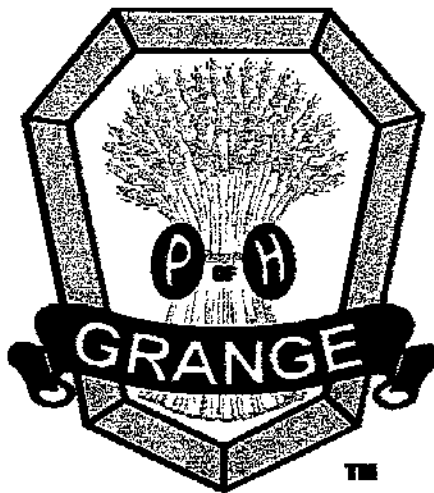


**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED FORTY THIRD
ANNUAL CONVENITON**

Maine State Grange

P of H

1874 – 2016



October 20, 21, 22, 2016

Skowhegan Community Recreational Center

Skowhegan, Maine

Organized April 21, 1874

**ROLL OF HONOR
PAST MASTERS OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE**

	Organization to December 1877
*Nelson Ham	
*Daniel H. Thing	1877 to 1881
*Frederick Robie	1881 to 1889
*Rufus Prince	1889 to 1891
*Martin B. Hunt	1891 to 1893
*Edward Wiggin	1893 to 1897
*Obadiah Gardiner	1897 to 1907
*Clement S. Stetson	1907 to 1915
*William J. Thompson	1915 to 1923
*John E. Abbott	1923 to 1929
*Harry B. Crawford	1929 to 1935
*F. Ardine Richardson	1935 to 1943
*E. Carroll Bean	1943 to 1949
*Lewis C. Guptill	1949 to 1953
*Maynard C. Dolloff	1953 to 1961
*J. Merrill Hatch	1961 to 1965
*Arthur M. Perkins	1965 to 1969
*James E. Shores	1969 to 1977
*Curtis Lombard	1977 to 1985
**Clyde G. Berry	1985 to 1997
Philip A. Herbert	1997 to 2001
**Steven Verrill	2001 to 2007
** James A. Owens	2007 to 2011
Patrick Brewer	2011 to 2013
**Victoria Huff	2013 to 2015
** Richard Grotton	2015 to

***Deceased**

****Present during the Session**

**OFFICERS OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE
FOR THE YEAR 2016**

Master – Richard Grotton	Monmouth
Overseer – Sherry Harriman	Sanford
Lecturer – Kathy Lorrain	Poland
Steward – Adrian Griffin	Scarborough
Assistant Steward – Clyde Berry	Winslow
Lady Assistant Steward – Roberta Meserve	Raymond
Chaplain – Dolores Moore	Holden
Treasurer – James Owens	Madison
Secretary – Sharon Morton	Windsor
Gate Keeper – Terry Spencer	Smithfield
Ceres – Gladys Chapman	Lewiston
Pomona – Laurie McBurnie	Nobleboro
Flora – Debra Ivers	

Executive Committee

Glenys Ryder	Auburn
Stephen Call	Levant
James Meserve	Farmingdale
Victoria Huff	So. Portland

Musician

Merton Ricker	Lisbon Falls
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Soloist

Margaret Morse	Eliot
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WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Karen Flagg Danville Junction 65
Esther Shores Benton #458 Margaret Henderson Seven Star 73
Ruby Parker Menahga 555 Debra Ivers Highland Lake 87
Gladys Chapman Danville Junction 65

CREDENTIALS, SIXTH DEGREE

Mavis Lane North Jay Sandra Moon Old Town-Riverside
Terry Lacombe Hudson

AGRICULTURE

Robert & Agnes Nelson Knox Station
Steven & Susanne Verrill Excelsior William & Ann Rust White Rock
William & Shirley Hatch Danville Junction Wilma Grenier Fairview
Rance & Eleanor Pooler Bingham George & Glenda Barker Mystic Valley
Carl & Sandra Moon Old Town-Riverside James Rogers Chelsea
Sharon Morton Willow

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Family Health & Hearing
Christine Corliss Riverside
Dawn Corliss Saco Cassie Corliss Riverside
Stephen Call Minerva

EDUCATIONAL AID & HOWES NURSES SCHOLARSHIP TRUSTEES

Gerald Libby Farmington Glenys Ryder Danville Junction
J. Patrick Elwell Fairview Stanley Howe Alder River
Gladys Chapman Danville Junction Richard Grotton Meenahga
Kathy Lorrain Danville Junction

LEGISLATIVE

James & Mary Annis Valley
David Parkman Branch Mills Stanley Howe Alder River
Steven Haycock Danville Junction Keith Blackwell Bingham
James Owens Bingham

JUNIOR

Christine Hebert Norway
Laurie McBurnie Meenahga Norma Meserve Danville Junction
Judy Meserve Chelsea Michelle Worthley Pioneer
Bobby Faulkner Danville Junction CJ Roy Enterprise 48
Karen Flagg Danville Junction Roberta Meserve Danville Junction
Kathleen Gowen Highland Lake Daniel Corliss Riverside

YOUTH

Christine Colson Benton
Terry Spencer Bingham

MAINE STATE GRANGE
ANNUAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 20 – 22, 2016
SKOWHEGAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Thursday, October 20

8:00 A.M.

Set up for the Session

10:00 A. M.

Registration

1:00 P.M.

Opening in the Sixth Degree

The first day of the 143rd Annual Session was called to order by Chief Deputy, Maynard Chapman, with the presentation of the Officers of the Maine State Grange and then opened in full form in the Sixth Degree by Worthy Master, Richard Grotton.

Roll call found the following Officers/Directors/Chairmen absent:
Lecturer: Ruby Bryant pro-tem; Ag Director: Robert Nelson; Educational Aid & Howes Nurses Scholarship Trustees: Stanley Howe; Kathy Lorrain; Gerald Libby and J. Patrick Elwell; Historian: Stanley Howe and Membership Director Kay Khalvati.

At this time the Worthy Master lowered to the Fourth Degree for all delegates to attend.

Presentation of National Representatives

Susan Noah Pomona of the National Grange and Master of the Oregon State Grange and Brother Mark Noah were our honored guests and escorted to the Masters station.

Sister Noah brought greetings from the National Grange. Brother Mark also had a few remarks. Our State Master fulfilled Sister Noah's wildest wishes of becoming a princess by presenting her with a tiara.

Communications

A letter of resignation, dated October 16, 2016, received from Kathy Lorrain was read and accepted with regrets.

Report of Credential Committee

Mavis Lane, Chairman, of the Credential Committee, gave a partial report with 47 Subordinate Granges represented with 80 voting delegates and 15 Pomona Granges represented with 26 voting delegates with a total of 106 total voting delegates.

Formal Presentation of the Deputies

The Deputies of the Maine State Grange were introduced and given their assignments for the session. A round of applause was given to each of these dedicated members of our Order.

Chief Deputy Maynard Chapman
Androscoggin #1 Chief Deputy Maynard Chapman
Cumberland #15 David Gowen
Cumberland and Oxford Union #21 Glenn Haines
East Kennebec #24 Allison Colson
Excelsior #5 Robert Smith
Green Mountain #26 Lillian Leighton
Hancock # 13
Lincoln #19 Henry Morton, Jr.
Oxford #2 Peter Hammond
Penobscot #8 Phillip Parsons
Piscataquis #11 William Bemis
Sagadahoc #9 Benjamin Edgerly
Somerset #6 Harriet Spencer
Waldo #14 Lois Zezima
Washington #16 Nathan Pennell
West Washington #18 Nathan Pennell
York #14 Margaret Morse

**Distribution of Order of Business
Acceptance of the Order of Business
Report of the Auditor
Report of Secretary**

Report of the Auditor*

**TABBUTT'S BOOKKEEPING SERVICE
146 STATE STREET
AUGUSTA ME 04330**

October 17, 2016

Worthy Master, Other Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange:

I have completed a preliminary examination of the books and records of the Maine State Grange for the fiscal year October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. In my opinion the accompany statements fairly reflect the financial activity of the Grange for the past year and the financial status of the Grange as of September 30, 2016. The treasurer should be commended for maintaining the records up to date and in good order.

The Grange is responsible for filing a FORM 990 tax return and that will be completed in the near future.

Fraternally Submitted,

J. Patrick Elwell

*original copy of report has been received and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Sharon Manley, Secretary, gave her annual report, which was printed in the Report of Officers.

STATE SECRETARY

To: Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange and Master of the Oregon State Grange, Richard Grotton, Master of the Maine State Grange, Officers of the Maine State Grange, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange.

SUBORDINATE GRANGES

Our total number of Subordinate Granges as of June 30, 2016 is 119 which shows a decrease of Subordinate Granges from June 30, 2015 which was 125 Subordinate Granges.

SUBORDINATE GRANGES

September 30, 2015 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges	125
Number of Granges Organized	0
Number of Granges Reorganized	0
Number of Granges Dropped	0
Number of Granges Consolidated	0
Total Granges	125

3,817 Total Subordinate Memberships
512 Golden Sheaf
341 Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf

December 31, 2015 Subordinate Grange Quarterly Report

Number of Granges	125
Number of Granges Organized	0
Number of Granges Reorganized	0
Total Granges	125

Number of Granges Dropped	1	Princeton 293
Number of Granges Consolidated	0	
Total Granges	124	

3,729 total Subordinate Membership
535 Golden Sheaf
308 Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf

March 31, 2016 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges	124
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Number of Granges Organized	0
Number of granges Reorganized	0
Total Granges	124

Number of Granges Dropped	3	Amity Cary Escutarsis 231 Kezar Lake 440
Number of Granges Consolidated	0	
Total Granges	121	

3,654 Total Subordinate Membership
 494 Golden Sheaf
 336 Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf

June 30, 2016 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges	121
Number of Granges Organized	0
Number of Granges Reorganized	0
Total Granges	121

Number of Granges Dropped	2	Dexter 155 Ripley 462
Number of Granges Consolidated	0	
Total Granges	119	

3,545 Total Subordinate Membership
 471 Golden Sheaf
 326 Non-Exempt Golden Sheaf

The Subordinate Secretaries have again worked diligently in providing the information I have requested and also filing quarterly reports on time. The new Quarterly Report form that was introduced in March of 2016 seems to be working well. The September Report form will see changes. The changes will be a space to enter Family Memberships and from County to Pomona. These changes reflect our State By-Law change and the reorganization of closed Pomona's.

As I prepared this report there are still 15 Subordinate Granges who are delinquent in filing there quarterly reports for June 30, 2016. There are still 26 quarterly reports not received for the quarter ending September 30, 2016 and I have instructed the Credentials Committee to send those representing any Subordinate Grange who is delinquent to me at the time of registration.

POMONA GRANGES

As I prepare this report the only Pomona that has not filed a 2015-2016 Yearly Report is West Washington Pomona #18.* (*received) To say that this has been a trying year for our Pomona's is an

understatement. Our Worthy Master, with a heavy heart, closed the following Pomona's and placed the remaining Subordinate Granges in the following

East Somerset Pomona 28

Remaining Subordinate Granges assigned to Piscataquis Pomona 11

Cambridge Valley 582

*St. Albans 114

Wayside 590

Knox Pomona 3**

Remaining subordinate Granges voted** to join the following Pomona's

Lincoln Pomona #19

Acorn 418

Medomac Valley 175

North Haven 496

Ocean View 463

Penobscot View 388

Pioneer 219

Pleasant River 492

St. George 421

Waldo Pomona 12

Evening Star 183

North Penobscot Pomona 10

Remaining Subordinate Grange voted** to join the following Pomona

Penobscot Pomona

Ammadamast 379

Aroostook and Penobscot Union Pomona 17

*Ashland 247

*Unaffiliated with any Pomona as of this date

JUNIOR GRANGES

I am happy to report that the Maine State Junior Grange No. 17, under the leadership of Christine Hebert, Junior Director, has continued to carry on the Junior Grange Programs of the State and National Granges. They have been busy with their crafts and camp and Christine sees that all who wish to join are given that opportunity. Please support this worthwhile part of our organization. The Junior and Youth will be our leaders of tomorrow.

CERTIFICATES

It is always a pleasure to receive requests for continuous membership certificates for our members. It is a pleasant task and I thank all Subordinate secretaries for requesting them to show appreciation to our members for their membership as well as their continued work for our order.

As I prepared this report the following certificates have been issued. Congratulations to all from the State Officers. Silver Star Certificates: 14 ; 40 Year Certificates: 10 ; Golden Sheaf Certificates: 15; 55 Year Certificates: 21 ; 60 Year Certificates: 17 ; 65 Year Certificates: 15; 70 Year Certificates: 2; 75 Year Certificates: 10 ; 80 Year Certificates: 6 making a total of 134 certificates issued this year.

DEGREES

The Credential and Registration Committee will be available for registration for candidates for the Sixth Degree, Friday, October 21st, before the opening of the Session and during any available breaks. The fee for the Sixth Degree is \$10.00 payable upon registration.

TECHNOLOGY

This year we will be updating our membership database. I am in hopes that this will be an easy endeavor and will make updating the membership lists easier. Thank you for returning your updated membership list so this transition will go smoothly.

Roster information has a deadline and should be met. The original deadline was July 15th, after election of officers, but an extension of that deadline was given to November 15th. If the information for the Roster is not received by that date the printing of the Roster will only include the Name, number and location of the granges who have not provided updated information for the Master, Secretary, Lecturer and CWA Director.

CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Last, but not to be forgotten, my heartfelt thanks goes to Mavis Lane, Sandra Moon and Terry Lacombe Stevens, who oversee the Credentials and Registration table. This year Shirley Hatch was unable to attend and I would like to thank her for her years of service on the committee. It takes cooperation from all of us for this process to work. Kudos ladies.

I have enjoyed working with our Worthy Master Rick, seeing him continue the work of our State Grange, making it a stronger organization by using each member to their potential and I look forward to working with each and every grange member in the year to come.

Have a safe and blessed holiday season.

Fraternally submitted,

Sharon V Morton, Secretary
Maine State Grange

The report will be presented Friday for acceptance.

Presentation of the 2016-2017 Budget

The Worthy Master presented the 2016-2017 Budget to be acted upon at Friday's session.

State Master's Annual address

Sherry Harriman, Overseer of the Maine State Grange, introduced Richard Grotton, Master of the Maine State Grange to deliver his first Master's Address.

The Master's Address will be accepted Friday upon report of the Committee on the Master's Address. The Committee appointed is Glenda Barker, Brenda Dyer and Nathan Pennell.



Masters address

To our Sister Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange, Brother Mark Noah, Past Master of the Oregon State Grange, Officers, Delegates and Brothers and Sisters of the Maine State Grange,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my first annual Master's Address. I wish to thank the delegates for their confidence in me to lead this wonderful organization called the Grange. Much thanks for the support and help received from my Brothers and Sisters. Your willingness to help when called upon, the hard work you have done and keeping me out of trouble is very much appreciated.

It has been quite a year; right from the start we lost two active State Officers, two friends, two family, two mentors rich in Grange knowledge, two advisors always there to listen to us and give us solid advice, two devoted Grangers who have been called to another duty. Did we give up? No, all of us know it is our turn. Our turn to carry on what we learned from them as they would expect us to. Their love and devotion for this organization has been felt by many and they have inspired many of us to be leaders, to pay attention and to move Grange forward to continue where they left off. We owe it to them and to all who have passed who touched our lives with such love and knowledge. May their legacies live on! Past State Master Vicki Huff was appointed to fill the empty Executive Committee seat and Brother Merton Ricker was appointed State Musician. Thank you to Sister Dorothy Brown, Past State Lecturer and Treasurer (among others) for being backup musician at this State Session.

Many thanks to Sister Sharon Morton and Brother Jim Dwens for their work and keeping me in line. Sister Sharon has been instrumental in assisting in and assuring that events being held at State Headquarters went smoothly and without incident. She has attended a number of the agricultural fairs this year as well as cooking and preparing for these events. Brother Jim, as the Administrative Assistant, has been busy doing the administrative duties and planning certain events such as State Grange Session and the banquet.

Of course I need to thank my other half, Greg Rafferty for all of his support. He made sure I was on the ball often testing me and keeping me on my toes. I certainly am very grateful!

Our State officer meetings this year were very much fulfilling. Each contributed with ideas, suggestions and problem solving. I am happy to have such a talented and motivated group of leaders to work with and sincerely thank them for their support and hard work.

