

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED FORTY FIFTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**Maine State Grange
P of H
1874 – 2020**



**October 22, 2020
Golden Harvest Grange No. 33
928 Main Rd., Carmel, Maine**

Organized April 21, 1874

**DUE TO COVID-19 THE ANNUAL SESSION WAS CANCELLED.
Mail-in balloting for resolutions and budgets were done with Master,
Overseer, Secretary and Executive Committee tallying the ballots cast.**

**October 22, 2020
Maine State Grange Headquarters
Augusta, Maine**

Due to COVID-19 our Annual Session was cancelled. The State Master, Sherry Harriman; Overseer, Adrian Griffin; State Secretary, Sharon Morton and State Executive Committee Members, James Owens; James Merserve and Steve Verrill met at 10:00 a.m. to tally the results of the mail-in ballots on the 8 Resolutions and State Grange Budget and State Grange Headquarters Budget.

**Thursday, October 22
8:00 A.M.**

Registration Opens

9:00 A.M.

Opening in the Sixth Degree
Lowering to the Fourth Degree
Roll Call of Officers
Letter of Congratulations from Betsy Huber, National Master
Report of Credentials Committee (Partial)
Introduction of Deputies
Distribution of the Order of Business
Acceptance of the Order of Business

9:30 A.M.

Report of the Auditor/Treasurer

9:45 A.M.

Report of the Secretary

STATE SECRETARY

To: Sherry Harriman, Master of the Maine State Grange, Officers of the Maine State Grange and Members of the Maine State Grange.

The covid19 pandemic has most certainly reached all our Granges and Grangers. Our Grange life as we once knew it has taken on a different form. Our Granges have used their ingenuity to continue to meet within the meeting requirements imposed to maintain a safe and healthy State.

SUBORDINATE GRANGES

Our total number of Subordinate Granges as of June 30, 2020 is 91 which shows a decrease of Subordinate Granges from June 30, 2019 which was 95 Subordinate Granges.

September 30, 2019 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges		95
Number of Granges Organized		0
Number of Granges Reorganized		0
Number of Granges Dropped		1
Aurora 202		
Number of Grange Consolidated		0
Total Granges		94
Total Membership	2,746	
Golden Sheaf	317	
Non Exempt	264	

December 31, 2019 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges		94
Number of Granges Organized		0
Number of Granges Reorganized		0
Number of Granges Dropped		1
Waterboro432		
Number of Granges Consolidated		1
New Sharon 238 with Mt. Phillip 542		
Total Granges		92

Total Membership	2,705
Golden Sheaf	296
Non Exempt	277

March 31, 2020 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges		92
Number of Granges Organized		0
Number of Granges Reorganized		0
Number of Granges Dropped		0
Number of Granges Consolidated		0
Total Granges		92
Total Membership	2,689	
Golden Sheaf	293	
Non Exempt	297	

June 30, 2020 Subordinate Quarterly Report

Number of Granges		92
Number of Granges Organized		0
Number of Granges Reorganized		0
Number of Granges Dropped		1
North Haven	496	
Total Granges		91
Total Membership	2,591	
Golden Sheaf	280	
Non Exempt	260	

As I prepared this report I have received 66 Subordinate Grange quarterly dues reports for the quarter ending September 30, 2020 with 25 outstanding quarterly dues reports for the September 30, 2020 quarter. As the State Grange Executive Committee along with the State Master voted to waive the payment of the September 2020 and December 2020 quarterly dues, however I still need your reports so that I can complete the State Report that goes to National so please send the reports as quickly as possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to give a great big thank you and how much I have appreciated the Subordinate and Pomona secretaries who have taken the time, during this year, to carry on the duties of their office.

Membership 2020

A report of Subordinate Grange that had a net increase in membership will be added to this report and notification mailed to those respective Granges. We recognize that fact that our Granges with a net increase during this Covid19 pandemic warrant recognition.

POMONA GRANGES

As I prepare this report I am happy to report that all 14 Pomona Granges have filed the 2020 Annual Pomona Reports and Status Change Report. Pomona Secretaries can now print this form by going to the Grange website and choosing the Programs and Helps tab.

JUNIOR GRANGES

The Maine State Junior Grange No. 17, under the leadership of Marilyn Stinson & Terry Lacombe-Stevens, Junior Co-Directors has had another successful year. Through the creative thinking of the Directors and the juniors met with all Covid19 requirements taken into consideration and held their yearly meeting.

CERTIFICATES

I am always amazed with the requests for Continuous Membership Recognition Certificates each year. This past year I provided the following certificates:

Androscoggin Grange No. 8

75 Years Geraldine Creamer

Bauneg Beg Grange No. 382

50 Years Terry Hussy

Benton Grange No. 458

70 Years Dorothy Shores

60 Years Bruce McCarthy

50 Years Janice Kent
40 Years Mary Colson

Bingham Grange No. 237

70 Years Maxine Hoskins
Mary Thomas
65 Years Everett Lidstone
Paul McCollor
Eleanor Pooler
Rance Pooler
60 Years Terry Spencer
55 Years Carol Kiernan
John Owens
25 Years Lewis Bryson, Jr.
Mabel Cates
Melanie Winegardner

Chelsea Grange No. 215

40 Years Mary Emerson
Judy Meserve

Danville Junction Grange No. 65

70 Years Julien Beaulieu
Wesley Ryder
65 Years Shirley Keene
50 Years Dale Burnell
David Young
Karen Gagne
Colleen Hartford
Cheryl Tukey
40 Years Donald Nason
25 Years Vivianne Holmes

Fairview Grange No. 342

70 Years David Hartford
65 Years Ellery Stevens

Mt. Etna Grange No. 147

50 Years Dolores Dow

Josiah Pierce
Elizabeth Fuchs
Deborah Day
Leroy Day

Norway Grange No. 45

60 Years George W. Rice
55 Years Linda Allen
Linda Jack
Carol Rice

Pioneer Grange No. 219

75 Years George Wiley
60 Years Linda Billings
Lyle Cramer

South Sangerville Grange No. 335

50 Years Linda Farrar

Topsham Grange No. 37

75 Years Malena Stimpson
40 Years Pamela Perry

Valley Grange No. 144

80 Years Dora Starbird
60 Years Carolyn Williams
Richard Williams
50 Years Karen Kennedy

Wales Grange No. 40

65 Years Kenneth Footer
60 Years Wayne Sherman
Margaret Mansur
Kenneth Footer
Douglas Hodgkin
Phyllis Hodgkin
55 Years Wayne Sherman
Margaret Mansur

William Witherall, Jr.
Kenneth Footer
Douglas Hodgkin
Phyllis Hodgkin
50 Years Linda Sherman

Willow Grange No. 366

75 Years Willa Vinal
65 Years Gladys Glidden
50 Years Raymond Cole
25 Years John Roberts
Mary Jane McLoon

TECHNOLOGY

This past year I have been working to update all Subordinate membership lists and returning for any corrections. I am currently working to get the 990N filings completed.

ROSTER

Roster information request was mailed to each Subordinate and Pomona Grange to return to the State Office for update to the roster. As of this report the Roster will be sent to print. Thank you to those secretaries who responded and a heartfelt thanks to Sherry for her work in reviewing and getting our roster ready for print.

Things changed in March, I moved the state office to my home, and Vicki and Sherry did the same.

Through these efforts by using email and mail we continued to carry on the work of the Maine State Grange. Thank you to all secretaries who replied to our requests. I have now moved the office back to headquarters and will plan to be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays.

