

Fundraising Committee Annual Report

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

The Fundraising Committee has had a very successful year. We have held two major fundraisers and have continued to sell an assortment of other items throughout the past year.

Variety Show:

The Variety Show was held on Saturday, April 29 at Topsham Grange. This year we had 15 acts plus a few quick skits. The audience, which consisted mostly of Grange members, seemed to be very entertained. We solicited local businesses for donations for items for a Pick-Your-Prize Raffle and eight businesses donated items. Several of the businesses donated multiple items. Without their generous donations this event would not have been nearly as successful.

Granger members who may live in or are visiting the Topsham, Brunswick area should consider shopping at the following businesses as a thank you for their support:

Business	Location
Maine Street Sweets	Brunswick
Fiore Artisan Olive Oils and Vinegars	Brunswick
Day's Jewelers	Topsham
Tractor Supply Co.	Brunswick
Firehouse Subs	Topsham
Hannaford	Topsham
Tire Warehouse	Topsham
Wal-Mart	Brunswick

Once again one of the highlights had to have been refreshments. Ruby Bryant was again in charge and did a super job. We sold slices of pie and beverages. Everything was delicious and extremely popular.

We decided that at each one of our major fundraisers this year we would donate a portion of the profits to the three scholarship funds of the Maine State Grange; Agriculture, Educational Aid & Howe's Nurses. At this event we also put out jars with each fund's name on it for people to donate directly to each fund as they desired. For this event we donated \$226.83 from the profits, plus another \$70.25 from the jars we put out, for a total of \$297.08. During the evening

we held a 50/50 raffle, Shirley Hatch of Danville Jct. Grange was the winner and donated her winnings to the scholarship funds. All together the Variety Show raised \$706.00.

2018 Variety Show

Sunday April 29, 2018

3pm

Topsham Grange

Pleasant Street - Topsham, Maine

Yard Sale:

The yard sale was held on Saturday June 24 from 9am to 2pm at State Grange Headquarters in Augusta. We again reached out to Grangers to donate gently used items. Members could also rent a table to join us if they wanted to. A big thank you to David & Kathy Gowen of Highland Lake Grange who donated two truckloads of items. Also thanks to Rick Grotton, Greg Rafferty, Jim, Judy & Norma Meserve for traveling to Westbrook and picking up and then bringing the items to Augusta. Numerous other Grangers donated items and all those donations combined made this event a success. With the plans to sell our property in Augusta we also sold many items that have been accumulating over the years such as ballot boxes, staves, rugs etc.

The only problem we encountered was it was lightly raining early that Saturday morning, and we were not able to bring the items outside as planned. This left not enough room to serve lunch as planned and we had skip it this year.

For this event we decided to donate whatever money we raised from table rentals to the scholarship funds, which in this case was \$90.00. Altogether including the table rentals we raised \$660.00

2018 Yard Sale

Saturday June 2, 2018

9am to 2pm

Location: TBD

Agricultural Pride T-Shirts:

The Ag. Pride t-shirts continue to be popular with people. This is one of the items we sell that has the potential to bring in the most money from non-Grange members. The Fundraising Committee will work in the next year to have these shirts available at the AG Trade Show, Agricultural Fairs, and perhaps Farm Days.

Cook Books:

I'm ecstatic to report that two out of three of the cookbooks have been delivered and will be available for sale at State Grange Session this year. They're called "Our Favorite Recipes: Desserts" & "Our Favorite Recipes: Pickles & Preserving" They're going to sell for \$5.00 each or two or more for \$4.00 each. The third in the collection "Our Favorite Recipes: Main Dishes" will be available sometime next year. We strived to make sure everyone was given credit in the cookbooks for the recipes they submitted. Unfortunately, some names became separated from their recipes especially if multiple recipes were submitted. For recipes that we couldn't attributed to someone we wrote Grange Friend for the name. We apologize for inconvenience this may have caused someone.