It has been a year of accomplishments. As your leader, first year goals were set and with your help most attained. New committees were formed as a result of decisions from last year's Session. A Museum Committee was formed. Our new Fundraising Committee director, Steven Haycock has worked hard from the start and continues to plan new fundraising ideas. He organized a very successful Variety Show in September that offered a wide variety of entertainment, silent auctions and much fun. Our annual Yard Sale was well attended.

We have some new leaders this year who are Directors and Deputies and their work is outstanding. We all grew together. Three Directors meetings were held in the past year. They shared ideas, offered new

incentives and worked together. From these meetings resulted a successful Volunteer Fair, headed by our Community Service Director, Christine Corliss, that provided those present with strong presentations on various topics that were enjoyed by all. All agreed that we should do this again next year.

Thank you to the Deputies who have fulfilled their duties especially those duties which were assigned to them, One of our goals was to set a chain of command in order to establish some structure and to allow the deputies to do their jobs. Including inspections and instructions they have been instructed to listen to members, report on their inspections to what is going on in their districts and to keep communication lines open. Many thanks to our Chief Deputy, Maynard Chapman who has been there when I needed him and working with his staff. I appreciate the work you all of you do.

The Community Service and Family Health and Hearing Committee has again had a busy and productive year. Their goal of receiving funds from National Grange has been achieved for another year. Thank you to all the Granges that turned in their Community Service Report. The CWA Committee again has had a productive year. Thank you to sister Karen for her work and those who contributed items to the Big E again this year. Much thanks to The Ag Directors, Bob and Agnes Nelson who have had another busy year. And to Brother Jim Annis who has kept us up to date with Legislative policies. With the help of these two committees and Sister Sharon Morton, our annual Legislative Day was again a success. Many thanks to Brother Walter Boomsma our Communications Director who has been instrumental in keeping us informed and for all the other duties he does to keep communication flowing. I thank him for his hard work and for putting up with me.

Our newest Directors have been working hard planning strategies to keep our organization strong. Sister Kay has been busy planning some membership goals, Sister Christina has had a monumental task in forming Youth programs and Sister Christine Hebert has been working with the Juniors, trying new ways to build our Junior Program. I have been learning along with them, planning, trying new approaches, and working together.

Congratulations to Riverside Grange #47S who will be recognized at National Grange in November as a Distinguished Grange for the third straight year. GOTO the National website at nationalgrange.org for more information on this rewarding program. Also thank you to Bangor Grange for hosting a tri county Spirit of America event and to those Granges who honored volunteers in their communities through Spirit of America programs.

My sincere thanks go to Sister Ruby Bryant who agreed to take on a monstrous task many of us would not even think of doing. Since our State Lecturer was unable to attend Northeast Lecturers Conference in Bridgewater, MA this past August, she with our State Overseer, Sherry Harriman, prepared the program, represented the State of Maine, presented the program, presented two workshops and worked with the other State Lecturers. Ruby also is filling in at this session and has learned the Lecturer's part for the Sixth Degree. I owe her and Sherry many many thanks. They deserve a standing ovation for their loyalty and willingness to step outside the box when needed for the GOTO. If I have missed anyone, my sincere apologies for all of you have been instrumental in the work assigned to you.

But where do we go from here? During the year four Pomonas were closed, three due to inactivity or unable to reach quorums for meetings over a period of time, even though one had eight, yes eight Granges in their Pomona. One was closed since they were the only Grange left in their Pomona. The Pomona level is the liaison between Subordinate Granges and State level where our resolutions are acted upon before being sent to State Grange. Many subordinate granges are choosing not to take their 5th degree which is hurting the organization as a whole. Lessons beyond the 4th Degree are to be learned in order to continue and grow. The journey of Grange's lessons continues. New leaders are needed to be our successors on all levels. That is why this coming year our State Committees will be expanded to include more members to learn and communicate and implement new ideas and thoughts to strengthen our Grange order. Anyone who has an interest in a State Committee or being trained to be a leader or to learn mentoring practices please let someone know. Working together accomplishes more and makes us stronger.

The question "What does State Grange do for us?" can be answered with a question "What do you think State Grange should be doing for you?" I remember asking that question at one time. I found the answer by participating in State Events and even going to National Grange in 1993 to finish second in Public Speaking. People, there is more to Grange than inside your own walls. Visit, GOTO Pomona, attend events and participate in contests. We are here for you. State Grange is cannot run your Subordinate Granges, it is up to you and your members to work together in your areas to help your communities, their people and to provide a place for them to enjoy. What we do offer are plenty of training opportunities such as the regional membership conference held by our National Membership person, Brother Joe Stephanoni from California who was in Laconia, NH this past Spring. Those who attended had a great time, learned valuable tools and how to bring in members. We have shared that information with you through communications. We offer contests on all levels in most departments, CWA, Community Service, Membership, Youth, Junior and through Lecturer's programs. The State Officers attend Pomonas, sharing information and listening to your ideas and concerns. Your deputies are not only there to instruct and inspect but are our eyes and ears. We need to hear from you, To find out more about State Grange operates, I urge all with computers to GOTO mainstategrange.org and visit our webpage. Hit "Submit and you will be receiving information from the material that goes into the bulletin to what is going on in throughout the State.

Which brings us to a new topic of concern; technology. The world has been changing faster in our lifetime than any other period in history. How is the Grange to keep up? Even now decisions made by National Grange to use technology to allow absent members to vote, to involve the use of technology in our operations and personal lives and for receiving the bulk of communications. Many members do not own a computer and others, like myself are not computer savvy. I can do my work and email and send information but beyond that I am learning much more. Is this a direction we need to explore. Many youth of today have grown up with the changes in technology and are always on their phones or computers. They grew up with them unlike the majority of us who has a slide ruler, corded phone, or abacus at our disposals. Maybe we should start planning programs involving technology, inviting youth to come in, teach us how to use our new phones and computers and having them become members taking over that aspect of our needs without changing the traditions and rituals from which the Grange

was formed. Like it or not, we need to accept this change. Some things that have worked for us in the past cease to be effective if we do not change with the times. State Grange has been forced to make changes to keep up with the newest trends and to move on to new areas. Many of us will not accept this and more Granges will close if changes are not made and accepted.

For example, our State Grange Headquarters Building is a place where many of us grew up, where State Masters and their families lived, where there was activity much more than today. Its purpose has changed; State Masters no longer live there, only a handful of events are held and the cost of the upkeep is tremendous. The city of Augusta is implementing changes (there's that word again) to make the area where our Headquarters is a historical district, complete with new rules and regulations which will force us to abide by their rules. Also with the declining membership, less revenue is coming in from dues and more being sent to National for our State dues. We have been forced to find new methods of raising money to operate. This year we have started some new programs to raise money or to limit expenses. The Fundraising Committee was formed, we have rented the auditorium for dance classes, the instructor being a Grange member, and various things have been done to limit spending and cutting expenditures. But all is not lost. These endeavors have created new ideas, new leaders, and working together as one family. Yes, we are from different areas and things work differently in every area, however, we are one big Grange family, all working under the same ideals and principles from which we were founded. We need structure, stability and new ideas in order to move forward.

As mentioned in a previous Master's column my first year has been one of planning, observing, trying new things and setting a chain of command in order to build some structure. The chain of command means that Granges should try to resolve any internal issues on their own. If it is necessary to have outside help to resolve any issue, contact your Deputy first, the Deputy will address the Chief Deputy if necessary and last, the State Master. As you may have noticed, this session includes a town hall and a shorter session. A cleanup of closing inactive Subordinate Granges and Pomonas and selling empty Grange Halls that were abandoned by closed Granges over a period of time has begun and will continue. All of these actions are for the GOTO.

Based on my observations the second year will be putting plans from paper into action. I will mention five of these observations. First, there have been many questions about procedures and what each office entails. Second, those Granges which are active serving the community, fundraising, involved with other organizations and that work together are the most successful and are growing. Third, it seems that the purpose of the Grange is missing the mark which means that there is no uniformity, we have drifted apart, some Granges are doing their own thing and act more like a social club than a Grange. Fourth, the trend toward being self sufficient in growing our own food, the growing numbers of young farmers, and the interest in agricultural area are drawing the interest of the public. Fifth, we need to train new leaders, delegate assignments rather than to have one or two people dominating and to involve all members, other organizations and non-members in our endeavors.

One plan to is add more members to some State Committees around the State. Training for these new leaders will be available. I will work with the affected Committees with recruiting and directing interested members to their attention. The placement of these new members will be include the

decision of the Director as we need to have a "good fit" in order for this plan to work. Another plan is to work with the State Lecturer so that all Lecturers are receiving materials, training and developing productive program ideas.

I encourage all Granges to focus on their Lecturer's programs. They are an important part of a success of a Grange. More attentiveness to agricultural programs such as having programs on being self sufficient in growing food, how to can, to plant, to take care of the soil. More ritualistic programs need to be implemented so that new and seasoned members alike understand how and why the Grange was formed.. Bring in speakers, hold community workshops on such topics and hold Community Service nights, honoring those who make the community a better place or volunteers who have impacted a number of people in their communities. Keep your doors open to community events, advertise your accomplishments, wear your Grange clothing in public, include Grange in conversations with non members and make everyone feel welcome. Smile, have fun, work together. Non-members sense your energies and if it is a good feeling they will come back.

Many Granges have found their ways to grow and become productive. They have paid attention to changing trends in their areas and have tapped into the resources. Some have taken advantage of the influx of younger people becoming farmers and have worked with them. Others have been heavily involved in staying a staple in their community. These Granges have related their successes to changing trends. Why can't we all do that? We can't always do it the same way we always have because those things are not of interest to our community anymore. We can't rely on the same people to do the same things year after year. These people are older and when they are unable to continue, who will take over? When active members cease to exist or move to another Grange, the rest are lost, they had let them control but now it is up to them. This imbalance is prevalent throughout our State and is not good for our order. Everyone should be helping, not just a few, and the few that are doing most of the work need to allow others to help. This imbalance has caused many Granges to close. Masters, appoint committees no matter how small your Grange, Each will be responsible for gathering information and communication with State Committees. Report at each meeting. Everyone will have a duty, a responsibility, to keep all informed. This is one of those areas where "we have always done it that way" that somehow that has changed over the years. Hearing the words, "I have no report, Worthy Master" or silence is not acceptable and exposes weaknesses in our operations as a Grange. There should always be a report. It is not up to the Secretary to read the bulletin to keep members informed, it is up to committees to look for this information through the website, State Committee program books, or conversations, real conversations where we actually talk to one another using our own voice. So make sure your Grange has active committees. It will make a difference.

Our first step to change is to look within and restructure our principles. We need to get along, we need to be one, we need to elect officers capable of leadership and to educate all on their duties, first understanding what their office entails. Once we are all on the same page and doing what is for the GOTO things will change for the better. Disagreements will happen but a lesson to be learned is that overcoming obstacles makes us stronger and if we persevere we can accomplish anything. For those who have not continued their Grange journey to the Pomona level, perseverance is the lesson and we learn how to overcome obstacles in our pathway. So let's restructure, beginning with each Subordinate

Grange. Much else doesn't always seem to be working efficiently. We all have the tools, it is just learning how to use them properly and effectively to achieve success. Certainly we will have failures but we learn from them and persevere until we find our way!

Remember, our predecessors had to make changes for us so we could take over, as we must do for our younger members so they may continue this wonderful organization. Let us share our knowledge, our histories and our traditions with others who will continue to make the Grange thrive for another 150 years. It won't be easy, but it can be done. What the Grange was 50 years ago is not the same is today and will be different 50 years from now. However, it will still be a place for a whole family to have an evening together much less a sit down meal and a place for the community to enjoy. No matter how much Grange will change, it will still be the Grange as long as the basic rituals and traditions are respected and obeyed. As mentioned by our Communications Director in a recent column that following traditions should be fun and rewarding not just for the sake of carrying on the traditions. Let's not just exist, let us live. Our future depends on all of us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Grotton

Committee Reports

James Annis, Legislative Director, presented the resolutions the Legislative Committee were assigned.

1. Primaries

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass
Resolution Rejected**

5. Maine Voting Residency Requirements

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass
Resolution Adopted**

6. Federal EBT Welfare Card Program Reform

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass
Resolution Rejected**

7. Electoral College System

**Committee Recommendation: Ought not Pass
Resolution Rejected**

8. Outside Campaign Influences

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass
Resolution Adopted**

Agnes Nelson, Ag Director presented the resolution the Ag Committee had been assigned.

15. Informational Grange Fair Exhibits

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass
Resolution Adopted**

Wayne Sherman, Chairperson of the Good of the Order Committee, presented resolutions that the Good of the Order Committee had been assigned.

2. Recognition of Caroline Arabella Hall

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass
Resolution Adopted**

4. Memorial Notifications

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass as Amended
Resolution Rejected**

Resolution was Amended as follows:

Resolved, that a memorial ~~link~~**list of the member name and grange** be established on the Maine State Grange website.

The first day of the 143rd Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was closed in full form in the 4th Degree.

6:30 P.M.

Banquet by Eastern Star
At Madison Masonic Hall
13 Maxim Street, Madison
Tickets to be Purchased in Advance
Membership, Community Service,
Publicity Awards & Entertainment

Our Annual Banquet, catered by the Eastern Star, was held at the Madison Masonic Hall. It was a delicious meal and a delightful evening.

Rick Grotton, Master; announced that Saco Grange #53 was the winner of the Membership Award with a net gain of 9 new members. Master Rick also stated that many granges have had an increase in membership this past year as well.

Christine Corliss, Community Service & Family Health and Hearing Director, was introduced to announce her programs winners.

Worthy Master, Fellow Grangers and Honored Guests. Thank you for those who do not know me my name is Christine Corliss. I have served the

Maine State Grange for the past 3 years as Community Service/Family Health Hearing Director.

Tonight it is my proud pleasure to announce the winners of the following three awards.

Community Service Books
Family, Health & Hearing Contest
Officer/Fire Fighter/ Educator of
the Year for the Maine State Grange

First, let me say that the Community Service Books were the best myself, the committee and judges have seen. On that note could I please have a representative from the following 4 granges come up, Bangor, Riverside, Maple Grove and Saco.

4th place this year receiving a check for \$50.00 – Bangor Grange

3rd place receiving a check for \$150.00 – Saco Grange

2nd place receiving a check for \$200.00 – Riverside Grange

1st place, for the third year in a row and being submitted to the National Grange Contest for consideration – Maple Grove

Please let's give everyone who submitted a book a big round of applause.

At this time I would like to ask a representative from Oxford Pomona #2 to come up to the stage. Oxford Pomona #2 will be receiving a \$50.00 check and this certificate for winning this year's Family, Health & Hearing Contest.

Congratulations and thank you to all the participants.

At this time I would like everyone to stand please to show our appreciation for the following three individuals. If Mr. Elgin Physic, Mr. Tray Lare and Mr. Andrew Elwell please come to the stage.

It gives me great pleasure to present these awards tonight.

Mr. Tray Lare
Maine State Grange Firefighter of the Year
2015 – 2016

Mr. Lare has served 29 years for the Bangor Fire Department and 10 years as coordinator of the Department's Honor Guard. He is an active volunteer at his church, an umpire for Senior League World Series and member of Third Watch Hockey team who raises funds for children's charities, Muscular Dystrophy and Shrine's Burn Center. For these reason it is my privilege to present Mr. Troy Lare this check to the Bangor Fire

Department – MDA Donation in the amount of \$100.00 and this token of our appreciation as the Maine State Grange Firefighter of the Year 2015 – 2016.

Mr. Andrew Elwell
Maine State Grange Educator of the Year
2015 – 2016

Mr. Elwell is a teacher at the Mary Hurd School in North Berwick, Maine.

Mr. Ellwell is one of those teachers that children talk about for years after they are out of school. Mr. Elwell works on the Mary Hurd Backpack Program by giving food to children in need, the Clothing Closet at Mary Hurd letting any individual to come in and get what they need for free. Mary Hurd School is a school for children who require special needs. Mr. Elwell also works on the Owl Box Project to save Maine's owls. Mr. Elwell gives his home time where he is a dedicated husband and father to children in need.

For these reasons I am proud to present Mr. Elwell with this check for \$100.00 for the Mary Hurd Backpack Program and this small token of appreciation as the Maine State Grange Educator of the Year 2015 – 2016.

Mr. Elgin Physic
Maine State Grange Officer of the Year
2015 – 2016

Mr. Physic has been a Maine State Trooper for the last 10 years. Mr. Physic has volunteered for years as a basketball coach, connects with drug rehab programs and spends time enriching the lives of individuals that cross his path. Mr. Physic managed to connect and encourage this individual to enhance his life, which turned this gentleman around and completed high school and went on to technical college. Mr. Physic does all of this while being a dedicated father to his 4 children.