This year we have all worked together through this Covid19 pandemic to keep each other safe and maintain a strong grange organization in Maine I pray that you all will remain safe and hope to see you in my grange journeys.

Remember that to make our organization stronger we must use each member to their potential.

Fraternally submitted,
 Sharon V. Morton, Secretary, Maine State Grange

10:00 A.M.
 Presentation of the 2020-2021 Budget

**PROPOSED STATE GRANGE BUDGET
 2020 – 2021**

	A	B	C	D
1		PROPOSED 19 – 20	Estimated 19 - 20	PROPOSED 20 - 21
2	INCOME:			
3	DUES	50,600.00	39,901.75	36,210.00
4	OFFICERS' BONDS	100.00	350.00	100.00
5	RESERVE FUNDS	117,478.84	86,324.97	109,930.04
6	SUPPLIES SOLD (INCLUDES POSTAGE)	800.00	671.75	800.00
7	MISCELLANEOUS	1,000.00	1,700.00	1,000.00
8	FUND RAISING	2,000.00	709.85	1,000.00
9				
10	TOTAL INCOME	171,978.84	129,658.22	149,040.04
11				
12				
13				
14				
15	EXPENSES:			
16	DUES TO NATIONAL	\$ 38,000.00	33,269.50	\$ 34,000.00
17	MASTER'S SALARY	\$ 15,000.00	15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
18	MASTER'S EXPENSE	\$ 11,750.00	11,175.00	\$ 11,175.00
19	MASTER'S TRAVEL (Out of State)	\$ 1,500.00	814.62	\$ 1,500.00
20	LECTURER'S EXPENSE	\$ 2,800.00	2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00
21	TREASURER'S SALARY	\$ 4,800.00	4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
22	TREASURER'S TRAVEL (ONE TRIP PER WEEK)	\$ 1,528.80	1,237.84	-0-
23	SECRETARY'S SALARY	\$ 5,000.04	5,000.04	\$ 5,000.04
24	OFFICE SECRETARY	\$ 6,630.00	6,630.00	\$ 6,630.00
25	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPENSES	\$ 2,000.00	1,070.33	\$ 2,000.00
26	PAYROLL TAXES	\$ 4,000.00	2,798.48	\$ 4,000.00
27	STATE OFFICERS' BOND	\$ 400.00	376.00	\$ 400.00
28	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	\$ 1,500.00	1,205.00	\$ 1,500.00

29	POSTAGE	\$ 3,500.00	2,800.00	\$ 3,000.00
30	STATE OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 3,000.00	1,675.00	\$ 2,000.00
31	OFFICE EQUIPMENT EXPENSE	\$ 4,000.00	5,196.00	\$ 5,000.00
32	OFFICE RENT	\$ 30,000.00	12,873.00	\$ 17,200.00
33	PURCHASE GRANGE SUPPLIES FOR RESALE	\$ 1,000.00	400.00	\$ 1,000.00
34	PRINTING	\$ 1,500.00	2,228.00	\$ 1,500.00
35	LEGAL (Does not include closed Granges)	\$ 5,000.00	1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	A	B	C	D
		PROPOSED 19-20	ACTUAL 19 - 20	PROPOSED 20 - 21
36	ACCOUNTING	\$ 1,700.00	1,710.00	\$ 1,700.00
37	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 1,000.00	450.00	\$ 1,000.00
38	STATE FILING FEES	\$ 70.00	35.00	\$ 35.00
39	ANNUAL STATE SESSION	\$ 7,000.00	4,610.44	\$ 7,000.00
40	DEPUTIES EXPENSE	\$ 2,000.00	1,276.18	\$ 1,500.00
41	STIPENDS (\$200 EACH DIRECTOR) – AGRICULTURE; CWA; COMMUNICATION; COMMUNITY SERVICE; FFH; FUND RAISING; JUNIOR; LEGISLATIVE; MEMBERSHIP; YOUTH	\$ 4,000.00	3,200.00	\$ 4,000.00
42	WEBSITE	\$ 1,000.00	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
43	PROMOTION	\$ 1,500.00	1,222.45	\$ 1,500.00
44	GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE	\$ 1,800.00	1,033.34	\$ 1,800.00
45	STORAGE UNIT(S)	\$ 5,000.00	-0-	\$ 5,000.00
46	NATIONAL HOST FUND	\$ 4,000.00	2,772.00	\$ 4,000.00
47				
48				
49	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 171,978.84	129,658.22	\$ 149,040.04
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**PROPOSED HEADQUARTERS BUDGET
2020 – 2021**

	A	B	C	D
1		PROPOSED 19-20	Estimated 19 - 20	PROPOSED 20 - 21
2	INCOME:			
3	RENTAL INCOME	\$ 31,800.00	\$ 31,800.00	\$ 32,000.00
4	MAINE STATE GRANGE RENT	\$ 22,900.00	\$ 12,873.00	\$ 17,200.00
5	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
6				
7	TOTAL:	\$ 56,700.00	\$ 45,673.00	\$ 51,200.00
8				
9	EXPENSES:			
10	PROPERTY TAXES	\$ 12,600.00	\$ 11,800.00	\$ 12,600.00
11	INSURANCE	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,855.00	\$ 6,000.00
12	ELECTRICITY	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,252.00	\$ 2,500.00
13	FUEL	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,636.00	\$ 15,000.00
14	JANITORIAL SERVICE	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,450.00	\$ 3,000.00
15	REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 4,053.00	\$ 8,000.00
16	WATER	\$ 300.00	\$ 340.00	\$ 300.00
17	SANITATION – SEWER & STORM	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,790.00	\$ 1,600.00
18	WASTE REMOVAL	\$ 700.00	\$ 697.00	\$ 700.00
19	SNOW REMOVAL / LAWN CARE	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,000.00
20	SUPPLIES	\$ 500.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 300.00
21	MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 300.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 200.00
22				
23	TOTAL	\$ 56,700.00	\$ 45,673.00	\$ 51,200.00
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10:30 A. M.

Committee Reports – Resolutions

**RECORDED ACTION ON RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED FOR THE 2020
MAINE STATE GRANGE**

1. INSTALLING TURN SIGNALS ON TRAFFIC LIGHTS Rejected

RESOLVED, All intersections with traffic lights have right turn signals installed.

2. INSURANCE COVERAGE LAPSE NOTIFICATIONS Accepted

RESOLVED, Insurance agencies in The State of Maine be mandated to report to The State of Maine Motor Vehicle Department any and all insured motorists who let their policies lapse.

3. FINANCIAL HELP FOR GRANGERS Accepted

RESOLVED, that the Maine State Grange permit Subordinate Granges with such accounts to make withdrawals to meet current financial obligations; the total withdrawn not to exceed 10% of the account balance unless there are special circumstances which have been approved by the appropriate Maine State Grange committee or officer.

4. ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES Accepted

RESOLVED, that Congress devise incentives to encourage the production of food, pharmaceuticals, energy, and defense supplies in the United States or other countries considered allies of the United States.

5. ELECTION INTEGRITY Accepted

RESOLVED, that the Maine State Grange seek legislation to forbid all Maine election methods and systems from being connected to the internet.

6. EXECUTIVE ORDERS DURING A TIMES OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

Accepted

RESOLVED, that any Executive Order issued by the Governor of the State of Maine during a State of Emergency, that is expected to last for more than 30 days, must be approved by the Legislature before the end of the 30th day after issue.

7. 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE

Accepted

RESOLVED, that the Master of the Maine State Grange appoint a committee to prepare for a yearlong celebration of 150 years of the Grange of Maine.

