



*American Values.  
Hometown Roots.*

# Maine State Grange Bulletin

Maine State Grange  
146 State Street  
Augusta Maine 04330

<http://mainestategrange.org>

## JULY 2017 ISSUE

Published by  
Maine State Grange  
Walter Boomsma, Editor

Submit articles and info to:  
Walter@MaineStateGrange.org

Additional Contacts:

Master  
Rick Grotton  
582-5915

Lecturer  
Margaret Morse  
439-0413

Chaplain  
Dolores Moore  
843-7772

Secretary  
Sharon Morton  
485-6197

Chief Deputy  
Maynard Chapman  
998-5331

Agricultural Director  
Karen Gagne  
592-6980

Agricultural Education Director  
TBA

Communications Director  
Walter Boomsma  
343-1842

Community Service/FHH Director  
Christine Corliss  
457-6265

CWA Director  
Karen Flagg  
225-2328

Fundraising Chairman  
Steven Haycock  
998-2586

Junior Director  
Christine Hebert  
743-5277

Legislative Director  
James Annis  
564-0820

Youth Director  
Terry LaCombe Stevens  
356 2492

Historian  
Stanley Howe  
824-2291

Address for bulletin submissions  
only:  
17 River Road  
Abbot ME 04406

**Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month!**

*The two words 'information' and 'communication' are often used interchangeably, but they signify quite different things. Information is giving out; communication is getting through.*

Sydney J. Harris



**Note:** The views and opinions expressed in contributed articles are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Grange.

## Highlights for Secretaries to Read

In this section, we'll try to help secretaries by providing a very short synopsis of each article. **Try just reading just this highlights section during "communications" and offer the Bulletin to those interested in more information.** "The Bulletin contains the following information..." Then post on the Bulletin Board or make copies so members can read the sections of interest.

- **Master's Memo**— Reminders!
- **Agriculture Report**— Ag Fairs, Farm Family Award
- **Communications Column**— Following the path of the "Fightin' 177<sup>th</sup>"
- **Community Service/FHH Corner**—
- **CWA Report**—
- **Fundraising Committee**—Report on yard sale, upcoming projects
- **Junior Report**—
- **Lecturer's Column**— Photography and art contests
- **Legislative Report**—
- **Secretary's Corner**— Important Reminders
- **Youth Report**— Northeast Conference—this year and next
- **Exploring Traditions**— Seeking a fuller and richer existence
- **View from the Farm**— Anticipation and observation
- **MSG Historian Publishes Book**— Stanley Howe does it again!
- **Congratulations, Anne Burns**—Ann receives the Communication Department Eagle Eye Award
- **Subscription Service Available**— Get the news! Free!
- **State Convention News and Notes**— information bits about State Session
- **But wait, there's more!** — Things you might have missed!



## Master's Memo By Rick Grotton, Master

Thank you to those Granges who sent the list of their newly elected officers with their June quarterly reports. If you haven't please include the list of your newly elected members, the phone numbers, addresses and emails of the Master, Lecturer, Secretary and CWA Chair and the PHYSICAL address of your Grange with the June 30 quarterly report. If your meeting dates have changed, please include new date and time.

Remember that the deadline for resolutions is August 15. This gives us enough time to print them out and send them to each Grange for their perusal.

Reminder: There seem to be quite a few members who have email addresses but are not subscribed to the website. Some seem unaware that it exists. Please alert members of your Grange or Pomona how to subscribe (this could be a lecturer's program) so that they will receive a wealth of information of what is happening in Granges throughout the State. Subscribers will have then received all the information by email which is also the same information in the bulletin. The website information is effective and excellent communication for all members.