Other items:

We have continued in the past year to sell candy bars and Grange car magnets. Thank you to all who have picked up something sweet or something to spruce up your car. Every purchase helps in the fundraising efforts of the Maine State Grange. Thank you!

State Session 2017:

We've been working feverishly this past month getting everything ready for State Grange.

- **We've partnered with Monroe Classic an officially licensed Grange supply store. To bring you Grange jewelry, promotional items, baseball hats and more. Stop by and take advantage of this opportunity to pick up of your Grange gear and not have to pay any shipping charge.**
- **We have designed a State Grange Convention pin celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Grange.**
- **As you sit now reading through this detailed and thorough report on a very uncomfortable metal chair, we have the solution to your troubles. We have designed with the help of Kathy Gowen, a chair cushion to help you through the next few days and years after that.**

- Also new this year we will be selling pens at State Grange. These pens are not only pens but stylus as well. Many thanks to Nate Pennell for supplying the pens!

All of the above and more are available at the Fundraising Table!

Financial Activities October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017

Income	
Category	Amount
Candy Bar Sales	\$154.83
Grange Car Magnets	\$66.00
Donations	\$16.65
Pins, Bracelets & Keychains	\$64.25
Ag. T-Shirts	\$220.00
Other T-Shirts	\$10.00
Table Rent – Yard Sale	\$90.00
50/50 Raffle	\$50.00
Raffles	\$386.00
Bake Sale – Yard Sale	65.50
White Elephant – Yard Sale	\$478.50
Variety Show Admission	\$278.00
Note Pads	\$28.75

Misc.	\$110.84
Refreshments – Variety Show	\$117.50
Total	\$2,136.82
Expenses	
Category	Amount
Promotion	\$297.33
Candy Bars to Resell	\$41.21
Operations Cost - Stamps	\$12.25
Total	\$350.79
Profit: \$1786.03*	

*Profit number does not include the cost of items to resell that were authorized by the
Maine State Grange Executive Committee

Goals for 2018:

For 2018 we will finish our cookbook project with the publishing of our third cookbook, “Our Favorite Recipes: Main Dishes”. I have a target date to have this completed in the spring of next year. The other item we will do is a Grange promotional t-shirt. Members have been asking for them, and we will fill the demand. Stay tuned for further developments with these and future projects.

Conclusion:

I believe that we are in great position to have a great fundraising year for 2018. We have the products that we know will sell, cookbooks, Ag. Pride t-shirts, etc. The key to having a truly terrific year next year I believe is to get these items into the agricultural

fairs in 2018. We already have some connections to the fairs, let's try to use them to get our items into the fairs.

Thank You:

The fundraising efforts of the Maine State Grange is truly a team effort, and everyone has contributed in some way. My committee has worked very hard this past year and I think the numbers show it. I couldn't have done this without all of them, I'm extremely grateful for all of their help. The members of the committee are:

Norma Meserve, Danville Jct. Grange

Ruby Bryant, Alder River Grange

Nathan Pennell, Jacksonville Grange

Merton Ricker, Topsham Grange

Sharon Morton, Willow Grange

Special thanks also go to Maynard & Gladys Chapman of Danville Jct. Grange who contributed significantly to each of our events we held. I also want to thank my roommate Norma Meserve. From the beginning of this adventure Norma has helped me figure out the details of each event, and made sure I got out of bed to get what I needed to get accomplished done.

I would also like to thank Master Rick Grotton, and Overseer Sherry Harriman for the continued confidence in me. They're always there for support and council when needed. They also let me step out of the "box" when I have a new idea.

Finally, thank you to all the members who have supported these fundraising efforts over the past year; from buying chocolate bars, to attending the variety show, donating and shopping at the yard sale etc. United together for a common goal we can and will accomplish great things in the realm of fundraising in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Haycock, Chairman

Fundraising Committee,

Maine State Grange