8. DIVERSITY IN GRANGE LANGUAGE

Rejected

RESOLVED, that the officer titles, Master and Overseer, be known as President and Vice-President and be it further

RESOLVED, that these changes be reflected in all future printing of Grange manuals, pamphlets, and all other Grange correspondence.

12:00 Noon
Lunch Recess

1:30 P.M.
Session Called to Order
Report of Credentials Committee (Partial)
Recognition of Former Officers of the Maine State Grange

1:45 P.M.
Master's Address
Committee Reports – Resolutions

MASTER'S ADDRESS

Worthy Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maine State Grange,

It is an honor to present my 2020 Maine State Grange report. Jim Owens and I represented Maine last November in Minnesota as delegates, participating in all meetings and

activities. I served on the Citizenship and Taxation Committee once again. I attended the Master's Conference held in Maryland in Feb which was again informative and very worthwhile.

I hosted instructions for Deputies and others, held Officers & Directors' meetings early in the Grange year, gaining a lot of input and ideas from those attending.

Meetings, activities, and scheduled events, both Grange and public events had to be cancelled, once the pandemic hit. Sharon and I have worked mostly from our homes only spending limited time in the office but still continuing with Grange work. Some Granges met by conference calls or by zoom, finding this a useful way to conduct business. Some smaller Granges still met in their halls practicing social distancing protocols and wearing masks and once the weather improved, many met outside.

Our membership stays about the same with an overall loss of Granges and membership. A few Granges have consolidated or closed not necessarily because of the COVID-19 but had been struggling for some time. Attendance at meetings is still vital to our order; let's make the effort to be part of it whether in person or use of technology.

I certainly appreciate the efforts of our Directors and Committees who worked diligently on behalf of the Grange with the restrictions being in place during the past year and wish them success in the coming year, with renewed excitement, new ideas, enthusiasm and energy being infectious to say the least. It is hard work, no doubt about it, but the rewards are worth it.

We presented Agricultural, Educational Aid and Howes Nurses Scholarships during the year, Annual Tree Farmer Award, Community Service Awards and Membership Awards, and had a modified Junior Camp. Thanks to the generosity of our Granges, we donated to a Veteran's Program here in Maine (House in The Woods Military and Family Retreat), donated cash and Christmas gifts to Home for Little Wanderers, and received other donations for different departments and projects. We enjoy going to Grange, but we need to continually work to make our meetings and activities productive and interesting.

Many Granges and Grangers stepped up even more during this difficult time, assisting in their communities, setting up drop / pickup boxes at the halls providing needed items to those in the community such as bottled water, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, cleaning products, wipes and other items. Some even providing grocery staples in their swap boxes, many members helping with home delivers or doing errands for their neighbors. Masks quickly became a necessary item and the Grange crafters and stitchers from all over the state took up the call and got involved adding those to the swap boxes or just handing them out to all who passed by. Many new people tried "grow your own" this year and received advice and assistance from local Grangers. Community gardens picked up in number. Granges reported providing free to-go meals to communities and also transported meals, munchies and deserts to health care workers.

Members, there are no easy solutions. Prevention is a future thing. People are more important to situations than things. Adversity is a fact of life. It can't be controlled. What we

can control is how we react to it. When faced with adversity we can give up and adopt the “poor me” attitude, or we can look at adversity as an opportunity find other ways to do things. We can be determined, persistent, and persevere, it all comes down to your choice, and it is a choice of attitude! If something is inevitable, acknowledge it and use it to your best advantage. Volunteers don’t work for money-they work for good feelings.

Granges have made fund raising events more creative with the restrictions in place. Take out or drive up meals were sold such as baked beans, coleslaw & biscuits, lasagna & garlic bread, turkey dinners, drive by bake sales including breads, goodies & candies or fudge. One Grange told me about selling 200 fresh strawberry shortcakes, in a couple of hours, then sold blueberry pie slices when the blueberries came in season later this summer.

We made an Executive decision early this summer to assist our Granges by exempting ALL 94 Granges from paying quarterly dues to the Maine State Grange for the September and December quarters. This was very welcome news to the Granges.

We discussed our options for an alternative State Session, scheduling a one-day convention at our usual time in October limiting our activities, then re-evaluated that plan later in the summer and decided to be more on the safe side and cancel the in-person meeting. We are voting on resolutions and budgets by mail in ballots, mailing reports, etc. and other information plus posting items on the web site covering State Grange business.

Yes, our State Grange home, HQ or office building in Augusta is still on the market. We have had a number of showings during the past months. Those potential buyers have been impressed with the size of the building and its appearance for its age. However, they have commented about the cost of converting it over to all offices, other potential uses or upgrading it. We have casually looked online to see what other office spaces or potential buildings are for sale or lease nearby, but that is all it was, just fanciful sightseeing tours or wishful thinking. No concrete plans have been put into place.

At this time, we are not certain whether we will buy a newer building (smaller of course), lease office space or work out of our homes. A suggestion of building something to suit our needs may also be considered. Regardless which option we take, it will only happen after we have sold our current building. Storage of our records will certainly be part of the considerations in working from homes, buying or leasing. We added “storage facility” to the budget as a line item a couple of years ago in the event we may have to utilize that type of facility, not just for records (which should be climate controlled), but furniture and other items in the building we may have to relocate. I have included some of the needs, suggestions or options we may be looking for.

Options, suggestions, considerations for office & officers

What do we need in an office in general – either option requires the same equipment if they work from an office space, building and or their homes:

- Desk(s), chairs, computer(s), internet, phone, printer, fire proof file cabinets, other storage, laminator, etc. *(we have 11 file cabinets some are fireproof, 4 lockers, 7 desks, 2 computers one of which is old, laminator, assorted desk & other chairs, & stands, etc.)*

Who should have office space? Secretary and Master. How many offices? One, two or more? Should we buy or lease? Where? Central area – easy to get to and into office or building. How far are officers willing to travel? Should we have rental space for others?
(This is good for income but we will have to pay property taxes, also.)

Do we need a building? All these factors should be considered carefully, offices, large meeting space, storage, handicapped accessible, multiple bathrooms, and extra parking to accommodate meetings and session.

Suggestions for buying: Prefer single story or with an elevator lift and multiple easy entries –

- House; Small building; Small school with gym to accommodate state session;
- House with large open cellar for meeting area with easy entry (depends on smells)
- Small Retail; Office space; Restaurant; Bank; Other business; Large building;
- Build to suit; Prefab office or house
- Small manufacturer (depends on smells) or Garage (depends on smells)

Should officers work from home? Do they have enough space for equipment and storage?

Will they be willing to have people in their home? Will they need handicapped accessible?

Again I will repeat this: regardless which option we take, it will only happen after we have sold our current building, but we can be thinking about it.

Thank-you Richard for your support and strength through the good happenings and some very difficult Grange situations & decisions. Thank you, Jim Owens, for your advice, guidance, and friendship. Our State Secretary Sharon, I can't thank you enough for all your help and assistance you have given me, doing a lot of things which are not part of the Secretary's job, but someone needed to do it, and Sharon has taken on these tasks, doing a lot of behind the scenes work. I appreciate you very much.

Thank you - Members, State Officers, Deputies, and Committees who have worked tirelessly for the Grange, our Grange. It takes many to accomplish the work which needs to be done. How we handle adversity, which this year fits in that category, determines our success in life and the Grange. The Maine State Grange needs your continued support and assistance as we go into the next year with a positive attitude. I wish you all success in 2021, and I am looking forward to a more successful year in the Maine State Grange.

Fraternally Submitted,
Sherry Harriman, Master, Maine State Grange

2:15 P.M.