It is that time of year as the fair season has started. Many Granges are preparing their exhibits for the Agricultural Fairs. The Ag Fairs are screaming for more Grange exhibits, Good luck to all Granges who exhibit at any Agricultural Fair. It is a great way for all members to contribute their crafts and talents; whether it be painting, canning, baking, knitting, garden goodies, crocheting, etc. It is always a pleasure to check out the various Grange exhibits. They all make me proud. I am thankful to all involved in order to have such wonderful displays that show how proud we are of the Grange and what we stand for. Each exhibit has its own ambiance; it tells a story of its creators. Seriously, you can feel the good energy that radiates from each if you focus and pay attention. If your Grange does not exhibit and would like more information, please step forward. Yes, it takes effort however, make it fun, make it entertaining, make it with a team effort. Be proud of your Grange, show it off to the public; free publicity, a chance for making money (and a first place ribbon), however, the biggest gain is that we work together for a common cause. When we work together, we can accomplish anything. Any member can contribute to their Grange exhibit. Being busy year-round preparing for the next year's fair is the norm. Ask those who have been involved in planning, preparing, setting up and tearing down exhibits. The rewards are great!!

If you are looking for an installation team for September, do it now since the three listed teams in the website (Vicki Huff, Christine Hebert, and Rolf Staples) already have busy schedules. The

other options are to have all Granges in your Pomona have installations together or to ask another Grange(s) to be installed with them.

State Grange session will be here fast. Make sure you send a delegate from your Grange to attend this important session. This is an election year also, so come and enjoy meeting new friends and reacquainting with others. Should your Master need a second delegate or if your Master is not attending, please volunteer for this great mission. Speaking from experience, should you have never attended State Grange, it certainly would be different than you would ever expect. You do NOT have to be a 6th Degree member to attend, either as a delegate or a spectator. I am looking forward to seeing you there!

---

## **Agricultural Report**

**by Karen Hatch Gagne, Agricultural Director**



Summer has arrived and it is a busy time for all. Gardens are beginning to produce and the Agricultural Fairs have begun. I encourage all Granges to think about putting together a Grange Exhibit at your local Agricultural Fair. I also want to thank all the Grange members who have volunteered to judge grange exhibits throughout the state this summer. The Grange rules/guidelines and judging sheets are available online if you need a copy.

The Agricultural Committee is disappointed we did not have a Farm Family application this year. I would love to receive feedback from Granges on how to solicit applications for this award.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Agricultural Fairs and then at State Grange. Enjoy a safe and happy summer.

---

## **Communications Column**

**By Walter Boomsma, Communications Director**



While we might not want to advertise and promote our Grange as a fighting Grange (at least not without some explanation), I have often wished more Granges would adopt a nickname or slogan that would communicate what their Grange is all about. There are some resources on the Internet that claim to help with this, but why not make it a project (lecturer's program?) and have some fun with it? It might take some time—don't rush into a decision. Just remember to keep the slogan simple. Funny is great as long as it doesn't cause confusion. You'll want to think about your Grange's primary purpose or interest. Focus on what makes you different. If possible, make your slogan timeless... businesses that have succeeded with this include Kellogg's Frosted Flakes (They're grrrrr-eat!) and Doublemint Gum (Double Your Pleasure, Double Your Fun). Wendy's had a good run with "Where's the beef?" but younger people likely do not remember it. Verizon's "Can you hear me now?" seems less appropriate as cell phone technology has improved.

Slogans are best kept under nine or ten words. Where possible, a slogan should be part of your "branding" program, letting the world know what to expect from you. If you chew Doublemint Gum, you'll double your pleasure. What will happen if you attend a meeting or program at "Anytown Grange?"

Some caution is in order before "piggybacking" on an existing slogan. For one thing, it's a bit lazy. More importantly, we need to be sensitive to intellectual property (copyright, trademark, etc.) laws. While it might be tempting, for example, to suggest your Grange Supper's are "finger lickin' good," the folks at Kentucky Fried Chicken may not be pleased.

Brainstorm! Jot down as many ideas and phrases as you can... think about the features and benefits of being part of your Grange. What makes it special? Use a thesaurus or dictionary to explore words and word combinations. Alliterations are wonderful in slogans or mottos. (An alliteration is the same letter or sound at the start of closely connected words—Best Buy, Life Lock are examples of names using alliteration. So is "Communications Column!") You may have noticed that I've been playing with "advocating for agriculture" in one of the banners I developed for the Bulletin and Website.