For these reasons I am happy to present this check in the amount of \$100.00 and this small token of appreciation as the Maine State Grange Officer of the Year 2015 – 2106.

Thank you all and all of these gentlemen's nominations have been entered into the National and Northeast Region of Granges Contests for consideration.

Thank you to everyone for another great year!!

At this time Ruby Bryant, Lecturer protem, provided the evening's entertainment. An evening of laughter and enjoyment was had by all.

Readings by Maynard Chapman
Moose Facts by Steven Haycock
Accordion Solo by Laura Hutchins
Skit performed by
Steven Haycock - Moose
Norma Meserve - Raccoon
Vicki Huff - Deer
Adrian Griffin - Owl
Rick Grotton - Black Fly
Christine Hebert - Fox
Debra Ivers - Solo - Scarborough Fair
Wes Ryder - Read Original Poems
Lobster
Bar Harbor

Friday, October 21

9:00 A.M.

Opening in the Fourth Degree

The second day of the 143rd Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was called to order by Maynard Chapman, Chief Deputy, for the presentation of the Officers of the Maine State Grange. Richard Grotton, Master, proceeded to open the Session in full form in the 4th Degree.

Roll Call of Officers

Roll Call found the following Officers/Directors/Chairman absent:
Lecturer, Ruby Bryant protem; Educational Aid and Howes Nurses
Scholarship Trustees, Gerald Libby, J. Patrick Elwell, Stanley Howe; Historian
Stanley Howe.

Presentation of National Representatives and Dignitaries

Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange and Master of the Oregon State Grange and Mark Noah were presented to the Masters station. Linda

Sanderson, voting delegate of the Assembly of Demeter and Lecturer of the Vermont State Grange was escorted to the Masters station. Remarks were made by all.

Report of Credential Committee

Mavis Lane, Chairman of the Credential Committee, gave a partial report that there were 56 Subordinate Granges represented with 96 delegate votes and 17 Pomona's represented with 29 delegate votes with a total delegate vote of 125.

Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Thursday's Session

The minutes of Thursday's Session were accepted with any and all corrections to be made and ordered printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Acceptance of the Secretary's Report

The Secretary's Report was accepted along with all the Written Reports of Officers and Committees.

Acceptance of Master's Address

The following report of the Committee on the Master's Address was presented and with no objections was accepted and ordered in the Journal of Proceedings.

To Honored guests, officers, brothers and sisters of the Maine State Grange.

Our committee has reviewed the Masters 2016 Address. We find it comprehensive, and thorough and very interesting. Master Rick has faced many challenges this past year. He has met those challenges head on and made the tough decisions which had to be made. With the support of the executive committee, other officers, deputies and committees, the Maine State Grange is moving forward in challenging times.

Master Rick's address also charts a path forward that will challenge us

all to do our best and work together to meet every challenge by following his example GOTO (good of the order).

Our committee recommends adoption of the Master's Address.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Barker

Brenda Dyer

Nathan Pennell

Acceptance of Written Reports of Officers and Committees

A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the written reports of the officers and committees as printed in the resolution pad and by vote so ordered. The reports will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Acceptance of the 2016 – 2017 Budget

The Worthy Master went through the proposed budget line by line. Much discussion was held. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the 2016 – 2017 Budget and by vote so ordered. The 2016 -2017 Budget will be printed in the Journal of Proceedings.

Election of Officer(s)

At this time the Worthy Master announced that the voting delegation must elect a member of the Executive Committee and a Lecturer. Worthy Master appointed Wesley Ryder, Darrell Huff as ballot clerks and the Overseer appointed Mary Colson.

Victoria Huff was elected to the office of Executive Committee of the Maine State Grange for the Constitutional Term of 4 years and Margaret Morse was elected Lecturer of the Maine State Grange. Welcome to both.

Committee Reports

Wayne Sherman, Chairman of the Good of the Order Committee, continued with the presentation of the resolutions presented to his committee for action.

3. Keeping Local History Local

After much discussion and amendments this resolution was sent back to committee for rewriting.

**12. Roster of the Maine State Grange
Committee Recommendation: Ought Not Pass
Committee report was defeated
By vote of the delegate body Resolution was Adopted**

12 Noon
Recess

1:30 P.M.
Home for Little Wanderers
House in the Woods (Pennies)

Worthy Master closed the recess and reopened the Session in the 4th degree.

Worthy Master introduced Karen Flagg, Director of the CWA, to present her gift to Home for Little Wanderers and House in the Woods.

Steve Sawyer, of the Maine Home for Little Wanderers, was escorted to the Master's station where he was presented with a check for over \$300 which Karen had received in donations for our Subordinate and Pomona Granges and a check in the amount of \$800 will be presented to Home for Little Wanderers from the Quilt Raffle that was held at the Big E where the proceeds went to the State of Maine. Sister Karen made the king size Around the World Quilt for this raffle.

Mr. Sawyer said this past Christmas they provided 1, 750 children with Christmas. He never wants to see children not have Christmas as long as he can see that it can be done.

Richard Harriman was escorted to the Master's station as a representative for the House in the Woods. Karen presented him with a check received in donations from our Subordinate and Pomona Granges and a check will be present to House in the Woods from the Quilt Raffle that was held at the Big E as well.

Richard gave us some more information about the new House in the Woods Lodge and also some insight on how our disabled veterans can hunt just like the rest of us and this was proved as the largest bear shot was shot by a disabled veteran.

All delegates and non-delegates at this time paraded around the meeting hall to present Richard with pennies that their respective granges had saved all year for House in the Woods.

**Memorial Service by
State Chaplain Dolores Moore**

Chaplain

Would everyone please rise.

Almighty and merciful God, You have conferred upon mankind both the remedies of health and the gifts of everlasting life; look mercifully upon us Your servants, and refresh the souls which You have created, that at the hour of death they may be found worthy to be presented to You, their Creator, free from all stain of sin, by the hands of Your holy angels. Amen.

Please be seated.

(Romans 14) Brethren: None of us lives to himself, and none does to himself; for if we live, we live to the Lord, or if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and rose again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. Therefore, every one of us will render an account for himself to God.

(1 Thessalonians 4) We would not have you ignorant concerning those who are asleep, lest you should grieve, even as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, so with Him God will bring those also who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

(1 Corinthians 15) For then shall come to pass the word that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory! O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

(John 11) For Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me, even if he die, shall live; and whoever lives and believes in Me, shall never die."

**Tribute to Brother Ronald Dolloff
Musician of the Maine State Grange
By Richard Grotton**

A friend, a mentor, an advisor, an established storyteller and gifted musician. Those are a few things that come to mind when we think of our Worthy Brother.

Ronald Everett Dolloff
May 2, 1936 - January 27, 2016

It is Well with My Soul
A song Ronnie sang many times in grange halls across the state

"When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well; it is well with my soul.
And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,
Yea, it is well with my soul!"

Beloved husband, esteemed father, treasured grandfather and deeply loved great-grandfather, Ronald Everett Dolloff, 79 of Waldoboro died on the afternoon of January 27, 2016, at the Sussman House in Rockport with his extensive and loving family by his side, following a six-month battle with metastatic lung cancer.

Born and raised on a farm in Gray, Dolloff graduated with honors from Pennell Institute in 1954 and proceeded to obtain an AB in mathematics from Bates College in 1958. That same year, he married Lillian Brown of Gardiner and moved to Waldoboro where he began his prestigious career in education as a mathematics instructor and department head at Waldoboro High School. In the following years they were blessed with three children, Debora, Linda and Andrew. In 1966 Dolloff earned his masters of education from the University of Maine Orono.

In 1968 Dolloff moved to the new Medomak Valley High School as the assistant principal, assuming the principal ship in 1970. As principal he not only focused on the daily operation of the school, but also attended many school functions from wrestling matches to basketball games to musical productions. An enthusiastic supporter of the arts in education, Dolloff nurtured this department that eventually flourished under his leadership. Upon his retirement in 1994 the auditorium of the high school was named the Ronald E. Dolloff Auditorium, of which he was extraordinarily proud. He loved and believed in young people; thus the ripple effect of the influence of his forty years in education reaches far and wide. The depth of this influence is most clearly seen in his three children who are all involved in educational

careers to this day. Deb Tanner is head of the math department and head teacher at Skowhegan Area Middle School. Linda Pease is Assistant Principal of Medomak Valley High School and Dr. Andrew Dolloff is superintendent of the Yarmouth school district.

Upon his arrival in Waldoboro, Dolloff immediately became involved in town government. He served as a selectman and assessor, as acting town manager, as a member of the Waldoboro Budget Committee and as Chairman of the Waldoboro Democratic Committee. He eventually served as a director of the Waldoboro bank for 11 years.

Because his parent, Maynard and Phyllis Dolloff, were avid grangers, Ron joined the grange at the age of five. At the age of 14 he became a member of Gray Grange where he held numerous offices and then was elected Master. He was most proud of his position as Chaplain of the Maine State Grange being elected in 1965. Ron, with his family, travelled all over the state of Maine preaching at memorial services and performing installations. He was a member of the State Grange Executive Committee. He gave the memorial address at one National Grange Session in New York. He has held the position of secretary of Meenahga Grange for over 20 years. As President of the Maine State Grange Educational Aid Fund, Ron enjoyed awarding scholarships to young people in the pursuit of their dreams. Ron loved conducting some of the elections at the state grange sessions, and he loved being the pianist for the Maine State Grange.

A talented musician who began playing the piano at the age of five, Ron was a pianist at many functions across the state of Maine through grange and church affiliations. He served as a dedicated church organist for over 50 years, 40 of which were at the Waldoboro United Methodist Church where he was a member. One of the great loves of his life was his church; he shared his faith with many through both word and song. He entertained and inspired many, even in the last weeks of his life. Ron played for Christmas Eve service at the church on December 24th and he died January 27th.

He is survived by his wife, Lillian and his three children and their spouses; 10 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Another great grandchild was born in August and his parents named his middle name after Ronnie. He would have been so pleased. He is survived by his sister, Kathy and her husband.

This was one of his favorite songs:

“His Eye is On the Sparrow”

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,

When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.
I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me!

We miss you and will always have a piece of you in our hearts.

Flora, Debra Ivers, proceeded to the altar and placed floral arrangement in memory of our Brother Ronald Dolloff.

Tribute to Sister Nancy R. Clark
Executive Committee Member of the Maine State Grange
By Clayton Collins

If we could keep our friends forever
What a place this would be –
No more death and no more sorrow
Throughout all eternity.
God has promised if we were faithful
And follow in that narrow way
That we'll meet our friends in heaven
On that resurrection day.

O my brother won't you trust Him?
For He's pleading now with you.
Won't you cast your burdens on Him?
He will surely guide you through
There's a day when all men waver
Almost persuaded, chose the right –
Let it be the road to heaven
Where there's friendship but no night.

Many friends have gone before us
Whom we long to see once more,
And through god and His salvation
We will meet them on that shore,

If we only let Him guide us
Through this world of lust and sin.
When the pearly gates are open
He will say, " Well done, good and faithful servant, come in."

Nancy Randall Clark was born in Portland on May 6, 1938, to the late Martha Jane (Lund) and Willis Shaw Randall. Thus, the miraculous life of Nancy Clark begins. She attended Freeport Schools, the University of Maine and Husson College (receiving her teaching and business degrees), and later she attended Bryant College (earning her master's degree). She went to be with her Lord on Monday, December 28, 2015, at the age of 77, surrounded by her beloved birds, squirrels, and other family members at her home on Brigantine Cove in south Freeport. This was her wish – she didn't want to spend her last days on earth in the hospital.

She taught school for 40 years where she inspired generations of young students to strive to do their best at everything that they tried. She even drove taxi for a few summers to supplement her income, where, I'm sure she continued to teach as she drove.

She was a Maine legislator for 20 years, serving in the House AND Senate, where she was well-respected and a force to be reckoned with! The Freeport Elders, D.A.R., a board member of the Freeport Community Services, Freeport Women's Club, but most importantly, she was a lifelong member of the South Freeport Congregational Church (which she loved dearly).

We all remember her as Nancy Clark, grange member. She joined Harraseeket Grange #9 on May 17, 1979. She held the offices of Lecturer, Overseer and Master. She also held the positions of Agriculture chair, Legislative chair, and was a member of the CWA.

She was a loyal member of Cumberland County Pomona #15 serving as L.A.S. and was the Legislative chair for many years. (She would give glowing reports every month as to what the legislature was doing and/or not doing!)

She was a proud member of the Maine State Grange serving on the Executive Committee, and as one of Maine's delegates to the National Grange. She travelled the state serving on the installing teams of Sister Vicki Huff and Sister Jean Burnham.

There is a song that I have been listening to recently on my travels throughout the state that describes, I believe Nancy's faith in God. It is called, "The Other Side of the Cross". The chorus goes thus,

"On the other side of the cross, the side that no one could see
On the spirit of things yet to come on the future of you and me

And what He gave that day on the cross
Not one bit of love has been lost.
Hold my hand, stand up, and say if you were there on that day,
On the other side of the cross.”

Nancy's strong faith in God is what, I believe, helped her in her day-to-day activities. She tried not to dwell too long on the past, for she knew there was something better coming her way. She truly had Jesus in her heart. She only looked for the good in everyone she met.

She knew that Jesus loved her, and she showed it to all in her actions for she truly knew what was on the other side of the cross. Even now, she isn't here in the flesh, she is with us in spirit, and wow, what spirit and belief she had! Can you feel it?

Keeping in mind that she truly is on the other side of the cross (and in no more pain!), I will close with this prayer.

Indian Prayer

Do not stand at my grave and weep, I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow, I am the diamond glint on the snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain, I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you wake in the morning hush, I am the swift uplifting rush of quiet
birds in circling flight. I am the soft starlight at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry, I am not there.

I DID NOT DIE!

AMEN!

Flora, Debra Ivers, proceeded to the altar and placed floral arrangement in memory of our Sister Nancy Randall Clark.

**Tribute to Brother Arthur Dority
Former Assistant Steward of the Maine State Grange
By Lillian Leighton**

Arthur Bradford Dority was born on May 2, 1927 and passed away on April 9th of this year. He was born in the town of Mariaville. He was a son, husband to Joanne Pollard for 66 years, father to 4 children, grandfather to 10, and great-grandfather to 8, brother to 6 siblings, uncle and friend.

Upon his graduation from Ellsworth High School, Arthur enlisted in the US Army making him a WWII veteran. While in Georgia, he was tasked as a shooting instructor. The majority of his working career was as a supervisor of construction for Nickerson and O'Day, general contractors. Some of the

notable building projects were in Bar Harbor, Orono, Machias, Waterville and Bangor. He also did some local jobs. He was always helping his fellow man.

He was also seen fishing, snowmobiling, square dancing and was an avid deer hunter. Also liked to putter in his workshop at home. He was also seen at the camp lot on Beech Hill playing his role as grand and great-grand father. Oh I almost forgot that he was a good cook, baked beans was his specialty.

Some of the organizations he belonged to were a member of the Lygonia Masonic Lodge #40 and then became a Shriner and was a part of the Flag Unit and was a Deacon of the Union Congregational Church in Ellsworth Falls.

As a granger he was an avid worker. He participated in a number of offices in Mariaville Grange #441, and was Master for many years. Then he became a member of the Green Mt. Pomona #26, and spent many years as master and along with Joanne were Assistant and Lady Assistant. State Grange came and had several offices of which he enjoyed attending. He also became a member of the National Grange.

Arthur and Joanne together became Deputies for Green Mt. Pomona and took his job seriously and learned his parts well and was available to all of the granges under his supervision. He loved to go to State activities around the state, like Degree Days etc., different things going on at the State house building and also going out of state to a church service to support the chaplain. He has been to retirement parties and enjoyed other grangers coming to visit with him.

On a personal note I personally had been with them on several occasions that involved the grange and enjoyed Arthur's humor, charity, character, kindness, personality, compassion of the people he loved, and his love for His Lord. We came from the same town and he knew me before I knew him but it took the grange to get to know one another, and I am proud to call him Friend.

Flora, Debra Ivers, proceeded to the altar and placed floral arrangement in memory of our Brother Arthur Dority.

Tribute to Brother Sherley Geyer
Former Treasurer of the Maine State Grange
By Clyde Berry, Former Master of the Maine State Grange

Sherley was born in 1930 and grew up during the depression. Born in the town of Bristol or as he would say, Pemaquid Beach and New Harbor, fully believing that they were the most important places in the State of Maine. He

was the younger son and lost both of his parents before he was 16. He was raised by his aunt and her daughters always said that she spoiled him, and he readily admitted this. He knew everyone in town and if he didn't he soon made their acquaintance.