Memorial Service

Clayton Collins, State Chaplain

This year of 2020 has been a very trying year for all of us. Granges have had to curtail their meetings, and sadly, a few have had to close altogether turning in their charter. Even the Maine State Grange has had to make difficult decisions about the yearly session meeting.

With no state meeting this year the Worthy Master has asked me to put together a short memorial to be placed in the journal. I hope this serves the purpose, and passes muster for all of you. I promise that the members mentioned here this year will be properly memorialized next year when we are again able to meet in person.

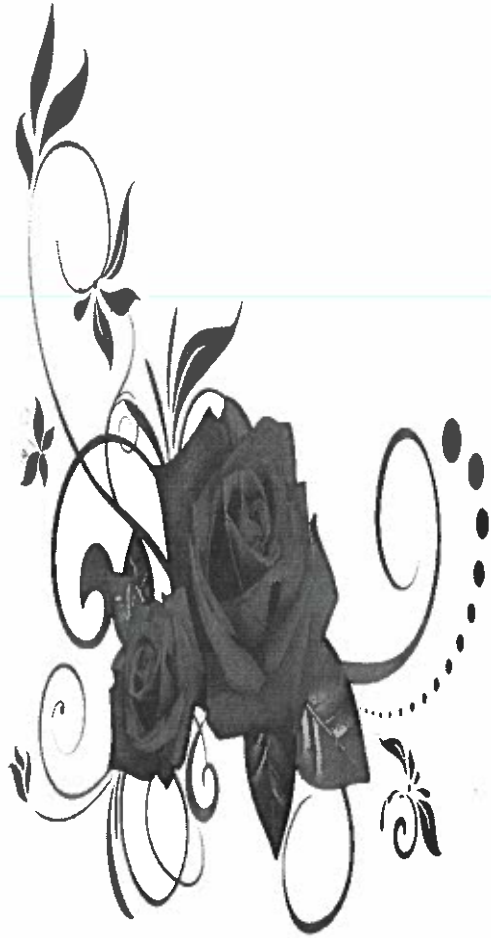
Tribute to Deputy Masters and Junior Deputies of the Maine State Grange

A Gateway to Life by Helen Steiner Rice

Death is a Gateway we all must pass through
To reach that Fair Land where the soul's born anew,
For man's born to die and his sojourn on earth
Is a short span of years beginning with birth ...
And like pilgrims we wander until death takes our hand
And we start on our journey to God's Promised Land,
A place where we'll find no suffering nor tears,
Where Time is not counted by days, months or years ...
And in this Fair City that God has prepared
Are unending joys to be happily shared
With all of our loved ones who patiently wait
On Death's Other Side to open "The Gate"!

Blessings are all around us. If we look we can recognize a blessing in each day, each hour, each minute, each family member, each friend, each neighbor, each community, each city, each nation, each challenge, each work of encouragement, each flower, each sunbeam, each raindrop, each awesome wonder crafted by God, each star, each sea, each bird, each tree, each sorrow, each disappointment, each faith each prayer. The list is endless and so are the blessings which God has bestowed upon us.

God is a Shepherd and His people the sheep of His pasture. It is our sacred charge to keep in safety those within the fold and to reclaim the wandering. God in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to remove some of his sheep from our



IN
LOVING MEMORY
OF
ALL
FORMER
DEPUTIES
AND
JUNIOR DEPUTIES
OF THE
MAINE
STATE
GRANGE

flock. While it is our loss, it is but their gain. These Husbandmen and Matrons aspire after a higher and broader knowledge and are now living in the warmth of his great love and care.

Grange friends, this is a Holy Time in our grange year. In this segment of our memorial service, we honor and pay tribute to our Deputy Master, Brother Terry Dwyer who served with dignity and pride in Aroostook Pomona, and Sister Elsie Damren also served as Junior Deputy with dignity and pride in Kennebec Pomona. These two hard working grangers have left our present world and are busy with higher duties in the Great Grange above, yet ...

They never quite leave us, our friends who have passed
Through the shadows of death to the great Grange above,
A thousand sweet memories are holding them fast
To the places they blessed with their presence and love.

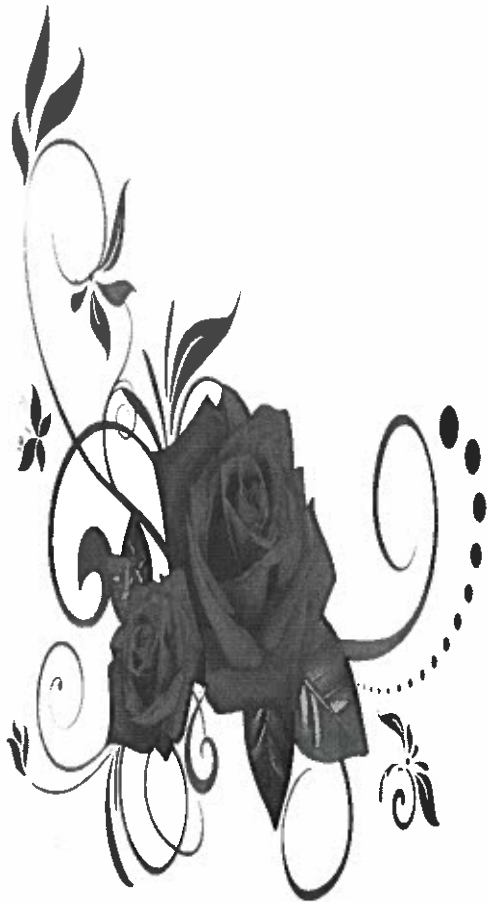
Tribute to Subordinate Members

Let us pause, look into our garden of memories, and pay tribute to those who have left us for awhile. Let us recall pleasant memories of their services to our Grange. We must not forget the tremendous love that they showed their many family and friends. Remember that the record of a generous life runs like a vine around the memory of our departed ones, and every sweet and unselfish act is now a perfumed flower. For into God's beautiful garden of life, His messenger goes each day, to gather the choicest blossoms, and bear them with Him away. Dear Master, our garden is lonely, we miss these flowers so rare, but their perfumes will be with us while the flowers bloom up there.

As certain as the return of seedtime and harvest is the inevitable return of man to the soil that gave him birth. Our loss is but their gain. Their work here is finished, and they have gone on to their reward. We will miss the warm handshakes, the smiles and words of wisdom and encouragement. The close ties of fraternity that long have existed in our order make it perpetual. The loyalty that comes from working together creates ties of friendship that are lasting and sincere.

We know that our Order is richer, and the world is richer, because they have lived and labored among us. We are forever grateful for the heritage that is ours and blessed to have a garden of memories to help us carry on our work in the Grange. For this we say, "Well done, good, and faithful servants."

IN
LOVING
MEMORY
OF ALL
SUBORDINATE
MEMBERS
OF THE
PATRONS OF
HUSBANDRY
WHO HAVE BEEN
CALLED TO THE
GREAT GRANGE
ABOVE



GOD'S GARDEN

God looked around His garden and found an empty place.
He then looked down upon His earth and saw your loving face.
He put His loving arms around you and lifted you to rest.
His garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering; He knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would never get well on earth again.
He saw your path was difficult; He closed your tired eyes,
He whispered to you, "please say goodbye", and gave you wings to fly.
When we saw you sleeping so calm and free of pain,
We would not wish you back to earth to suffer once again.
You've left us precious memories; your love will be our guide,
You live on through your children; you're always by our side.
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone.
For part of us went with you on the day God called you home.

Worthy Master, this ends this brief, but important memorial service. It will be continued next year in person. May God bless us all!

