

**Margaret Morse, Lecturer
Maine State Grange
850 Main Street
Eliot, Maine 03903
207-439-0413
E-mail: mmorse@kitteryschools.com**

January - February - March

APRIL IS GRANGE MONTH!

Information is available from National Grange, our publicity director and on the Web for "Grange Month". If you are making presentations using the "National Grange Community Citizen Award" or "Pomona Award for Public Service" you **MUST** order them early from national 1-888-447-2643 not from me.

PROMOTE YOUR GRANGE

(reprinted from previous quarterly newsletter)

As we're all involved in promoting Grange membership and growth, we should be advertising ourselves. The name and number of the grange should be on the building or on the sign at the road and should include the day and time of the meetings. This way someone passing by or visiting the area will know when you meet.

A display any front window or a bulletin board on the Grange hall would help us promote ourselves more. We talk about a display in the public area only during Grange month, but this display would be ongoing year-round. You could let's program and other information in your display. Include activities or projects your Grange is involved with as part of your Grange work and include contest information for the different committees of the Grange. It may just spark some interest in someone who wishes to help do something for the Grange someone may want to join. You could also put a board in the

hallway, entryway or the back of the entry door with the public come into way for suppers, bingo, etc. Once seated they don't have the opportunity to look around or read something see hanging on a wall, unless it is close or big, but while waiting in line they might be nosy enough to be checking things out besides them on a wall close by. Use big print, keep it neat and attractive, give some details, add some color and promote all the different activities, benefits and programs we are involved with in the Grange. (see the various National and stay program books for information.) If you don't have these books handy contact someone who can get them for you or check on the Maine State Grange website and use them. Change things around every so often or add something new so we're doesn't get boring are outdated. The Grange has a lot of great things to offer, have brochures or sheets of information within easy reach, for someone who wishes, to pick one up and take along, (most people are more comfortable checking out information in private) or they can read it while they are waiting.

Another reason for your display is to remind current members what is happening. You maybe surprised yourself what there is available. A lot at Paul's having nice bulletin board in the meeting room be sure to utilize this for your members and visitors who attend. They may have been I want to certain communication came in and did not know about something it doesn't have to be the letter itself, but a name and date of event or activity. If they want to know more about it, they can ask. It is surprising how many people do not know or have overlooked something that could have taken part in. We can't promote membership growth if we don't promote Grange in Grange

The Season

By Gene Appleby

This is the season when the earth
Slumbers 'neath her quilt of snow
When little bulbs make ready for
The day they'll sprout and grow.

This is the season when the stars
I crystal jewels of light,
And moonlight filters through the trees
Radiantly bright.

This is the season of repose
For natures growing things;
Exquisite world without a flaw
Our God so richly brings.

Lawrence Welk Orchestra Try-Out (2 people)

Taken from Maine's 2010 North Dakota Program

Amateur: (musician making awful sounds on his pretend saxophone)

Landlord: (burst into his apartment and roar)
What in heavens name are you doing? What kind of racket is that?

Amateur: What? Oh, I'm practicing my saxophone so I can try out for the Lawrence Welk Orchestra.

Landlord: Do you have any idea how late it is? Do you know there's a little old lady sick upstairs?

Amateur: (innocently) I don't think I do. Would you mind humming the first few bars of it?

Landlord: Aghhhhhh! (Throws hands up in here and walks offstage)

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Will I live any longer?

Patient: I'm hoping you can help me solve the problem I'm having.

Doctor: I'll certainly try. What's bothering you?

Patient: Well, Doctor, if I give up wine, women, and song, Will I live longer?

Doctor: Not really. It will just seem longer.

Question and Answer Jokes

Q: What you get when you cross an elephant with a whale?

A: A submarine with the built-in snorkel.

Q: Did you hear about the cowboy who got himself a dachshund?

A: Everyone kept telling him to get along, little doggie

Q: What do you get when you cross a parrot with the centipede?

A: A walkie-talkie, of course

Q: Why don't you play poker in the jungle?

A: Too many cheetahs.

Q: What kind of dog tells time?

A: A watchdog.

Q: Why do hands lay eggs?

A: If they drop them, they break

Q: Why do singles live near the sea?

A: Because if they live near the bay, they would be called bagels.

Poem

by Andrea Rollins

Powerful winds blow snow and cold
Making our skin feel dry, wrinkly, and old.

Wet snow comes down and piled high
Making our muscles ache with each shovel we let fly.