Sherley was a born salesman he worked for over thirty years for Senter's Department Store in Brunswick and for much of that time was a buyer for the store. He told many stories of his buying trips to New York City and the Broadway shows that he saw during that time. After leaving Senter's he began working as the advertising manager for The Lincoln County News which he did until he retired. He wrote a column for the paper about Bristol happenings for many years and continued this after his retirement. After his retirement he wrote a book about Bristol using the pages of the newspaper for a source.

He was very involved in Bristol town affairs and served on the school board and was chairman of Old Bristol Days for many years. He sold T shirts for this event every year and he always saw that I had a new one, whether I wanted it or not. He took part in the Bristol Footlighters and was involved in the rebuilding of the Bristol Library. He was a very proud of the parks in Bristol especially the Pemaquid Point Lighthouse Park which he always wanted to show to everyone. He was Bristol Park Commissioner for many years.

Sherley was a member of Seaside Grange in Bristol and when they closed he joined Mennagha Grange in Waldoboro. He was very proud of the fact that his family had belonged to the Atlantic Grange in New Harbor and that his mother had served as secretary. He was a member of Lincoln Pomona, the Maine State Grange and the National Grange, until his health no longer permitted him to be involved. He was the push of the State Grange to organize the Maine Granger after the Grange Herald ceased to exist and until subscriptions fell and therefore the advertising in, he and Myrtle Bisbee kept it on its feet. It was his connection to the Lincoln County Publishing that made it possible in the first place.

He went to National Grange every year while I was National Grange Lecturer and was my go-fer. One year he came knowing full well that he had a medical issue that should be taken care of. But, he knew that I was depending on him to bring things with him when he drove to the convention, so he told the doctor that the surgery would have to wait and it did. Even though I told him that I could buy what was needed where we were meeting. Determined is one word for Sherley, I also could use frustrating and he always considered that he knew what everyone else wanted or needed. I remember one of my

birthdays, of course with Sherley there had to be a party, he loved giving a party. He was determined that I needed a certain coffee table that he had seen in some furniture store and he was such a good salesman that he convinced the guests to give him money to purchase. Now we have to remember that when I left State Grange Headquarters I moved into an old cape in Somerville. The coffee table was four feet wide and the glass top sat on top of a cub bear lying on his back with his feet in the air. I didn't have four feet to put it in but he could not understand why I was not delighted.

He was elected Treasurer of the Maine State Grange in 1995 and served for three years.

He passed away January 31, 2016 following several years of declining health.

Now the laborer's task is over;
Now the battle day is past;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
There the tears of earth are dried;
There its hidden things are clear;
There the work of life is tried
By a juster Judge than here.
"Earth to earth, and dust to dust;"
Calmly now the words we say;
Leaving him to sleep in trust,
Till the resurrection day.
Father, in thy gracious keeping
Leave we they servant sleeping.

Flora, Debra Ivers, proceeded to the altar and placed floral arrangement in memory of our Brother Sherley Geyer.

Reading: Debra Ivers, Flora, Maine State Grange

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
RONALD E. DOLLOFF
FORMER
MUSICIAN
OF THE
MAINE STATE GRANGE*



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
NANCY R. CLARK
FORMER MEMBER
OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE
MAINE STATE GRANGE*



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ARTHUR DORITY
FORMER
ASSISTANT STEWARD
OF THE
MAINE STATE GRANGE*



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
SHERLEY GEYER
FORMER TREASURER
OF THE
MAINE STATE GRANGE*



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
FORMER DEPUTIES
OF THE
MAINE STATE GRANGE*



*IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THE FORMER MEMBERS OF
OUR POMONA AND
SUBORDINATE GRANGES*

We all were meant to learn some things,
But never meant to stay. . .
Our destination is a place
Far greater than we know.
For some, the journey's quicker,
For some, the journey's show.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.

Solo: It Is Well

Margaret Morse, Soloist Maine State Grange

Chaplain: 23rd Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still
waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His
name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no
evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou
anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will
dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Tribute to Past Deputies

By James A. Owens

But now, alas! The place seems changed;
Thou art no longer here,
Part of the sunshine of the scene
With thee did disappear.
Though thoughts, deep-rooted in my heart,
Like the pine-trees dark and high,
Subdue the light of noon, and breath
A low and ceaseless sigh;

This memory brightens o'er the past,
As when the sun, concealed,
Behind some cloud that near us hangs
Shines on a distant field.

Longfellow

What does it mean to be a Deputy? Deputies of the Maine State Grange are loyal devoted Patrons who can be depended on when called upon for assistance. Our Deputies are there to celebrate with our Granges, offer instruction in the ritual of the order, and also to perform some less than enjoyable tasks when necessary. But we always know that they will be there when needed. Our Deputy can be found performing several functions at the annual State Grange convention, helping to make sure that everything runs efficiently. To these Brothers and Sisters who have labored so diligently over the years, we express our deepest gratitude and say "Well done Good and Faithful Servants".

Today we pay tribute to the following Brothers and Sisters:

Guy Ellms Deputy	East Piscataquis 1990, 1991 East Somerset 1982, 1983 Piscataquis 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1990, 1991
Nancy Ellms Jr. Deputy	East Piscataquis 1990, 1991 East Somerset 1982, 1983 Piscataquis 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1990, 1991
Barbara Pullen Jr. Deputy	North Penobscot 1988 Penobscot 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 1987, 1988
Gerald Robertson Deputy	East Somerset 1958, 1959, 1960
Clair Scammon Jr. Deputy	York 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956
Elinor Wainer Jr. Deputy	Somerset 1996, 1997

Toiling, - rejoicing – sorrowing
Onward through life he goes
Each morning sees some task begun,
Each evening sees it close
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
For the lesson thou has taught!
Thus at the flaming forge of life
Our fortune must be wrought.
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
Each burning deed and thought!

Longfellow

Ceres, Gladys Chapman, proceeds to the altar and places floral arrangement in memory of our Deputies and reads the following:

Whereas we are in darkness, the light memorializes our deceased Brothers and Sisters and now illumines us, even as their good examples point out the path which we should follow toward the land where there is no night and all is bright with the light of God's presence. Therefore, let us thank Him for these benefits.

Tribute to Subordinate and Pomona Members
By Stephen Call

Pomona tells us in the 5th degree, this is truly a fit time for serious reflection, and that is what we are doing today. Let us pause and remember our dearly departed Brothers and Sisters who have gone on through the gates of the Grange above. Let us remember what they did. In the 1st Degree, as Laborers and Maids, They were taught to Place Faith in God, and they did. In the 2nd Degree, as Cultivators and Shepherdesses, They were taught to Nurture Hope, and they did. In the 3rd Degree, as Harvesters and Gleaners, They were taught to Dispense Charity, and they did. In the 4th Degree as Husbandmen and Matrons, They were taught to be Noted for Fidelity, and they did. In the 5th Degree they were taught to Hope On Persevere Ever, and they did. We thank them all for their contributions to the Grange, and what

they did, for all of us. So, once more we say to them, Well Done Good and Faithful Servants, for what they did.

We Remember Them

At the rising of the Sun and at it's going down, We remember them.
At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of the Winter, We remember them.
At the opening of the buds and in the return of Spring, we remember them.
At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of Summer, we remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and the beauty of Autumn, we remember them.
At the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember them.
As long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of us as we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make, we remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs, we remember them.

As long as we live, they too shall live for they are part of us, as we remember them.

Arthur: Unknown

Pomona, Laurel McBurnie, proceeds to the altar and places floral arrangement in memory of departed Pomona and Subordinate Members and reads:

We yield to Thee, Oh, God, most high praise and hearty thanks for examples of those who having finished their course, do now rest from their labors. Do thou accept our appreciation for Thy goodness in them and to have known and loved them, and do Thou bless our hope that we believe that our successors will be the better for our having lived.

Solo: His Eye is on the Sparrow

Margaret Morse, Soloist, Maine State Grange

Chaplain:

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day

You tell me of your future that you planned:
Only remember me; you understand
It will be late to counsel then or pray.
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve;
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

Christina Rossetti

Solo: Hymn of Praise

Margret Morse, soloist, Maine State Grange

Chaplain: O Lord, we offer You our prayers; receive them on behalf of those souls we commemorate this day.

Absolve, O Lord, the souls of all the faithful departed from every bond of sin. And by the help of Your grace may they be enabled to escape the judgment of punishment. And enjoy the bliss of everlasting light.

“Eternal God, whose days are without end and whose mercies cannot be numbered, we give our humblest thanks for the world which Thou has prepared and furnished for our dwelling place. We thank Thee for rising and setting suns, for seed time and harvest, and for daily comforts which minister to our lives. We beseech Thee to grant us the will to serve Thee better and when our work here is finished, may we enter the Grange above, “where everlasting spring abides, and never-failing flowers.” We ask that Thou will comfort those who sorrow and be with those who are ill, and in moments like this may we pray draw nearer to Thee.” We ask al in Thy Holy Name. Amen.

Floral bouquets were presented to the family of Ronald Dolloff.

3:00 P.M.

Committee Reports

Wayne Sherman, Chairman of the Good of the Order Committee, finished the presentation of resolutions presented to his committee for action.

Resolution 13: Journal of Proceedings

Resolution was ruled out of order as it is a current by-law requirement. The Executive Committee will take the intent of this resolution and see that it is complied with.

Resolution 14: Physically Present for a Quorum

Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass

Resolution: Rejected

Resolution 10: Sale of State Grange Headquarters

Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass as Rewritten & Amended

(1st Resolve to read)

Resolved, that the property located at 146 State Street be sold, and the Executive Committee be authorized to pursue a suitable place to operate Maine State Grange and any plan for a permanent replacement be brought before the Maine State Grange delegate body at any regular state session or special session.

Resolution: Adopted as Rewritten

Grange was closed in form in the Fourth Degree by Master Richard Grotton for preparation for the evening session.

7:00 P.M.

Recognition of Former Officers of the Maine State Grange

Speaker—Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange and Master of the Oregon State Grange

Opening in the Sixth Degree

Conferral of the Sixth Degree

Rose Drill—Sagadahoc Pomona No. 9

Directed by Yvonne Johnson

Lower to the Fourth Degree

Close in the Fourth Degree

Grand March

Cider and Donuts

Recognition of the Former Officers of the Maine State Grange

Escorted to the Masters station were the following Former Officers: Clyde Berry, Master; Roberta Meserve, Flora; Dorothy Brown, Treasurer; James Owens, Master; Steven Verrill, Master; Susanne Verrill, Flora; Clayton Collins, Chaplain; Victoria Huff, Master; Wayne Sherman, Chaplain; Linda Sherman, Ceres; Harriet Spencer, Ceres and Richard Harriman, Steward.

Brother Wayne Sherman spoke on behalf of the Former Officers.

Speaker for the evening, Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange and Master of the Oregon State Grange brought greetings from the National Grange as well as the Oregon State Grange.

She gave us a brief history of her grange journey and how she became friends with Clyde and Roberta. This was her third visit as a national representative. We all have our own little differences but much the same. She loves the grange because we are family. Every day we are the ambassador of our grange.

Susan gave us a highlight of items our National Master, Betsy Huber, wanted her to let us know. She has reminded us that we are working for better communication between the National Grange and members. The e-newspaper Patrons Chain will be coming soon. But always a family not matter what.

Membership from July to December 2015 saw a net gain across the United State but unable to provide from January to June 2016. There is help for membership growth and lecturers from National Grange.

National Grange has more leasable space and is working on more member benefits. All in all more positive feedback from National Grange.

She invited us all to Oregon's State Session to be held in Florence in June 2017.

A gift of appreciation was presented to Susan and Mark.

The evening session of the Maine State Grange was called to order by Maynard Chapman, Chief Deputy, for the presentation of the Officers of the Maine State Grange. Richard Grotton, Master, proceeded to open the Session in full form in the 6th Degree.

The Officers of the Maine State Grange conferred the Sixth Degree on Isabel Stinson, Enterprise 48, and ten other candidates.

Linda V. Cobb, Manchester 172
Danielle Demarche, Riverside 475
Todd Edgerly, East Madison 228
Nancy B. Hill, Manchester 172
Eleanor Lambert, Robbinston 443
William Small, Danville Jct. 65
Helen Stinson, Enterprise 48
Carolyn VanHorn, Manchester 172
Rick Watson, Fairview 342
Holly Welch, Maple Grove 147

The Rose Drill under the direction of Yvonne Johnson was presented by members of

Sagadahoc Pomona

Ben Edgerly

C J Stinson

Helen Stinson

Isabel Stinson

Marilyn Stinson

Cumberland County

Yvonne Johnson

Lincoln Pomona

Henry & Sharon Morton

Oxford Pomona

Ruby Bryant

Somerset Pomona

Todd Edgerly

Musician

Merton Ricker Sagadahoc Pomona

Debra Ivers, Flora, had the following remarks:

To Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange and Master of the Oregon State Grange, Mark Noah, Past Master of the Oregon State Grange; distinguished guests, officers and members of the Maine State Grange.

The Sixth Degree of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry is in my opinion, the most beautiful and inspirational of all the degrees and I have many people to thank for making tonight a moving and memorable occasion for our candidates. Worthy Master and all the Officers of the Maine State Grange: **thank you** all for the exceptional work exemplified tonight. It is an honor and a privileged to work with all of you.

I would like to give a huge **thank you** to the members of the Rose Drill Team under the direction of Sister Yvonne Johnson. It takes many hours of traveling, hard work and dedication by all the members of the team to present the beautiful drill we witnessed tonight. Thank you!! I have a gift for each of you after the Grand March.

It takes many dedicated people behind the scenes to make this evening a success and I would like to personally thank and acknowledge the following for their hard work over the past two days:

The State Crew:

Terry & Harriet Spencer; Jim & Judy Meserve; Ben Edgerly; Henry Morton; Bill Bemis and Gladys Chapman.

Court Ladies:

Gladys Chapman; Norma Meserve; Laurie McBurnie; Ruby Parker; Judy Meserve; Susie Faulkner; Kathy Gowen and Missy Baldwin

Flowers & Feast Table:

Kathy Gowen; Laurie McBurnie; Gladys Chapman and Judy Meserve

In closing, I would like to congratulate our candidates on taking the next step in your Grange journey and welcome you as a 6th Degree members of the Maine State Grange.

Thank You!

The evening session of the second day of the 143rd Annual Session of the Maine State Grange was lowered to the Fourth Degree where upon the

Worthy Master, Richard Grotton, closed the session in full form in the Fourth Degree.

The evening festivities were finished with the Grand March, by all who wished, and the enjoyment of cider (Rollins Orchards) and donuts (provided by Arthur Herbert).

Saturday, October 22

9:00 A.M.

Opening in the Fourth Degree

Roll Call of Officers

Report of Credentials Committee

Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Friday's Session

10:00 A.M.

Speaker – Commissioner of Agriculture

Walter Whitcomb

Grange Farm Family and Tree Farmer of the Year Awards

Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarship Presentations

Committee Reports

Installation of Officer(s)

Closing the 143rd Annual Session in the Fourth Degree

9:00 A.M.

Opening in the Fourth Degree

The third day of the 143rd Annual Session was called to order by Maynard Chapman, Chief Deputy, for the presentation of the Officers of the Maine State Grange.

The Session was opened in full form in the fourth degree by Steven Haycock, Youth Master.

Youth Officers

Master: Steven Haycock

Overseer: Allison Colson

Lecturer: Todd Edgerly

Ceres: Christina Corliss

Flora: Christine Colson

Roll Call of Officers

Roll Call found the following Officers/Directors/Chairman absent:
Lecturer, Ruby Bryant protem; Treasurer, James Owens; Educational Aid and
Howes Nurses Scholarship Trustees, Gerald Libby, J. Patrick Elwell, Stanley
Howe; Legislative Director, James Annis; Historian Stanley Howe;
Communications/Webmaster, Walter Boomsma and James Owens, Memorial
Fund.

Presentation of the National Representative
Susan Noah, Pomona of the National Grange
Past Master of the Oregon State Grange
Mark Noah, Former Master of the Oregon State Grange
Linda Sanderson, Lecturer of the Vermont State Grange
Voting Delegate of the Assembly of Demeter

Remarks by Sister and Brother Noah and Sister Sanderson.