Respectfully, Clay Collins, State Chaplain

2:45 P.M.

Election of Officers & Installation

3:00 P.M.

Acceptance of Secretary's Report

Acceptance of Master's Address

3:15 P.M.

Acceptance of Written Reports of Officers and Directors

3:30 P.M.

Acceptance of 2020-2021 Budget

BUDGET PRESENTED TO MAINE STATE GRANGE

2020 – 2021 STATE GRANGE BUDGET

Accepted

2020 – 2021 HEADQUARTERS BUDGET

Accepted

4:00 P.M.

Final Report of the Credentials Committee

4:15 P.M.

Basket Drawings

Closing the 146th Annual Session of the Maine State Grange
DUE TO THE COVID-19, THE IN-PERSON MEETING WAS CANCELLED.

2020 STATE GRANGE OFFICER'S REPORTS



LECTURER REPORT

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

It is an honor to submit my fourth annual report on the activities of the lecturer's department for 2019 - 2020. Without the assistance of the members of the lecturer's committee and the participation of the members of the Maine State Grange this department would not be as effective as it has been.

In June of 2019 I announced that the theme for 2019 – 2020 was going to be "Celebrate Maine" since Maine would be celebrating its bicentennial in 2020, in hopes that Granges and Grangers might become involved in their local celebrations.

Soon after the close of the National Grange Session, Christine Hamp, National Lecturer contacted all the state lecturers about publishing a quarterly newsletter. In February 2020 "A Quarter's Worth" was published and sent to all state lecturers to distribute to Subordinate and Pomona Lecturers within their state. The first two newsletters were sent electronically. The third newsletter will be copied and sent to all Lecturers.

The North East Leaders Conference was scheduled to take place in Albany, NY in March, rescheduled and then cancelled. It is at this conference that the North East Lecturers usually discuss the next NE Lecturer Conference. Since this meeting did not take place the only information that I have at this moment is that the next conference is scheduled to be held during the summer of 2021 in New Hampshire. Information will be passed along to Maine Granges once it is available.

Looking for input from the members of the Lecturer's Committee I had hoped to have a brainstorming meeting in May. Since meeting in person was not advisable at that time all members of the committee were contacted for their ideas. Some of those ideas will be included

in this years Lecturer's Program guide, while others need more thought and may be included in future programs.

In June the theme for 2020 – 2021 was announced. This year the theme is “**Reach for the Stars**”. Since this past year two Mainers have been in space at the International Space Station and the United States has sent astronauts from US soil for the first time in almost a decade this seemed to be the appropriate time for this theme. The theme can be interpreted in many different ways so hopefully it will give lecturer's many options for programs.

I am sorry to say that participation in the creative writing contests, which includes skit and poetry, was down again this year. I received entries from only five Grangers. I sincerely thank those Grangers that took the time to compose these pieces of writing and applaud their accomplishments. I can only hope that next year's participation increases. All entries have been compiled and are included in the 2020 Creative Writing Book which will be sent to each Grange. The list of Poetry and Skit winners can be found at the end of this report.

Fifteen Subordinate members and two Junior Grange members sent in reading logs. Although the number of members who sent reading logs was down this year it was nice to see some new people entering this contest. The top three readers in each category received ribbons and special awards. The list of top readers can be found at the end of this report.

I received 12 Subordinate Reports and 5 Pomona Reports. Thank you for taking time to fill out this form. Each person submitting a report will receive an Achievement Certificate.

The Lecturer's Program book as well as Program Help booklets will be sent to all Subordinate and Pomona Granges during October.

Even before the State Session was cancelled it had been decided not to hold the Photo contest considering the space and time limitations of the meeting. Due to this I have decided that any photo that was taken between Sept 1, 2019 and Sept 1, 2020 will be accepted at the 2021 State Session. Therefore, the categories for 2021 will remain unchanged.

THANK YOU to all who have supported, promoted, and participated in any of the programs or activities of this department especially under this year's conditions.

I am very grateful for the help and encouragement from State Master Sherry Harriman and State Secretary, Sharon Morton.

A **THANK YOU** to the members of the Lecturer's committee for all their hard work.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret A. Morse, Lecturer

Poetry Awards

Grange:

1st – COR-VIRUS 19 by Barbara Strout Excelsior Grange #5

2nd – PAST OFFICER'S MEMORIAL SERVICE by Christine Hebert Norway Grange #45

Maine:

1st - THE 200TH BIRTHDAY by Barbara Strout Excelsior Grange #5

Other:

1st - MY SNOWMAN by Ceneretta Ward New Norland Grange #580

2nd – DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE? By Helen Brooks Perry Grange #324

Skit Writing Award

1st –COME QUICK MAMA by Ceneretta Ward, New Norland #580

Reading Book Club

Top readers based on Number of Books

1st – Margaret Henderson, Dirigo Grange # 98, 200 books

2nd – Helen Brooks, Perry Grange # 324, 132 books

3rd – Laurie McBurnie, Willow Grange # 366, 95 books

Top readers based on Number of Pages

1st – Margaret Henderson, Dirigo Grange # 98, 51696 pages

2nd – Sylvia Crosman, Hudson Grange #457, 27698 pages

3rd – 27698 Laurie McBurnie, Willow Grange # 366, 26451 pages

Junior Grangers (11 – 14 age group)

1st Number of Books - Anneleise Rollins, Perry Grange # 324, 60 books

1st Number of Pages - Carlos Oakes, Alexander Grange # 304, 2528 pages

2020 STATE COMMITTEES' REPORTS



AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Willie Grenier, Director



Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,

The Agriculture Committee of the Maine State Grange met by conference call in May, June, August and October. Most of our members have been able to attend.

In January 2020 the committee participated and organized the booth at the Agriculture Trade Show and raised \$200 in the raffle.

In May the committee awarded 5 Agricultural Scholarships of \$500 each to:

- ★ Audrey Bowman from Camden who is accepted at Boston College to study Environmental Science,
- ★ Natalie Domin from Freeport who plans to attend the University of Maine, Orono to study Pre-Veterinary Medicine,
- ★ Gavin Hemphill from Presque Isle, accepted at both University of Maine in Presque Isle and Orono, to study Agricultural Science & Business,
- ★ Romeo Sabri from Bingham, who will be attending the University of Maine, Orono to study Forestry and Wildlife Ecology,

★ Shelby Varney from Turner will attend York County Community College to study Veterinary Technology.

Since we have received a much lower donation level to the scholarship program this year, and heard from Grangers that they do not know if Agriculture scholarships are ever awarded to students in their area (even though the state master has provided reports of awardees each year), the committee has asked the webmaster if a cumulative list could be added to the webpage. The state master is willing to help provide the list once the pandemic has subsided which will allow staff regular access to the office files. Look for this list in 2021.

With Maine fairs cancelled in 2020 there was no need to organize judges. The committee kept aware of this as the cancellations developed throughout the season. The committee is looking ahead to the Grange Ag Store for Fryeburg Fair in 2021. Steve Verrill has been meeting with that group as well as other committee members. Etna and Maple Grove Granges have withdrawn from the group. Androscoggin Pomona and the State Ag Committee will continue to support this effort. The decision was made to move forward and there will be more on developments moving into 2021.

There were no applicants for the Farm Enterprise Award for 2020. With the Annual Convention moving to a virtual format the committee decided to wait until next year on awards and fundraising initiatives for this fall.

The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has announced that the Ag Trade Show in 2021 will be a virtual event. Maine Agriculture in the Classroom's annual meeting on October 28 will also be held virtually on Zoom. If you would like to attend please email the committee chair at maitc@maine.gov by Friday, October 23rd.

