolyn Ross
Gatekeeper	Ann Leger
Ceres	Kathy Yardley
Pomona	Rachel Bailey
Flora	Diane Collins
Executive Committee (3 yrs)	Daniel Bascom
Executive Committee (3 yrs)	Mark Collins
Executive Committee (1 yr)	Hannah West

Assisting in the installation of officers were:

Installing Master	Terry Spencer	Gatekeeper Maine State Grange
Installing Chaplain	Lynda Labree	Lecturer's Committee, Maine State Grange
Marshall	Harriet Spencer	Deputy, Maine State Grange,
Regalia Bearer	Mary Thomas	Junior Deputy, Maine State Grange,
Emblem Bearer	Louise Kilponen	
Musician	Lester Gibbs	Musician, NH State Grange
Soloists	Louis Bryson	Community Service, Maine State Grange
	Sharon Manley	Secretary, Maine State Grange.

State Master Beth Merrill presented Jim Owens with a token of her appreciation for coming down to NH to install the officers.

State Master Beth Merrill announced that Brother Hugh Clark was appointed Chaplain Emeritus.

State Master Beth Merrill introduced several new members of her administration: Donald Ross, Chairman of the State Grange Executive Committee, Wilber and Jane Heath, Co-Chairman of the Family and Community Committee, Rhonda Lambert, Junior Director and Anne and Marty Boisvert, State Grange Building Coordinators.

Matt Clark has been appointed to fill the vacancy created by the passing of Brother John West on the New England Grange Building Board of Trustees.

State Master Beth Merrill closed the Sunday morning session at 11:16am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn J. Ross, Secretary  
New Hampshire State Grange