Slick ice covers the road, the step, and the car
Making it hard for us to get away fast or far.

Frozen water pipes break and burst,
Making a mess and causing us to curse;

Warm inside where the cold can't interfere,
making this wonder when spring will get here.

Quiz: CATS – Sue Hackett

- 1.A list of inventory (A catalog)
- 2.Favorite of felines (catnip)
- 3. To rush rapidly (catapult)
- 4. Ancestor of a butterfly (Caterpillar)
- 5. A classification (category)
- 6. Found on most farms (cattle)
- 7. Disease of the eye (cataract)
- 8. Vaults of an early period (catacomb)
- 9. Popular sauce for meats (catsup)
- 10. And unpleasant event (catastrophe)

A Seasonal Change by Ruth M. Stevens

I saw squirrel the blue jays taking a chance
In lifeless trees swaying a graceful dance
As shimmering evergreens stood among these
while a noonday sun warmed an errant breeze.

Farmers gathered vegetables now stored in sheds
The potatoes and squash one grown in beds
The corn's in the crib, the pumpkins from the
patch
While farm cats pounce, field mice to catch.

With vegetables and fruit, pickles now glassed
Are in cellars secure from winter's cold blast
Storm windows and doors keep the home so
warm
We defy you to come you ice and you storm.

Cows no longer forage in fenced grassy lot
In Barnes they keep warm, each knows its spot.
Horses near the tack room like oats and hay
And prance one hitch to a card or sleigh.

I like to read by the welcome fire
But out of door scenes I never tire
Red berries, drifting snow, an empty milkweed
I lift my eyes to have and say,
"Thank you God!"

Short skit

Nit: I have a problem with my knee.

Wit: I notice you limped, what's wrong?

Nit: I've got water on the knee. Do you know
when I can do to get some relief?

Wit: Wear pumps

Game: if you

Questions are asked and members keep individual tallies of assigned points. The member with the most points at the end wins. This game can be adapted for any occasion.

- 1. If you are wearing green + 5
- 2. If you are wearing orange -2
- 3. If you have tie shoes +2
- 4. If you have pants with pockets +1
- 5. If you have brown eyes -3
- 6. If you have faults teeth -2
- 7. If you have green eyes +3
- 8. If you carpooled +5
- 9. If you we're born in March +2
- 10. If you wear glasses -3
- 11. If you were married in March +2
- 12. If you are wearing a ring +3
- 13. If your name has a "M" in it +2
- 14. If you have blue socks on -2
- 15. If you have gray hair +1
- 16. If you color your hair -2
- 17. If you have boots on +2
- 18. If you read today's newspaper +2
- 19. If you are wearing the sweater +3
- 20. If you have been to National Grange +5

CUSTOMS

(An Irish fellow approaches the customs officer, with a bag in hand. The customs officer takes bag and start searching through it, tossing items of clothing.)

Irishman: My good friend, you don't have to mix up all my things. They're only closing there... Nothing but clothes!

Custom officer: (keeps going through bag) Oh, Ha! You call this "just clothes?" (Pulls out bottle filled with liquid)

Irishman: Sure thing! This is my nightcap!

Thought of the Day

One of the best things person can have up his sleeve is the funny bone.

It takes about 10 years to get used to how old you are.

Flowers that Say "LOVE:

Many flowers express love in some way or other. They are popular for Valentine's Day, but maybe better for your budget than a dozen roses. Here is a partial list:

Roses: the red Rose is the universal symbol of romantic love. Need we say more!?

Valentine flower: sure, red roses symbolize love. But, did you know this is a flower, and it is not a rose, that is called the Valentine flower!?

Forget me not: these perennial flowers are a sign of love or friendship. Pretty blue flowers are irresistible.

Loving the mist: when you're in love, you're on Cloud Nine.

Cyclamen: this popular Valentine's Day gift has heart shaped leaves. The most popular varieties are those with red flowers. Gee, I wonder why...

Mistletoe: according to tradition, you kiss your intended under the mistletoe at Christmas. You can also do so on Valentine's Day. Good luck finding mistletoe in February.....

Taken from holidayinsights.com

AAA recommends the following winter driving tips: (exchange .aaa.com)

- Avoid driving while you're fatigued
- Getting the proper amount of rest before taking on winter weather tasks reduces driving risk.
- Never run a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as the garage.
- Make certain your tires are properly inflated
- Keep your gas tank at least half full.
- If possible, avoid using your parking brake in cold rainy in snowy weather.
- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface (wet, ice, sand).
- Always look and steer where you want to go
- Use your seatbelt every time you get into your vehicle.