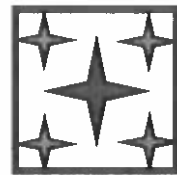
Many thanks to all the committee for everything they do! Until further notice the committee will continue to meet by conference call. We wish everyone a safe completion to 2020 and a bright, productive 2021! Prayers and warm wishes to all Grangers! BE WELL, STAY SAFE!

- 2020 Agriculture Director

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**COMMITTEE OF WOMENS ACTIVITIES**

Margaret Henderson, Director



To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange,  
Worthy State Master, Sherry Harriman, Officers and members of the Maine State Grange:

First of all a big "Thank You" to all of the Granges that made donations to House in the Woods. Those Granges are: Perry, St. George, Valley, Harraseeket, Saco, East Madison and South Sangerville. Granges donating to Home for Little Wanderers are: Perry, St George, Valley, Harraseeket, Saco, East Madison, South Sangerville, and Maple Grove. Granges donating to CWA

prize money are: St. George, Saco, Hollis, Chesterville, Somerset Pomona and York Pomona. Certificates will be sent to these Granges. These donations are greatly appreciated. I will have Brother Richard Harriman present our donations to the House in the Woods project and I will make the presentation to the Home for Little Wanderers in Waterville.

Our program booklet will remain the same except for the dates of the contests and the conference. The "tentative " dates will be: All entries for sewing, needlework, crafts, etc. must be at State Grange Headquarters by Monday August 16, 2021. Please call ahead to make sure that someone will be there to accept your entries. Judging will be on Friday August 20,2021. Cooking entries must be at headquarters by 8:30am on Saturday August,21. The conference will be on Saturday August 21 at 9am.

I am looking ahead at next year with a positive attitude, that we will be able to resume to a regular Grange year, having all of our contests and our yearly session of the Maine State Grange.

Fraternally,

Margaret Henderson, CWA Director

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Reply to:

Walter Boomsma, Communications Director  
17 River Road  
Abbot ME 04406

Maine State Grange

146 State Street  
Augusta Maine 04330

### 2019-20 Annual Report of the Maine State Grange Communications Director

Brothers and Sisters,

It is my distinct honor to again report to you some activities and accomplishments from this year's efforts. This is the sixth full year I have served in the capacity of Communications Director—a position created in January 2014 that both combined and expanded the historical roles 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, advising on communication matters and providing information and resources to Subordinate and Pomona Granges.

During the past year, I published twelve monthly Bulletins without missing a deadline and wrote at least two columns each month. I am grateful to those directors and officers who regularly submit articles and support improving our internal communication.

The website is now in its tenth 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 allows 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. Site visits have decreased slightly but website use is up. There have been just over 21,500 site visits from August 1, 2019, through July 31, 2020—an average of about 1,800 per month and over 60 per day. This represents a 15% decrease over the previous year. However, these visits do not include subscribers who are receiving the posts without necessarily visiting the site.

There is, of course, a correlation between posts appearing the on the site and the number of site visits. It is noteworthy, however, that our “top posts” for the past year are the information pages. The second most visited page is the Directory of Granges.

Of course, numbers do not tell the entire story. Members and non-members are 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. Examples include inquiries regarding the sale of Grange Halls, media questions, availability of halls for rental, etc. Recently, a Granger inquired seeking other Grangers who are ham radio operators!

<http://mainestategrange.org>

During this past year, I have continued to add resource documents and tools to our collection o communication resources available on the site. The page containing these resources is the most frequently visited by double that of any other page. There is value on our website.

Several significant accomplishments this year include:

- Created an online, interactive “Directory of Granges” allowing site visitors to locate and contact Granges throughout Maine.
- Created an online, interactive directory of state officers, directors, and deputies.
- Added no cost software making it possible to post PDFs directly to the site, such as the National Grange Newsletter, Patron’s Chain.
- Facilitated another guest column, “Making Connections.”
- Audited Subordinate and Pomona Grange links for regular activity.
- Created a regular feature of “Communication Shorts” to further improve internal communication and reinforcement.
- Continued to facilitate an email service that allows information to be sent directly to officers, directors, and deputies on short notice.

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 Heather Retberg of Halcyon Grange for her willingness to continue to share her columns for our monthly “View from the Farm.” Heather’s column frequently generates

comments and emails of appreciation. Thanks also to Toby Martin of Valley Grange for his “Making Connections” columns. We should all be looking forward to The Maine Grange Farmers’ Initiative Toby and Steve Verrill are forming.

COVID-19 certainly created many challenges for us both as an organization and as individuals. But it also demonstrated the importance of technology in general and the avenues of communication we have available. Websites, online meetings, and social media will never replace potluck suppers and “getting together,” but as a society we are learning how to make better use of these tools. The Grange, as an organization, can also learn to adopt and adapt.

Looking ahead to 2019-2020 some objectives include:

- Continuing to keep communication positive, helpful, and engaging.
- Increasing the number of subscribers to the website. (Subscribers receive excerpts of posts by email.)
- Discontinuing the “in search of” pages to create space for more engaging pages such as The Maine Grange Farmers’ Initiative. Requests for information will be posted as Communication Shorts.
- Continuing to search for resources, including additional guest columnists and regular topical information that can be reposted with attribution.
- Streamlining the site by removing outdated material and posts. For example, there are currently over 2,000 posts on the site.

I would ask Grangers to remember my goal is to keep costs associated with the website as low as possible by using “free” versions of software and applying a little creativity to how things get done. That said, technology costs continue to rise as software companies look to change from purchased software to subscription software. Actual costs for the website have remained below the budget of \$1,000 and are supplemented by the annual director’s stipend of \$400.

With that background, our greatest accomplishment in 2019-20 is also our greatest need for the coming year. We must continue to increase participation and information, working to build a positive program of communication. The Maine State Grange website is an integral part of our organization and is becoming a “go-to” place for members and friends who wish to learn more about our Order.

Sharing successes and milestones is an important part of our ongoing communication. Photos are also great—and a photo or two with what we call a “cutline” can tell a story. (A cutline is media talk for the caption explaining the photo—usually a sentence or two.)

I believe the primary role of any state position or function is to support Subordinate and Pomona Granges and their members. 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.

I will continue to encourage more open communication throughout our Order and with the public. We must generate interest and excitement among our communities, prospective members, and ourselves.

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

Thank you for your continued confidence and support.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter Boomsma  
Maine State Grange Communications Director  
<http://mainestategrange.org>



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COMMUNITY SERVICE



FAMILY, HEALTH & HEARING REPORT

Christine Corliss, Director
MAINE STATE GRANGE
SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2020

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

Community Service

I am very excited to say I have made it through my sixth 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 wonderful and I truly felt sorry for the judges.

This year's Community Service Winners are

- 1. Maple Grove Grange #148**
- 2. Valley Grange #144**

- 3. Enterprise Grange #48
- 4. Highland Lake Grange #87

Again, this year we have a great sponsor of the Community Service Book Contest - Kennebec Savings. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

Of 91 Subordinate Granges, 23 reports were submitted. 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 fifth judge to our panel for final determination. The top six books were separated by a total of 5 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 285 lbs. of coupons this year. A little less than last year but we are still moving along.

I am sad to report that we did not have any entries in the Police/Fire Fighter & EMT/Educator of the Year Contest this year. I truly sadden our committee to have this happen.

Two years ago, we added the category of Granger of the Year. That individual would receive an award and a check in the amount of \$100.00 to the charity of their choice.