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	
SUBORDINATE GRANGE	No.	8/30/2007	8/30/2008	Net Chg	GSE	EGS	NE	Real Estate	Property	Treasury	Other	Total	Dues	Uncol'd	Mtgs Held	Avg Attend	Notes
1	Antirum	98	27	39	12	3	1	\$67,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$6,741.29	\$0.00	\$68,141.29	\$20.00	\$480.00	13	10	
2	Arlington	139	28	29	1	7	0	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$6,792.22	\$0.00	\$7,292.22	\$20.00	\$0.00	9	9	9 \$2792.22 in escrow by NH State Grange
3	Ashuelot	128	14	14	0	2	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,575.08	\$0.00	\$1,575.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	10	4	
4	Baker's River	260	29	27	(2)	10	7	\$31,200.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,060.93	\$0.00	\$37,760.93	\$20.00	\$20.00	16	13	
5	Blackwater	152	48	49	1	11	10	\$0.00	\$3,700.00	\$18,199.73	\$0.00	\$21,899.73	\$5.00	\$0.00	8	10	\$90,486 in escrow by NH State Grange
6	Blazing Star	71	66	53	(13)	12	4	\$180,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,860.00	\$5,000.00	\$189,860.00	\$20.00	\$140.00	20	9	
7	Centennial	185	25	25	0	9	1	\$42,900.00	\$4,300.00	\$1,456.28	\$0.00	\$48,656.28	\$25.00	\$175.00	10	9	
8	Chichester	132	60	55	(5)	24	9	\$0.00	\$4,736.00	\$1,951.19	\$0.00	\$10,604.83	\$25.00	\$0.00	18	19	
9	Cocheco	81	39	31	(8)	12	1	\$60,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$795.15	\$0.00	\$64,295.15	\$10.00	\$0.00	8	14	
10	Conchook	216	31	26	(5)	4	3	\$237,400.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,224.00	\$1,107.00	\$242,731.00	\$20.00	\$120.00	11	8	
11	Crown Point	65	44	42	(2)	20	7	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$10,952.87	\$60.84	\$12,513.71	\$16.00	\$0.00	11	9	
12	Daniel Webster	100	65	62	(3)	16	7	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,163.53	\$0.00	\$6,163.53	\$20.00	\$240.00	8	11	
13	Dorchester	280	14	12	(2)	1	0	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.62	\$17,062.00	\$19,062.62	\$10.00	\$10.00	8	8	
14	Gilman	1	36	35	(1)	9	2	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,796.04	\$0.00	\$4,512.32	\$18.50	\$74.00	14	14	8 ? Held in escrow by NH State Grange
15	Golden Rod	114	34	32	(2)	10	3	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,012.32	\$0.00	\$4,512.32	\$18.50	\$74.00	3	8	8 \$9,000 in escrow by NH State Grange
16	Granite	7	76	62	(14)	19	8	\$298.64	\$0.00	\$1,308.02	\$0.00	\$1,606.66	\$20.00	\$0.00	8	10	
17	Granite State	149	31	29	(2)	10	0	\$270,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$184.17	\$0.00	\$273,184.17	\$20.00	\$60.00	10	7	
18	Halestown	287	21	18	(3)	1	1	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$21,270.68	\$0.00	\$22,270.68	\$8.00	\$0.00	17	4	
19	Halloween	317	15	15	0	4	1	\$120,100.00	\$2,000.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$122,200.00	\$21.00	\$0.00	12	3	
20	Hampton Falls	137	61	56	(5)	12	4	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,787.40	\$228.02	\$7,015.42	\$17.00	\$0.00	18	18	
21	Harmony	99	55	54	(1)	11	3	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,300.28	\$0.00	\$5,300.28	\$18.00	\$162.00	8	20	
22	Henry Wilson	205	34	34	0	3	1	\$24,600.00	\$0.00	\$2,674.28	\$0.00	\$27,274.28	\$20.00	\$0.00	7	17	
23	Hokesett	148	31	29	(2)	13	2	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$760.78	\$22,678.96	\$24,769.74	\$8.00	\$136.00	12	11	
24	Hudson	11	34	35	1	9	3	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$21,025.08	\$0.00	\$22,225.08	\$20.00	\$180.00	16	14	\$34,568.50 in escrow by NH State Grange
25	Jaffrey	135	26	24	(2)	14	2	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,825.40	\$0.00	\$2,825.40	\$10.00	\$0.00	7	13	
26	Jeremiah Smith	161	31	28	(3)	7	2	\$301,600.00	\$40,000.00	\$14,200.41	\$500.11	\$356,300.52	\$18.00	\$0.00	19	9	\$27,088.83 in escrow by NH State Grange
27	Joe English	53	37	33	(4)	8	0	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$7,481.39	\$102.23	\$12,583.62	\$18.00	\$0.00	18	14	
28	Lake Shore	128	15	13	(2)	2	0	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$25,825.21	\$10.28	\$26,335.49	\$5.00	\$25.00	8	3	\$34,000 in escrow by NH State Grange
29	Lower Intervale	321	32	31	(1)	10	0	\$28,500.00	\$2,200.00	\$1,802.51	\$0.00	\$33,502.51	\$20.00	\$52.00	12	12	
30	Meriden	151	20	20	0	2	3	\$62,900.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$63,900.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	8	9	
31	Mohawk	217	57	59	2	5	3	\$6,789.21	\$3,500.00	\$22,048.02	\$65.94	\$32,401.17	\$16.00	\$32.00	22	18	
32	Mont Calm	70	38	38	0	18	3	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,005.25	\$3.00	\$4,008.25	\$16.00	\$48.00	9	8	\$9704.00 in escrow w/ NH State Grange
33	Moultonborough	197	20	13	(7)	3	2	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,812.91	\$0.00	\$2,812.91	\$18.00	\$96.00	5	5	
34	Mount Hope	77	45	43	(2)	12	6	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$20.00	\$40.00	12	16	
35	Mt. Livermore	288	19	19	0	4	1	\$0.00	\$1,820.07	\$4,261.03	\$7,612.35	\$13,693.45	\$5.00	\$0.00	10	7	
36	Mt. Pistearen	145	31	22	(9)	0	0	\$68,751.00	\$0.00	\$2,940.73	\$0.00	\$71,691.73	\$20.00	\$0.00	9	10	Financial information missing
37	Oak Hill	32	17	15	(2)	3	1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.63	\$0.00	\$900.63	\$16.00	\$0.00	9	4	
38	Oceanside	260	48	45	(3)	26	4	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$232,357.00	\$0.00	\$232,357.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	9	4	
39	Pembroke	111	34	34	0	6	9	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,439.17	\$7,500.00	\$11,939.17	\$20.00	\$40.00	11	11	
40	Peterborough	35	0	26	26	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$592.63	\$0.00	\$592.63	\$20.00	\$0.00	12	20	New Grange
41	Pine Grove	206	47	47	0	7	0	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,427.06	\$2,296.50	\$9,723.56	\$20.00	\$260.00	22	14	
42	Pineconia	322	37	32	(5)	9	6	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,998.97	\$2,617.53	\$6,216.50	\$20.00	\$310.00	15	11	\$27790.38 in escrow w/ NH State Grange
43	Pleasant Valley	272	31	31	0	3	4	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,029.62	\$14,500.00	\$26,529.62	\$20.00	\$0.00	4	12	
44	Prentice Hill	257	24	24	0	5	2	\$7,350.00	\$4,209.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,559.60	\$16.00	\$144.00	5	7	
45	Reunion	303	28	21	(8)	11	5	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$3,126.07	\$0.00	\$3,326.07	\$20.00	\$0.00	5	6	
46	Riverside	137	20	18	(2)	7	1	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$284.34	\$0.00	\$2,784.34	\$10.00	\$40.00	0	20	No meetings
47	Rochester	86	73	71	(2)	22	6	\$200,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$18,288.94	\$0.00	\$221,288.94	\$30.00	\$15.00	19	20	
48	Somersworth	264	28	28	1	3	3	\$0.00	\$5,250.00	\$1,638.50	\$0.00	\$6,888.50	\$20.00	\$0.00	19	11	
49	Stratford	238	24	23	(1)	3	2	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$659.17	\$0.00	\$5,659.17	\$20.00	\$272.00	19	9	
50	Sunapee Lake	112	34	32	(2)	8	2	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$893.95	\$39,731.46	\$43,625.43	\$16.00	\$48.00	18	9	
51	Tuftonborough	142	33	33	0	5	1	\$202,600.00	\$0.00	\$8,843.01	\$0.00	\$211,443.01	\$20.00	\$0.00	5	15	