Report of the Credentials Committee

To the National Representative, State Officers, Brothers and Sisters, we
the credential committee wish to make our report.

There were 58 Subordinate Granges represented with 101 delegates;
16 Pomona's represented with 30 delegates.

There were 11 candidates for the Sixth Degree with \$110.00 collected
and given to the State Secretary.

We would like to thank Sister Sharon for her help.

Fraternally submitted,

Mavis Lane

Sandra Moon

Motion moved and seconded to accept the report of the Credentials
Committee and by vote so ordered and report will be printed in the Journal of
Proceedings.

Reading and Adopting the Minutes of Friday's Session

The minutes were read, corrected and adopted and ordered printed in
the Journal of Proceedings.

10:00 A.M.
Junior and Youth Programs

Christina Colson, Youth Director, presented the following awards:

Mini Gold

1st Place

Junior—William Stinson Barone

3rd Place

Pete Ivers

2nd Place

Steve Verrill and Mike Griffin

1st Place

Vicki Huff

Bowling

1st Place

Junior—William Stinson Barone

1st Place

Youth—Isabel Stinson

3rd Place

Arnold Stinson

2nd Place

Helen Stinson

1st Place

CJ Stinson-Roy

Christine Hebert, Jr. Director presented the following program:

Reading by Richard Harriman

The Flag Speaks by Susan and Mark Noah

Jr. Flag Program

Presentation of the proper folding of the American Flag

Richard Harriman and Glenn Haines

Readings of the American Flags

Betty Huff, Yvonne Johnson, Clyde Berry, CJ. Stinson Roy
and Vicki Huff

Color Quiz by Laurie McBurnie

History of the Pledge of Allegiance read by Christina Colson

**Speaker—Commissioner of Agriculture
Walter Whitcomb**

Commissioner Whitcomb was presented to the Masters station where he spoke to our delegation that he looks forward to our session each year.

The question he posed was “where are we as an agriculture society going”?

There is a renewal of interest in farming. At the Agricultural Trade Show in January they showed a map of the State of Maine that uses GET REAL GET ME signs very impressive. Marketing on a large scale he mentioned we have as many horses as cows. The casinos in Maine gave portion of revenue to harness racing and agriculture. He thanked us for all we do and that things are moving fast and encourage us to look at change if not the world will go right by us.

Thanked us for being a great part of Maine’s agriculture community.

Grange Farm Family and Tree Farmer of the Year Awards

Agnes Nelson, Ag Director, presented the Out Standing Tree Farmer Award which was given to Pine Tree Society represented by Harvey Chesley. Mr. Chesley gave a few remarks on the program at Pine Tree Camps.

Agnes again thanked all who helped on the Agriculture Committee these past few years.

**Educational Aid and Howes Nurses
Scholarship Presentations**

The Trustees of the Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarship and the recipients of the scholarships were escorted to the Master’s station. Vice President, Glenys Ryder, presided over the presentation. The Trustees presented 10 scholarships, 2 Howes Nurses and 8 Educational Aid in the amount of \$500.00.

Howes Nurses Scholarships

Katherine Bernard accepted by Clayton Collins
Hannah Gowen accepted by Kathy Gowen

Educational Aid Scholarships

Christina Colson

Jared Grenier

Nathan Hills

Christine Landers accepted by Ruby Bryant

Grace Libby accepted by Patricia Libby

Angleana Lyons

Kayla Pyles

Mary Redmond accepted by Bill Redmond

Worthy Master thanked the Trustees for all their hard work and to the recipients as well.

Committee Reports

Wayne Sherman, Chairman of the Good of the Order Committee, presented Resolution 3 which had been sent back to committee for rewriting.

3. Keeping Local History Local

**Committee Recommendation: Ought to Pass as Rewritten
Resolution Adopted as Rewritten.***

***Resolved, a Grange has the option of loaning records and history, upon approval of the State Master and Executive Committee of the Maine State Grange, of a Grange to a local historical institution of said area. And,**

Be it further resolved a written copy of the agreement to protect and preserve shall be placed on file with the Maine State Grange.

Robert and Agnes Nelson, Directors of the Ag. Committee was presented to the Master's station where the Worthy Master announced that the Nelson's

were retiring as Ag. Directors. They have had a great time as directors but find it is time for someone new. They will remain to help with anything that may be needed and they wish the best for the new director.

Karen Gagne was introduced as the new Ag. Director. She has extensive knowledge of agricultural related areas and looks forward to this new journey. Along with the Worthy State Master and the past Ag. Directors we welcome Karen on this journey.

Installation of Officers

The Installation of the Lecturer and Executive Committee Member of the Maine State Grange was conducted by Christine Hebert and Victoria Huff.

Announcements

Motion made and seconded to allow the Executive Committee to adopt the minutes of the last day of the 143rd Annual Session of the Maine State Grange. So ordered.

As the labors of the day were complete, the Worthy Master closed the last day of the 143rd Annual Session of the Maine State Grange in full form.

See you in Skowhegan in 2017



2016 SUBORDINATE GRANGE DELEGATES

ARBUTUS 450	THDMAS COOPER	IDA REED
ALDER RIVER 145	RUBY BRYANT	LYNDA CLOSE
BANGOR 372	ROLF STAPLES	ANNE STAPLES
BAUNEG BEG 382	SHERRY HARRIMAN	RICHARD HARRIMAN
BENTON 458	CHRISTINA COLSON	MARY COLSON
BINGHAM 237	TERRY SPENCER	HARRIET SPENCER
CAPE ELIZABETH 242	CLAY COLLINS	ELLIE COLLINS
CHELSEA 215	CARRIE KHALVATI	JAMES ROGERS
CHESTERVILLE 20	SKIP THOMPSON	MARIE THOMPSON
DANVILLE JUNCTION 65	KAREN GAGNE	TERRY GAGNE
DIRIGO 9B	ROBERTA GRANVILLE	BRIT RDTHRDCK
EAST MADISON 228	CATHY EDGERLY	WANDA HEMOND
ENTERPRISE 48	HELEN STINSON	ISABEL STINSDN
EXCELSIOR 5	STEVE VERRILL	SUE VERRILL
FARMINGTON 12	STEPHEN SCHAROUN	MARION SCHAROUN
FRANKLIN 124	LAURA M HUTCHINS	
GOLDEN HARVEST 33	REGGIE CLEMENT	GARY LOWE
GRANITE 192	SALLY TRIPP	JOYCE PAGE
HALCYON 345	HEATHER RETBERG	PETER NELSON
HARRASEEKET 9	YVONNE JOHNSON	
HARVEST HOME 52	GERALDINE RANDALL	ELIZABETH VANDESTINE
HIGHLAND LAKE 87	DAVID GOWEN	KATHY GOWEN
HOLLIS 132	VICKI HUFF	
HUDSDN 457	TERRY LACOMBE	DARLEN MILES
HUNTOON HILL 398	HENRY A MORTDN	
JACKSONVILLE 358	NATHAN PENNELL	
JOHN F. HILL 393	MARGARET MORSE	
KENNEBEC VALLEY 12B	DORIS DEAN	CARROLL DEAN
KNOX STATION 579	AGNES NELSON	ROBERT NELSON
MANCHESTER 172	LEON STROUT	
MAPLE GROVE 147	NORMA HAINES	HOLLY WELCH
MEENAHGA 555	RUBY PARKER	GREG RAFFERTY
MILL STREAM 574	PAUL LAVENDER	JUDY DUNN
MOUSAM LAKE 467	MELISSA BALDWIN	LORRAINE GOODNESS
MT ETNA 147	GLENN HAINES	ANN BURNS
MT PHIUP 545	DOROTHY BROWN	CLYDE BERRY
MYSTIC TIE 58	TIM WILSDN	TERRY WILSON
MYSTIC VALLEY 313	EVELYN WILBUR	NANCY FARRINGTON
NEW SHARON 238	GLENDA BARKER	
NORTH SCARBORO 495	ADRIAN J GRIFFIN	STANLEY DOUGLAS

NORWAY 45
OAK HILL 104
OLD TOWN RIVERSIDE 273
PIONEER 219
PORTER 569
RIVERSIDE 475
SACO 53
SCHOODIC 420
SEVEN STAR 73
SOMERSET 18
TOPSHAM 37
UNION HARVEST
VALLEY 144
VICTOR 49
WALES 40
WATERBORO 432
WILLOW 366
WILSON 321

PETER HAMMOND
DARRELL HUFF
CARL MOON
SHERRILL SNOWDEAL
GARY NICKERSON
DANIEL P CORLISS
JOEL TRIPP
LILLIEAN LEIGHTON
MARGARET HENDERSON
SARA (SALLIE)WILDER
MICHALE LABBE
GLENDON MEHUREN
JAMES ANNIS
KENDRA ATWODD
WAYNE D SHERMAN
GLORIA ROSS
SHARON MORTON
JIM NEUSCHWANGER

CHRISTINE HEBERT
ELIZABETH HUFF
SANDRA MOON
SHERWDOD HILT

CHRISTINE A CORLISS
ANNE TRIPP

HELEN BALGOOYEN
MERTON RICKER
JODI MARTIN
MARY ANNIS

LINDA S SHERMAN
BRENDA DYER
LAURIE MCBURNIE
LINDA NEUSCHWANGER

2016 POMONA DELEGATES

ANDROSCOGGIN #1
CUMBERLAND #15
CUMBERLAND/OXFORD #21
EAST KENNEBEC #25
EXCELSIOR #5
GREEN MOUNTAIN #26
LINCOLN #19
OXFORD #2
PENOBSCOT #8
PISCATAQUIS #11
SAGADAHOE #9
SOMERSET #6
WALDO #12
WASHINGTON #16
WEST WASHINGTON #18
YORK #14

STEVE HAYCOCK
STANLEY DOUGLAS
GLENN HAINES
STANLEY SHORES
JUDY DUNN
LILLIAN LEIGHTON
SHARON MORTON
LAURA HUTCHINS
STEPHEN CALL
WILLIAM BEMIS
MERTON RICKER
TERRY SPENCER
AGNES NELSON
HELEN BRDOKS
NATHAN PENNELL
LINDA CORLISS

NORMA MESERVE
DEBBIE IVERS
NORMA HAINES
ESTHER SHORES
PAUL LAVENDER

HENRY MORTON
PETER HAMMOND
GARY LOWE
WALTER BOOM5MA
MARILYN STINSDN
HARRJET SPENCER
ROBERT NELSON
ELEANOR LAMBERT
LESLIE GUY

TABBUTT'S BOOKKEEPING SERVICE

146 STATE STREET

AUGUSTA ME 04330

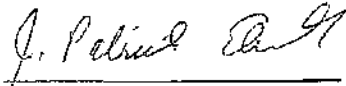
October 17, 2016

Worthy Master, Other Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange:

I have completed a preliminary examination of the books and records of the Maine State Grange for the fiscal year October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. In my opinion the accompany statements fairly reflect the financial activity of the Grange for the past year and the financial status of the Grange as of September 30, 2016. The treasurer should be commended for maintaining the records up to date and in good order.

The Grange is responsible for filing a FORM 990 tax return and that will be completed in the near future.

Fraternally Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Patrick Elwell", is written above a horizontal line.

J. Patrick Elwell

EDUCATIONAL AID AND HOWES NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

2016

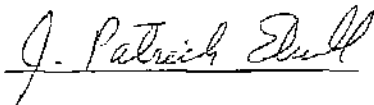
To the officers and members of the Maine State Grange:

This year we received ten applications for scholarships from the Educational Aid and Howes Nurses' Scholarship Funds. We are able to awards scholarships to all ten applicants. Eight will be given from the Educational Aid Fund and two from the Howes Nurses' Fund.

Thank you to all who responded to our annual appeal. Since interest rates are down your continued support this worthy endeavor is more important than ever. Please continue your support when the appeal is read next year.

Congratulations to the 2016 recipients of these scholarships and the committee wishes them the best in their pursuit of higher education.

Fraternally Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Patrick Elwell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

J. Patrick Elwell

Secretary/Treasurer

MAINE STATE GRANGE EDUCATIONAL AID FUNDS

9/30/16

ASSETS

The Bank of Maine:

Checking \$ 4,295.80

Certificates of Deposit:

#200961 – 0.75% due 6/24/18 16,500.00

#201206 – 0.60% due 8/12/17 11,000.00

#201179 – 0.75% due 6/13/18 17,000.00

Kennebec Savings Bank:

Certificates of Deposit:

#100112280 – 1.14% due 8/31/19 3,952.79

#100020870 – 3.15% due 6/24/17 7,033.24

#100020920 – 3.15% due 6/24/17 (Howes) 10,950.27

TD Bank:

Certificate of Deposit:

#0059068970 – 3.00% due 9/30/18 10,118.81

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 80,850.91

EQUITY

Trust Funds \$ 75,765.21

Available Funds:

Educational Aid \$ 4,045.75

Howes 1,039.95 5,085.70

TOTAL EQUITY \$ 80,850.91

MAINE STATE GRANGE EDUCATIONAL AID FUNDS

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

10/1/15 - 9/30/16

RECEIPTS:

Educational Aid:

Campaign	\$ 2,823.00	
i.m.o. Ronald Dolloff	100.00	
i.m.o. Nancy Clark	75.00	
Interest	<u>587.90</u>	\$ 3,585.90

Howes:

Campaign	653.50	
i.m.o. Nancy Clark	25.00	
Interest	<u>341.46</u>	<u>1,019.96</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS 4,605.86

DISBURSEMENTS:

Scholarships:

Educational Aid	3,100.00
Howes	700.00
Checks	<u>24.60</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 3,824.60

NET DISBURSEMENTS OVER RECEIPTS 781.26

PREVIOUS AVAILABLE BALANCE 4,304.44

TOTAL AVAILABLE \$ 5,085.70

Many thanks go to all of the people who were grange judges this year for the Agriculture Fairs grange exhibits. It is a lot to ask people to travel half way across the state to judge grange exhibits at a fair.

We as Ag-Committee Co-Directors are attending as many of the fairs as we can, especially the ones with grange exhibits. By the time this report is received we will have attended all of the fairs with grange exhibits. The reports of the fairs and the lists of the winners of the grange exhibits are as follows:

1. Houlton Fair: (didn't attend) No exhibits
2. Ossipee Valley Fair (attended July 8)
 - 1st place Maple Grove #148 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 2nd place Mt Etna #147 (agriculture exhibit)
 - *MSG display set up by Steve Haycock and Norma Meserve
3. Waterford World's Fair (attended July 15)
 - 1st place Waterford #479 (agriculture exhibit)
4. Pittston Fair (attended July 21)
 - 1st place Enterprise #48 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 2nd place Huntoon Hill #398 (agriculture exhibit)
5. Northern Maine Fair (didn't attend) No exhibits
6. Bangor State Fair (didn't attend) No exhibits
7. Monmouth Fair (attended Aug.4)
 - 1st place Enterprise #48 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 2nd place Winthrop #209 (agriculture exhibit)
8. Topsham Fair (attended Aug.10)
 - 1st place Enterprise #48 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 2nd place Merriconeag #425 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 3rd place Topsham #37 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 4th place Waterford #479 (agriculture exhibit)
9. Skowhegan Fair (attended Aug.18)
 - 1st place Somerset #18 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 2nd place Victor #49 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 3rd place Kennebec Valley #128 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 1st place Someset #18 (domestic exhibit)
 - 2nd place Victor #49 (domestic exhibit)
 - 3rd place Kennebec Valley #128 (domestic exhibit)
 - *1st place Somerset Pomona #6 (exhibit)
10. Union Fair (attended Aug.22)
 - 1st Place Evening Star #183 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 2nd place Medomac Valley #17 (agriculture exhibit)
 - 3rd place Union Harvest #591 (agriculture exhibit)
 - * Knox Pomona #3 Booth
11. Piscataquis Fair (attended Aug. 26)
 - 1st Place Valley Grange #144 (agriculture exhibit)
 - *Piscataquis Pomona #11 set up a display
12. Acton Fair (attended Aug. 27)
 - 1st place Bauneg Beg #382 (agriculture exhibit)