2017 – 2018 Winner was Victoria Huff

2018 – 2019 Winner was Ann Burns

The 2019 – 2020 WINNER IS: WALTER BOOMSMA

Community Service & Family, Health & Hearing packets will be available online at the Maine State Grange Website.

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 read the way items were presented this year in these trying times. 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: **Highland Lake Grange #87**

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 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.

In closing we on the CS/FHH Committee would like to give a big thumbs up to everyone who has helped another during this Pandemic. Covid19 has changed a lot of things but we are proud to say that it has not changed the giving spirit of those here in Maine, who have donated their time to help those who could not get out, their money to making masks for everyone who needed them, and their love and support to people who needed it. A very big two thumbs up to all of you. Be proud and happy with yourselves, we on the committee are.

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

Fraternally and Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Corliss, Director

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**EDUCATIONAL AID AND**  
**HOWES NURSES’ SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Gerald Libby, President

**Educational Aid and Howes Nurses’ Scholarship Funds 2020**

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange:

This year we received two applications for scholarships from the Educational Aid and Howes Nurses’ Scholarship Funds. This number is down considerably from previous years, but we are able to make awards of \$700 to each applicant, one would be from each fund.

Victoria Green, Oak Hill Grange 104, Scarborough Major: Marketing Communications  
Willow Newman, Alexander Grange 304, Alexander Major: Nursing

Thank you to all who responded to our annual appeal. Since interest rates are down your continued support of this worthy endeavor is more important than ever. Please continue your support when the appeal is read next year. We have received \$1,293.67 in donations and interest for the Educational Aid Fund and have received \$467.16 for the Howes Fund. That, along with the carryover from prior years, gives us \$3,379.06 available for Educational Aid and \$1,299.54 for Howes Nurses.

Congratulations to the 2020 recipients of these scholarships and the committee wishes them the best in their pursuit of higher education.

Fraternally Submitted,  
J. Patrick Elwell, Secretary/Treasurer

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\$\$\$ FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE \$\$\$

Norma Meserve, Chairman

Fund Raising Committee Annual Report

To the Officers and Members of the Maine State Grange, The following is the Annual report of the Fundraising Committee for the Maine State Grange.

The Grange year began well with another very successful State Grange session. Our raffle was a big hit and all of our Grange sales items sold well. Many thanks to all those who contributed to the raffle and to those who stopped by the table to make some purchases. Your support is always appreciated. All told we raised \$850.00 at the session!

After State Grange we began making plans for our annual Variety Show in April. Then came the Pandemic. As indoor crowds were not going to be allowed, we made the sad decision to cancel the variety show for this year.

We had hopes that by June things would be better and we would be able to hold our Annual Yard Sale. This was not to be, and, once again, we had to make the decision to cancel. Having to cancel these 2 major events was a big blow to our fundraising this year. Unfortunately this meant we could not reach the proposed fundraising goal set for us this year.

So now the committee will regroup, brainstorm, get creative and try to make next year a more successful one. We were able to sell some sales items during this time and have made a little money from that.

Yes, we do still have many Grange items for sale and will do our best to get them to anyone interested. These include: Grange cookbooks (3 categories)-- \$5 each, Grange note card sets (sympathy, get well, thinking of you and plain)-- \$5 for variety pack of 10, and Promotional Grange t-shirts(sizes Sm. to 5X)-- \$15 each. We also still have Grange magnets -- \$3 each.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the committee for whatever help they were able to give this year (even if it was just moral support).: Ruby Bryant-- Alder River Grange, Steven Haycock-- Danville Jct. Grange, Nate Pennell-- Jacksonville Grange, Linda Cobb--

Manchester Grange, Sharon Kirker-- Merriconeag Grange, Merton Ricker--Topsham Grange and Sharon Morton --Willow Grange. Also, many thanks to Master Sherry for her support and guidance.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norma Meserve Fundraising Comm. Chairman

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**JUNIOR COMMITTEE**

Marilyn Stinson, Co-Dir  
Terry LaCombe-Stevens, Co-Dir



**MAINE STATE JUNIOR GRANGE**

When Kathy Gowen was elected MSG Ceres, she resigned as Junior Committee Co-chair, but was kind enough to stay on as a committee member. Terry LaCombe joined Marilyn Stinson as a co-director. It has been a continued challenge for Terry and Marilyn and we appreciate all of Kathy's help.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

We sent postcards to every name of the correct age in the roll book. Some came back to us with improper addresses and we've tried to update those with a couple of phone calls and checking with Subordinates in the areas where they live.

Before the Junior Camp, letters were sent to everyone with corrected addresses trying to reach as many Juniors as possible. COVID, of course, made some changes about that, but last fall, at our 'Grow Juniors' Meeting in Bangor, we had the 'Welcome Ceremony' for Luke and Levi Schneider and at One Day Summer Camp, Kait joined us. We expect to have John and Carley join us at our Fall 'Grow Juniors' meeting in Hudson on September 26th.

There are applications filled out for 2 members at Enterprise Grange #48 in Richmond.

1+ Program allows your Grange to build a Junior Grange program one member at a time. The 1+ Program allows children (age 5 to 14), the opportunity to become an individual Junior Grange member within a Subordinate/Community Grange. The children do not have a vote in the Grange, but are eligible to earn merit badges, participate in all Regional, State, and National programs, contests and activities on an equal status with members of the chartered Junior Granges.

For the 1+ Program, the Subordinate/Community Grange will: • Appoint a Junior Grange Leader • Provide a meeting place • Provide financial assistance as necessary • Granges may dedicate specific fund raising projects for the Junior Grange program 7 • Occasionally provide meeting time for the individual Junior Grange member(s) to report on their projects i.e. completing a Merit Badge requirement. • Organize a chartered Junior Grange when there are sufficient

individual members to meet that requirement. The individual members shall automatically become members of the newly organized/reorganized Junior Grange. (Please refer to National Grange By-Laws, section 4.6.2 for complete details)

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The committee met mostly by Messenger, emails and a Zoom meeting since we are separated by so many miles. Dana and Kari Young-Coffin have been a great addition to our team, even before Kari agreed to officially join us. Tim and Theresa Wilson have just joined our committee and Helen Brooks is our distance member working to increase awareness in her eastern corner of the state.

We have a button maker to make our own merit badges to save waste and the expense of having to order a minimum amount that we won't use for years.

#### JUNIOR MEETINGS:

Spring Challenge meeting planned for March was cancelled because of COVID restrictions. Too many ifs to consider and we didn't want to take any chances with anyone's health.

We tried something new this year with Terry setting up a Zoom meeting for the Juniors and adult help. We set the officers by families and did not use the assistants since there could be no walking around. Terry's job was to run the mute, which had a problem while Reagan and Carley became Ceres and Flora with Carley holding the flag at their house and Reagan leading the Pledge of Allegiance; Edith and Mary were Lecturers with directing the program that everyone was able to participate in with Kari on her guitar leading the music; Kathy was Overseer and stepped in with any kind of help that seemed to be needed. William was Chaplain opening the Bible upon the altar at their computer and leading us in prayer while CJ was Master and Marilyn Secretary. The kids program included music from the Coffins, a magic trick from William and Reagan, and Kathy having some riddles, etc.

We will be having 'Virtual Meetings' on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of November, January and March, then see what is developing.

#### JUNIOR CAMP:

After the One Day Camp that had to replace the usual weekend campout for Maine's Juniors because of COVID, the kids were surveyed. Attendance was small, mostly because of fear of COVID which was natural. Q: What was the worst thing that happened? A: "Nothing!" "It was too short," "Music was too loud." (W. & M. were playing a board game they made up while the rest of us were singing camp songs led by Kari and her guitar.) "We didn't get to stay overnight!"