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	
53	Walpole	125	42	46	4	6	2	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$4,583.95	\$2,716.65	\$9,100.80	\$18.50	\$277.50	11	18		
54	Watic	36	14	16	2	1	1	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,602.43	\$0.00	\$2,102.43	\$20.00	\$0.00	6	8		
55	Wattamnick	327	28	28	(2)	7	2	\$114,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$554.06	\$0.00	\$116,554.06	\$18.00	\$72.00	16	9		
56	West Thornton	253	46	45	(1)	14	5	\$17,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,971.49	\$0.00	\$24,971.49	\$10.00	\$210.00	8	8		
57	Wingold	308	65	79	14	32	8	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$11,307.86	\$57.42	\$13,865.08	\$20.00	\$60.00	14	12		
58	Winthrop	315	28	25	(1)	6	5	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$925.86	\$32.05	\$3,957.91	\$20.00	\$0.00	12	12	No information received	
59	Aurora	236	46															No information received
60	Blow-Me-Down	234	21															No information received
61	Brookline-Wilton	211	23															No information received
62	Charlestown	204																No information received
63	Cornish	25	26															No information received
64	Danville	187																Consolidated 11/1/2007 w/ Wingold
65	Fidelity	300	27															No information received
66	Friendship	110	22															No information received
67	Gratton Star	60	49															No information received
68	Londonderry	44	41															No information received
69	Lovell Union																	Closed
70	Miller	34																Closed
71	Oak Hill																	Consolidated w/ Antrim
72	Park	249	26															No information received
73	Purging Beck	268	21															Consolidated with Antrim
74	Riverhill	346	32															Not meeting
75	Rockingham	183	23															No information received
76	Squam Lake	258	36															No information received
77	Starr King	124	38															No information received
78	Sullivan	8	13															No information received
79	Warren Pond	47	17															No information received
80	White Mountain	50	40															No information received
81	Wicwas Lake	292	26															No information received
82	Total	2,520	1924	(65)	501	171		\$2,094,668.85	\$144,915.67	\$521,057.29	\$128,300.00	\$2,898,161.81	\$967.00	\$3,786.50	656	595		No information received
83	Average	32	34					\$99,756.61	\$2,542.35	\$9,141.36	\$2,250.87	\$50,687.05	\$17.32	\$66.46	11.00	10		
84	Granges included in calculation	78	57	57	57	57	57	21	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	56	56	