Thought of the day

Be courteous to all, but intimate with few, and let those few be well tried before you give them your confidence. True friendship is a plant of slow growth, and must undergo and withstand the shocks of the adversity before it is entitled to the appellation - **George Washington**

Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent. - **Victor Hugo**

Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come/ Whispering it will be happier - **Alfred Lord Tennyson**

Skit - Valentine's Day by Ruby Parker

(Board with hearts and valentine sayings of love)

Joe: Wow! Look at that! !

(Joe and Mary looking at the board)

Joe: You know, Mary, I love this time of year.

Mary: Really? (Speaks as if she doesn't believe them)

Joe: Uh-huh. I always look forward to February 15th.

Mary: Honey, Valentine's Day is on the 14th.

Joe: I know.

Mary: Then what's so wonderful about the 15th?

Joe: Chocolate goes on sale for half price

Own Your Future by John Schaar

"The future is not a result of choices among alternative paths offered by the present, but a place that is created - created first in mind and will, created next inactivity.

The future is not someplace we are going to, but one that we are creating. The paths not found, but made, and the activity of making them changes both the maker and the destination."

Propane Safety Information for you and your family ([www.use propane.com](http://www.usepropane.com))

If you smell gas:

- 1. No flames or sparks!** Immediately put out all smoking materials and other open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones, or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or a fire.
- 2. Leave the area immediately!** Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
- 3. Shut off the gas.** Turn off the main gas supply valve on your propane tank if it is safe to do so. To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).
- 4. Report the leak.** From a neighbor's home or nearby building away from the gas leak, call your propane retailer right away. If you can't reach your propane retailer, call 911 or your local fire department.
- 5. Do not return to the building or area** until your propane retailer, emergency responder, or qualified service technician determines that it is safe to do so.
- 6. Get your system checked.** Before you attempt to use any of your propane appliances, your propane retailer or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that his leak free.

What is a valentine? By John A. Mason

What is a valentine?

A fancy piece of paper? Yes

A splash of color? True!

A verse of sweet endearment,

Full of words that are not new?

Oh, a Valentine is all of these

But it is so much more.

Fancy paper, Color, lovely verse

Are simply the décor.

It is also a remembrance,

a sentimental token,

A theme, a dream, a melody

In words that are not spoken.

The love, the respect, and tenderness

It happily imparts

Shows a valentine is truly

Communication of two hearts.

Quiz: How well do you know the Food Slogans used in Advertising?

(source: ThinkSlogans.com)

1. Finger-licken' good (KFC)
2. Taste the Rainbow (Skittles)
3. Melts in your mouth not in your hands (M&M's)
4. It's not nice to fool Mother Nature (Parkay)
5. Kid Tested. Mother approved (Kix Cereal)
6. Hungry? Why wait? (Snickers)
7. Breakfast of Champions (Wheaties)
8. Head for the Border (Taco Bell)
9. I'm lovin' it (McDonald's)
10. They're magically delicious (Lucky Charms)
11. Come hungry. Leave happy (IHOP)
12. When it rains, it pours (Morton Slat)
13. Mountain Grown - It's the richest kind (Folger's Coffee)
14. Snap! Krackle! Pop! (Rice Crispies)
15. The Thirst Quencher (Gatorade)
16. Is it soup yet? (Lipton Cup-o-Soup)
17. Catch the Wave (Coca-Cola)
18. The Great American Chocolate Bar (Hershey Chocolate)
19. Eat Fresh (Subway)
20. Two scoops (Raisin Bran)
21. He likes it! Hey Mikey! (Life Cereal)
22. Follow my nose it always knows (Fruit Loops Cereal)
23. Mmm, Mmm good (Campbell's soup)
24. Made by Elves (Keebler)
25. Sorry, Charlie (Starkist Tuna)

New England Home

My husband and I purchased an old home in Northern Maine from two elderly sisters. Winter was fast approaching and the years first snow came early and I was concerned about the house's lack of insulation. "If they could live here all those years, so can we!" my husband confidently declared. One January night the temperature plunged to below zero, and we woke up to find interior walls covered with frost. My husband called the sisters to ask how they had kept the house warm. After a rather brief conversation, he hung up. "For the past 30 years," he muttered, "they've gone to Florida for the winter."

source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/miscellaneousjokes/weatherjokes/snowjokes.html>