Q: What was the best thing? A: "I made a new friend.", "Pizza", "Watermelon", "Playing games", "Kait joined", "Scavenger Hunt".

Q: What should we do next year? A: "Stay overnight", "The same", "All weekend"

They had their regular meeting upstairs with family groups together for floor work (presenting flag, etc.) with adults helping. We are so thankful to the adults who filled in – Dana, CJ, Kathy, and Marilyn. With Mary and Edith as Flora and Pomona, sharing fruit and flowers for everyone, and Dana as A.S. escorting Kait, and Kathy as Master, we welcomed Kait McKeen into our Junior

Grange family. Dana was so good about explaining things to her as he led her around the hall and thank goodness Kathy can just fill in and do the Master's part, with no muss or fuss.

Kari joined us with two younger siblings after lunch in time to play her tin whistle and provide real music to keep us in step, while the rest of us had rhythm instruments or party blowouts for the tune of 'Yankee Doodle'. We marched down the sidewalk to the Eldercare Home to stay on the parking lot while the residents were on the deck and showed off our stuffed animals and sang '16 Counties of Maine' and 'Happy Birthday, Maine'. Sue Hackett is living there, but was taking a shower and couldn't join us. Back to the hall, we had free time for playing on the town playground that is behind the hall, then some relay races, games, giant bubbles that attracted some other kids on the playground, a scavenger hunt, and learning a little more about Maine. The US flag at that time went from 21 stars to 23 stars because of the Missouri Compromise. We decorated candle holders for the Vesper Service, worked on our National Craft – Seed Mosaics, and Big E contest of 'Memory of Summer' and had two books about Maine's birthday read to us while having birthday cake and ice cream. Since then, Big E has been canceled, but we can use the crafts for Fair Exhibits next summer.

After pizza for supper and not being able to have an outside fire pit because of drought, Scout Master, Mr. Barone, had a fire safety demonstration for us, and we toasted marshmallows over fat candles in the middle of two tables for s'mores.

William's sister, Maddie, joined us for that and helped the Juniors read excerpts from the Junior prayer, pledge, obligation, and salutation of Junior Grange for a candle lighting vesper service. We are looking forward to next year, the weekend after Father's Day, as well as our 'Grow Juniors' day on Sept. 26, 2020, in Hudson, ME when John and Carley will be five and join us. We hope with a meeting in the centrally located Bangor area, more kids from north, east, and west will join.

**GRANGE FAMILY CAMPOUT:** Since it had to be cancelled, the crafts will be judged at the Fall 'Grow Juniors' Meeting in Hudson.

In the spring, Sharon helped Terry and Marilyn and we mailed Rocket Pumpkin seeds to every secretary and all our Junior members for a contest, but with COVID closing meetings, we don't know if the subordinates got theirs or not or if anyone grew any. With no State Session, we can't display them so that's a bust.

Respectfully Submitted, Me State Jr. Grange #17  
Co-directors Terry Lacombe & Marilyn Stinson

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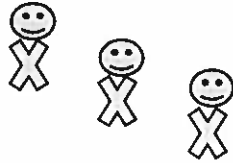
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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Stephen Call, Chair

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

Rick Grotton, Director

Recognition of increase in membership will be forthcoming.

### **RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED FOR THE 2020**

#### **MAINE STATE GRANGE CONVENTION**

**1. INSTALLING TURN SIGNALS ON TRAFFIC LIGHTS**                      Androscoggin Pomona No. 1

**WHEREAS**, Often making right turns at traffic lights can be dangerous, therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, All intersections with traffic lights have right turn signals installed.

**2. INSURANCE COVERAGE LAPSE NOTIFICATIONS**                      Androscoggin Pomona No. 1

**WHEREAS**, Every insured driver in Maine pays a premium every year for uninsured drivers and,  
**WHEREAS**, Every insurance agency and The State of Maine Motor Vehicle Department uses computers, therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, Insurance agency's in The State of Maine be mandated to report to The State of Maine Motor Vehicle Department any and all insured motorists who let their policies lapse.

**3. FINANCIAL HELP FOR GRANGERS**                                              Norway Grange No. 45

**WHEREAS**, the extraordinary circumstances created by the current pandemic have caused many Subordinate Granges to experience a severe drop in supporting cash flow, and  
**WHEREAS**, many Granges have funds resulting from Grange mergers and closures, held on deposit by the Maine State Grange, and  
**WHEREAS**, those funds held by the Maine State Grange for the purpose of capital improvements to Grange halls could be made available, in part, to those Subordinate Granges for the purpose of paying overhead expenses in order to remain solvent during the Covid-19 crisis, therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, that the Maine State Grange permit Subordinate Granges with such accounts to make withdrawals to meet current financial obligations; the total withdrawn not to exceed 10% of the account balance unless there are special circumstances which have been approved by the appropriate Maine State Grange committee or officer.

**4. ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES**                                                              Androscoggin Pomona No. 1

**WHEREAS**, it was reported in the media that China produces 90% of the ingredients used to make pharmaceuticals in the United States and threatened to withhold some of them during the coronavirus crisis, and

**WHEREAS**, situations such as this could cause disastrous consequences for Americans if this were to occur with these or other essential supplies. Nations considered enemies of the United States should not be our primary source of essential supplies. Therefore be it;  
**RESOLVED**, that Congress devise incentives to encourage the production of food, pharmaceuticals, energy, and defense supplies in the United States or other countries considered allies of the United States.

**5. ELECTION INTEGRITY**

Androscoggin Pomona No. 1

**WHEREAS**, the integrity of elections is vital to any democracy, and  
**WHEREAS**, there are many forces in the world who find it advantageous to tamper with our election outcomes, and  
**WHEREAS**, internet hacking seems to be difficult to prevent, therefore be it;  
**RESOLVED**, that the Maine State Grange seek legislation to forbid all Maine election methods and systems from being connected to the internet.

**6. EXECUTIVE ORDERS DURING A TIMES OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Androscoggin Pomona No. 1

**WHEREAS**, from time to time the Governor of the State of Maine may be forced to declare a State of Emergency due to various reasons, and  
**WHEREAS**, during these State of Emergencies the Governor may need to issue Executive Orders to deal with the immediate needs and /or threats from the emergency, and  
**WHEREAS**, these Executive Orders may significantly alter everyday life, and  
**WHEREAS**, all be it rare, thee States of Emergencies may last for an extended period, therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, that any Executive Order issued by the Governor of the State of Maine during a State of Emergency, that is expected to last for more than 30 days, must me approved by the Legislature before the end of the 30<sup>th</sup> day after issue.

**7. 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAINE STATE GRANGE**

Androscoggin Pomona No. 1

**WHEREAS**, the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization of the Maine State Grange will occur on April 21, 2024, and,  
**WHEREAS**, this should be a time of celebration for Granges across Maine, therefore be it  
**RESOLVED**, that the Master of the Maine State Grange appoint a committee to prepare for a yearlong celebration of 150 years of the Grange of Maine.

**8. DIVERSITY IN GRANGE LANGUAGE**

Lincoln Pomona No. 19

**WHEREAS**, in these times of change, certain changes need to be made in our organization to maintain diversity and to attract new members and

**WHEREAS**, certain officer titles could be considered offensive to others in today's world,  
therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the officer titles, Master and Overseer, be known as President and Vice-  
President and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that these changes be reflected in all future printing of Grange manuals, pamphlets,  
and all other Grange correspondence.

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