- 2nd place Riverside Junior Grange #475 (agriculture exhibit)
 3rd place Hollis Grange #132 (agriculture exhibit)
 4th place Henry Wilson #205 (NH) (agriculture exhibit)
 1st place Saco #53 (domestic exhibit)
 2nd place Bauneg Beg #382 (domestic exhibit)
 3rd place Mousam Lake #467 (domestic exhibit)
 4th place Hollis #132 (domestic exhibit)
13. Windsor Fair (attended Aug 30)
 1st place Evening Star #183 (agriculture exhibit)
 2nd place Enterprise #48 (agriculture exhibit)
 3rd place Huntoon Hill #378 (agriculture exhibit)
 4th place Vassalboro #322 (agriculture exhibit)
14. Blue Hill Fair (attended 3)
 1st place Schoodic #450 (agriculture exhibit)
 2nd place Castine #250 (agriculture exhibit)
 3rd place Arbutus #450 (agriculture exhibit)
 4th place Verona #206 (agriculture exhibit)
15. Springfield Fair (did not attend) (no exhibit)
 *MSG Board set up
16. Harmony Fair (did not attend) (no exhibits)
17. Litchfield Fair (attended Sept.9)
 1st place Enterprise #48 (agriculture exhibit)
18. Clinton Lions Club Fair (attended Sept.9) (no exhibits)
19. Oxford Fair (attended Sept.16)
 1st place West Minot #42 (agriculture exhibit)
 2nd place Danville Junction Grange #65 (agriculture exhibit)
 3rd place Waterford #479 (agriculture exhibit)
 1st place West Minot #42 (domestic exhibit)
 2nd place Danville Junction #65 (domestic exhibit)
 3rd place Waterford Grange #479 (domestic exhibit)
20. New Portland Lions Fair (attended Sept.16)
 1st place Somerset Grange #18, Norridgewock (agriculture exhibit)
 2nd place East Madison Grange #228 (agriculture exhibit)
21. Farmington Fair (attended Sept.21)
 1st Place Chesterville Grange #20 (agriculture exhibit)
 2nd Place North Jay Grange #10 (agriculture exhibit)
 3rd Place Farmington Grange #12 (agriculture exhibit)
 4th Place Wilson Grange #321, East Wilton (agriculture exhibit)
 1st Place Chesterville Grange #20 (domestic exhibit)
 2nd Place Farmington Grange #12 (domestic exhibit)
 3rd Place Mill Stream Grange #574, Vienna (domestic exhibit)
 *Excelsior Pomona #5 Had a manned booth with sale of fudge
22. Cumberland Fair (attended Sept 28)
 1st Place Danville Junction #65 (Agriculture exhibit)
 2nd Place Highland Lake #87 (Agriculture exhibit)

3rd Place Mt. Etna #147 (Agriculture exhibit)
* A State Grange display set up by Steve Haycock and Norma Meserve. Display received special award from Cumberland Fair and also from Cumberland Fair Farmers Club

23. Fryeburg Fair (attended Oct. 3)

1 st Place Maple Grove #148	(Domestic exhibit)
2 nd Place Mt. Etna #147	(Domestic exhibit)
3 rd Place West Minot #42	(Domestic exhibit)
4 th Place Waterford #479	(Domestic exhibit)
1 st Place West Minot #42	(Agriculture exhibit)
2 nd Place Waterford #479	(Agriculture exhibit)
Pomona Exhibits	
1 st Place Androscoggin #1	(Special Award)
2 nd Place Cumberland-Oxford #21	(Special Award)

There was a Maine State Grange exhibit.

2016 Outstanding Tree Farmer winners:

Pine Tree Camp manages 285 wooded acres in Rome. Working along with foresters John Starrett and Andy Shultz manage the Pine Tree Camp woodlands.

2016 Maine Grange Farm Family winners

The Ag-Committee is a member of the Grange Store Assoc. at Fryeburg Fair for the Ag Committee Scholarship Fund. The Ag Directors are the representatives for the Ag-Committee. Agnes and Bob Nelson worked at the Grange Store on October 2nd, 6th and 7th during the fair. The store sells fresh local produce, milk, eggs, jams, jellies, pickles, maple syrup and cider during the fair.

The Ag-Committee will also be serving a supper on October 26, 2016 for the Ag-in-the-Classroom Annual Meeting again this year.

We have had a very busy year. We have tried to do our best. We have enjoyed all of the contact we have had with everyone. We want to be sure to thank all of the people who have been so helpful and supportive for the last five years. All of the donated items for the Ag table and raffle items. Each of the activities the committee has been a part of, we thank all for their help and guidance. This has been a very rewarding and challenging five years for us. We thank all who have supported us along the way. Again Thanks!!!

Robert and Agnes Nelson, Directors

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Brothers and Sisters,

It is my distinct honor to report to you some activities and accomplishments from this year's efforts. This is the second full year I have served in the capacity of Communications Director—a position created in January 2014 that both combined and expanded the historical role of the publicity director and webmaster. My broad-based role includes assembling the printed Bulletin,

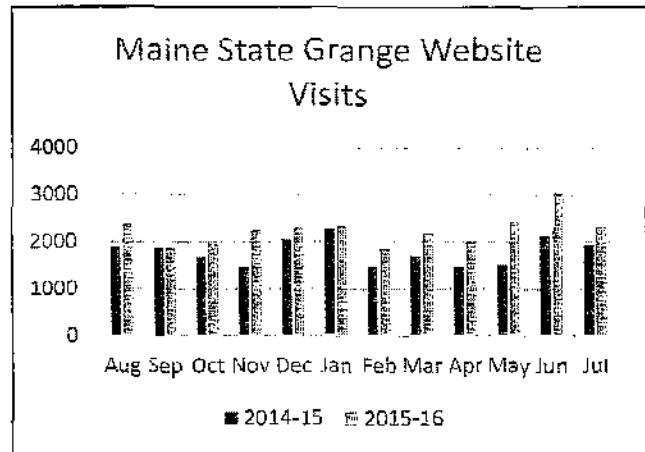
maintaining the website, facilitating communication between and to State Leaders, and advising on communication matters.

During the past year we have published twelve monthly Bulletins without missing a deadline. I am grateful to those directors and officers who regularly submit articles and support improving our internal communication.

This has also benefited the website which is in its sixth full year of operation in its current form. The objectives for the redesign in November 2010 were simple. Some of the more important included:

- To encourage prompt posting and maintenance of information and resources,
- To control that posting process with some level of moderation and quality control,
- To allow users to find basic information and resources (such as applications, manuals, etc.) readily, and
- To allow users to subscribe to the site and receive email versions of posts.

We continue to achieve those objectives. There have been nearly 27,000 site visits from September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2016—an average of nearly 2,250 per month and nearly 75 per day. **This is a whopping 25% increase over the previous year.** I would note that, thanks to our subscription ability, it is likely this significantly “underreports” usage of the site because subscribers need not visit the site to view posts. At the top end, subscribers could easily account for an additional 50,000 views during the same period.



Of course numbers do not tell the entire story.

It has been personally rewarding to receive an increasing number of “Exciting Granges and Grangers” posts, celebrating our accomplishments and success. Also, members and non-members are also using the site as a vehicle for asking questions—these questions do not always appear on the site (unless they are of a general nature) but are handled by forwarding to the appropriate party or parties.

During this past year, I have continued to add resource documents and tools to our collection of communication resources available on the site. A single page directory of state officers, deputies, and directors including contact information and is available on the site, along with program books, applications, etc. that are made available by directors and state officers. Media interest in the Grange has continued at a satisfactory rate. A challenge we continue to face is deflecting the media’s interest in our declining membership and providing news that demonstrates we are still vibrant and have potential. This seems to be more attainable on a local level, when and where a Grange hosts or sponsors an event.

The email list we created two years ago is allowing us to communicate with state officers, deputies and directors regularly and “as needed.” While I do not maintain statistics, I am certain usage has increased this past year. I would continue to especially challenge the people who are on that list to make use of it whenever there is news and information to distribute to leadership. The service is free and quick—all that’s required is an email to me with the information that needs to be shared.

I reactivated the process which allows non-delegates to register for State Convention this year. I also met with the Executive Committee this past year to discuss some options with the printed Bulletin.

Writing the monthly "Exploring Traditions" Column has been both inspiring and rewarding and I plan to continue to challenge members to give thought to "the Grange way of life." Thanks to those who have sent encouraging emails, indicating you have found the information interesting and helpful.

I would also offer a special thanks to Heather Retberg of Halcyon Grange for her willingness to share her columns for our monthly "View from Farm." Communication from National Grange has increased and we are supplementing posts to the website with these articles as well.

I believe the primary role of any state position or function is to support Subordinate and Pomona Granges. But communication is not a "one-person job." Individuals, Community/Subordinate and Pomona Granges can best support our communications efforts by providing positive news and information.

Looking ahead, one change I anticipate making is the way we handle subscriptions to the website. Unfortunately, due to some changes in the original "feed burner," we have lost access to subscriber information—we literally do not know how many subscribers we have and who they are! I hope to integrate a subscription feature using MailChimp technology (the same system used for the state leaders email list) during the next several months.

I will also continue to encourage more open communication throughout our Order. Several years ago I spoke at a New England Leaders' Conference suggesting that we have huge opportunities when it comes to communication, both externally and internally. We must generate interest and excitement among our communities, prospective members, and ourselves.

With that background, our greatest accomplishment in 2015-16 is also our greatest need for the coming year. We must continue to increase participation and information to and from local and Pomona Granges and state officers and committees. We must demonstrate American values and honor our hometown roots.

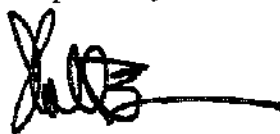
I had the honor of visiting Halcyon Grange for a meeting earlier this year. I happened to be standing near the door when a young family walked in. Assuming they were members, I greeted them and introduced myself. After some casual conversation, I sensed they weren't fully understanding some of the things I was saying. Then they admitted this was the first time they'd been to a Grange. "But we are small farmers and we heard this is the place we have to be."

I think about that encounter often. Can we communicate to our friends and neighbors that Grange is the place they have to be?

If there is anything I can do to help you and your Grange do that, please let me know.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter Boomsma

Maine State Grange Communications Director

<http://mainestategrange.org>

COMMUNITY SERVICE and FAMILY, HEALTH & HEARING

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,
This year's Community Service/Family, Health & Hearing Committee included: Cassandra Corliss, Dawn Tarbox, & Stephen Call.

Community Service

I am very excited to say I have made it through my third year as the Director of this committee, I have been privileged and honored to meet so many new people at all the Granges that I have visited. I have shared the love and joy of Community Service and the advantages of combining with Family, Health & Hearing as well as Lecturer's programs. It has been an honor and learning experience each and every day working with and getting to know everyone.

I was excited to see the Community Service Books/Activity Sheet that came in again this year. I am so proud of all the work that has been done around the state this year. The quality of books was the highest I have seen. I truly felt sorry for the judges this year. Their decision was not an easy one.

This year's Community Service Winners are

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Again, this year we had three great sponsors of the Community Service Book Contest, Patrons Oxford Insurance, Kennebec Savings, & SK Durrell Agency. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

Of 126 Subordinate Granges, 33 reports were submitted, which means we beat last year by ONE report. We are required to have a 25% participation rate to receive monetary support from National Grange. WE DID IT!!! If your Grange submitted a report give yourself a round of applause, if you did not please help out and submit one next year.

Please keep sending them in each year. Let me say the work put into these books is getting more and more and more extensive each year. This year's judges were so impressed with the quality of the books that we had to add a fourth judge to our panel for final determination. The top six books were separated by a total of 4.50 points. That was how close the book quality and content was. Wonderful work to all!!!

I am happy to say that many Granges are still supporting Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. If your Grange ever gets a chance to do a visit to BBCH it is the most rewarding and inspiring experience. These children don't understand the words "GIVE UP". We can all learn something from them. Coups for Troops is still going strong, well let me correct that, stronger than ever. I am pleased to report that we have shipped out 378 lbs. of coupons this year. That doubled last year's total.

We have again been able to sponsor the Maine State Grange Officer/Firefighter/Educator of the Year Award. National Grange has chosen to continue to participate in this and added Educator of the Year to the list. Northeast Region of Granges has also continued this recognition program. It gives me great pleasure and honor to be able to submit our winners in both contests. Last year Our Police Officer of the Year went on to be recognized by the National Grange and our Fire Fighters were recognized by the Northeast Region of Granges.

Maine State Grange winners are

Police officer of the Year: _____

Fire Fighter of the Year: _____

Educator of the Year: _____

I would like to sincerely thank all the Granges who sent in nominations as well as those who worked on the process to choose the winners in each category. This is not an easy task. The committee greatly appreciates all the effort put into this program to make it a success. This year we implemented a new project the Volunteer Fair. We had a very successful day. Success is not measured in the amount of people who attended, but it is measured by the knowledge and partnerships made. We introduced some new organizations to the Grange and received a great deal of knowledge. Therefore, we will be working on this type of fair for the upcoming year. Please feel free to contact me if you have any ideas for the upcoming "Idea Fair". Please watch the website and bulletin for information. We would like to give a very big thanks to all of those who participated and helped to make this event what it was.

Please make sure to pick up the Community Service/Family, Health & Hearing 2016 – 2017 Packets at the Community Service/Family, Health & Hearing Table at State Session.

Family, Health & Hearing

The committee is overjoyed at the responses this year to the Family, Health & Hearing Contest. It is great to see the increased activity to this committee. It was also incredible to visit Granges and hear them providing information on several subjects each month to Grangers. Awareness and knowledge of a given subject helps give you an upper hand in fighting it. This year's Family, Health & Hearing Contest Winner is:

Please keep this contest in mind for the upcoming year. This can help your Grange raise an extra \$50.00. Make sure to work with your Community Service Chair and Lecturers to bring awareness to different causes. Open your halls and hearts to the public and bring awareness to the community.

This year we also implemented a signature program for Family, Health & Hearing, The Iris Network (formerly the Maine Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired). Mr. John Shattuck is our contact person from the Iris Network and has done a few visits around the state to bring awareness to this cause. Please feel free to contact the Community Service/Family, Health & Hearing Committee if you would like John to visit your Grange.

This committee would like to give a sincere thank you to all that have helped and supported us over the past year, to make our committee the success it has become.

Maine State Grange – CS/FHH "Making a Difference One Project at a Time!"

Fraternally and Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Corliss, Director

HISTORIAN

During the past year, I have received numerous queries regarding Grange hall histories and have been successful in some instances with providing information on halls for local historians and for journalists who needed information for articles on Granges. I have also received photographs of Grange groups and specific members that will be transferred to the Bethel Historical Society which has an extensive collection as a result of its sponsorship of an exhibit on the history of the Maine Grange and the conference that was held to enhance greater understanding of the historical significance of the Grange in Maine history. Anyone wishing to donate any Grange items to the Society is urged to contact me at (207) 824-2291 or chestan@megalink.net.

Stan Howe
Historian

JUNIOR COMMITTEE

▪ **Membership:**

We took in 3 members, 2 received their Obligation. Two members moved up to subordinate level. Maine State Junior membership total is 17.

I have spoken to several Granges about starting a Junior Grange in their areas. Even though you may only have a couple of junior age children in your area they can still become a Maine State Junior Grange Member. I am willing to conduct an Obligation Ceremony for those children at a regular subordinate meeting.

- **Camp:** There were 5 present at junior camp, we learned how to bake beans in a "bean hole". For our community service project we assisted South Sangerville Grange members with setting up, serving food and cleaning up, during their June bean supper where approximately 200 people were served.

▪ **At Family Camp Out:**

Judging for junior contests was held at Family Camp in July. Winners are as follows:

1. Aluminum Foil-(5-7) William Stinson-Barone 1st place \$15:00
2. Quick Energy Bar-(5-7) William Stinson-Barone 1st place \$15.00
3. Sun Catcher-(5-7) William Stinson-Barone 1st place \$15.00
4. Plastic Canvas-Non junior (4) Reagan Crockett 1st place \$5.00

There were 2 individuals over the age of 14 who also enjoyed making our crafts: Isabel Stinson made a plastic canvas craft and Arnold Stinson made an aluminum foil craft. Dean won the 50/50, and our share was \$36.50. The Chinese Auction brought in \$91.00. Thanks to everyone who contributed, and thanks to Norma and Judy Meserve who coordinated the operation of the Junior Department at family camp out.

▪ **Finances:** (AS OF 9/30/16)

Receipts: \$ 3570.65

Expenses: \$1825.20

- We had 3 successful Committee Meetings, along with lots of communication from e-mails/phone calls.
- Juniors and Youths participated in a Flag Presentation at the Volunteer Fair. Worthy Master Rick Grotton has asked us to repeat the presentation at State Session this year. **What an Honor!**

- Many, many, Thanks to our Honorary Member: Laurie McBurnie and the Junior Committee Team members: Judy Meserve, Norma Meserve, Kathy Gowen, Roberta Meserve, CJ Roy, Nanci Greene, Michelle Worthley, Peter Hammond, for a job well done. It was a successful year.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christine Hebert
Junior Director

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Because the Maine State Legislature doesn't work on new bills, unless they're emergency bills, during the second year of a two year term, I was unable to submit the approved 2015 resolutions to the Legislature. The term for the Legislature was 2014-2015. After the election of the Legislature this Fall, I intend to send them to my local Senator and House Representative for their perusal and possible submission to the Maine State Legislature.