Companies developing slogans or mottos know the importance of "market testing" their ideas. When you've come up with a couple of ideas for your Grange, run them by some folks (Grangers and non-Grangers) for a reaction. (If you come up with several, I can set up a poll for you on the Maine State Grange website to see which people like the best.)

On a different note, I've asked Master Rick for a small table space at the Maine State Grange Convention. I'll try to answer your questions (we'll call it "semi-technical support") and you'll be able to subscribe to the website immediately! I'll also have some resources for you to take back to your Grange. If you have some ideas for items that would be helpful, let me know and I'll try to put them together! The Communications Department is here to serve you! (Hey, that sounds like something that could become a slogan... "serving Grangers and Granges..." or how about something like "giving Grangers and Grangers great...gossip? gear?" See how much fun this can be?!)

---

## **Fundraising Committee Report**

**By Steven Haycock, Chairman**



The yard sale held in June was a huge success! Even though it rained when we were first opening the doors and setting up, it didn't seem to dampen sales. We raised \$660.00 and donated \$30.00 to each of the scholarship funds of the Maine State Grange. There are so many people to thank, that I would be afraid to leave someone out, you know who you are and your help was greatly appreciated. Thank you notes will be coming in the near future. When the State Grange gets closer to selling the headquarters building in Augusta, we will be having another yard sale to sell some of the contents of the building that have been acquiring for the past 50 years.

With the yard sale being over the fundraising committee has completed its two major fundraisers for the year, but the work is not over by a long shot. We still have our Agricultural Pride T-Shirts for \$12, Grange car magnets for \$3.00 and candy bars, pins, bracelets, and keychains. The cookbooks will be ready for State Grange, and I know everyone is going to enjoy them. We are also working on a few other projects, which we will be announcing soon.

---

## **Lecturer's Column**

**By Margaret Morse, MSG Lecturer**



The photography contest is open to all Subordinate and Junior members, also children and grandchildren of Subordinate members. All photo entries must have been taken after September 1, 2016. Members may submit as many entries as they wish in each category. The categories for this year's photo contest are: 1. Animals & Other Creatures; 2. Buildings & Other Structures; 3. Nature & Scenery; 4. Grange; 5. People; 6. Others. The minimum size allowed for the photo entries is 4" x 6" and the maximum size is 11" x 14" this includes the matting/backing which all entries must have. Frames and glass are not permitted on photo entries. A first, second, and third place ribbon will be awarded in each category. One entry deemed "Best in Show" will be chosen by the judges and will go to National Grange for judging.

The Art Contest is open to all juniors and children and grandchildren of subordinate members. Children's artwork will be separated into three age groups: ages 5 -7; ages 8 - 10; and ages 11 - 14. Art entries must have a frame with suitable hangers or hard matting/backing suitable so they

may be displayed. NO GLASS on any entry will be accepted, however, plexiglass is allowed. A first, second and third place ribbon will be awarded for each medium. The mediums are: oils and acrylics; watercolors; charcoal or pencil drawings; markers or crayons.

Entry labels for the photography contest are available on the MSG website in the lecturer's section under the Program Book & Information tab. They also will be available at the MSG Lecturers' Conference in September and at the State Grange Session.

Entries for both the photography and art contest are due on October 19, 2017, no later than 10 a.m.

## Secretary's Corner

by Sharon Morton, MSG Secretary

Summertime is upon us and we are busy with gardens, canning, fair exhibits and planning for the upcoming new Grange year.

Reminders:

- **990Ns**- Please disregard any notice you may receive from the IRS advising that your 990N has not been filed. I have just finished up filing for this year.
- **Quarterly Reports**- I am receiving them daily and will now begin updating the membership records as well as the Roster Information. Please do not forget or neglect to send in the roster information. The only information I will be using this year will be what I receive from you so if you have not received a copy of this form, please contact me here at headquarters and I will see that you receive one.
- **Donations**- I am receiving donations for the Kelley Farm and as stated in a previous Bulletin I requested that donations to the Kelley Farm should be mailed directly to: National Grange, 1616 H Street, Washington DC 20006 with checks made payable to the Grange Foundation earmarked "Kelley Farm Fund" and donations to the CWA Committee should be sent to Karen Flagg whose address is 3 Jeanie Drive, Leeds ME 04263. So please make sure your committee chairperson realizes they should be mailing donations to the correct place as indicated in the request letter. Donations for the Junior, Youth, and Agriculture Departments need to be mailed to State Grange Headquarters as they have been in the past.
- **Resolutions**- Due at State Grange Headquarters by August 15, 2017. Don't miss the deadline!

