

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT (2022-2023)

The Grange year 2022-2023 saw many Granges being more active than the previous year. With many opening their doors to non-grangers to show them what the Grange is really about. We have seen a few Granges indeed gained a few new members. Congratulations!

I did not visit any Pomonas (other than my own!) this year as it was a very busy year for me. I hope those Pomonas that I visited last year are doing well. You are always in my prayers.

As in every year, there is sadness in our ranks. On January 28, 2023, I had the honor and privilege to not only attend, but to officiate at the funeral of Brother Jerry Libby, former Legislative Director of the Maine State Grange, and President of the Educational Aid and Howe's Nursing Scholarship. I, also, attended the funerals of Sister Norma Jean Haines, Junior Deputy of Cumberland-Oxford Pomona on May 7, 2023, and Brother Bob Smith, Deputy of Franklin Pomona on June 3, 2023.

I am sure that is more sadness throughout our Grange family that I have not been informed of, and I send my thoughts and prayers to those families and friends.

The past year (2022-2023), I have submitted a column [The Deacon's Bench] each month to the website which I hope fellow Grangers enjoyed. I hope this past year has been kind to you and you continue to grow your Grange and, especially your faith in God the Father. Until we meet in person may God bless and keep you forever, and remember, "Be well, do good work, and keep in touch."

May Irish angels rest their wings right beside your door,