To refresh your recollections, they were Vitamins and Herbal Supplements submitted by Norway Grange No. 45; Universally Uniformed State Vehicle Inspections submitted by Cumberland Pomona No. 15; Two Year Vehicle Inspections submitted by Cumberland Pomona No. 15; and Community Based Local Food Production submitted by Halcyon Grange No. 345.

The Marijuana In Maine resolution submitted by Androscoggin Pomona No. 1 is a foregone conclusion. It's to be a referendum on the Maine ballot this November for the people of Maine to decide.

The Increasing Medicare Part D Coverage resolution submitted by Norway Grange No. 45 has been sent on to National Grange for their approval and submittal to the federal government.

Respectfully Submitted,
James D. Annis, Director

MEMBERSHIP

This year has been a difficult one for the Membership of the Maine State Grange, not unlike many gardeners' experiences this year.

Following the agricultural metaphor that the Grange uses to describe our organization, its goals, and the expectations of its members, I will explain that statement.

Having a proud, committed, diversified Grange membership is very similar to planting a successful garden.

To have a **bountiful, beautiful garden** several steps are necessary, requiring many decisions and actions:

Planning our garden: Is it to be a container garden planted in pots on the deck? Or is it a larger space, requiring special equipment?

Securing the seed and fertilizer: What seeds do we want...flowers, veggies; seedlings, root stock? Are we organic? Do we care about GMOs (genetically modified organisms)? Will we try something new, to broaden our yield?

Preparing the soil: Will we till mechanically, turn over raised beds manually, or use a hand trowel to prep patio pots? Are we composting, or relying on commercial fertilizers?

Tending our crops: How do we enable our crops to grow bountifully? How do we keep our crops free of weeds: do we mulch, hire garden workers to hoe and weed, or use chemicals? Where is the water coming from? We all know that we need about 1" per week during the high growth season. Will a garden hose on the backyard spigot do the job? Do we need an irrigation system?

Reaping the harvest: Will we harvest enthusiastically, accepting assistance when available, in order to maximize the crop? Will we hire additional help when the need is identified, and our own hands are insufficient for the tasks facing us? Will we compost the residual material, recycling it into next years' benefit?

Enjoying the fruits of our labors: will we preserve our surplus for later benefits? Will we have joyous feasts to celebrate our bounty? Will we share with others? Will we save appropriate seed, ensuring next year's success?

Having a **proud, committed, diversified Grange membership** is very similar to planting a successful garden, requiring many decisions and series of specific actions:

"Planning our membership garden": Is it to be the same as years past, with the hope of maintaining the status quo? More or less doing the same things, expecting the same results, and worrying about those results. Or is it a larger plan, requiring special equipment?

"Securing the membership seed and fertilizer": What *seeds* are the elements that will ensure our growth? Are we brave enough to recruit potential members to come to any Grange? To ask them to come observe, learn about our organization, decide to participate? Will we try something new, like buying new seed, to broaden our results?

“Preparing the membership soil”: Are we following our same patterns of behavior, despite the lack of improved results...not unlike planting the same crop year after year until the soil is unproductive. OR are we willing to consider newer concepts to improve the “*membership soil*”, such as the more effective, professional advice of marketing experts who can ensure our message is heard by a much larger, more diversified audience. Are we willing to modify our own behaviors to welcome those who are interested in our organization...these may be small, but important gestures, such as thanking everyone individually who supports your Grange in any way. Think about having written invitations and thank you notes readily available, to supplement electronic alternatives.

“Tending our membership crops”: How do we enable our membership *crops* to grow bountifully? Do we remove the obstacles to growth of membership as they arise? Things like lack of good information:

Do all of your members understand the roles of the Pomona and State Granges?

Do they know that wonderful entertainment is a key part of the State Grange Annual Session?

How many know what the Rose Drill is, and that the Seventh Degree is wonderful to see.

Do your newcomers know that we sponsor a Legislative Luncheon, where it is held, who attends, and what their role could be in ensuring its success?

Do they know about the many charitable acts the Maine State Grange sponsors, and how many people are benefited by them?

Do they feel part of a stable, financially balanced organization that supports many community service activities statewide?

In your Subordinate and Pomona Granges, do you have written program available so newcomers can plan ahead for upcoming meetings and events.

During your meetings, do Committee members really make a report? New members especially will be shortchanged if the response is “NO REPORT.” We must keep our entire membership informed.

“Reaping the membership harvest”:

Will we welcome membership inquiries enthusiastically?

Will we *actively* involve all members our Grange (Grange is **not** a spectator sport... newcomers do not want to come to Grange to watch officers who have held offices for years do more of the same.)?

Will we accept assistance, when available, even when it is from an unexpected source?

Will we pay our appreciation and enthusiasm forward, maybe by honoring someone during our Grange Month celebrations for their help in the past, or partnering with another organization to assist them in a special event.

“Enjoying the fruits of our membership labors”:

Will we celebrate our success in establishing a growing membership?

Will we acknowledge our success in meeting our current goals?

Will we be appreciative of the roles of the many competent, unselfish members who make the Maine State Grange an organization worthy of our pride?

Will we regularly share this membership opportunity with others?

If we can agree to actively adopt the concepts of being dedicated gardeners, our “Membership Garden” will grow as predictably as our orchards, veggie and flower gardens do. Membership is everyone’s responsibility, and we must all take it seriously now if we want our Grange to survive. Thank you in advance for your help.

Kay Khalvati, Membership Chair

MEMORIAL FUND

The Memorial Fund was established in 1981 and consists of donations received in memory of departed Grange members. A Memorial Book is kept with the names of those for whom donations are received in their memory, as well as the names of those who made the contributions. This past year we received \$10.00 with no expenditures.

Fraternally,
James A. Owens and Sharon Morton
Memorial Committee

To the Master, Officers and members of the Maine State Grange, I would like to thank each and everyone that has helped and made donations to all of the worthy groups that we support. I am very grateful for my Committee members as they are always ready to assist wherever and whenever they are needed, thanks also go out to two of Margaret's grandsons and my granddaughter, Kayleeann, for all the leg work they did in setting up the hall for the CWA Conference.

Our entries for all of the contests were down this year and I regret that, I did ask several people what their opinion was and the answers were: people do not do crafts like they used to, bored, busy with other projects. I will have a Suggestion Box at State Session along with paper and I would appreciate any and all complaints, compliments and ideas on improving CWA, Even suggestions on workshops would be welcomed.

I do have a duplicate copy from someones deposit to the Educational Aid for \$50.00 on the front side with the four CWA certificates on the back, If this is your Grange, please try to see me, to try

I had visions of visiting many Granges this past year but again surgery interfered!! My granddaughter and I have decided that Nana has had enough surgeries Mike and I will be going car shopping soon so please do not have shock when I finally do visit your grange.

We had our usual three Judges, they were surprised how down the entries were, especially in the Sewing categories but the quality was very impressive. The use of the correct labels has greatly improved and putting the correct labels in snack size baggies really helped as it meant less pinning and unpinning them. There was only two Granges that did not use the new end of year reort sheets but that is nothing to complain about.

Were you aware that any items made and donated to the CWA or the Grange Store at the Big E can be included in your Community Service report sheets? The following Grangers donated baked goods to the Volunteer Fair, Steven Haycock and I have thank you certificates for them, we have been trying to get together to present them but so far it's not been possible. Norma Meserve, Karen Gagne, Maynard and Gladys Chapman, Ruby Bryant, Joyce MacDonald, Glenys Ryder and Karen Flagg.

This next part of my report will list the winners at the State Grange Level: Sewing, Class A-Adult; Teresa Wilson, Class C-Childrens Garments; Karen Flagg 1st, Kelly Serfes 2nd, Class D-Wearable Art; Barbara Cataldo, Dress-A-Doll; Karen 1st, _____ 2nd, _____.
Needlework entries: Class A-Afghan; Louise Worster 1st, Hannah Gowen 2nd, Laurie McBurnie 3rd, B; Doilies-Sheryl Couturier 1st, Marilyn Schofield 2nd, Barbara Smith 3rd; C-Embroidery; Barbara Griffin, Jackie Morgan 2nd, D-3 piece baby set-Ann Burns 1st, E-Plastic Canvas-Glenys Ryder 1st, Ceneretta Ward 2nd, Priscill Locke 3rd; F-Counted Cross Stitch-Janet Hughes 1st, Helen McDonald 2nd, Hannah Gowen 3rd; G-Adult Garment-Jeanne Burnham; H-Latch Hook; Stanley Douglas; I-Quilted Wall Hanging-Patricia Libby 1st, Mary Varney 2nd, Cheryl Moore 3rd; J-Stuffed Toy-Pauline Spencer 1st Ann Burns 2nd, Karen Flagg 3rd, K-Childrens Garment-Esther Shores 1st and Best of Show, Brenda Jones 2nd, Phyllis Mason 3rd, L-Baby Afghan; Ruby Parker 1st, Elmira Collins 2nd, Edith Maynard 3rd, N-Misc. Items; Laurie McBurnie 1st, Ann Burns 2nd, Marilyn Schofield 3rd; O-Decorated Item (Door Decoration) Women-Ruby Parker 1st, Mary Hunter 2nd, Elmira Collins 3rd; O-Men-Stanley Shores 1st, Larry Carter 2nd; P-Wooden Toy (Women)-Ceneratta Ward 1st; P-(Men) Phillip Parsons 1st.

The next list of winners are from the Quilting Contests: B-(Machine Quilted) Patricia

Libby 1st, Kathy Gowen 2nd, Jackie Morgan 3rd; Hand Tied-Karen Flagg 1st, Jean Dube 2nd, Elmira Collins 3rd; D-Pieced by Entrant and Quilted by someone else-Patricia Libby 1st, E-Baby Quilt; Elmira Collins. I also would like everyone know that Esther Shores and Patricia Libby each won Best of Show with their entries. Baking-Women; Jackie Morgan 1st, Barbara Griffin 2nd, Sally Tripp 3rd; Men-Daryl Huff 1st, Glenn Haines 2nd, Stanley Shores 3rd.

Maine sent eleven entries on to the Big E for the Needlecraft Contests with the following people winning in each category; Class A-Afghan; Louise Worster 1st, E-Plastic Canvas; Glenys Ryder 3rd, F-Counted Cross Stitch; Janet Hughes 1st (also received Best of Show) H-Latch Hook; Stanley Douglas 3rd, and I-Quilted Wall Hanging; Patricia Libby, congratulations goes out to each and everyone that entered all of the contests. Anyone that had entries that went on to the Big E will need to see me personally at State Session to sign out your item, if you cannot do it yourself then someone else may pick it up WITH a note.

Maine was responsible for donating a quilt to be raffled off at the Big E this year so I made a king sized "Trip Around the World Quilt" with seven shades of green fabric it was machine sewn and tied by my two helpers and myself. There was a little over \$1700. collected. I had spoken to the State Master on where the proceeds would go and he agreed with me that we will be splitting it in half, benefiting "House in the Woods" and "Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers". I am really excited to present this check to them along with the money that all of you have generously donated.

Legends for Donation Sources

MSG(Maine State Grange) NEGB(New England Grange Building)
House (House in the Woods) MLW(Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers)

Donations from 5-6-2016 through 9-13-2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grange</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
5-6-16	Branch Mills #336	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
5-16-16	Lakeside #63	House	20.00
5-17-16	Franklin #124	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
5-19-16	Meenahga #555	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
5-21-16	Bauneg Beg #382	House	20.00
6-8-16	Bangor #372	NEGB	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
6-13-16	Bear Mountain #62	House	10.00
6-13-16	North Penobscot Pomona #10	NEGB	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
6-17-16	Mystic Valley #313	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
6-24-16	Cape Elizabeth #242	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00

Donations (continued) page2

6-21-16	Dirigo #98	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
6-22-16	New Norland #580	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
6-27-16	Riverside #475	MLW	10.00
6-27-16	West Minot #42	NEGB	16.50
		MSG	16.50
		House	16.50
		MLW	16.50
6-30-16	Oak Hill #104	NEGB	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
6-30-16	Danville Junction #65	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		MLW	10.00
6-30-16	Valley #144	NEGB	10.00
		House	15.00
		MLW	10.00
7-7-16	Harraseeket #9	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
7-22-16	No.Scarborough #495	MSG	10.00
7-25-16	Cumberland County Pomona	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
7-26-16	Penobscot Pomona #8	MLW	10.00

Donations (continued) page 3

7-26-16	Maple Grove #148	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
8-5-16	Androscoggin Pomona #1	NEGB	30.00
		MSG	25.00
		House	25.00
		MLW	25.00
\$25.00 included in check for Family Health and Hearing (forwarded to Christine Corliss)			
8-13-16	Norway #45	NEGB	25.00
		MSG	25.00
		House	25.00
		MLW	25.00
8-22-16	Knox Station #579	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
8-24-16	Mt.Etna #147	NEGB	20.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	20.00
8-26-16	North Jay #10	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00
9-13-16	Somerset Pomona #6	NEGB	10.00
		MSG	10.00
		House	10.00
		MLW	10.00

New England Grange Building -----271.50

Maine State Grange -----226.50

House in the Woods -----301.50

Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers -----296.50

Director Expenditures 9-1-2015 – 9-1-2016

4-30-16	2 rolls postage stamps	94.00
8-13-16	mail certificates	1.31
8-29-16	mail certificates	4.60
9-1-16	mail certificates	52.49
	Total	152.40
8-26-16	Judges Candace Clark Dianne Morse Kamilla Hall	90.00
8-26-16	Olive Garden (3 Judges and 3 CWA members)	128.00
	Total	218.00

Fundraising Committee Annual Report

2016

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

A motion was made at last year's annual session to create a fundraising committee to help generate additional income for State Grange operations. After being elected Master, Rick Grotton asked me to serve as Chairman of the committee.

I set forth ambitious goals and plans for the committee and we did achieve several of them this past year. When brainstorming ways to raise money we created two separate lists, one that focused on non-members and the other on Grange members. It is my firm belief that in order to get the State Grange on firmer financial ground we need to look at ways to generate income from non-members as we can only ask so much of our current membership. In theory this should have added the advantage of promoting the Grange to non-members at the same time. Another underlining goal of our fundraising work was to attempt to save our State Grange home from being sold.

The major projects we focused on this year was:

- Yard Sale / Craft Fair at State Grange HQ
- Agricultural Pride T-Shirt
- Grange Promotional T-Shirt
- 4 Cook Books
- Candy Bar Sales
- Variety Show

Major Project Summaries

-Yard Sale / Craft Fair-

The yard sale and craft fair at State Grange HQ on Saturday June 25 was a great success. We rented out tables to anyone who wanted to sell crafts or yard sale items. We also had our agricultural pride t-shirts available as well along with lunch, cooked food table, and a 50/50 raffle. There are many people to thank who made this day a success. Thank you notes were sent to all of them, and I'm afraid, I might miss someone if I tried to list them here. You know who you are, and you made this event a success. We were fortunate at the end of the sale that a woman who helps assist people with items needed for their home through a local Church came by. We donated any remaining household items she was interested in to help her with her project. The remaining items were donated to the Salvation Army. Immediately after the yard sale we had an "autopsy" of the day what worked and what didn't so we can make changes for a bigger success in the future.

-Agricultural Pride T-Shirt-

We designed what we called an agricultural pride t-shirt to sell. The shirts are a wonderful green color and depicts a farmer standing in his crop of corn. Below the image is the phrase. "Farmers... Outstanding in Their Field". The ultimate goal of the t-shirt was to sell them to non-members and sell them at fairs when possible. While most of the shirts so far have been bought by Grange members some have been sold to non-members. We have sold out of the initial order, and are hoping to have larger order for State Session. I would like to thank the Executive Committee for approving my request to purchase these shirts to sell.

-Grange Promotional T-Shirt-

I really was hoping to have Grange promotional t-shirt to sell at State Session this year, but time got away from me. The shirt has been designed, but we need to look into a possible copyright issue before printing them. Look for these in 2017.