Summer is the time to get ready for State Session in October. The Sessions are open to every Grange member. You can't vote unless you are a delegate but you can witness the activities that are there.

Until next time have a safe and productive "Grange" summer.



## Youth Report

By Terry LaCombe, Director

The Northeastern Youth Conference was held at UMASS in Amherst MA last weekend. Approximately 80 people attended! Jared Grenier represented Maine--you may recognize his name from Ag in the Classroom, a program he is passionate about.

Jared competed in the Youth Impromptu Speech Contest and won second place. In Adult Impromptu, I won second place.

We ended the Conference with a prayer service led by Jared, the Drill Competition and a passing of the books and sign to Maine!

As many of you are aware Maine will be hosting the 2018 Northeastern Youth Conference on July 13-15, 2018. Please consider having a fundraiser for the Youth Department.

Send the name and contact information for any Youth between the ages of 14 to 35 affiliated with your Grange to me.



## Exploring Traditions--Meandering Around the Grange Way of Life

By Walter Boomsma

"...the springing seed teaches us to increase in goodness, and the growing trees to aspire after higher and broader knowledge." These are words spoken by the Chaplain during the celebration and instruction of the Second Degree. (The Second Degree's scene is a farm in the early summer.)

Later in the degree, the master explains, "There is no object in which, to appearance, life and death border so closely together as in the grains of seed buried in the earth; but when life seems extinct a fuller and richer existence begins anew." Near the close of this degree, the master reminds us that "The salutation of this degree 'places faith in God and nurtures Hope.'"

Grange ritual and teachings take great advantage of the lessons of nature and those lessons are many. "The tools used by us in this degree are the hoe and the pruning knife. The hoe, with which we cut up weeds and stir the soil, is emblematic of that cultivation of the mind which destroys error and keeps our thoughts quickened and ready to receive new facts as they appear, thus promoting the growth of knowledge and wisdom."

"The pruning knife, used to remove useless and injurious growths from our trees, plants and vines, should remind you to prune idle thoughts and sinful suggestions... Bear in mind that moral and metal worth rank before worldly wealth or honors..."

I wish I could remember where I recently read the observation that "in order to become a butterfly, you have to be willing to give up being a caterpillar." The words are not exactly Grange teaching, but the thought surely is. "When life seems extinct a fuller and richer existence begins anew."

If you have some remaining seeds from planting your garden (the second degree uses corn) I'd encourage you to find one and hold it in your palm and hear the master's words, "Behold these inanimate kernels of corn! But the germ has life—the future plant is there..." In a workshop I've presented, I point out that all of the life potential and a complete set of instructions to create it are within that small seed. That's H-O-P-E and a powerful lesson nature teaches.

The lesson is certainly about individual potential, but I think it can apply to our Granges which, after all, are a collection of individuals. If each of us has that much promise and potential, does not our Grange? When we consider our heritage, our principles, and our teachings... do we not have within us the potential for a "fuller and richer existence..." are not all the instructions there that will allow us to grow into something wonderful? Is our order placing faith in God and nurturing hope? Are we collectively increasing in goodness and aspiring after higher and broader knowledge?

I wonder what a caterpillar thinks—or for that matter, if it does. Does it know what its future is going to be? Nature clearly has programmed it to wrap itself up in a mummy-like state without questioning whether or not it's a good idea. The caterpillar doesn't have to decide to give up its existence and become a butterfly. That's a grand plan, because if caterpillars were like people, the situation would be a lot different. Many caterpillars would be quite content to remain caterpillars. Some would fear becoming a butterfly and needing to fly. They would be quite content to crawl about munching leaves. But some would look forward to the adventure and the freedom that comes with flying. They would be willing to go through the metamorphosis required. Those who remain caterpillars would cling to their existence and perhaps even complain that there aren't enough caterpillars left because everyone is too busy being a butterfly.