-Cookbooks-

It seems like since the founding of our Order when Grangers need money, they create cookbooks. The Grange is known for the delicious cooks, scrumptious public suppers, and special homemade recipes. The plan was to create four smaller cookbooks as opposed to one larger one. The cookbooks were to be appetizers, main dishes, desserts, and pickling and preserving. We asked Grangers to send their recipes in by May 15, when the date came, we didn't have enough for our project, so the deadline was extended to July 31. When we began to work on the cookbook we discovered two things, one we didn't have enough recipes to do a stand-alone cookbook on appetizers, and that we would need to retype each of the more than 350 recipes. I'm sad to report the cookbooks will not be available this year, but at least we have something to look forward to next year.

-Candy Bar Sales-

Throughout the year I've been selling candy bars and more at the various Grange functions I've attended. This simple project was the beginning of our fundraising activities, and I'm grateful for the support of those who have gotten their sugar rush and helped the State Grange at the same time.

-Variety Show-

The Variety show was extremely stressful and whole lot of fun. As we didn't know what kind of acts we would be able to find, I asked Danville Jct. Grange member Mitch Thomas to perform in the show. Mitch is the Executive Director of the Franco Center in Lewiston and is also involved with the Lewiston Auburn Community Little Theater. He can play a piano like no one I've seen before, and is always a crowd pleaser. Other acts

included, a beautiful song by Phil Steadman, musical selections by Merton Ricker and RoJean Taulk, Dave Gowen's Trombone Quartet, Lip Sync by Rick Grotton, Leaping Lizards (lizard and snake information with live animals) by Josh Richards, and Sherry Harriman with her "mopsicord" among others. The evening concluded with the "Grange Singers". Along with entertainment we held 50/50 raffle and a silent auction for gift cards I asked Pomona Granges to donate. Perhaps the highlight of the evening was refreshments which consisted of slices of pie. I asked Ruby Bryant to coordinate the pie sale and she did an excellent job, also her pumpkin mousse pie was to die for. A great time was had by all, we are ready starting to plan next year's show with a target date of April 29th back at Topsham Grange.

-Financial Report-

-Income-

Category	Amount
Candy Bars Etc.	\$185.30
Car Magnet Sales	\$24.00
Donations	\$3.00
Pins, Bracelets & Key Chains	\$55.00
Ag. Pride T-Shirts	\$406.00
Table Rent – Yard Sale / Craft Fair	\$120.00
Raffles	\$22.00
50/50 Raffles	\$65.00
Lunch / Refreshments	\$212.80
Vtg. Metal Grange Signs	\$140.00
White Elephant – Craft Fair	\$200.00
Variety Show – Ticket Sales	\$232.00
Variety Show - Silent Auction	\$190.00
Total	\$1,855.10

-Expenses-

Category	Amount
Promotion (Signs, Newspaper / Facebook Ads etc.)	\$296.70
Refreshments Supplies	\$30.00
Cost of Items to Resell (Candy Bars etc.)	\$47.47
T-Shirt Costs	\$323.80
Total	\$697.97

Total Profit of \$1,157.13!

-Thank You's-

I sincerely wish to thank Ruby Bryant. It's literally more true for Ruby than most people, but she wears many hats. Ruby has attended any meeting I've asked her to attend, & she on her own initiative went and had, bracelets, pins and keychains made in Grange colors for us to sell. Ruby's help on the fundraising committee has been invaluable. Our success would not have been what it was if we didn't have Ruby on the committee.

I also want to thank Norma Meserve, for helping make my ideas become realities and keeping me somewhat organized and motivated. This especially needed on days when I can barely drag myself out of bed.

I also want to thank the other members of my committee, Nate Pennel, Diane Pinkham and Sharon Morton for any help they may have contributed this past year. Sharon volunteered to help with the cookbook the moment the work cookbook came out of my mouth and her help has been much appreciated. If anyone is interested in serving on the Fundraising Committee we would welcome your ideas and enthusiasm. Please contact myself or the Master Rick to volunteer.

A thank you is also needed for Worthy Master Rick and Overseer Sherry for supporting us in all of our projects. I also want to thank the Executive Committee of the Maine

State Grange for supporting my requests when the answer was yes, and giving advice and counsel when the answer was no.

-Conclusion-

The fundraising efforts of the Maine State Grange are extremely important; we have already made plans for next year. We will start with the items that were planned for this year and didn't happen. It's my recommendation that the Maine State Grange set aside an amount not to exceed \$1000.00 for the use of the Fundraising Committee to purchase items for resell etc. For me personally this have been a tuff year, in May I lost my job, that provided a schedule that was predictable. I've returned to the world of retail with a schedule that changes almost every day. I hope going back to this hectic type of schedule will not affect my efforts as your fundraising chairman in the coming year.

Fraternally Submitted,

Steven Haycock,

Fundraising Chairman

Maine State Grange

To the Members of Maine State Grange,

RE: Youth Committee Report

There were several members participating in the mini golf. Awards were given to:

Junior – William Stinson Barone 1st place with a score of 79
3rd place – Pete Ivers with a score of 50
2nd place – Steve Verrill and Mike Griffin tied with a score of 48
1st place – Vicki Huff with a score of 46

There were only a few members who participated in bowling. Awards were given to:

Junior – William Stinson Barone 1st place with a score of 41
Youth – Isabel Stinson 1st place with a score of 40
3rd place – Arnold Stinson with a score of 52
2nd place – Helen Stinson with a score of 59
1st place – CJ Stinson-Roy with a score of 68

The youth will be doing a march on Saturday of the State session.

I personally would like to thank all that participated in the activities and look forward to the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Colson
Youth Director
Maine State Grange
314-9890

**RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED FOR THE 2016
MAINE STATE GRANGE CONVENTION**

1. Primaries

**Norway No. 45
Referred to Legislative**

Whereas, the State of Maine is likely to return to a primary election process for selecting presidential candidates from each party, and

Whereas, voting is the right of all legal United States citizens, and

Whereas, the selection of presidential candidates is of great importance to all Americans, and

Whereas this primary election will be taxpayer funded and it is reasonable that all registered voters should be able to participate in the candidate selection process, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange will use its influence to urge the passage of legislation to provide a means by which independent or unenrolled registered voters in the State of Maine may cast a ballot in a primary election for either political party without being enrolled as a member of that party.

2. Recognition of Caroline Arabella Hall

**MSG Executive Committee
Referred to Good of the Order**

Whereas, Sister Caroline A. Hall was recognized at the 26th Annual National Grange Session in Concord, NH when the National Grange voted that the National Grange recognizes her as equal to a Founder of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and

Whereas, in 1915 the Assembly of Demeter passed a concurrent vote by instructing the insertion of a page in the Sacred Record of the Order, recognizing Sister Hall as entitled to the same position in Grange history as held by the Seven Founders themselves, and

Whereas, Sister Hall was chosen the first Ceres of the National Grange in 1868 and later elected Lady Assistant Steward of the National Grange, and

Whereas, Sister Hall insisted that the Grange be a pioneer in its recognition of the equality and opportunities to which women were entitled by granting women equal membership and voting privileges in the Grange. She further served the Grange by compiling the first Grange Songbook, and

Whereas, she has not received the recognition in the Sacred Record as stipulated in 1915, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Assembly of Demeter vote to direct the High Priest of Demeter to set aside in the Sacred Record appropriate pages with photo and biographical

information and the recognition of Caroline Arabella Hall's status as an equal Founder of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.

3. Keeping Local History Local

Victor No. 49

Referred to Good of the Order

Whereas, the local Grange history is important to the area in which it resides, and
Whereas, when a Grange closes its doors for good, these records are often lost or forgotten, be it

Resolved, that the closing Grange has the option of delivering the records and history of the closing Grange to the local historical society/museum/library of said area.

4. Memorial Notifications

Cumberland Pomona No. 15

Good of the Order

Whereas, the Maine State Grange website is a useful Grange communication tool, and

Whereas, there is a recognized need to promote awareness among members, therefore be it

Resolved, that a memorial link be established on the Maine State Grange website.

5. Maine Voting Residency Requirements

Cumberland Pomona No. 15

Referred to Legislative

Whereas, the State of Maine has no durational residency requirements for voting, and

Whereas, the State of Maine has no registration requirements for voting, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange go on record of supporting a 30 day residency requirement for voting in the State of Maine.

6. Federal EBT Welfare Card Program Reform

Cumberland Pomona No. 15

Referred to Legislative

Whereas, the EBT welfare card program in the State of Maine must meet federally controlled guideline, and

Whereas, there is abuse and continued misuse of EBT welfare cards in the State of Maine, therefore be it

Resolved, that the National Grange seek legislation to change federal guidelines to allow each individual State to govern their own EBT welfare card programs.

7. Electoral College System

**Cumberland Pomona No. 15
Referred to Legislative**

Whereas, the electoral college system is antiquated and does not meet the needs of the registered voters of the United States and territories, and

Whereas, communication in the United States has improved significantly over time, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange support abolishing the electoral college.

8. Outside Campaign Influences

**Cumberland Pomona No. 15
Referred to Legislative**

Whereas, outside influences have been known to sway election results in the State of Maine, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange go on record of supporting the elimination of any outside (out-of-state) campaign interests in all State of Maine elections.

9. Sale of Maine State Grange Building

**Cumberland Pomona No. 15
Referred to Good of the Order**

Whereas, the membership of the Maine State Grange is not what it used to be, and the treasury is declining each year, and

Whereas, the Maine State Grange headquarters building requires large repairs annually, therefore be it

Resolved, that the officers and members of the Maine State Grange authorize the Maine State Grange Executive Committee to prepare the building to be sold as soon as possible, and be it further

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange Executive Committee be charged with securing land to build a new building to serve the Grange's needs with offices and a meeting hall large enough to be able to hold State Session each year and that can be rented out to other organizations throughout the remainder of the year.

10. Sale of State Grange Headquarters

**MSG Executive Committee
Referred to Good of the Order**

Whereas, the Maine State Grange currently owns property at 146 State Street in Augusta, Maine, and

Whereas, the original purpose of this property, which was to house the State Master and their family, is no longer current today, and

Whereas, this property creates a financial burden on the Maine State Grange and its members, and

Whereas, the declining income from dues because of the decrease in membership is progressively affecting our available funds, and
Whereas, cost for repairs that are desperately needed have risen greatly, and
Whereas, the building is located in a proposed historic district, bringing restrictions not under our control, therefore be it
Resolved, that the property located at 146 State be sold, and be it further
Resolved, that the State Master, State Secretary, State Treasurer and Administrative Assistant work out of their homes, and be it further
Resolved, that if there is a Subordinate Grange willing to work with the State Grange regarding storage that the State Grange do so until a suitable Grange building for the purpose of storage can be found.

**11. Advocacy for Small-Scale, Ecological Farms & the Growth of the Grange Halcyon No. 345
Referred to Good of the Order**

Whereas, the Preamble of the Constitution of the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, CH. 1.0.4, states: "The soil is the source from whence we derive all that constitutes wealth; without it we would have no agriculture, no manufacturers, no commerce. Of all the material gifts of the Creator, the various productions of the vegetable world are of the first importance. The art of agriculture is the parent and precursor of all arts, and its products, the foundation of all wealth," and

Whereas, the Declaration of Purposes of the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, Ch. 2, 2.3.1 states: "For our business interests we desire to bring producer and consumer into the most direct and friendly relations possible, remembering that, 'individual happiness depends upon general prosperity;'" and

Whereas, the Declaration of Purposes of the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, Ch. 2, 2.3.2, states: "We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise which tends to oppress people. We long to see antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by statesmanship worthy of an enlightened people," and

Whereas, Title 7-A Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, §201-A, Local food and rural economic development, of the Maine Revised Statutes states: "It is the policy of this State to encourage food self-sufficiency for its citizens. The department shall support policies that: 'Ensure the preservation of the family farm and traditional foodways through small-scale farming and food production'; and, 'Improve the health and well-being of citizens of this state by reducing hunger and increasing food security through improved access to wholesome, nutritious foods by supporting family farms and encouraging sustainable farming

and fishing;’ and , ‘Enhance rural economic development and the environmental and social wealth of rural communities;’” and

Whereas, the Grange is long established in place to act as a unified organization to further the growth of local food production if it will do so proactively, and with one voice; and

Whereas, active support for ecological, community-based agriculture and small-scale farms encourages the growth of strong and healthy rural communities and economies; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange enact a three pronged strategy of advocacy including, but not limited to, policy, education, and resource support for small, ecological, community-based farms and also for the growth of the Grange.

1. Policy. The Maine State Grange shall work proactively with elected local, state, and federal officials to further the shared interests of small-scale, ecological farms and their communities;
2. Education. The Maine State Grange shall work in concert with Subordinate/Community Granges to educate the general public about ecological farming principles and the relation of soil health to community wealth;
3. Resource Support. The Maine State Grange shall adopt as a goal serving a facilitating role to support Maine farmers seeking information and resources in areas such as, but not limited to: Infrastructure support, financing, land searches, leases, grant-writing, labor, capital, husbandry, technical support, business planning, conservation et al that serve as challenges to the growth of ecological farming in Maine.

12. Roster of the Maine State Grange

Excelsior Pomona No. 5

Referred to Good of the Order

Whereas, the current Roster of the Maine State Grange has been changed from the traditional format and is no longer convenient to carry or to file with older Rosters, and

Whereas, the current Roster contains many errors and has not been adequately updated, therefore by it

Resolved, that the Executive Committee take whatever action is necessary to publish an accurate and current Roster by February 1 of each year, and be it further

Resolved, that they pursue possible sources of funding to help defray the cost of returning to the original more user friendly format.

13. Journal of Proceedings

Excelsior Pomona No. 5
Referred to Good of the Order

Whereas, Article 6.4 of the Bylaws of the Maine State Grange, in reference to the duties of the State Secretary, state: He / she, at the close of the Annual Session and prior to February 1st, shall publish and submit the Journal of Proceedings of the Annual State Grange Session, and

Whereas, it currently seems difficult to receive current and recent past Journals, and

Whereas, many Granges no longer have continuous records of the Sessions of the Maine State Grange, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Executive Committee of the Maine State Grange take whatever action is necessary to comply with Article 6.4 and have Journals of Proceedings produced and submitted by February 1 following each Session and sent to those Granges who wish to have them.

14. Physically Present for a Quorum

Androscoggin Pomona No. 1
Referred to Good of the Order

Whereas, on March 25, 2016 the Master of the National Grange issued a ruling to a question that had been raised about, "on the ability of Grange members to participate, and specifically to be allowed to cast votes, in meetings of Subordinate/Community Granges without being physically present; i.e. via telephone, audio or electronic video means such as computer.", and

Whereas, the Master of the National Grange ruled, "After studying the National Grange Digest of Laws, I find no mandate that members must be physically present in the room to participate and/or to cast a vote in a Grange meeting.", and

Whereas, we respectfully disagree with the ruling of the Master of the National Grange. We believe that people being physically present in a meeting is truly at the heart of our organization and is part of what has made this such a wonderful family organization, and

Whereas, we also believe that members who phone into a meeting are not able to legally participate in one of the basic functions of a Grange meeting, voting, as they are unable to show the voting sign of the order, and

Whereas, we understand that people lead busy lives and have hectic schedules. We don't object to members calling into a meeting, but they shouldn't count toward a quorum and they should be able to cast a vote, and

Whereas, section 4.9.2 Subordinate Granges of the bylaws of the National Grange currently state, "Shall meet at least once each month, however, such Granges may vote to hold additional meetings. Seven members is the least number with which a Subordinate Grange may be opened in due form, and shall constitute a quorum unless a greater number is provided in the the By-Laws of the State Grange having jurisdiction. In cases where a quorum is not present, the Master may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present.", therefore be it

Resolved, that the bylaws of the National Grange section 4.9.2 Subordinate Granges be amended to have the words "being physically present" added after "seven members". So section 4.9.2 shall read as follows, "Shall meet at least once each month, however, such Granges may vote to hold additional meetings. Seven members **being physically present** is the least number with which a Subordinate Grange may be opened in due form, and shall constitute a quorum unless a greater number is provided in the By-Laws of the State Grange having jurisdiction. In cases where quorum is not present, the Master may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present."

15. Informational Grange Fair Exhibits

Androscoggin Pomona No. 1 Referred to Agriculture

Whereas, many Granges are no longer able to create an exhibit at fairs filled with knit, sewn, vegetables, cooked food etc. due to membership challenges, and **Whereas**, having these exhibits are a great way to promote the Grange to the tens of thousands of people who visit Maine fairs every year, the majority of which are potential Grange members, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Maine State Grange develop a separate category of Grange exhibit guidelines and criteria for informational Grange exhibits at Maine Fairs.