The Grange way of life, like nature, is meant to be filled with hope, promise, and potential. We just have to decide to give up being caterpillars and commit to becoming a butterfly—to becoming something that is different and beautiful. The challenge we face is accepting that who and what we are may not be who and what we become. But let us let nature remind us that while the butterfly is found in the caterpillar, it is equally true that the caterpillar is found in the butterfly. Nature does not resist change, it depends on it, understanding that a seed is not meant to stay a seed and a caterpillar is not meant to remain a caterpillar. Life is about becoming and when we think things are dying what is really happening is. "a fuller and



richer existence begins anew.”

###

*Any degree or ritual quotations are from the forty-sixth edition of the 2013 Subordinate Grange Manual. The views and opinions expressed in “Exploring Traditions” are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official doctrine and policy of the Grange.*

## View from the Farm

By Heather Retberg



The farm in July is full of anticipation and field observations. Now about 10 weeks into the growing season and regular paddock rotations, the animals are well into the routines of summer again. And, so, it must be said, are we. In our rotational grazing system, we move animals from one paddock to another in rhythm with the needs of the pasture and of the animals--sometimes leaving animals in one place longer to trample and fertilize more, other times, like now, moving them so quickly as possible through all the forage. The dairy cows have been 'strip-grazing', moving through small, sectioned strips of the pasture maximizing the use of the forage while concentrating their fertility in one area before moving on each morning and evening. Goats and chickens move twice a week, pigs are in the woods and need new paddocks only once every few weeks. The yearling calves, still a separate group from the mature herd, move twice a week, too. The meat birds move every day one 'pen-length' forward.

At this point in the season, shifting animals from the old spot to the new fresh paddock, is pure joy (barring mechanical difficulties). Each of these groups is tended by one or, sometimes, two of us, most of the time. When three or four of us show up, they know it's time to move, and they are all anticipation. Whether goats, calves, cows or even the hens--birdbrains though they be--they line up on the fenceline just waiting for us to fence the new paddock already and let them into it. It's too good. Seeing the 'graze line' can be equally rewarding, noting how the hens have done their 'work', thoroughly dispersing each cow-pie left behind to spread out the fertility, eliminating the insect pests, eating, trampling, and 're-seeding' the grass seedheads, and evenly fertilizing an area. The goats are choosier, but have a delightful habit of devouring burdock and even browsing thistle! They clean up our marginal 'buffer' areas between woods and fields. The cows are the queens, of course, and get the prime pasture. By July, all of us are getting used to the orchestration of our summer dance through time and space, and the routine and the anticipation are grounded guideposts to farm days.

Even while we appreciate the summer routine, the farmers' anticipation is a little different than the critters. We have fewer dairy products just now as we await calves from 3 cows all due in the coming weeks. It's strange timing what with the peak of summer demand upon us, but, breeding and calving don't always translate perfectly from the cow realms to the human realms, and now is such a time. In human terms, it means that we have 25-30 gallons less per week than usual. No small amount. The young heifer, Dandy, due first by our records, shows the least signs to date of pending labor, while Bonnie, Too and Mary are showing full udders and ripening each day. We expect calves this week, more milk and more cheeses and yogurts again in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, we've had great cow weather, cool breezes on sunny days, and our expectant mamas couldn't look more queenly as the calving days approach.

And, then there is the wildlife on the farm, whose motions are so much less predictable than our farm critters and whose cycles we know less well. The wild turkeys have been moving through in flocks with little ones behind them. Oftentimes, they'll take up and follow the cows in rotation, serving the same function as our domestic hens, scratching up cowpies and eliminating parasites. Other times, they take up in the woods with the pigs, hopeful of leftover grain. This year, they've just been moving on through. The hawks and vultures have been regular fixtures this summer as the deer population collides with the travelers on the highway. And, this week, I was startled by a snapping turtle in front of the onion bed, just imperturbably laying her eggs, one small plop and clink at a time, until she buried them all up and quickly, yes, even for a turtle, quickly moved away again.

Wishing you wonder in observation, and plenty to anticipate.

###

*Heather and Phil Retberg together with their three children run Quill's End Farm, a 105-acre property in Penobscot that they bought in 2004. They use rotational grazing on their fifteen open acres and are renovating thirty more acres from woods to pasture to increase grazing for their pigs, grass-fed cattle, lambs, laying hens, and goats. Heather is Master of Halcyon Grange #345 and writes a newsletter for their farm's buying clubs for farmers in her area and has generously given us permission to share some of her columns with Grangers throughout the state.*

## Officer Installation Help Is Available!

By Walter Boomsma, Communications Director

As in the past, I am happy to publish a list of those who are heading up teams that are willing to assist Granges with the installation of officers. If you are heading up a team this year, please let me know! I just need a few lines of information including contact information. Since Rolf was first to let me know, you can use his listing as a model!

- Rolf Staples is heading up an installation team again this year. They will travel any reasonable distance from the Bangor area. Just call 884-9339 or email Rolf.
- Christine Hebert is also putting together an installation team. Call Chris at 743-5277 or email her.
- Vicki Huff already has six installations booked even though travel and scheduling is limited because some members of her team work. You can reach her by calling 699-2830 (please leave a message) or by e-mail.

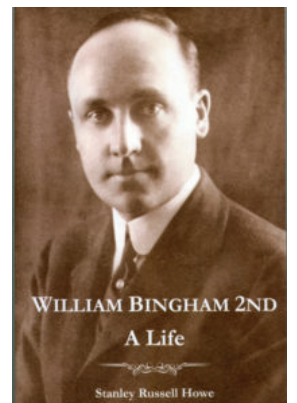
I will also publish information regarding planned officer installations--if you are leading or hosting an installation, send the details for listing here. Very often Pomona Granges will host installation for all their member Granges. It's a great idea not only because it's efficient--it's also a lot of fun!

## Maine State Grange Historian Publishes Book!

Contributed Article

The Bethel Historical recently announced the publication of State Grange Historian Stanley R. Howe's WILLIAM BINGHAM 2ND: A LIFE. (Paperback, 190 pages). Although born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1879, William Bingham, 2nd would eventually adopt Bethel, Maine as his home for most of his life.

From his uncle, Oliver Hazard Payne (1839-1917), he and his siblings would inherit a fortune that made him at one time, the wealthiest person in Maine. He spent his life as a philanthropist supporting a wide variety of causes from building hospitals and supporting educational institutions in several places around the world. Most of the buildings at Bethel's Gould Academy were financed with Bingham gifts. He also provided scholarships to deserving students. Former Maine Governor and Senator Edmund S. Muskie's legal education, for example, at Cornell University, was funded by Will Bingham, who rarely appeared in public and avoided publicity. At one time, he was Bates College's largest donor. Today three foundations bearing his name carry on his philanthropic legacy. Information on acquiring this book can be obtained by calling the Bethel Historical Society at (207) 824-2908 or going to its website: [www.bethelhistorical.org](http://www.bethelhistorical.org) and visiting the online Museum Shop. The mailing address for the Society is P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217.



# Congratulations, Ann Burns, Maple Grove Grange

By Walter Boomsma, Communications Director

After Ann's most recent email, I had to create an award. Ann wrote, in part, "Did you intentionally report that the State Session opens in the 7th degree to see how many of us really read the articles in the monthly Bulletin? If it does I've consistently slept through it for years. Just wondering how many more readers noticed the boo boo..."

The answer to the first question is, "No, it was not intentional." I know in the past I've joked that one way to get attention is to make a mistake, but that wasn't the case this time. My excuse is that I was hurrying to meet my deadline to finish the Bulletin, although that's really not much of an explanation.

The answer to the second question is, "None!" Or if any others did notice, they didn't report it.

Ann's referring to the article in the June Issue introducing the graphic I created for State Session. I erroneously wrote, "Want to help promote State Session? I've created the graphic to the right... and can email it to you if you'd like to include it in your local Grange communications. Let's see if we can increase participation and attendance this year! Remember, you do not have to be a delegate to attend—and you certainly do not have to hold a fifth or sixth degree. While session opens in the seventh, it lowers to fourth almost immediately so any Grange can be part of the convention!" Obviously, that should have read, "While session opens in the sixth...."

Sorry for the error... although it did demonstrate that at least one person reads the Bulletin closely and it provides an opportunity to have a little fun!



## Website Subscription Service Available

By Walter Boomsma, Communications Director

Here's the why and how and how of the website subscription service!

### The Why

The subscription service we've been using (Feedburner by Google) has served us well but is not particularly user-friendly. More importantly, we have almost no access to the data—I truly have no idea how many subscribers we have and who they are!

Our new service is available through MailChimp. In addition to being very user-friendly, we gain some flexibility in how posts are sent—for example, you'll now receive excerpts instead of complete posts. That'll make your emails shorter and more manageable.

### The How

**If you are not currently subscribed**, this is very simple. Subscribing is a two-step process. First, you click the link found at the top center of the Maine State Grange website to open a form asking for some basic data. When you click "Subscribe" an email will be sent to the email address you entered on the form. **You must confirm your subscription by clicking the link in that email.** That's it!

**If you are currently subscribed**, please subscribe using the new system as described in the previous paragraph. Unless you want to continue to receive two emails, there is one additional step required. You'll need to "unsubscribe" to the Feedburner service. This is easily accomplished by clicking the unsubscribe link at the bottom of any email you receive listing Google in the footer at the end of the email.

### Optional Detailed Instructions

I've prepared a one-page document with illustrations that describes these steps in detail. You can access it by visiting the [Program Books and Information Page](#) on the website. If you have questions, you can email [webmaster@mainestategrange.org](mailto:webmaster@mainestategrange.org). Know also that once all the fundamentals are in place, we will continue to adjust and tweak the service. I hope you enjoy it and find it helpful.



## State Convention News and Notes--

by Walter Boomsma, Communications Director

Several columns this month have mentioned that the deadline for submitting resolutions is August 15, 2017 to allow for a "quick turnaround."

As mentioned in my Communications Column, I plan to be available on Thursday and Friday of State Convention, at a table with some resource material and, hopefully, to answer your questions about the website and communication in general. You'll also be able to sign up as a subscriber to the website immediately.



## But wait, there's more!

### A sampling of articles posted on the website:

Remember, the MSG website is your "goto" place for news and information as it becomes available. Some recent articles on the site include:

- UMaine Adult Degree Completion Scholarship information
- What's Cookin'? – The National Grange search for Grange Cookbooks.
- "Fighting 177<sup>th</sup>" – East Sangerville Grange (#177) takes on weeds and more!
- Maine Ag Department to offer Business Planning Course for Farmers
- Two Minute Survey – your chance to talk to National Grange
- Big Certificate in a Store – Community Citizens are both proud and humble.
- LD Signed by the Governor – food sovereignty becomes law.
- National Grange Birthday Packet Released – lots of resources to help you celebrate the Grange's Birthday



**Officers and directors**, please remember that meeting and conference information must be submitted at least two months ahead to be printed in the Bulletin. (For example, the Bulletin published in January will include events taking place in March.) Please also remember to send us copies of new program books, contest rules, and applications, etc. as they are developed or revised.

### PLEASE POST A COPY OF THE BULLETIN TO YOUR GRANGE'S BULLETIN BOARD!

All articles and information must be submitted by the fifteenth of the month. Our goal is then to have the issue assembled, printed and mailed by the end of that month. (Articles will be posted to the website as received unless otherwise requested.)

All letters or articles submitted for publication must have contents relating to the Grange and may be edited for length and grammar. When submitting future events, please allow adequate lead time and include all the details such as date, time, Grange (and location) and a contact for more information. The complete policy is available on the Maine State Grange website.